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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 TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ballantyne, 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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Friday, February 10.

Item 2, Members' replies. There do not appear to be any Members' replies for today.

Item 3, Ministers' statements. There do not appear to be any Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 53-84(1): Naphtha Gas, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure who I am going to be directing my question to, but maybe I will direct it mainly to the Executive Council. Up to now in Cape Dorset, there is no naphtha gas, not even in the Hudson's Bay Company or in the co-op. Also they are thinking of chartering it in but it is going to be too expensive to get it by air. I had a call from them to see if the Executive Council would support this for the people at Cape Dorset, because they do not have any more naphtha gas and they want some assistance from the government. I am just wondering if somebody could look into this. This is my question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice and prepare a response as quickly as possible. I believe the particular responsibility rests with the Hon. Tom Butters. Thank you.

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

Question 54-84(1): Whereabouts Of Ministers At Question Period

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question first for the Government Leader. We are aware of where Mr. Butters is. Could I ask the Government Leader where the other Ministers are at question period?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 54-84(1): Whereabouts Of Ministers At Question Period

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, the Members were in the office this morning and they will be appearing in this House very quickly.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 55-84(1): Sentence For Illegal Transportation Of Dangerous Goods

MR. MacQUARRIE: I have a question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Justice and Public Services and just by way of brief background I refer to an article that appeared in Wednesday's edition of the Yellowknifer, in which it is stated that Reid, Crowther and Partners Ltd. were fined \$100 after pleading guilty to illegally transporting dangerous goods on a PWA passenger jet from Vancouver to Yellowknife. The goods included sulphuric acid, nitric acid and butane. My question is not related to the fact they were transported, but that apparently that company declared that all it was sending was four empty coolers and three trunks containing electrical equipment. The goods were discovered only when they were being off-loaded in Yellowknife and an employee of PWA was forced to flee from the room in which the off-loading was taking place because of the fumes and the contact of those materials with his skin. The RCMP were then called in and charges were laid. Now I am asking my question in the context that I am astounded that for such an offence the fine was only \$100, which is hardly an incentive to discourage companies from hiding the shipment of dangerous goods. So my question to the Minister is, since the charges were laid in Yellowknife and we have a Transportation of Dangerous Goods Ordinance, I wonder why the charges were not laid under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Ordinance, in which I notice the penalty for conviction on a first offence would be a fine of up to \$50,000. Could I ask the Minister why charges were not laid under that ordinance?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 55-84(1): Sentence For Illegal Transportation Of Dangerous Goods

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honourable Member for giving me notice of the question so I could prepare a thorough response. In response to the question raised by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre on the matter of the transportation of dangerous goods case recently heard in Vancouver, I can advise the Member as follows. First the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Ordinance has not been proclaimed. It was assented to on November 25, 1982, but its proclamation has been delayed pending the development of appropriate regulations. It is our intention to develop regulations which parallel the federal Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and regulations since the ordinance references that statute.

We are unable to do so at this time since the federal regulations have yet to be completed. All provinces and territories have been consulted in the development of the federal regulations. With reference to the specific issue raised by the honourable Member, I wish to advise him that even if the NWT ordinance had been proclaimed prior to this, it would not have applied since it refers to highway transportation modes only. This particular case was heard in Vancouver since the charges were laid by the RCMP in Vancouver under federal legislation. Any appeal of this sentence would have to be made either by the defendant or by the crown prosecutor's office. Finally, I would like to assure the honourable Member that highway transportation is currently monitored by this government under a number of ordinances including the Public Service Vehicles Ordinance, Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance, Environmental Protection Ordinance and the Safety Ordinance.

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

Supplementary To Question 55-84(1): Sentence For Illegal Transportation Of Dangerous Goods

MR. MacQUARRIE: With respect to the matter of an appeal of sentence you say that that would be under the jurisdiction of the crown prosecutor and I recognize that we do not yet have control of that. But, could I ask the Minister whether this government is concerned enough to make representations to the prosecutor or is that considered to be improper or something? Since the incident occurred in Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories, is the government just going to let the matter drop or will it investigate further and see whether it can influence an appeal of the sentence?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 55-84(1): Sentence For Illegal Transportation Of Dangerous Goods

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I doubt very much if we could influence the crown prosecutor in pursuing any further appeal but certainly I would be prepared to look into the matter and



discuss the matter with my deputy minister to see what ways we could approach, to deal with this particular issue and hopefully those issues that might arise in the future.

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

Question 56-84(1): Repair Of Community Hall, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the honourable Member, Nick Sibbeston. It is with regard to emergency situations. The condition in Fort Providence is that the community hall is very unsafe for human habitation basically because there needs to be rewiring done in that area. There is no running water, there are no bathrooms in the building. As far as the health inspector is concerned they could close down that building any time. I realize that in 1988-89 there is a plan to build a new hall but since this is of an emergency nature I was wondering what the Minister intends to do about it.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 56-84(1): Repair Of Community Hall, Fort Providence

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the matter that has been raised by Mr. Gargan. I can advise him that there are \$30,000 in the present budget for fixing the community hall in Fort Providence. I can say to the Member that I have also had some discussions with the regional director in Fort Smith about the possibility of finding some other funds from other sources. He has indicated that it is reasonably likely. So we could end up with approximately \$60,000 to repair the community hall for Fort Providence in this coming fiscal year.

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

Question 57-84(1): Housing For RCMP, Hall Beach

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, in return to written Question 23-84(1) asked by Mr. Erkloo on February 7th, the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Justice and Public Services, indicated that the Hall Beach housing association would be able to provide one house of the new houses -- I think there are five to be built in Hall Beach this fall -- to accommodate an RCMP officer. May I ask the Minister if this is a normal procedure, and if it is, how does he then reconcile the concerns of CMHC?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 57-84(1): Housing For RCMP, Hall Beach

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I just want to indicate that that particular issue was raised with me by the present Housing Corporation chairman. In fact he indicated that that situation may not be possible but that we would have to raise it with the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation and we would have to discuss further that situation with the housing association in Hall Beach. I believe that the honourable Member who is responsible for that particular constituency is going to have to be brought up-to-date on that particular situation as well because I do not believe that the present arrangement that we have with CMHC allows us to transfer public housing for the purposes of staff housing in the sense of government use. So that is something that we are going to have to look into and see if we can come up with a different or appropriate solution.

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

Supplementary To Question 57-84(1): Housing For RCMP, Hall Beach

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact the Minister for Housing is not here may I ask a supplementary question of Mr. Nerysoo who I hope then would redirect it. I would be concerned if the allocation of new houses to Hall Beach is more than would fit the needs of that community and they would then have one free. Would the Minister of Housing look into the allocation of the number of units for Hall Beach and if that house is not required, I know that there are many other communities in the Territories who would want it. I wonder if the Minister would redirect that question to the Minister of Housing who is not here at the time.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have no problem with taking that question as notice for the appropriate Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, oral questions. Mr. McCallum.

