

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERR'ITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, 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 Friday, February 3rd. Before I go into the orders I have received a communication from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories requesting the Legislature's indulgence that he be allowed to address it today. Do I have unanimous consent to waive the rules and to allow the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories to address this House? Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Do I also have unanimous consent to allow those Members who have already made replies before recess to be able to make another reply during this session? Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Do I have unanimous consent to set the sitting hours after adjournment this morning to 1:00~p.m. this afternoon? Are there any nays?

---Agreed

So ordered. Is there any particular business or announcements any Members wish to make before I adjourn? This House then will stand adjourned until $1:00~\mathrm{p.m.}$ this afternoon.

---ADJOURNMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Please be seated. Continuing the orders of the day from our adjournment of this morning, Mr. Clerk, will you ascertain if the Commissioner is ready to address the House?

COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, I appreciate the opportunity which you have provided to me, and through me the Members of the newly-formed Executive Council, to make further remarks on the state of your government, on programs which are proposed for the new fiscal year and on other matters of general interest.

Executive Council

In my address to you on the opening of this session January 11th, I could refer to the plans of the government only in a general way. The retiring Executive Council had set many programs in motion, but at that time the new Executive had not taken its place so it could not even have commenced to

place its own stamp on those programs. The intervening three weeks have been busy ones for your Ministers. Although the opportunities available for fresh input to policies and programs have been limited, Executive Members have taken up their departmental duties and responsibilities and are prepared, with your co-operation, to deal with the budget, legislation, and other matters which come before this House. This is the first opportunity I have had to congratulate publicly the newly-elected Members of the Executive Council. I do so now and I wish them well in the difficult, but always interesting and challenging jobs that they have undertaken on your behalf.

To the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Government Leader, I extend my very best wishes, my commitment to co-operation in the operation of our government and the pledge of my support. I say to the Government Leader, and to his seven colleagues, your work will not be easy, nor your responsibilities light, but your positions and your tasks are of vital importance to the conduct of responsible government in the Northwest Territories.

Officers And Committees Of The House

In recognizing the vital role that must be played by each Minister, and indeed every Member of this Legislative Assembly in dealing with government business, I would not overlook the crucial but often unseen work done by officers of this House. At the opening, I offered congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker. Your work has continued undiminished from the Ninth Assembly. The Deputy Speaker, the deputy chairmen of committee of the whole, the chairman of the caucus, and the chairmen of standing and special committees perform important functions and contribute to the flow of business. Members of the finance committee already have been engaged in a careful and critical examination of spending programs. I commend each of you who are involved in the committee work of this House because I realize, as do the Members who have had previous experience in this arena, that without these behind-the-scenes activities, the business of this Legislative Assembly could not be conducted with any degree of efficiency.

I acknowledge with pleasure the presence of many special guests in the galleries. I am sure all Members join with me in expressing a most cordial welcome to the people from the far-flung communities of the Northwest Territories who are in attendance today.

---Applause

It is good to see them here, and to each I wish a happy and prosperous 1984, and the hope that they enjoy this opportunity to see this House in operation, and their elected Members in action. I have long believed that the strength of the Northwest Territories is derived in large measure from the strength and determination of her diverse peoples; from their ability to survive under harsh conditions; from their determination to manage their own affairs; from their willingness to accept help in so doing and from their flexibility in adapting to the ever-changing complex society in which we live.

Federal-Provincial Meeting Of Ministers On Aboriginal Constitutional Matters

I would be remiss indeed if I did not comment briefly on the federal-provincial meeting of Ministers on aboriginal constitutional matters which took place in this chamber on January 25th and 26th. The Hon. Richard Nerysoo, as Minister of Justice, led our delegation and was joined at the table by the Hon. Dennis Patterson, as Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. The meeting focussed its attention on the equality provisions of the Constitution Act, 1982 and the issue of aboriginal rights, aboriginal title, treaties and treaty rights. With regard to equality, consideration was given to proposals which would ensure that the rights of the aboriginal peoples would apply equally to male and female persons. As to the subject of aboriginal rights, aboriginal title, treaties and treaty rights, the deliberations essentially dealt with a discussion of rights and principles and a formal negotiation process. These topics will be pursued further at working group sessions in Toronto next week.

While the meeting was not as productive as the Government of the Northwest Territories would have wished, it did provide an opportunity for these complex issues to be discussed at the ministerial level. So often, when viewed in isolation, the results of one meeting seem insignificant. However, it is my hope that the deliberations which took place in Yellowknife, when coupled with those of the upcoming meeting of Ministers in February, will have a cumulative effect so as to enable substantial progress to be achieved at the First Ministers' Conference.

While on the subject of aboriginal rights, I feel that one further comment may be in order. In pursuing their individual claims it is to be hoped that the various native associations will exercise great care to avoid creating differences and dissension among their groups and between individuals. With a long history of sharing land and resources and of helping each other, I am confident that in seeking to settle these important claims a sense of common purpose will not be lost.

Important Events

During her reply to the Commissioner's Address at the opening of the 10th Assembly, Eliza Lawrence expressed her congratulations and best wishes to Antoine Beaulieu on the occasion of his 100th birthday on February 2nd. I would add my warmest greetings and hope that Mr. Beaulieu enjoyed the celebrations held yesterday in Fort Resolution in honour of that important milestone which so few reach.

I would draw to your attention a happy event that will be occurring in the near future. The Arctic Winter Games will be held in Yellowknife from March 18th to 24th. For the third time in the history of the games the Northwest Territories will be host to competitors from Alaska and Yukon. I know we look forward to greeting our northern neighbours and I can assure you that Yellowknife, as the host city, and the Arctic Winter Games committee are making every effort to ensure that our guests and people from across the Northwest Territories will be warmly welcomed to this northern festival of friendship and sportsmanship.

Commissioner's Awards For Bravery

I am pleased to announce that Corporal Jim Rouse of the RCMP Inuvik, and Mr. John Hamilton of Vancouver, BC, will be receiving the Commissioner's Award for bravery at the highest level. Each of these men, with total disregard for his own safety, rescued a child from the cab of a truck submerged in the Mackenzie River at Inuvik on July 20th, 1983. In connection with this same incident, Miss Karen Joan Lassen of Calgary and Constable D.J. Lewchak, RCMP Inuvik will receive the Commissioner's Award for bravery at the second level. Each of them entered the river, assisted in the rescue of the children, and by the prompt administration of artificial respiration were instrumental in saving two lives.

Passing Of Distinguished Residents

I would ask this House to observe with regret the passing of some distinguished residents of the Northwest Territories. Several of these are old-timers whose wisdom, dedication and service to the people of the North we remember with gratitude.

Louis Tapatai, a well-known and greatly respected hunter, settlement councillor and businessman of Baker Lake, died on September 8 at the age of 79. Keemeeleeomee Samaulie, noted particularly for her drawings of birds and print making, died in Cape Dorset last December at the age of 64. Some of her work appeared in every Cape Dorset edition of prints from 1969 to 1980. A carver of note, Thomas Audla of Frobisher Bay, died in December 1983. He was the father of Minnie Audla Freeman, the Inuit author. Mr. Audla was in his late 70s.