Question 58-84(1): Grants For Meals On Wheels Services

MR. McCALLUM: I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services that concerns a service provided to senior citizens in communities. The service is called Meals on Wheels. I wonder if the Minister would indicate to the House and to myself whether service clubs in some communities can avail themselves of grants or assistance to carry on this particular worthwhile service to senior citizens, whether they be in their own homes or whether they be in senior citizen lodges.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Member for giving notice that he is concerned about this issue. We basically have three methods of delivering this, depending on whether or not there is a hospital in the community or whether there is a volunteer group willing to help with it. The costs of the program are paid partially by Social Services and, I guess, partially by Health. I am not sure though on the matter of whether a grant could be made available specifically to a group to do it. I think I would have to consult with my officials on that. I understand the program and how it works, but are you asking, Mr. McCallum, if we could give a grant to a service club directly to run the whole operation, including the preparation of meals and delivery? Is that the idea? Mr. Speaker, I am not sure of the Member's question. Does he want us to give a grant directly to them so they can provide the full service or does he want us to use them as a vehicle to deliver part of the service?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum, clarification of your question, please.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, without being facetious what I asked the Minister was in fact whether there were grants available to assist community service clubs to provide Meals on Wheels service which is a service that Health and Social Services at the present time have within their particular budget, whether the senior citizens who receive this particular service are in their own homes and capable of putting together meals or whether they are in senior citizen lodges or chalets. Basically, the question is, is there any assistance that can be given to community service clubs to carry on this particular service?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I will have to talk to my officials particularly about that. We do have funds available to deliver that program in the communities and in most cases the clubs or service groups that do the delivering of the meals do it on a volunteer basis. I will have to see if we have a situation where we can give grants for them to operate that volunteer service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I take it you are taking the question as notice and will bring in a reply. Please, if you would use that terminology it would save an awful lot of time. Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 58-84(1): Grants For Meals On Wheels Services

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, while the Minister is looking into that may I ask a supplementary as well along with it? There is a very active service club in my constituency in Fort Smith, the Lionesses Club. They would be willing to take over the service. Will the Minister look into the possibility directly of helping that particular organization to provide the service?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 59-84(1): Staffing In Trailcross And Correctional Centre, Fort Smith

MRS. LAWRENCE: This is to the Minister of Social Services. Regarding the Trailcross institute and the Correctional Centre for Women in Fort Smith, I wonder what their policy is in staffing for night shift. I understand at this time there is just one staff on shift and in the case of accidents the staff has no protection. Is this their policy that they have to have just one staff instead of having two staff?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what the exact policy is of Social Services Canada for the night staffing. I will get back to the Member with that as soon as I can.

MR. SPEAKER: You take the question as notice. Thank you. Oral questions.

Item 5, are there any written questions today? Item 6, are there any returns? Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 50-84(1): Renewable Resources Officer Trainee For Fort Resolution

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to a question asked by Mrs. Lawrence on February 9, 1984, Question 50-84(1), on the renewable resources officer trainee at Fort Resolution. The department recognizes the need for greater support to the hunters and trappers of Fort Resolution and is now considering the best method of meeting their requirements. I will advise the Member before the end of this session on the specific course of action planned by the department and thank you for your suggestion and direction.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Are there any further returns for today?

Item 7, petitions. Any petitions?

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, on very many occasions we have had requests for information on grants to hunters and trappers through Renewable Resources and I wish to table Tabled Document 12-84(1), the May 1983 edition of NWT Wildlife Notes, outlining the assistance programs administered by the Department of Renewable Resources. This is provided in English, Inuktitut, and Inuvialuktun.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Any further tabling of documents? Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 13-84(1), Discussion Paper on Affirmative Action, Government of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, this document is now being translated into Inuktitut.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. That appears to conclude tabling of documents for today.

Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Motion 14-84(1), THIS Regulations. Mr. MacQuarrie.



ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 14-84(1): THIS Regulations

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services regulations have recently been amended, without input from this Assembly, to require co-payment of \$10 per day by parents/guardians of children under 16 years of age who are chronically ill or disabled, such as severely mentally retarded, to the point where they require institutional care, and co-payments between \$10 and \$19 per day for such patients between 16 and 65 years of age;

AND WHEREAS parents/guardians are expected to make these payments 365 days a year through all the years that such a child lives until the age of 65;

AND WHEREAS this demand places an enormous financial burden on such parents/guardians over the life of their child;

AND WHEREAS upon reaching the age of 19 years, the age of majority in the Northwest Territories, persons afflicted with physical/mental disabilities requiring extended care in institutions should be recognized as persons in their own right without means, rather than the offspring of others who have continuing financial obligations to them;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Eliza Lawrence, that this Assembly strongly recommend to the Executive Council that it amend the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services regulations so that the obligation on parents/guardians to make co-payments for a child who is placed in an institution to receive extended care will cease when the child reaches the age of 19 years;

AND FURTHER, that the amount of such co-payments, when they are required to be made, should bear some reasonable relationship to the amount that the Department of Social Services allots for food, clothing, shelter and personal needs, per child, to families requiring social assistance;

AND FURTHER, that the principle of "financial ability to pay" continue to be taken into account when co-payments are required to be made.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. Proceed, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This motion has arisen as a result of a specific request from one of my constituents who found himself in the position of being faced with long-term heavy expenditures for one of his children who would require institutional care. The type of individual that I am referring to in this motion would be perhaps a family where a child is born so severely mentally retarded that it becomes immediately apparent that it would have to be placed in an institution for institutional care or it could perhaps be the case where a child is born perfectly normally and then when growing up and carrying on normal activities, such as playing hockey or going out shooting, becomes involved in a terrible and very serious accident that leaves him unable to do anything for himself and therefore at the age of nine or 12, or whatever, suddenly it becomes necessary that he be placed in an institution for extended care.

Now, in cases like this in the past, in the Northwest Territories, this matter was handled by the Department of Social Services, as I understand it. They had a more informal relationship with these families. The families were expected to pay a reasonable amount and if there were special items that the child required, the families would perhaps be asked to provide them and so on, but it was rather informal. Recently this program was transferred to the Department of Health. When the transfer was made the Department of Health decided to create very firm and clear regulations as to what would be expected of parents. What they decided was that in such cases where the children are between zero and 16 years of age that parents would be required to pay \$10 per day, seven days a week, 365 days out of every year, until the age of 16. Then when the children became 16 the rate of co-payment, as it is called, will be increased to somewhere between \$10 and \$19 each day depending on the family's financial ability to pay. Whatever amount was set, would have to be paid seven days a week, 365 days a year for every year, until that child reaches the age of 65 years. That was a significant change in the regulations.

### Assault On Principle Of Medicare

When I heard about the incident from my constituent, I was concerned immediately because I have always regarded medicare programs as having been created for this very kind of purpose and not so that people could avoid paying a couple of dollars each time they want to visit the doctor. That is not what is onerous about medical care payments, but rather medicare was created for this very purpose, to try and relieve individuals, parents, families of long-term and very heavy debt as a result of medical problems. So, from my point of view the new regulations represent an assault on the idea of medicare. I immediately wrote to the Minister of Health and asked him to reconsider this matter. I understand that he did take it to the Executive Council. Now whether there was just a bare quorum at the Executive Council meeting, I do not know. But at any rate the Executive Council generally reaffirmed the change in regulations. This would have been either early in December or late in November. They did make one or two minor modifications. But, I was not satisfied with that answer. I believe that this is a fundamental change in the way of doing things and I feel because of that, that it ought to have Assembly input because I can only believe that most Assembly Members recognize the kind of burden that would be imposed here because this could happen in any one of their families at any time. So I wanted to bring it to the Assembly.