Friends from all over the North, and particularly Baffin Island, were saddened to learn of the death very recently of Jimmy Kilabuk of Pangnirtung, at the age of 82. Mr. Kilabuk was a revered elder of his community and the father of long-time Member of this House, Ipeelee Kilabuk. The founder of Rae Lakes and former chief of the band, Bruno Apples, died at his home on November 29th. He was 69 years old. Oliver Smallgeese, an 85 year old trapper who was born and lived in Hay River, died recently. The passing of each of these people leaves a void in their home communities.

Government Programs

Turning now to the subject of government programs, I have the following information to add to that provided at the opening of this session.

Hamlet status for the communities of Cambridge Bay, Fort Norman and Holman is slated for April 1st. Residents of these places have come to the realization that further development of local government offers them greater control over their own affairs. They are to be congratulated for taking this step of accepting a higher level of responsibility.

The Department of Information is continuing to emphasize improved communications with Dene residents of the NWT. The department's Dene interpreters/communicators are now producing eight Dene language video programs, and in 1984 audio-visual playback equipment will be provided in Dene communities so that residents can view the programs.

On April 1, 1984 it is expected that as a result of negotiations currently underway, the intra-territorial road reconstruction program will be transferred from the federal government to the Government of the Northwest Territories. This represents another step in the process of acceptance by the Territories of provincial-type responsibilities.

The Department of Education's projects for 1984 include the construction of a school and multipurpose hall at Fort Franklin, and the building of new schools at Sanikiluaq, Snowdrift and on the Hay River Reserve. Work on the writing of regulations to establish divisional school boards, the development of NWT high school programs to replace the Alberta programs that are currently being followed, and the maintenance and improvement of educational standards in all schools in the Territories are among the plans of the department for 1984.

The Department of Social Services plans the construction of a new community correctional centre in Frobisher Bay to replace the trailer units that have been in use since the early 1970s. A fine options program will be introduced in certain communities in 1984. It provides an alternative to imprisonment in an attempt to reduce overcrowding in our jails and to provide more effective treatment of persons who have broken the law. Because alcohol and drug abuse remain a very serious problem in the NWT, the Department of Social Services is working closely with the Department of Education to develop materials which will make children and adults more aware of what each can do to combat this problem.

Wildlife officers of the Department of Renewable Resources will now be known as renewable resource officers. This change in name, recently announced by the Minister, is intended to reflect the increased responsibilities of the field officers and the department's renewed emphasis in working directly with people in developing the renewable resource economy.

The Housing Corporation will continue an active program of new rental construction, repair projects, and home-ownership assistance in 1984-85; 78 public housing units will be built, primarily in high-cost areas where subsidized rental accommodation is required. Where operating costs permit, the corporation will provide home-ownership assistance to clients for new construction through the rural and remote and home-ownership assistance programs. The rehabilitation of older rental units and correction of major roof problems will continue with 110 rehabs and 117 roof replacements. Additional capital grants to housing associations of \$947,000 will be made to undertake extraordinary maintenance and repair projects. Three warehouses will be built to improve the maintenance programs of housing associations and additional capital grants totalling \$157,000 will also be made to housing associations for the provision of major equipment and tools.

The corporation will also begin a program for repairs to houses owned by senior citizens, to enable them to maintain suitable and independent shelter. A grant of up to \$5000 will be available to approved applicants for a variety of repairs.

I am pleased to announce that the members of the Council of Ministers of Education for Canada will be visiting Yellowknife in September in conjunction with their planned Edmonton meeting. Opportunities such as this for the exchange of information and relevant experience are important to our government.

Legislative Program

Although the legislative program for this session has not been finalized as yet, I can advise that the following three bills will be introduced: an amendment to the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance; a Territorial Parks Ordinance; and a Young Offenders Ordinance. Your Ministers consider each of these bills to be essential to the conduct of government business and I recommend each of them to you.

I trust that the business of this House will now proceed in a timely manner, and that in your good service you will find satisfaction for yourselves and your constituents. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the day for Friday, February 3rd. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Appagag.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Appagag's Reply

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Can you hear me? Mr. Speaker I am going to have a brief comment. In January I did not give any of my reply. I thank you. I guess you are all aware of this, even though Sanikiluaq is a very small settlement, there were six candidates for the Legislative Assembly. I guess you were aware of this. I will still try to be an active Member for Sanikiluaq and I want you to be aware of this. A friend is here in Yellowknife as my guest, at this opening.

---Applause

The second item, I am deputy mayor of Sanikiluaq and I will try to be still active as deputy mayor in Sanikiluaq. I am very thankful that I made it back to Yellowknife and also I would like to give my gratitude to other guests who are here to attend this Assembly.

Even though I have some difficulties on my travel arrangements once in a while to get to Yellowknife for this Assembly, I want you to know that in my last travel and this time we had a charter to Rankin Inlet and I was very pleased that we even had a chance to have a meal from Sanikiluag to Rankin Inlet in the plane. I am very thankful for that.

My next comment is I would like to be having questions to Ministers, in discussing the main estimates. I think this year I will be saying more things in this Assembly and I do not think the Ministers will be happy about my questions or my comments at this time. As a real Inuit when you do not appreciate the MLAs in the House it is very hard to be an MLA when you do not know exactly what you are doing. I moved here when they opened the wolf season in Sanikiluaq so I was not happy to leave Sanikiluaq even though this is my job. That is why I came here, to attend this Legislative Assembly.

This is my last comment. I have not heard anything during the 1900s, even towards the 1920s, about there being any wolves in Sanikiluaq. Since there was a hunter caught a wolf for the first time during 1984, I do not know about this, why there was no wolf in Sanikiluaq. I want to let you know about this because we have never had a wolf in Sanikiluaq before. Thank you very much and I am looking forward to having a better operation in this 10th Assembly even though there will be some problems of sickness which has arrived amoung our relatives and when there is sickness involved in your family it is really hard to concentrate on being a Member. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, this remote control is not working very well. Thank you very much, Mr. Appaqaq. Replies, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Mr. Arlooktoo's Reply

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, and ladies and gentlemen and the Commissioner, thank you very much to all of you who attend at this opening. I have a short reply. When I replied for the first time in Inuvik, I guess I had seven minutes reply. It was a very short reply, even though Nick Sibbeston had a long reply that time and another Member replied for a long time. My reply was shorter than his.

I would like to say thank you for the election on November 21st, 1983. In South Baffin there were three candidates that wanted to come as Members of the Legislative Assembly and all of them are nice people. All of them work very hard. But at that time in September, when we first met, I mentioned that if my constituents want me to return as a Member of the Legislative Assembly I will come back but if they do not want me I will not be back. I mentioned that before so my constituents wanted me to be back to the Legislative Assembly and I am very grateful that they elected me.

I would like to say that on January 24th, 1984 my good friend died, my wife's and my good friend died -- my mother-in-law who was some 80-odd years old. It is just recently that she died, but I am glad to be able to come over here. This is a sad happening but she was a very old person. She worked very hard in her life of some 80-odd years.

I am very grateful, that three years ago when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly and I was not really aware of the procedures of the Assembly that I was able to get assistance from the other Members, especially from the interpreters. I would like to thank my constituents that are here in the audience and I am glad that they have been able to witness the proceedings of the House and to see the good Members of the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the new Executive Council. I think they are all old residents of the Territories and born in the Territories. I am very happy that I am going to be able to talk to the Minister of Economic Development because he is an Inuk and I will be talking to him in Inuktitut.