### Parents Have Obligation To Support Child

Some of the principles in considering all of this are principles that were important to me. I do believe that when parents have children who require institutional care that they do have some obligation to support that child as long as it is considered to be a child under the law, because, in having the child they were giving an indication that they were financially ready to bear additional responsibility for a child.

Now with the fact that the child is born severely mentally retarded and they will not be able to enjoy that child in their family as they would a normal child, I believe they still have some obligation to spend on that child about what they would have to spend if the child were a normal member of the family and living in their home. So I felt that was a fair principle. I also felt that in this whole matter a fair principle was that those that had personal means should pay for their own medical care. When I first raised this matter I was told by the Department of Health that one reason they changed the regulations is because they did not want to see individuals building up an estate, a big bank account, at the expense of the public. In other words, let us take the example of an old age pensioner. If he is the one who is disabled to the point where he needs institutional care, what I was told was, "Why should the public continue to pay his total medical costs while he puts all his pension in the bank?" I agreed with the Department of Health. I say that if somebody has means that they should be paying for themselves. But what is happening here with the children is that we are asking, not this individual to pay out of his pension or something else for himself, but we are asking individual A to pay for individual B for the rest of his life. That is what I found to be unacceptable.

Another principle then that should be considered in all of this is that when an individual, and that would include a severely mentally retarded individual, reaches the age of 19, the age of maturity in the Territories, then he should be considered to be a person in his own right without means, rather than to go on considering him to be the child of somebody else, which is essentially what we would be doing here. To support that argument, supposing there were a young man of about 24 years of age who was perfectly normal and healthy involved in a hockey game or something similar, and he has a very bad accident and suddenly becomes a patient who is totally disabled and requires institutional care and has no means. Let us say like many young people at that age, he is spending all the money he has got. It was not a compensative accident. Well, if that should happen, we do not go to the parents of that 24-year old and say, "He is your child, you must pay for him for the rest of his life." What we say is that he is an adult without means. If he is without means, the public will ensure the payment for institutional care.

I really believe that ensuring the cost is important with long-term illnesses. The principle of medicare is that a caring public will share the cost of extraordinary burdens. I think that is what we should be doing in the Northwest Territories. So, if we do not do it, what happens is that some of these families are twice burdened. Burdened by a sadness in the family and they are burdened again by having long-term heavy financial obligations. It is said in one of the letters that I received that for parents to escape this financial obligation, they could deny responsibility and make the children wards of the state. I do not think any parent should have to do that in order to get that kind of assistance. They still wish to retain the family relationship but they need help with that kind of cost.

In examining this whole matter I did have our research officer contact other jurisdictions to see what is done in this matter. I discovered that in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Manitoba the governments charge no co-payment whatsoever of parents who have children that need to be institutionalized. There is no co-payment. I discovered that in Ontario and New Brunswick there is a co-payment. Parents are asked to pay for their children. The children are cared for in these institutions but the obligation in those two provinces ends at the age of 18 which is their age of majority. I discovered that Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia do charge parents co-payments and they impose that obligation right to the age of 65.

So, it appears to me that our Department of Health referred to the western provinces and said, "That is how they do it, so let us do it that way." Myself, I feel that is not the way to do it. I rather feel that the cases of Ontario and New Brunswick make the most sense, where you ask parents to share the burden while the children are still legally children and to relieve them of that burden when the children become persons in their own right. I also noticed that in this list of payments of various jurisdictions that ours is one of the highest throughout the country. Even of those that ask for payments, ours is the higher one. Considering all of that I felt that I wanted to bring in this motion and see if I could get the support of the Members to ask the Executive Council to alter that.

Incidentally, I discovered that there are 24 individuals requiring care in the Northwest Territories over the age of 65. In respect of them, what I am saying is, yes, they are getting pensions and a co-payment should be made by them on their own behalf. There are 17 such cases under the age of 65. So what it means to us is not a great additional expenditure. It means our government was hoping to get a certain amount of revenue from these people during those years, from these 17 families. We will be realizing less revenue from them during certain years. That is the financial implication of the motion.

So anyway, just to recap, I am advocating that co-payments for institutionalized care should cease when a child reaches the age of 19. I am advocating that while co-payments are demanded they should be reasonable payments related in some way to the cost of raising that child if the child were still in the home. I felt that a reasonable bench mark would be the amount that Social Services gives to people who are on social assistance, where it says for each child we will allow so much for food, clothing, personal needs and so on. I say that our co-payment charge should bear some reasonable relationship to that. I would like to see the principle of financial ability to pay still be retained.

I think what I am asking is a fairly reasonable approach and I hope that Members will be able to support it. I hope for myself too, that Executive Council Members will continue to vote on motions like this, I noticed there was a little consternation a week ago on a motion that dealt with all old age supplements because some took it as meaning that if Executive Council Members voted in the Assembly, that therefore that was a statement of government policy. I can say right out I do not take it to be that way. I say that that is an initial indication of how you, as individual Members, feel about a matter, given the information you have at that time. I, for one, recognize that you still have the additional obligation of going back and having to see perhaps other implications in it all and that after seeing them you may feel compelled to change your mind.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie, please, you are not speaking to your motion. If you wish to give a lecture to the Executive would you please pick another time? Stay to your motion, please, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Having made that point, I will gladly move on, so that they, along with all other Members I hope, would feel able to support the motion since I think that it does adopt a reasonable approach. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mrs. Lawrence, as seconder do you wish the floor at this time?

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Speaks in Chipewyan)

(No translation)

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? If you wish to speak again, Mr. MacQuarrie, this will close the debate.



MR. MacQUARRIE: Just to ask for a recorded vote, Mr. Speaker.

Motion 14-84(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: A recorded vote has been requested, Mr. Clerk. All those in favour 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. Angottitauruq and Mr. Pedersen.

MR. SPEAKER: Opposed? Abstentions?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Curley, Mr. Nerysoo, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Motions. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not often ask unanimous consent for a motion but I have one coming up on Monday on the Northern Canada Power Commission. It is of an urgent nature because we have to make a submission to Ottawa on Tuesday afternoon and I would respectfully request of the Members unanimous consent to deal with that motion today. They have been provided with a copy yesterday afternoon and a letter from me as to why I would like to have unanimous consent.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? You have unanimous consent. Proceed, Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion 15-84(1): Position On The Northern Canada Power Commission

MRS. SORENSEN: I promise I will not do it too often, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Speaker, the motion is Motion 15-84(1). It is the position on the Northern Canada Power Commission.

WHEREAS the Government of the NWT put forward a position on the devolution of the Northern Canada Power Commission, NCPC, in 1981 to the standing committee on Indian affairs and northern development, the Penner Inquiry;

AND WHEREAS the Penner committee accepted and recommended to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs the initiatives put forward by this government;

AND WHEREAS the Penner committee's report was unanimously endorsed by this House;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs did not choose to accept the Penner committee's report but instead appointed the National Energy Board to conduct another inquiry;

AND WHEREAS the recommendations of the recent National Energy Board inquiry into NCPC did not include any of the recommendations endorsed by this House or put forward by the Government of the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that this Assembly reaffirm to the Government of Canada its firm resolve that:

- 1) Canada should divide the commission into two separate crown corporations, one to serve the Northwest Territories and one to serve the Yukon.
- 2) Within the near future, the corporation serving the Northwest Territories should be transferred to the Government of the Northwest Territories.
- 3) Canada should relocate the Northwest Territories corporation to the Northwest Territories.
- 4) Canada should forgive the debt of the corporation, or if that is not possible, the debt to Canada should be converted to equity of Canada.
- 5) Canada should establish the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board as the sole regulatory agency for the commission.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Proceed, Mrs. Sorensen.



MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, this is the third time that I have stood in this Legislature and asked the Legislature to support a motion on the NCPC issue but my involvement in this issue has not been restricted to the time spent as an MLA. As far back as 1973 when John Parker was the chairman of the Public Utilities Board and I was a consumer advocate, the issue of NCPC was of major concern both to me, to the community in general, to industry and to the businessmen of the NWT. It is an issue on which we have suffered through study after study, not only the Penner Inquiry study and the National Energy Board study, but there were bureaucratic studies done in 1975 and 1976. We have had to prepare submission after submission. We have had to spend money and valuable time on lobby trips to Ottawa and generally we have been discouraged time after time with the lack of decision on the part of the federal government on this issue. Way back in 1973 I promised myself, Mr. Speaker, that I would see this thing through to a resolution one way or another. So once again when I was in Ottawa two weeks ago with the Minister of Finance to lobby on the upcoming federal budget, the NCPC issue was raised, as well as the taxation on northern allowances, another issue which has been hanging around since the early 1940s.

Mr. Speaker, in early 1980 this House passed a motion which called for action on the part of the federal government on the five points that are contained in this motion that is before us now. This motion was forwarded by the Executive to Ottawa. Indeed they made a presentation. It went along with other resolutions that were passed by chambers of commerce in the NWT, by various community councils including the Yellowknife city council. Both the Liberal and Conservative parties have had resolutions at party meetings, also the MWT Chamber of Mines. Basically all groups have said the same thing. And the response, what has that been? Well, the response was a subcommittee of a standing committee on Indian affairs was formed and assigned the task of holding public hearings across the North on the issue of NCPC. The federal government was not willing to take what we felt were reasonable steps. This Legislature felt, supported by basically nearly everyone in the NWT, that the federal government was not prepared to act. And so a subcommittee formed of a standing committee on Indian and northern affairs and was assigned the task of holding public hearings. Most of us felt that that was an acceptable move. Our own MPs, Peter Ittinuar and Dave Nickerson and, I believe, our senators from the Yukon and Northwest Territories were involved as a part of that subcommittee and virtually everyone in the NWT co-operated with the public hearings on the Northern Canada Power Commission. I remember the Yellowknife MLAs along with the Leader at the time and the Minister of Energy returning from the spring session in Hay River to make representation before the public hearings that were held here in Yellowknife.

#### Action Requested On Five Points

The North is, I believe, still united on these five points that are contained in the motion, but I think it is important that we reaffirm that we would like action. In 1982 a comprehensive report which basically supported these five points was released by the Penner Inquiry. Northerners actually celebrated. I can remember a motion that came into this House commending Mr. Penner for that report, commending our MPs for their ability to convince their colleagues on the Penner Inquiry subcommittee that the things that northerners were saying and have been saying for many, many years were in fact logical, they said, and should be enacted. We felt in fact that at last Ottawa understood. But what we really learned was that the Penner Inquiry was not Ottawa. What happened as a result of the Penner Inquiry report was another study and that is the study that Mr. Curley has tabled the other day in the House and which is in Members' file folders now.

It was to be a comprehensive study too. It was to involve the National Energy Board travelling across the NWT to consult with northerners on what they wanted and the whole circus started again. This report was released in August of 1983 and if I were cynical, Mr. Speaker, I would say that the National Energy Board report is exactly the type of report that the government was in fact looking for and had to have, a report that reflected the bureaucratic status quo that is indeed what we have been seeing out of the federal government on the NCPC issue, something that counteracted the Penner Inquiry report which said basically what the northern people wanted. I said "if I were cynical". I am not yet cynical and I would say that I still have some belief that we can make an impression in Ottawa and that we still have time.

I would like to go through each point in the motion for you. Under the first point, that the commission should be divided into two separate crown corporations, one to serve the NWT and one to serve the Yukon. The Penner report, as I said, agreed. It said basically there were different kinds of problems in both territories. The whole area was too large an area to administer efficiently and effectively and we certainly had that demonstrated to us over the past few years, too large an area to cover, basically because it is over one third of the land mass of Canada. The

National Energy Board report said NCPC should continue to operate as a single entity owned by the federal government. There would be too much duplication if there was to be a split in the corporation. It would be too expensive. Never mind the geography. Never mind the inefficiency of what exists now. Never mind the differences in the two territories with respect to the type of service that is provided. It would just be too expensive.

Under the second item, the Penner report supported the transfer of the corporation to the NWT government, a natural, constitutional and jurisdictional evolution -- progression it said. The National Energy Board report said no, it is not in the national interest. Ownership of the utility must reside with the political entity which has financial responsibility, but that is garbage. It is not the federal government that has the financial responsibility for the Northern Canada Power Commission. It is the consumers of the NWT through the act.

---Applause

We pay 100 per cent of the cost of service. That includes head office costs. It includes Edmonton costs and it includes all the staff that are located in Edmonton and all the travelling that they do between here and Edmonton time and time again. It is the consumer. The federal government perhaps guarantees the loans that are taken out but it is the consumer who pays the interest on every capital loan that we have ever taken out and interest at the going rate. So I say that is poppycock. Certainly not true. Actually you cannot swear in the Legislature and it is the closest thing I can come to as swearing although the word I would like to use has been used by the honourable Member for Nunakput on several occasions in the past.

#### Relocation Of NCPC Head Office

Fact number three, the Penner report said the corporation should move north from Edmonton. Only right, it said, that the people who administer and make decisions which affect the lives of northern residents should live among northern residents to see and experience the effect. I would say the greatest effect would be the rates and the conditions under which we live in terms of climate. No, says the National Energy Board report and I would like to quote from the report and for the record the reasons why it says that some 108 employees should stay in Edmonton, subject of course to the better personal income tax rate, the better housing, all the amenities of a big city, the lower cost of living and beautiful office accommodation. I might add a per kilowatt hour cost of power at least three times less than what we pay here in Yellowknife and 20 to 40 times less than what we pay in the remote regions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. SORENSEN: I would like to quote because I think it is significant because it really demonstrates how bad this National Energy Board report is in terms of understanding what it is we are trying to say when we say we want to own and manage our own power corporation because we already pay for it anyway. It says, "The board is sympathetic to the desire of persons living north of 60° as expressed by several submitters to have their electric utility head office located within the territories. However, the head office would still be in a single location and would be as remote from most communities as is Edmonton. In addition, NCPC stated that it would be necessary to continue to have certain functions such as purchasing and expediting of supplies performed in Edmonton or some other southern location." Obviously, we have no people up here who could provide supplies to NCPC. We are so remote and so unable to handle our own affairs we cannot even supply supplies.