Mr. Speaker and Mr. Commissioner, I do not have very much left to say. I am very happy that I have been able to come here again. I look forward to working with the Assembly and again, as four years ago when I became a Member, I look forward to the future of working together. Last night, just before we came here, I hurt my leg at the airport. I thought it was broken but I heard that it is not broken now and I am very happy. I was at the hospital all morning but I found out that there is nothing wrong with it. I am walking in a limping way right now but I will be okay in three days. In conclusion I would like to thank all the people that are here present, all the Inuit people and non-Inuit that are in the audience. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Replies to the Commissioner's Address. Mr. Paniloo.

---Applause

Mr. Paniloo's Reply

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) First of all I am here as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and I am very grateful for that. But as an Inuk I did not know exactly what the Legislative Assembly's jobs were but we know now what we do. When you are a Commissioner you have to look at a lot of people; the old people and the young people. He sees everybody in the same way and I am very grateful for that. If we are going to know all kinds of people and be helpful to all people I think we are going to do well and I just want to say thank you. We all have to work with different departments of the government. The Housing Corporation, Justice and Public Services, all have Ministers and directors and I would thank all the departments of the government. We learned much about the departments and how they function. If we are not assisted by our constituents and if they do not inform us as to what they want, we will not be able to do very much here in the House. Within the three years of the Ninth Assembly, they could not do very much in their community because there were not many funds and the people were not addressing their concerns. Now we have to try to listen to our constituents and that is all I have to say, thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Paniloo. Replies? Are there any further replies?

The next item on the agenda, Item 3, Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 3-84(1): Delay Of Housing, Arctic Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. During the Ninth Assembly when I was a Member I worked very hard to try to get the housing for Arctic Bay. Can the Minister inform me why this has been delayed or deferred, deferral of the houses that were supposed to be built in Arctic Bay? They started them up but they have not completed them yet, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: That more probably should be a written question, but if the Minister has the information he may be able to reply. If not, he will take it as notice and reply to it. Is that agreed, Mr. Wray?

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: He will take that as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 4-84(1): Housing Problem, Pond Inlet

MR. ERKLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two questions to Ministers, one for the Minister of the Housing Corporation and another one for the Minister of Education. For the Minister of the Housing Corporation, is the Minister aware of the situation in Pond Inlet, a housing problem? My question is, if so what is he going to do about it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 4-84(1): Housing Problem, Pond Inlet

 HON . GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am aware of some of the serious problems we have in Baffin, particularly in the north end and I have asked the Housing Corporation officials to come forward with recommendations to me that I will be taking to the Executive very shortly, thank you.

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

Question 5-84(1): Adult Education, Hall Beach

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) My second question is to the Minister of Education, Dennis Patterson. As far as I, the people of Hall Beach have been taught Inuktitut in 12. Will the Department of Education bring out adult education for the people of Hall Beach?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 5-84(1): Adult Education, Hall Beach

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member wrote the Department of Education shortly after his election about the need for adult education in Hall Beach. I am pleased to say that as a result of his drawing this to our attention, we have been able to arrange for a course in academic upgrading to be established in Hall Beach since Christmas which is taught, on a casual basis, by a local teacher. I believe the course is enjoying the support of a good number of young residents of Hall Beach in the 19 to 25 year age group who are attending and progressing well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 6-84(1): High Rental And Price Of Food

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) This is a question to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. I think this is supposed to be a written question; I am not sure. Especially in the Baffin region, the food goods are not the same prices as Yellowknife. The people that are renting houses when they work usually pay 25 per cent of their wage to their house; 25 per cent is taken out of their wages. I wanted to know if this leaves adequate money for food because food is very costly and when you have very many children it is very, very costly. I wonder if they could lower the percentage that they have to take out of their salary in order to pay for the house.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 6-84(1): High Rental And Price Of Food

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The rental scales in the Housing Corporation are by and large set by CMHC which is a major funding partner of the Housing Corporation and they are very strict in terms of what rents should be applied. However I can assure the Member that one of the first things I will be doing as Minister is to review the full rental program to see if we can adjust it, to see if we cannot make it a little more equitable for some people in some of the smaller communities. So while I have no reply for the Member right now, it is one of the first things we will be addressing. Thank you.

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

Question 7-84(1): Community Hall Unsafe, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is addressed to the Minister of Local Government, perhaps the gentleman there with the tan moose hide jacket. I have written a letter to the Minister a couple of weeks ago with regard to the community hall situation at Fort Providence. There was an inspection done about three weeks ago to the hall there, and the conclusion of the inspection then is that the hall is very unsafe for human habitation. Would the Minister please answer?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 7-84(1): Community Hall Unsafe, Fort Providence

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Just to reply to the Member that yes, I indeed received a letter you had written. In regard to the report that you attached to the letter indicating the health and fire inspectors had indeed condemned the building, I can advise the Member that there is some money available in the upcoming budget to repair the community hall in Fort Providence. I can indicate to that Member too, that his proposal that Fort Providence be granted funds for a new community hall is under consideration by my department officials and I will report to him in the next few weeks as to what the department can do to help Fort Providence in this matter.

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

Question 8-84(1): Replacement Of Burned House, Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, thank you. I have one question directed to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. You are probably aware that at the beginning of January there was a fire in Sanikiluaq in which a house was destroyed. The people who were in the house are staying in a building belonging to the church. We have this situation in our community so I am going to ask if their house will be replaced next summer. I would like to get a reply on this. Even if you cannot give me a reply today, then fine, but I would still like to hear something about it in the near future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I will take that question under advisement and provide a reply very shortly.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 9-84(1): Federal Funding For New Hospital In Yellowknife

MRS. SORENSEN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. McLaughlin, as you know, this government has approved and indeed has budgeted funds over the past three years for a new hospital for Yellowknife. However, this project is based on a federal-territorial cost sharing agreement and we still do not have agreement on the part of the federal government for what funding it is going to provide. I wonder if you could tell this House what is the status of the Treasury Board submission for the federal cost of the building?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 9-84(1): Federal Funding For New Hospital In Yellowknife

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to say to the Member for Yellowknife South that this is not a hospital for Yellowknife. It is a hospital for all the residents of the Northwest Territories.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: It will be a major expenditure of this government over a three or four year period for its construction and implementation. Hopefully the new hospital, when it is constructed will provide services to all the residents of the Northwest Territories and make beds available to people of the Northwest Territories which is a problem we face right now as a government. The present status of the Treasury Board submission is that the work in the Department of Health has

been completed. The Deputy Minister either has it physically on his desk or it is between his desk and my desk right now, and I will be finalizing this within the Financial Management Board, presenting it to my colleagues here and hopefully the Treasury Board submission will be made in Ottawa shortly.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today.

Item 5, written questions. Are there any written questions?

Item 6, returns.

Item 7, petitions. Reports of standing and special committees. I am sorry, Mr. Erkloo.

ITEM 7: PETITIONS

MR. ERKLOO: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Petition 1-84(1), from Pond Inlet, the housing association. Also a letter from the housing association, which was signed by the chairman of the housing association, the mayor of Pond Inlet, chairman of the health and social services committee, chairman of our local education authority of Pond Inlet and fire chief. The petition was signed by the 212 people regarding the shortage of housing in Pond Inlet. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. Are there any further petitions? Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, thank you. Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Petition 2-84(1), New Airstrip for Lake Harbour, so you will take notice of what I am going to table as we have worked on this before. It is directed to the Minister of Local Government. It includes a letter from the mayor of Lake Harbour and the DOC regional council was meeting in Cambridge Bay and there is also a résolution in regard to that. Regarding the airstrip, we would like to see a different airstrip in Lake Harbour, so I am presenting this to the Minister responsible for Local Government. I hope he is not like the previous Minister. I hope he will be more responsive to this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Petitions. That appears to conclude petitions.

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 2-84(1), Government of the Northwest Territories 1983 Annual Report.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further documents? Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a document which was written by my colleague, Frank Pearce. Tabled Document 3-84(1), Arctic Bay Mail. It is about mail received in Arctic Bay. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 10-84(1): Housing Shortage In Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, thank you. I have a motion I would like to give notice of motion on, seconded by the Hudson Bay representative Moses Appagag. The motion is in regard to the housing need in Cape Dorset. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 11: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 1-84(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1984-85

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 6, 1984 I shall move that Bill 1-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1985, be read for the first time.

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

Item 12, motions. Motion 8-84(1), Supplementary Old Age Pension, Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 8-84(1): Supplementary Old Age Pension

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the level of the monthly allowance authorized by the Senior Citizens Benefits Ordinance was set in 1978 and increased in 1982;

AND WHEREAS almost half of all recipients of this allowance face living expenses that are twice as high as those in southern Canada;

AND WHEREAS the supplementary old age pension represents the only benefits available to pensioners to compensate for the high cost of living in the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, John T'Seleie, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it consider increasing the Northwest Territories supplementary old age pension.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, your motion is in order. For the benefit of the other Members, you will find the motions in your big green books, the one with the big rings in them, if you wish to follow Motion 8-84(1) that we are dealing with. The motion is in order. Mr. Gargan, you have the floor.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that in the North there are people who do register into a retirement savings plan but with regard to the Dene and Inuit people this retirement savings plan has never been an opportunity for them to invest into, basically because they are not working full-time as an occupation but rather as hunters and trappers. When you are a hunter and trapper you do not put into pension plans or any type of compensation plan or things like that.

I have two reports, one that was presented by this government to the task force on pension reform in September of 1983. I just wanted to read a paragraph from section one. "While this is the residence of most of the Territories' elderly, it does not capture the whole picture. Almost half of those over 65 live in the four High Arctic regions, where living costs are as high as 81 per cent over Yellowknife prices, or over twice as high as in southern Canada. We emphasize here that we are speaking of people, typically on subsistence income who must spend all of their retirement earnings on consumer goods." There is also a document done by the Dene Nation that emphasizes the same thing too. I want to read this, Mr. Speaker. It was done by myself and a number of people employed within the Dene Nation. I just want to read a part, a paragraph that is quite important, I thought. "The most dramatic inequality revealed here is that between the predominantly Dene pensioners of the Northwest Territories and their counterparts across the rest of Canada. While the average income of pensioners in the country as a whole rose from \$4517 per year to \$8223, an increase of 84.3 per cent, northern pensioners' increase was from \$3100 to \$4016, less than the national average in 1976; an increase of only 29 per cent. The average annual income of pensioners in the Northwest Territories, expressed as a percentage of that of Canada's pensioners as a whole, actually declined from 68.6 per cent in 1976 to only 48.25 per cent in 1980."

Mr. Speaker, basically the people, the northerners as well as the Dene and Inuit, that are on old age pension right now, they have never had the opportunity, especially the Dene and Inuit anyway, to work toward a registered retirement savings plan. Basically these are the people that are suffering right now. For that reason I have made this motion and I hope to get support from the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. T'Seleie, as seconder you have the floor now if you wish. To the motion. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this issue I would just like to make Members aware that our government currently pays a \$75 territorial subsidy to top off the guaranteed income supplement to over 1100 people. We spend approximately one million dollars annually on this. For example a \$10 increase would cost this government approximately \$137,000 and an increase of \$25 per month would cost this government approximately \$340,000 a year. Members should be aware of the financial implications to this government when they vote on this issue. Myself and the Executive will take direction from the Assembly on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion, Mr. Sibbeston.

Elderly Without Government Or Private Pension Plans

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I want first to congratulate the Member who raised this matter. I believe he is making a very good start and I appreciate that he is being very bold in suggesting that the Assembly deal with and pass motions such as this. I remind the Member that this is what it takes to get things done in this House. Mr. Speaker, I support the motion. What we are talking about is the \$75 that old age pensioners, who receive an old age supplement, receive every month. I know that the old age pensioners really do count on and use our government's contribution to their pension each month. It usually arrives on the 15th of the month and it is very much This \$75 that Mr. Gargan is referring to and which he is hoping to have this appreciated. government increase is the amount that is paid to old age pensioners who receive the federal supplement. So it is an amount that is paid to people who have no other sums of money to live on every month. There are many Canadians who, when they reach retirement age, get some pension from wages and income that they have made during their lifetime. Some of these pensions are by employers and some of these are by the federal government through the Canada Pension Plan. However, I would say a majority of the old age pensioners in the North, many of whom are native people who never worked for wages, never had steady employers. So they really do not receive a pension from their years of work. Many old age pensioners in the North have worked on the land and you do not derive any pension from that. So it is for this reason that I support the increase to the amount that this government gives. I know that we are in tough times but I can say I will do my best on the Executive to deal with this matter if a motion passes and it comes before the Executive Council.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair would like to recognize a former colleague, Mr. Lyle Trimble. Mr. Trimble. ---Applause

To the motion, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, very briefly I would like to say that I do support the motion. The implication from one quarter and the cry from another was, where are we going to get the money? I would like to say, that that is precisely the question that faces many of the elderly in the Northwest Territories as they try to cope with the high cost of living. This motion is not demanding an increase but it is asking the government to review the matter, to examine it carefully to see whether money can be found in order to do it. I absolutely support that effort. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion, Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I think we all have elderly people in our constituencies. We all can appreciate the need that has been expressed. I would just like to point out that there may possibly be relief from another source. The federal government has set up a task force chaired by Member of Parliament, Mr. Frith, which did visit Yellowknife and heard submissions from myself as Minister responsible for the Status of Women and my colleague the Hon. Tom Butters as Minister of Finance in which among other things we outlined the special plight of native people mentioned by Mr. Gargan who have not had an opportunity to build up a pension plan through working in the wage economy. We should all hope and consider in this motion that there may be aid from the federal government as well for these people in addition to what this government might be able to do. I thought I would just like to point that out, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion, Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, one of the previous speakers indicated that the funds for the supplementary pension allowance came from this government. While that is true I would like to point out that it is or was one of the successful initiatives of the Seventh Assembly on which I served. You mentioned Lyle Trimble as being a member of that body, also Senator Willie Adams, who I see is sitting in the House with Commissioner Parker outside the ropes, and my colleague the Hon. Nick Sibbeston. So there are five of us that are quite pleased to see that this was a successful program of that Assembly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I believe the vote was unanimous.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker there are a number of people who live in my constituency, a number of other people who do not have the access to the government or private pension plans so I would support the motion put forward by Mr. Gargan, thank you.

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

Earlier Pensions For Northerners

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) The Northwest Territories has to bring this up to the Minister of Health in the federal government. I wanted to mention this because I mentioned it in 1982. The native people of the Northwest Territories seem to get older faster because it is colder up here. There are people who have worked in their lifetimes in the Northwest Territories, some of the people that used to go trapping and hunting have reached 65 without a pension and I was really thinking of this to see if people could get their old age pension when they are about 50 years old or earlier than 65. I want to look into this more closely and talk about it with the federal government because there are a lot of people that cannot find jobs and while they are waiting to become 65 years old some of them die before they are 65. I wanted to mention this.