I am quoting again. "It seems likely that there will be a growth in numbers of staff and in levels of staff qualifications required by NCPC in the years ahead. If the head office were moved to a more remote location, NCPC might have greater difficulty in recruiting and retaining qualified staff." And get this one, "Higher compensation, including northern allowances, would be required in the North. The board is of the opinion that, wherever the head office is located, the concerns of northern residents can be expressed adequately to NCPC through the regional offices and the territorial representatives on the commission. In addition, the board feels that local concerns can be addressed in public hearings held at various locations in the territories. The board recommends that the head office of NCPC remain in Edmonton."

Mr. Speaker, I really do not have to tell Members here why such statements are so ludicrous and in fact, stupid. The real reason NCPC has done a little bit of a survey on their people that are working for them, the 108 employees in Edmonton and the employees do not want to move north. More



than 60 or 70 per cent of them have said they do not wish to move north, so NCPC administration presented that fact to the National Energy Board and the National Energy Board has said, yes, we agree with you. Of course, no one would want to live in the North. It is so remote and you cannot get supplies there, no one with any qualifications would want to move there. NEB accepts that reasoning. NEB say that it agrees with you.

Fact number four is one that the National Energy Board and the Penner Inquiry basically agree on. I think the numbers are different but we were able to find a fact in both reports on which there was some agreement and that was the forgiveness of debt and the debt to equity which is the thing we have been saying all along is necessary and we must commend the National Energy Board for agreeing with that.

#### Regulatory Body

Fact number five, the Penner Inquiry had no problem with the Public Utilities Board of the NWT acting as the regulatory body. The Minister indicated in question period yesterday that the Public Utilities Board has had a refusal by the Northern Canada Power Commission to appear before it until the jurisdictional problem is solved. That has been a direct result of this report. The Minister referred to it yesterday as similar to a constitutional and jurisdictional crisis. That is why this issue is very urgent. Since August we have had no input as northern consumers into the rate structure of the Northern Canada Power Commission. I find that absolutely unacceptable.

What does the National Energy Board say about regulation? It says, "The regulation of NCPC, including the approval of rates and of the public convenience and necessity of major capital additions, should be assigned to a single federal regulatory agency." I bet you all can guess what agency should govern the Northern Canada Power Commission. You are right, the National Energy Board. What a wonderful opportunity for all those lovely southern bureaucrats to travel on a yearly basis throughout the North, asking northerners what they feel about the Northern Canada Power Commission.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Nice place to visit, but I would not want to live there.

MRS. SORENSEN: It is absolutely, in my opinion, a self-serving recommendation -- no mention of a public utilities board, not even the suggestion, which perhaps could have been acceptable in the interim to the Legislature that some of our own Public Utility Board members who have been absolutely responsible over the past few years could sit on the National Energy Board regulatory board, if and when they were reviewing northern issues of a power nature and when they travel up north to have the rate hearings. But no suggestion of compromise, none whatsoever.

Mr. Speaker, those are just some of the facts contained in both reports that are contradictory. I would add that there has been no response to the National Energy Board report by the federal government. We only have one response from NCPC saying, "We think it is a good idea and we are not going to appear before your Public Utilities Board any more until the whole problem is solved." But we do have one more chance, that is a chance that is coming up for the Minister on Tuesday of next week. Mr. Penner, the chairman of that subcommittee that conducted that earlier inquiry has asked for our input once again. I take it that he is very concerned about the contradictions that have resulted following his report and the National Energy Board report, and they are vast, and he wants to have one more kick at the can. I feel we should co-operate with this. It is a legislative committee in the House of Commons and one that would certainly have some clout.

#### Strong Representation To Ottawa

So this motion is designed to give Mr. Curley some strong support from this Legislature when he and his officials meet with Mr. Penner on Tuesday. I believe the federal government is going to make a decision soon -- indeed, has to make a decision soon -- and they can go either way. They can go our way or some compromise on the five points in this motion, which is also the Penner Inquiry way, or they can go the very highly bureaucratic, somewhat self-serving, status quo way that is recommended in the National Energy Board report. I know that Members will agree with me, that our way, the way of northerners is much better. I urge Members to support this motion and I urge the Minister to give strong representation, which I know he will, once again to Ottawa about how we feel as northerners about NCPC. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. The seconder of the motion, Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the honourable Member for Yellowknife South has very well expressed the problems with the NEB report and a possible approach for this government to take. I would just like to add very, very briefly as I, too, have been on the NCPC merry-go-round for the last five years. I have made countless briefs and submissions to endless numbers of boards and agencies. I recall in 1980 that I had just been there for three months and I was sitting down with the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, Mr. Munro, and Mr. Munro told me at that time that very, very shortly there will be a resolution to the problem of NCPC. This is four years later. We have come no further, in fact I think we are farther away from a solution to the problem now than we were four years ago, so I too urge Members to support this motion and I add my strong support to the Minister's efforts. I am sure you will give a very loud and clear report to the Minister of the feelings of this House. Thank you very much.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly welcome the excellent presentation by the Member for Yellowknife South and I know that will have a great impact. I hope it will to the Minister of Indian Affairs who is, I think, the federal Minister who has to make the decisions about this particular affair. I would like to indicate to all the Members that we on the Executive Council have ongoing support for the policy that was established by the previous Council. This particular position has not changed and I think the only way that we can resolve the jurisdictional problems that we have in conflict with Ottawa is by exercising our strength through this Legislature. I would very much urge the other Members to take interest in this because NCPC affects every aspect of our northern economy as well as the private home-owners and so on. So I think it is very much an urgent situation.

I disagree with the National Energy Board report when they say in view of the cost implications and so on that they felt that particular accountability in terms of the rate hearings should be controlled by Ottawa, by a federal agency. We in the North have been able to I think succeed in many of our aspects of the economy. We have a transportation system which is a private enterprise and the northern customers are able to contribute to that part of the economy. I would think that NCPC as it is today is well run by the people of the North and we are actually, in the NWT, ensuring that NCPC has a healthy profit each year in the last few years in the NWT because our economy I think has been able to afford it and the customers have been able to ensure that NCPC gets its own share from us. So I am very happy that this particular motion was introduced today because it is important that we communicate our position and we would like to do that by Tuesday. I indicated yesterday I will not be able to be there in view of our budget coming up. Also two Ministers will be absent, our Leader and Mr. Patterson who will be also in Ottawa assisting him. So in view of those things I will be satisfied to receive the support of Members on this particular motion. I would like to thank everyone who supports it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Are there any further questions?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you wish to close the debate, Mrs. Sorensen?

MRS. SORENSEN: No.

Motion 15-84(1), Carried

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

---Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker...