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

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I support this concern about the old age pension plan. If they were to put the pension plan up higher, the NWT government could get this. I want the gas and oil tax to remain at the same level. Therefore these people are just earning from hunting and are paying a lot of taxes on gas. For this reason, I want the gas tax payment to remain at the same level for this reason. I am supporting this motion and also I am supporting Tagak's comments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. We will take five minutes for coffee. It is apparent we have many more speakers.

---SHORT RECESS

The Chair recognizes a quorum. I notice the mover of the motion is not in the House, but to the motion. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I am supporting this motion. I am aware of this, that pensioners cannot complain to anybody. I am supporting this motion for this reason. Tagak mentioned like I would like to make some comments on this. For these people, the old people living up north, they are the ones who are starting to live here and also they get sicknesses, so I am aware of this. Like my father, he has not been able to work for 11 years now because of his sickness and he had to wait until he turned 65 years old in order to get an old age pension plan and there was not any other source of money that could help him for his living.

I do not think we should just leave this like this and I think the federal government and the NWT government should go ahead with this old age pension plan. For these old people who get old age pension plans, like through this Assembly, I guess we could increase it even though the government has said that they will be increasing it, since inflation is going up. I do not think the government is aware of these old people who are living in the North. They cannot complain to anybody. I do not really know about this. I just cannot stand the inflation going up and the old age pension plan not being increased. I just do not want to mention anything about inflation since it is so high in the North. I would like to see the old age pension plan increased in some way. I want this to be a concern instead of looking at inflation putting up prices. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you Mr. Appagag. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I first of all would like to indicate that I as well as others would be in favour of assisting senior citizens in an attempt to keep them above the poverty line. I have some concerns with the method by which this money is being paid now and the amounts now given to a number of senior citizens who get the guaranteed income supplement. That together with the present \$75 a month keeps them at a particular level where the GIS does not decrease. That is one concern that I have. If in fact this territorial supplement was increased to the kind of funding the Minister indicated, a quarter of a million dollars approximately for a \$25 increase, it may in fact have a negative effect as well in that the amount of money that would come from the GIS may possibly drop down. It may not be universal, but there would be a number of people I think whose total income would drop down because they would not be receiving what is now I think somewhere in the vicinity of \$254 or \$260, maybe more than that, through the GIS. I would want to make sure that the people know that I am not against increasing the supplementary benefits.

Source Of Funding For Increased Supplement

I have heard and listened to two or three Members of the government now indicate that they are in favour of this and that they will push it. I take it now that it is a government decision that they would do it. If so, if that is a government decision, Mr. Speaker, that they will now take, what I would like to know from either the Leader or from the Minister of Finance is the source of this new funding. There have been concerns here and if in fact we have one, two or three Ministers who have indicated that they will go along with this, then I take it there has been some kind of consensus among the government and I would be more than pleased to hear from the Leader or from his Finance Minister if he is going to stay around to indicate to us where this funding will come from because in the beginning when it was brought forward back in January 1978, the government at the time tried to put in an accommodation tax. The bill was defeated and we then put in a tax on cigarettes and the \$50 at the time came to be known as "cigarette money". We increased it again in 1982 by a further \$25. So if as a Minister, again the Minister of Health, if he is anti-smoking as a number of people would be throughout the Territories, then obviously there are not going to be that many people buying that many cigarettes. Therefore the amount of money that will be realized from the reduced sale of cigarettes is going to be less and the government will have to find that money somewhere else. You know, you quit yourself, so you are not going to have to pay tax. There will be some of us who will continue until we quit but I suggest we are fast approaching a time of diminishing returns on that kind of taxation.

So in voicing support for the concept of increasing benefits to the elderly, one has to be aware that not all senior citizens get this benefit. Not all senior citizens in the Northwest Territories but only those that get the GIS and if we increase it by whatever means or if the government proposes a bill that would increase it by whatever means, it is going to have to get that money from somewhere and I would be more than interested to hear from the Leader of the government who has obviously a number of his Ministers who report to indicate to us if that in fact is a government position, whether there have been discussions on it and whether in fact he can determine or show me where that money is coming from.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. This is not question period.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Let us hope it is the answer period.

MR. SPEAKER: With regard to Mr. Gargan, when you have a motion on the floor, Mr. Gargan, it is well to stay around the House because I have seen motions defeated because the proposer was not available. So when you have a motion on the floor one of the first lessons you should learn is to make sure you are close by when your motion is being dealt with. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: No, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) For tobacco and oil and things like that in some way the government could find the money for it. I know how the people live here. I know how they buy everything and things are costly and that is why I defend the old people, that is I know it is not going to be very much. The government are sitting here and the Ministers and they must have a way to find the money for it and they will have to think of a way. Thank you.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding this motion, I am supporting this but the whole pension plan should be increased. I have a concern here that Ludy Pudluk had mentioned, regarding these moneys that have been given to the Legislative Assembly, where are we going to get another source of funding? For these, Ministers will have to search for another source. For example I have gone to Greenland and I saw in Greenland that prices of food are really low and the hunting equipment. And the pubs and those unhealthy foods are higher. I do not think we would believe it in Canada. I just want you to be aware of this.

For the widows and old age pensioners, for example in Pond Inlet, in the High Arctic, the prices of food are really high. For example a can of food would be about five dollars worth. I know this in Pond Inlet. We have tried this experiment for these people who are widows, if they could have somebody to go out hunting for them. If they could get maybe \$25 from that person who gets the old pension to get native food for them. We were told by the Minister of Health from Yellowknife that we will not be able to do this. We will be breaking the law. Close by to Pond Inlet there are seals, caribou but we cannot put them on the market. We will be breaking the law and we could not do it. The old people could buy their food only from the store which is expensive and I do not know how they could survive. As I have mentioned, where are we going to be getting another source of funding? I am supporting Mr. Pudluk.

Regarding the products that are being taxed such as cigarettes and pop and alcohol and gas, I would like to be in support of Mr. Pudluk, not to increase the price of gas because we have to think about the hunters that are not working. Because gas today, five gallons is over \$14. I do not know how we are going to keep on going hunting. Maybe we will go back to our way using kayaks. Considering these facts, they have to be considered by the Ministers that are across from the table there as to what they can work out so the old age pension could be supplemented. It should also be considered, as Mr. Curley just mentioned, that the 65 year old people get a pension but it should be lowered. Maybe it should be considered that way too. Lastly, I would just say that I want to support the motion. Thank you.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, it is usually not the place to respond to questions. I would like to respond to a number of questions that Mr. McCallum asked. Of course the comments that were made in support of the motion by the Members of the Executive Council are not government policy. We have not had the opportunity to discuss the particular motion. It is direction that is being given to the government to review. Again, the reality of funds or money of any kind depends on either the process of taxing people in the Northwest Territories to increase the revenues of the government or cancelling programs and priority and issues of government. That is, I believe, the responsibility of the government and hopefully the commitment that is being made by some Members of the Executive Council will show in their commitment to cancel either priority programs or initiatives within their programs, responsibilities to respond to such a suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. To the motion. All right. Mr. Gargan if you will now sum up, this will complete the debate. You have the last opportunity.

MR. GARGAN: I do not have anything further to add to it but I would however request a recorded vote.

Motion 8-84(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: A recorded vote has been requested, Mr. Clerk. Would all those in favour of the motion please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: (Mr. Hamilton) Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Paniloo, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Gargan, Mr. T'Seleie, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Ballantyne, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Wray, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Curley, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Butters, Ms. Cournoyea, Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Pedersen.

MR. SPEAKER: Opposed? Abstentions? Let the record show that Motion 8-84(1) is carried unanimously.

---Carried

Motion 9-84(1), Prime Minister's Peace Initiative. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion 9-84(1): Prime Minister's Peace Initiative

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the nuclear arms build-up by both East and West continues, while nuclear arms reduction talks are stalled;

AND WHEREAS Prime Minister Trudeau has asserted that "the pace of conflict and confrontation...threatens to overtake our ability to understand what is happening, and our capacity to manage it";

AND WHEREAS, in the words of George Ignatieff, former Canadian ambassador to NATO, "we are going to be facing a very serious crisis this year in which war by accident cannot be ruled out";

AND WHEREAS Prime Minister Trudeau has embarked on a major peace initiative, calling for a five-power nuclear conference, for renewed political commitment to the non-proliferation treaty, for action at the mutual and balanced force reduction talks to balance conventional forces and to raise the nuclear threshold in Europe, and for a restriction of qualitative developments in strategic technology, and has urged that this interlocking program be guided by political leadership at the highest level;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, Dennis Patterson, that this Assembly endorse Prime Minister Trudeau's enlightened peace initiative and encourage the Prime Minister to be confident, strong and tenacious in carrying it out;

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded immediately by the Speaker to the Prime Minister and to the leaders of the opposition parties in the federal parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, Mr. MacQuarrie, you have the floor.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members are certainly aware that the Prime Minister of Canada has embarked on a momentous undertaking, that he has mounted a major peace initiative that is taking him to every corner of the world. His hope is that, in doing what he is doing, he will be able to reduce the tensions that exist between the East and the West, that he will be able to open a door to effective limitation and arms reduction talks and that he will be able, thereby, to reduce the danger of a nuclear war which, as everybody knows, is a horrifying prospect that threatens the survival of mankind.

His major objective in what he is doing is to try, as he says, to introduce a jolt of political energy into international relations. In his own words, as well, he wants to "subject the science of arms to the art of politics". He is trying to bring together all of those world leaders who at the very highest level are capable of making political decisions with respect to conventional and nuclear arms. He wants to do that in order to try to get each of these world powers to develop a finer appreciation of the interests and legitimate security needs of the other world powers. He hopes also that in the process there will be a clarification of one another's intentions with respect to arms.

His hope, as well as mine, is that this will lead to a clearer understanding among world powers. First that national security can be guaranteed at levels of armament that are much reduced from the present levels of armament. He hopes, secondly, that they will develop an understanding that their security can be guaranteed and accomplished at much less expense than it is now. Third, he hopes that there will be an understanding that legitimate security needs can be guaranteed at much less risk to the security of mankind as a whole. He hopes that if in those talks that kind of understanding can be reached then the way is open to a significant reduction of arms, to the benefit of people everywhere in the world.

Continuing Arms Escalation

The Prime Minister has taken on this initiative, I believe, because he recognizes that the world today is in a state of crisis. All of us as people of the world are faced with continuing arms escalation on the one hand and a deterioration of international relations on the other, and that is

an explosive, perhaps mortal, combination. In the midst of starvation in the world and in the midst of unemployment in the world more than \$600 billion are being spent every year by world powers in order to arm themselves -- \$600 billion. This has produced an immense arsenal bristling all over the world.

In the United States alone at the present time there are 9500 strategic nuclear warheads in place and there are 20,000 tactical nuclear weapons with an enormous power of destruction. Members without question have read accounts of the destruction that took place in Hiroshima in 1945. That was a dreadful bomb that exploded there and yet today the bombs that exist outweigh that in such a magnitude that the thought is almost incomprehensible. Today nuclear bombs are measured in megatons, not kilotons as that bomb was. One megaton is equal to about 70 Hiroshima bombs. One megaton of explosive power would take a freight train 300 miles long to carry the equivalent dynamite. That is one megaton. In place right at this moment the United States alone has 7000 megatons of nuclear power. That is equivalent, in other words, to 500,000 Hiroshima bombs --500,000 Hiroshima bombs. They believe they need that for their security.

The Soviets on the other side have 7000 strategic warheads and 15,000 tactical nuclear weapons and they have a total firepower in place of 12,000 megatons. If you add to that the nuclear armament of Britain and the nuclear armament of France and China and if you add to that further the planned build-ups that are taking place right now and will take place throughout the rest of this decade, the amount of nuclear destruction is simply awesome and overwhelming. On the Soviet side you have the introduction of SS-22 missiles and more submarine missiles, the development of their own Cruise weapon and on the American side you have the introduction of Cruise missiles and Pershing missiles and new MX missiles, and we have talk of launch on warning systems and nuclear weapons in space. There is a greater and greater reliance on technology to handle all of this and less and less reliance on the moral sensibilities of men.

The situation is such that it really warrants Mr. Trudeau's statements which I quoted in the preamble. "The pace of conflict and confrontation threatens to overtake our ability to understand what is happening and our capacity to manage it." At the same time, as I said, as we see this build-up of awesome power, we also see unenlightened rhetoric, bombastic words from every side. It has moderated slightly since our Prime Minister began his mission and I hope that it will moderate more, but we also have seen a breakdown in the strategic arms limitation talks, and in the intermediate nuclear force talks. So the situation is critical and in this extraordinary and critical situation, the Prime Minister has simply recognized that the people of the world cannot leave the fate of makind to conventional ways of dealing with international problems, to fuzzy perceptions of one's opponents and irrational fears about their intentions. We cannot leave the fate of the world to clumsy defence policies and strategies that are inappropriate to the nature of the threat. We cannot leave the fate of the world to the interminable machinations of what the Prime Minister has called "nuclear accountants" who as he describes them "understand the technology, but who do not consider the political dimensions of the issue". The Prime Minister recognizes that we cannot leave the fate of the world to the macho or, if you like, "iron lady" posturings of superpowers who do not hesitate to put the world and all its people at risk in their lust for pre-eminence and in their misguided quest for security.

What we really need is sharp risk analysis and assessment. What we need in every quarter of the world is intelligent and precise defence policy. What we need is communication among the superpowers and at bottom what we need from every nation in this world, from every government of every nation, is a political commitment to the survival of man. To get that what we need in turn is a pointed cry ringing in the ears of the world's leaders until the message finally penetrates their murky consciousness and that message should be, "Nuclear superiority is no longer attainable." It should be a message that was stated in 1978 at a UN conference on disarmament: "The increase in nuclear weapons, far from strengthening international security, on the contrary, weakens it." What we need from every corner of the earth is a single voice swelling and directed at the nuclear powers saying, "You are messing with our lives and the lives of our children and our grandchildren" -- and to give credit to the film network -- we should also say, "We are fed up and we will not take it any longer."