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, you so quickly passed notices of motion that I was not able to get my hand recognized and I wonder if we could go back to notices of motion. I have a motion I would like to give notice of.



MR. SPEAKER: I did not pass it very quickly. As a matter of fact I dwelt on it and called the thing twice. However, if you wish to ask for unanimous consent to go back it is your privilege. Do we have unanimous consent to go back?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Proceed, Mrs. Sorensen.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 17-84(1): PWA Board Of Directors

MRS. SORENSEN: I wish to give notice of motion that on Monday, February 13th, I will move the following motion: That this House request, through the Government Leader, that representation be made to Premier Lougheed and the chairman of the board of Pacific Western Airlines requesting that an NWT resident be placed on the Pacific Western Airlines board of directors.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any other notices of motion now that we are back on notices of motion? That concludes motions.

Item 13, first reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 2-84(1): Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1984

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, Tagak Curley, that Bill 2-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting the Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to authorize the Commissioner to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada providing for the payment of operating and capital grants to the Government of the Northwest Territories and related matters.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. To the principle of the bill. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 2-84(1) has had second reading. Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 3-84(1): Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1984-85

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho Gah, Nick Sibbeston, that Bill 3-84(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds and Make Loans to Municipalities in the Northwest Territories During the Financial Year 1984-85, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to authorize the Commissioner to borrow funds for the purpose of making loans to municipalities.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-84(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 4-84(1): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1983-84

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 4-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1983-84 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the 1983-84 financial year and to authorize increases in the magnitude of working capital advances for operation of specific revolving funds.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 4-84(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. That appears to conclude second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 1-84(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1984-85 and Tabled Document 4-84(1), with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-84(1), APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1984-85; TABLED DOCUMENT 4-84(1), 1984-85 MAIN ESTIMATES

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order and we will take a coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Now that we have a quorum the committee will come to order. Yesterday we left off on the main estimates on Education. Would the Minister of Education like to make an opening statement?

Department Of Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to introduce the Department of Education budget. In fairness to this committee, Mr. Chairman, I should inform you that if we have not completed discussion of the Education budget today, the discussion of the main estimates for Education will have to be deferred until I return from the First Ministers' Conference, preparatory conference on aboriginal rights later next week. I expect to be back in the House on Thursday morning. I just want to make that clear.

In introducing the Department of Education budget for 1984-85 I would like to note that while we have aimed at providing funding for government priorities, principally the implementation of the recommendations of the special committee on education and the priorities noted in the budget book, we also strove to adhere to restraint guidelines imposed upon all government departments without unduly affecting levels of service. Compared with last years main estimates the total proposed O and M budget for 1984-85 represents an increase of 8.4 per cent. However, looking at actual expenditures and base adjustments last year, our proposed total budget of \$78,158,000 represents a 5.1 per cent actual increase. On the surface this increase is in line with the universal restraint guidelines. However, it should be understood that our salary budget which comprises 65 per cent of our total budget approximately has increased by 8.3 per cent, considering the negotiated increases for teachers' wages and the cost of increments. In addition, we have provided 8.3 per cent price increases for the non-discretionary portion of grants and contributions which are annually paid to local education authorities. This has meant that we have had to offset these increases by restraint measures elsewhere. In applying restraint measures I have instructed my department in preparing this budget to exclude schools and education programs from restraint wherever possible. Restraint has been required in the administration and discretionary areas, allowing education programs to have what price increases we can afford within the limits of our budget. Discretionary travel has been reduced by 15 per cent and utilization of contractual services has been discouraged.

### Implementation Of Recommendations Of Special Committee

I should mention, Mr. Chairman, and I will elaborate further in these remarks that two major items are not fully reflected in this budget; further implementation of the recommendations of the special committee on education as approved by the Ninth Legislative Assembly and consolidation of GNWT training activities in the Department of Education. On the special committee report, may I observe that some of the recommendations have already been implemented. A new Grants and Bursaries Ordinance and regulations are in place and seem to be working well and attracting large numbers of students and I am pleased to note growing numbers of native students, about 25 per cent of total applications last year. Decentralized regional grants and bursary boards recommended by the Ninth Legislative Assembly are now in place in all regions.

Also the indigenous language development fund which is about to enter its third year of operation has provided many opportunities for interested speakers of the various indigenous languages of the NWT to become involved in the vital process of preserving and maintaining their mother tongues. The fund has supported many projects in about 35 communities from basic research and recording of almost-lost language forms and vocabulary to publishing high quality indigenous language materials suitable for both students and adults. The challenge ahead of us is to co-ordinate these community initiatives into well-constructed language programs and an educational strategy for language acquisition for children and adults. This will require an ongoing commitment of the Government of the Northwest Territories. I should note that I was pleased to recently learn that the Secretary of State for Canada, to whom I have been speaking on this subject for several years now, has now established what is called the native language retention component of the native social and cultural development program which should allow us to work jointly with the federal government toward these important objectives in native language preservation and development.

### Requests For Federal Funds

The Department of Education recognizes that further initiatives to implement the special committee report, as approved by the Ninth Assembly, will cost money we cannot at the moment identify. We have recently completed a submission to the Ministry of State for Social Development, Government of Canada, in an attempt to secure additional funding from the federal government. This money, if received, will be utilized to implement some of the major concerns of the special committee approved by this House. Specifically, our present submission, which is seeking in excess of \$11 million, will be devoted to continued work in indigenous languages, expansion of adult education services, implementation of proper special education programs and for the phased creation of divisional boards of education.

The special committee also recommended the establishment of a series of decentralized Arctic College campuses to give better access to college-level programs to people from all parts of the Northwest Territories. We are working hard toward this goal. The Thebacha College board of governors is now a truly territorial body which submitted, last fall, a comprehensive strategic plan outlining the board's views on how the college system can be expanded and established in legislation. An important goal in the coming year will be to give detailed consideration to this plan at the Executive level so that a concrete strategy for implementation can be developed. In the meantime, my department is not standing still either. Application has been made recently to the skills growth fund established under the new federal National Training Act to acquire capital funds to upgrade the Thebacha campus at Fort Smith. The proposed consolidation of training activities under my department, about which I will speak in more detail shortly, along with other measures will see more staff allocated to the college activity in the coming years, so that we can respond more effectively to growing demands for training from all parts of the NWT.

### Consolidation Of GNWT Training

Mr. Chairman, I feel that in light of the discussions in your standing committee on finance on problems facing youth in the NWT and concerns expressed during debates on the budget of the Department of Personnel the other day about expanding northern and native employment, I should inform this House of my goals with respect to consolidation of GNWT training in the Department of Education, although I should be very careful to point out that this plan has yet to receive final approval from the Executive Council. As you heard earlier in this session in Commissioner Parker's Address, our planning work to consolidate training is complete following a decision made by the previous Executive Council in 1983. In short, we plan to transfer staff development and training,



manpower development, the municipal administration and airports training program to the Department of Education. This transfer would involve some eight million dollars and 178 person years. I would like to elaborate a little bit on those plans, Mr. Chairman, in light of the concerns that have been expressed by this Legislative Assembly about training and youth and employment.