Support Needed For International Initiative

In his efforts to raise the threshold on the doorway that could lead us to nuclear war and annihilation the Prime Minister of Canada deserves the support of everybody who cares about the fate of humanity. Unfortunately, he is not getting it from some quarters because in the world

there are cynics. There are cynics who feel compelled to belittle every worthwhile effort and have no constructive solutions themselves, who denigrate what in my opinion is an heroic and desperately needed effort on the part of Mr. Trudeau, who denigrate that as a ploy of his to retain power or an egotistical measure which amounts to no more than a personal search for distinction. While it is true that kind of motivation is never perhaps divorced from an individual's actions, it certainly is not the reason why he is doing what he is doing. He needs the support of other people because unfortunately he is also faced with a kind of thick-headedness, the kind from those who will not see the essence of a problem and examine new solutions because they are preoccupied with details, and these are the kinds of people who would be sitting in a boat and arguing with one another about the size of the hole in the hull, and who put it there, while the boat sinks beneath the waves rather than trying to do anything about it. He is faced with the obstinacy of those who seem to me to have been arrested in their development and still have the childish quality of refusing to yield even if such a move would be a credit to their intelligence, to their decency and necessary to save themselves. They will not yield first, no matter what. He is also faced with a kind of insensitivity on the part of people who cannot believe that other people, who are in some ways unlike themselves, can have logic and moral feelings equivalent to their own and hence they advocate what I call, have come to call since a comment by one of our colleagues in a previous debate, they advocate "two-by-four" diplomacy.

In general the Prime Minister is faced with irrationalism and paranoia and generations of mistrust and, faced with all that negativism, he needs the support of right thinking people who, as I said before, care about what happens to humanity. That is why it is important that even we in this Assembly who are merely at the periphery of power, should add our voices to those that endorse the Prime Minister's actions, to those that speak out in favour of sanity. I think that all Members should be able to agree with the statement of Linus Pauling who is a Nobel laureate who said, "I am not advocating nuclear disarmament, but to continue to make these systems more and more complicated, to refuse to make reasonable agreements or to take reasonable actions to control nuclear weapons, to continue to waste enormous amounts of money, is just insane." I say it is insane and the issue has to be addressed. Just as the Prime Minister has rightly said that the issue is too important to be left to the superpowers, I say also that it is too important to be left to those who are at the centre of power. However little influence we in this Assembly who are only at the periphery of power may have, I say let us exercise it to the full. I urge Members to support the Prime Minister's international initiative and in doing that Members will be contributing importantly to the rule of reason and to the cause of peace. Voting for this motion I think is a very small commitment to make for such a magnificent benefit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A speaker of Mr. MacQuarrie's abilities is always a very hard act to follow. But I am very pleased to support this non-partisan initiative to get political leaders, including political leaders from the Northwest Territories, together to talk about human survival. Negotiations to date have bogged down at the officials level, going nowhere while the military industrial juggernaut bores on. Eight new nuclear weapons per day produced in the United States alone! An incredible waste of financial resources that the world's poor could use. In fact I could not help but think today, Mr. Speaker, that we could probably solve the financial security problems of all the elders in the Northwest Territories, which we have been discussing this afternoon, for the price of testing one Cruise missile in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, involvement is needed from political leaders who can make decisions and press for political action at the highest level. Some people say that even here in the Northwest Territories we have no business dealing with such international issues. Certainly, this matter is not strictly within our jurisdiction but we are not going to be preoccupied with these issues in our business over the next month or so. I think this issue transcends the importance of everything else we will be working on in this Legislative Assembly.

Saying we have no business discussing such matters is the kind of attitude which leaves responsibility for this issue to someone else, appointed officials of External Affairs or international bodies. We are political leaders, we represent concerned peace-loving people and this subject of arms control was paid major attention by delegates to the Inuit Circumpolar Conference last year. I know it was an issue in some areas in the recent territorial election.

This subject is on our electors' minds, sometimes preying on their minds. I say, let us not be afraid to take a supportive stand because I sense a profound unease all over the world over the real possibility that all the achievements of mankind, all the products of generations of struggle and progress, all the deliberations of all the legislative assemblies of the world could be eliminated by human error. The same human error that causes planes to crash, fail-safe nuclear power plants to fail, could plunge us into the mass suicide of nuclear war. Presidents of great nations are fallible people and as the speed and range and numbers and locations and complications of nuclear weapons increase, the time to react to a real or mistaken attack is reduced to minutes.

This unease about our future takes many different forms. The nervous jokes at New Year's Eve about "Will there be a new year in 1985", I believe depression and despair, a weight of gloom which adds yet another burden to young people who are facing the challenges of finding careers and fulfilment in a complex and rapidly changing world. Movies like The Day After, which has already been seen by millions of people all over the world, about the terrible prospect of nuclear war have heightened these fears, even though the true picture of the nuclear winter which would result from strikes by both sides, the disappearance of the sun, the intense cold, was not even accurately portrayed.

Canada's Reputation As Peacemaker

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that our Legislative Assembly was the first in Canada to debate and take a stand on the testing of Cruise missiles. I am proud of Canada's reputation first gained through the efforts of another Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Lester Pearson, as a peacemaker. I am very pleased that a tradition is being carried forward by our current Prime Minister with, I believe, the fundamental blessing of all parties. Mr. MacQuarrie and I had a few problems getting unanimous support for the last motion on this subject that we sponsored together but I am very confident that this motion, which I think took into account all the views that were expressed in the last debate on this subject and looked for a common agreement on the goal of peace, will be given unanimous support. Therefore, I will confidently seek a recorded vote for this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. To the motion. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) This motion, I know that the Prime Minister spoke about this and I think he is doing the right thing. I know everybody knows about this and I have seen the movies or programs about this. I am very happy that people know about this but I wanted to mention that the Prime Minister is only speaking to some people in the world but I would like to tell him that he should make everybody equal if he is going to start this initiative. I have heard in Canada and the Northwest Territories, and they have been buying materials to make these nuclear materials and while we and industry are making money from these to sell I think it is a good idea that they should be stopped. If we do not stop these industries from selling the materials that are needed I do not think that we can stop this, the people making nuclear warheads. I think we have other ways to make money and I think it is very hard to grow things. We are aware of this for an everyday thing that people are starving overseas and Canadian people are farming to get more money. Also we could easily sell our food to them. These are my concerns -- in Canada, in part of the NWI --forming nuclear arms. I think it seems like we are just supporting them. We could try to stop them in some ways. Like this motion, I am supporting this, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appagag. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, in most Houses in this country the reality is when you are in formal session the debate on the issues is in fact addressed within the House and within the chambers. In reality there are people here that are clapping that are outside the ropes. In fact, the arguments ought to be raised, justified within the chambers rather than having some public protest and disturbance occurring.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak in support of this motion as well. Events over the past year have revealed how precarious our world peace actually is and how close the world is to becoming involved, perhaps even inadvertently in nuclear war. I would refer us to the Korean airliner incident where the civilian airliner loaded with innocent

travellers, was shot from the air by the Soviet Union. I would refer us to the continuing civil war in Lebanon and the many cold-blooded attacks on the French and American peace-keeping forces there. I would refer us to the invasion of Grenada and heightened tension in Central America. All of these incidents, Mr. Speaker, have increased the air of crisis, of instability and fear among all nations and their citizens.

Trends Threatening Existence Of Mankind

In a release dated November 16th, 1983, Prime Minister Trudeau outlined three dominant and disturbing trends which together threaten the existence of mankind. In the release it is mentioned that the first trend is an increasing resort to the use of force in the settlement of disputes. Since 1945 about 35 million people have been killed in conflicts around the world.

The second trend is that of aggression, gaining ground in the place of the political process and the third trend is the worsening relations between East and West, particularly between the two superpowers. Mr. Speaker, in the face of these trends there are two options, choosing to hope for the best or choosing to take action to reduce growing international tensions. As the senior elected leader in the western world Prime Minister Trudeau chose through the latter option, taking action to reduce international tensions.

I believe that is precisely what Mr. MacQuarrie and Mr. Patterson are referring to in their motion when they refer to his peace initiative as an "enlightened peace initiative". A few months ago, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Trudeau went to Europe to personally outline a plan to strengthen world peace. He met with leaders of the six NATO nations and with the Pope and he proposed four points of peace. First he called for a forum in which global limits might be negotiated among all five nuclear weapons states. The forum would not prejudice disarmament talks involving the Soviet Union and the United States, it was pointed out. Instead, negotiations would be expanded to include British, French and Chinese nuclear forces. The aim of the forum, the aim of his peace initiative would be to recognize the rights of the United States and Soviets as nuclear strategic equals while establishing an acceptable and stable framework for the relationship of the other nuclear forces and those of the superpowers. Second, Mr. Trudeau called for the extension and strengthening of the non-proliferation treaty to include nations which have the capacity now or soon will have to develop their own nuclear arms. Third, Mr. Trudeau called for negotiations aimed at reversing the military build-up by the West to achieve equality with Warsaw Pact conventional forces in favour of reductions to mutually acceptable levels.

Fourth, Mr. Trudeau again called for the adoption of the strategy of suffocation which he first proposed to the United Nations in 1978. This strategy would suffocate the development of new nuclear weapons in the laboratory. Mr. Trudeau would ban the use of anti-satellite systems which could be used to attack the global communications system and nuclear weapon command and control systems at a time when stability demands awareness and response, not the panic reaction of launch on warning and as part of the fourth point Mr. Trudeau stressed the need to verify arms control measures, including restrictions on the mobility of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Mission Of Hope

Mr. Speaker, the idea has won qualified support so far from the four nuclear powers he has visited since embarking on his peace initiative. He has won qualified support from Britain, from France, from China and indeed from the United States. These leaders have told him the idea is a good one but that it is premature and he has yet to meet with leaders in Moscow. Foreign ministers meeting January 17th from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, otherwise known as NATO, and the Warsaw Pact missions to discuss European disarmament had an opportunity to hear Mr. Trudeau's proposals as well. Mr. MacQuarrie has raised the issue of the cynics who have attempted to discredit our Prime Minister's efforts and I guess the question then does have to be asked: Why is the Prime Minister undertaking such a difficult task? Mr. Trudeau himself has answered that question. He said, "The choice we face is clear and present. We can with effort abandon our fate to the mindless drift toward nuclear war or we can gather our strength working in good company to turn aside the forces bearing down on us, our children, on this earth. As for me, I choose to move forward." Mr. Trudeau's mission of peace, Mr. Speaker, is a mission of hope. It deserves the support of Canadians and all people of the world and it certainly deserves our support today in the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen.

--- Applause

With regard to the point brought up by the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, your point is of course in order. The gallery and other areas must not partake in any noise or any indication of agreement with the honourable Members. However on occasions such as this we have chosen at most times to overlook it but you are technically correct. The gallery is not to partake in the actions of the House. Are there any further speakers? Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) We are all sitting here and we are trying to -- a lot of things have been brought out in the Northwest Territories here now. If it was not that way in those days, nowadays we would not have been sitting here fighting each other. We should watch what they are taking out of this land. What would happen if our grandchildren and our children ever get into that? That is the reason we are really afraid. We do not want any people to take anything from this land, take it out so they could do anything with it. I really respect what they said here. Thank you.

---Applause

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Ouestion.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the patience of the Members? I would like to make a few comments on this very important subject. I fully support the motion. I think it is a very important concept that we as a Legislature have a responsibility to do our part albeit as little a part as that may be. To add to Mr. MacQuarrie's statistics, the American qovernment has in this present years budget increased their defence budget by some 18 per cent, some \$48 billion dollars. The increase in the American defence budget in one year is six times the total defence budget of Canada. Mr. MacQuarrie mentioned the ever-escalating cost of expenditures for defence around the world. It is estimated that the world cost for armaments within five years will be more than one trillion dollars. That is \$1000 billion. It is also estimated that if that cost could be cut in half, within 10 years the major diseases found around the world could be eradicated, that one third of the world's population which is today starving could be fed, that all the people of the world would enjoy safe, clean, drinking water. All the homeless of the world would have proper shelters.

Many years ago I visited Hiroshima and I saw the devastating results of one small nuclear bomb. I think it is very important that this Legislature supports the initiatives of our Prime Minister and I think that in a world with very little hope we could be very proud that a statesman of Mr. Trudeau's stature is trying to do something when so many people are saying that nothing can be done. So I very much support this motion. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Do you wish to sum up, Mr. MacQuarrie?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just one final brief word. I am especially pleased that my colleague for Yellowknife South spoke in support of this motion and I am pleased because I realize for reasons which she explained during the debate on the Cruise motion she felt unable to support that motion at that time and I know that there were other Members here who felt that same way. It has not been and is not my intention to try to frame motions that are contentious, that exclude certain people, that make them feel, as I know Mrs. Sorensen felt, that she had a concern about peace generally and yet felt she could not support that particular motion. It has not been my intention to frame motions that exclude people in that way and so I sense that perhaps myself and Mr. Patterson have been able here to frame a motion that can win the support of all Members. I am hopeful of that at any rate and I believe that is so important simply because I know there are quite a number of people who have not liked the way that those who are now in the peace movement handled themselves, the way they direct criticism. They sometimes feel it is biased or one-sided. Well, that may be your opinion and you may be right in that opinion, although I do not think so in many cases, but if there is a basic underlying concern about the destruction of the world -- and

there is -- that is not a good enough reason in my opinion for refusing to get involved, to try to do what you can. So I hope that all those who have criticized the movement in the past will at least recognize the concern and get aboard the movement and try to steer it in directions that are acceptable to them, at least to do something in this critical situation.

I hope, then, that all of us in this kind of movement will move together, men and women, old and young, people of all races in the East and the West. Incidently, in the East there is a small but hardy and determined group in East Germany at the present time suffering difficulties for what they are doing but they are determined that they will do it anyway. So I say let us, all of us, start moving forward toward a world that is more rational and more peaceful. Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, I do ask for a recorded vote.

Motion 9-84(1), Carried

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

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Gargan, Mr. T'Seleie, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Ballantyne, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Wray, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Curley, Mr. Nerysoo, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Angottitauruq and Mr. Pedersen.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Let the records indicate that the vote was unanimous.

---Carried

Item 13, orders of the day, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills.

Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters.

Item 16, report of committee of the whole. Item 17, orders of the day. Announcements and orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, there will be a caucus meeting Monday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the caucus room.

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Monday, February 6, at 1:00 p.m.

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Members' Replies
- Ministers' Statements
- 4. Oral Questions
- 5. Written Questions
- 6. Returns
- 7. Petitions
- 8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
- 9. Tabling of Documents
- 10. Notices of Motion

- 11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
- 12. Motions: Motion 10-84(1), Additional Housing for Cape Dorset
- 13. First Reading of Bills
- 14. Second Reading of Bills
- 15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
- 16. Report of Committee of the Whole
- 17. Orders of the Day
- MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk, this House stands adjourned until Monday, February 6, at 1:00 p.m.
- ---ADJOURNMENT