The consolidation of training was recommended by the special committee on education and the Ninth Assembly, the joint needs assessment committee, which had membership from the Metis and Dene and has long been advocated by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. Training efforts in the past could have been improved, it was felt, in ways which would have eliminated duplication of efforts and inconsistency. It is expected that centring responsibility in one department will allow the government to speak with one voice in its dealings with the general public, employers and the federal government on training matters. An organizational proposal to accomplish this objective is currently in its final stages of development and will be presented to the Executive Council in the near future, for planned implementation April 1, 1984. However, since this proposal is awaiting final approval by the Executive, it is not yet shown in the budget for the Department of Education. Major thrusts of this new organization will include the development of community-based adult education programs aimed at enhancing the employment potential of youth in the Territories and encouraging their entrance into college programs where appropriate.

The apprenticeship program currently managed by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has a long record of success in the Northwest Territories. The transfer of this program, it is felt, will enhance that success by making available more program development and evaluation staff from the Department of Education and providing better access to college programs. The development of the college system and its movement toward a more independent community-oriented role, as I mentioned, will be a high priority of the Department of Education. Problems in the past of poor communication between the college and the communities require much better co-ordination between adult basic education programs and those of the college.

#### Career Development For Public Servants

Training for public servants will also be addressed in this reorganization, Mr. Chairman, as the Hon. Richard Nerysoo mentioned the other day when speaking about the Department of Personnel. A planning committee is proposed composed of high level officials from all major government departments to prepare comprehensive career development plans for territorial public servants. This interdepartmental committee would play a key role in determining the manner in which the government will recruit, train and promote public servants. It will also function as a standing committee to review employee requests for education leave, to ensure that programs of study serve the government's long-term need for qualified staff in critical areas. The work of that committee will complement that of the Department of Personnel in their development of an affirmative action policy to provide ready access to work for groups such as native people and women. However, the major barrier facing these groups, in my view, is not merely access to jobs. Rather it is the frustration of being unable to progress beyond certain levels of jobs. Through training which is the key to promotion and job satisfaction, this career development plan, it is felt, would address this challenge by proposing training strategies aimed specifically at disadvantaged groups in an effort to give them a stronger voice in the management of government.

The consolidation of training in the Department of Education is aimed at achieving a number of results. Staff of the Department of Education located in all communities in the NWT can be counted upon to give better support to the apprenticeship program which has, in some cases, been somewhat limited by lack of local resources. The development of links between community adult education programs and those of the college will simplify the transfer of students from one system to the other. The co-ordination of training for public servants by the Department of Education will allow the general public to have access to programs which previously were only open to public servants. Public servant training programs co-ordinated by the Department of Education would provide accreditation not always available under the present system. This will be a new emphasis for the Department of Education in the coming year. Our future efforts will be geared toward the establishment of strong links between school, community adult education and post-secondary programs recognizing the need to prepare people for jobs and careers.

#### Capital Plan

Mr. Chairman, I would like to briefly touch on some highlights in our capital plan. The Norman Wells school was completed last year and the restoration of Breynat Hall was completed last year. Due to soil and permafrost problems which resulted in redesign of the foundation the new Clyde



River school is now expected to be completed in March of 1984. The separate school board in Yellowknife has completed a four classroom addition to St. Joseph's School. Projects now tendered or being tendered include new schools in Fort Franklin, Hay River Reserve, Sanikiluaq and Snowdrift. Projects in the stages of site and soils investigation or preliminary design include new schools for Fort Liard, Snare Lake, Holman Island, Arctic Bay and Resolute Bay. A 40-bed student residence will be constructed in Rankin Inlet this summer as the first step in the construction of the Keewatin education centre. Expansion adjacent to the Samuel Hearne Secondary School in Inuvik to accommodate the vocational certificate program resulted in an automotive shop in 1982 and a carpenter shop in 1983. The general mechanics shop will be completed in 1984. Also renovation programs over several years for the upgrading of Akaitcho Hall student residence in Yellowknife and Grollier Hall senior student residence in Inuvik are continuing. These are just some highlights from the capital plan, Mr. Chairman.

#### Enrolment And Attendance

I would like to highlight in closing a few points of interest which I think show that we are moving and we are making progress in education in the NWT. The trend in enrolment in post-secondary programs is on the rise. Last school year applications were up 25 per cent over the previous year. For this school year applications were up over 50 per cent from the year before. I am also convinced that our high school students are very serious and dedicated and it has been particularly gratifying to me to see that in high schools in Fort Smith, Inuvik and Frobisher Bay, native students are filling at least half of last years graduating classes. Last year I was able to attend high school graduations in Frobisher Bay and Inuvik and found myself very moved to see the genuine pride of parents and families of these native students who have done so well.

Last year at this time I noted that in my view education in the NWT was gaining momentum and creditability largely through the attention paid to it by this Legislative Assembly. I said I had indications that attendance rates were improving and I am very pleased to report to this House that the statistics have borne my predictions out, especially in Baffin, Kitikmeot and Keewatin Regions. In Baffin last year overall attendance jumped 7.9 per cent over the previous year to an average overall of 80.2 per cent. In Kitikmeot the overall average increase was 8.8 per cent to 72.6 per cent average and in Keewatin the average increase was 7.0 per cent to 73.3 per cent. Some notable increases in certain communities: Fort Liard jumped from 33 to 54 per cent; Cambridge Bay, 52 to 74 per cent; Wrigley, 64 to 82 per cent and Sanikiluaq, 64 to 79 per cent and I am sure it will improve even more when they get the new school in Sanikiluaq.

Consistent attendance is crucial to educational success for our students and I am very happy to see these improvements. They are a credit to local education authorities, teachers of the NWT and students and parents. If somewhat overcrowded classrooms are the result, I will do my very best to see that our teaching staff are allocated so as to relieve any pressure points. I have heard from many local education authorities on the subject and I will carefully consider their submissions along with any advice MLAs might provide to me during the discussion of this budget so as to make the very best use of teaching staff at our disposal for the coming year.

#### Use Of Microcomputers In Schools

One other point of interest I might like to mention just in closing my remarks, Mr. Chairman, is that the program established last year to identify a separate category of capital funds for microcomputers in the NWT schools has resulted in a total today of 167 microcomputers in various schools in all parts of the NWT. I think this shows that we are keeping up with national trends to use these technological innovations to keep students abreast of technological changes. Those are my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, admittedly brief. I would welcome any comments or questions from Members and I would request that my deputy minister, Mr. Lewis, and chief of finance, Mr. Nutt, be permitted to join me in committee of the whole. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Does the committee agree that the Minister brings in his witnesses?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): For the record would the Minister introduce his witnesses again?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have with me Mr. Brian Lewis, deputy minister and Mr. Art Nutt, chief of finance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. General comments from the committee Members. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: One of the objectives of the Department of Education is to finalize and commence implementation of the indigenous language program. We have been told that the 1984-85 fiscal year will be the last year of the three year program for this and I would like to know what plans the department has for that program after this year which is the final year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Funding For Indigenous Language Program

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated in my opening remarks, we would like to see the good work begun through the special fund continued and it is for that reason that I have prepared a submission for the federal cabinet asking for funds to allow the fund to be increased or continued beyond next year. Also, as I mentioned, I was pleased to see that the Secretary of State has developed a program which will address the specific problem of native languages in Canada. It is now part of the mandate of the Secretary of State for Canada and I have been working on this with the Secretary of State. I had hoped that these two possibilities would result in provision of continued funding for the indigenous language program as well as the demonstration of the usefulness of the project and our success over the last several years.

I can only assure the Member that if we fail to receive support from the federal government I will do my best to find ways to continue to support this kind of work. The Department of Education is already devoting significant resources to supporting the indigenous language fund and, if we got no assistance from the federal government, we would have to look within the Government of the Northwest Territories to see how this support could go on. I have no concrete plans at this point because we are waiting on the federal response and we still have some time to receive their reaction. Thank you.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: I just want to indicate that at least from my point of view this is one of the better programs that have come out in the last few years. It is a very worthwhile program and the resources that have been allocated to it and the work that has been done to this point on indigenous languages, at least in the West, have just barely begun to scratch the surface. So when the Minister indicates to me his personal support I appreciate that.

I have another question on objectives and it is under schools. It says the objective here is to respond to the requests from residents to adapt programs to meet the varying local and regional needs. I would be interested in a couple of examples of that where the department has responded to varying local and regional needs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Programs To Meet Special Needs

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I think maybe the best example of areas where we are developing new programs to meet special needs in communities is the community occupational program which has been prepared and is being tested in Baker Lake, Rae-Edzo and Yellowknife. This is a program for students who have abilities and skills which should be cultivated but may not be candidates for graduation. The indications in these three communities are that the program is meeting a need and is successful.

We also have over the last couple of years developed a rather extensive high school certificate program to provide vocational training and pre-apprenticeship training to high school students. It is in place in all the major high schools of the NWT and seems to also be successful in meeting the special needs of students who may not wish to pursue the academic stream. We are also hoping to establish a Slavey language program at the high school level and have developed an Inuktitut program at the high school level in Frobisher Bay. Those are some examples that come to mind, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Any general comments from Members? Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is regarding the students that usually stay at Ukkivik residence. I wonder how Ukkivik residents operate when they are staying there, but do those students who are not residing at Ukkivik, even though they go to GREC school, have to pay for their own meals? My question is, is this going to continue or is anything going to be done about it? The fact is that some of these students have to pay money for meals out of their own pocket.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, students who are going to high school from other communities and boarding in local homes in Frobisher Bay should not have to pay for their own meals because they are our responsibility. We are providing at least \$12 per day and more depending on their age, to the families who are looking after those students, so that they can be fed and looked after by those families. If they are not being fed with that money, then something is wrong.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Something has to be arranged because this was a report that was given to us by some of the Lake Harbour students. For those individuals who have informed me regarding this, I will look into this and I do thank you for clarifying this matter to me, Mr. Minister.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year when the special education committee that was visiting the communities went to Pond Inlet, someone stated that the superintendent of Education, something had to be clarified, something to do with the superintendent. They were going to submit a written...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Erkloo, could you repeat the question again?

MR. ERKLOO: When the special education committee was in Pond Inlet the question was put to that committee regarding the Department of Education who put out -- I do not know what it is called. It is a little advertisement on the purpose of education so that parents would find more about the purpose of education, all about how very important education is. The answer by the Minister was that they will put out this little -- not a book, but I do not know what you call them. Will the department put them out soon?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Newspaper Called "Education Focus"

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I was speaking in Pond Inlet about the importance of encouraging public interest in and support for education. In that respect I did begin publication of a newspaper called "Education Focus", which has had one edition, which talked about developments in education and was an attempt to promote public interest in and support for education. I intend to continue publication of this newspaper in Inuktitut and English and send it to local education authorities and communities so that people in the communities will know what is going on in education and what new programs are being developed. The little interruption of the election last fall slowed down the production schedule but I hope to have a new issue out early this year. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a number of areas of concern. I guess the first one that I would like to deal with is in the area of the recommendations of the special committee on education. Generally, could you give us an idea of the progress that is being made, or not being made, in various areas? You say that there is going to be a submission made to the Ministry of State for Social Development. Apparently part of that submission will include a request for special funding for the indigenous language development program. Does that submission have something to do with some of the other recommendations, for instance, recommendations that dealt with education for special needs? I am wondering also, for example, about the commitment to having



grade 10 in communities. That was one of the recommendations. What has been happening in that area? Are there targets set? Is there progress in the area of the Minister's advisory council, in the area of grade 11 and grade 12 becoming part of the Arctic College system? I am aware that the task force recommended that you hold off in that area at the present time but it is an area in which, although the Assembly supported that recommendation, I know there is still public concern. Perhaps that is one reason why the task force recommended holding off but it seems to me it should be dealt with one way or another in the reasonably near future. So, I would appreciate anything you have to say about that. In the matter of divisional boards we have passed legislation. What can we look forward to in the coming year in the way of establishment of divisional boards? Have some areas indicated a readiness to take on that responsibility and so on? So if you could just address some of the areas of the recommendations I would appreciate that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Progress In Areas Of Recommendations

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated in my opening remarks I think we have implemented some of the recommendations of the special committee, the first one being a new grants and bursaries system and regulations which are now in place. There were amendments recommended to the Education Ordinance respecting the school year and the possibility of a reduced school year which is now in place and now possible. Also the indigenous language fund was recommended and established. I also commissioned a task force to recommend on the other areas. The Treasury Board submission does reflect the results of their work and it does follow their recommendation as to priorities. The four areas that we are targeting in the federal submission are divisional boards of education phased in over a five year period, expanded levels of service in special education, expanded levels in adult education and, as Mr. MacQuarrie mentioned, the continuance of the indigenous language fund.

The task force looked at the issue of grade 10 in communities and recommended that we proceed with caution. One of their concerns which I endorsed is we must be careful before establishing grade 10 in communities to ensure that we have a grade nine program that is working and that is producing sufficient numbers of students and sufficiently qualified students so that they can succeed at a community grade 10 level. This matter is something I feel we should not rush into since the growing demand for what are called grade 10 preparation programs in high schools in the Northwest Territories is a signal to me that we must ensure that our grade nine programs are working properly before we expand into grade 10 in the communities.

On the issue of the Arctic College and the proposal to split off grades 11 and 12 from the in-school program, that is being carefully reviewed in the government. It does represent a major change in direction that we have taken and perhaps an innovation unique in Canada, so we are trying to develop a policy which will give us the flexibility to respect the concerns in certain areas, notably the Member's constituency, that this would be a backward step, without foreclosing the possibility of implementing an Arctic College type of system in other regions where it might be more appropriate. What I am saying is that we are still studying that particular Arctic College concept. I am now aided in the whole area of directions for the college system by a board of governors which has completed a very extensive strategic plan which the government is now very carefully reviewing. It is one of my priorities to get the new Executive Council to give detailed consideration to the strategic plan which proposes long-range plans for the development of a college system and the development of legislation to support a college and eventually a university system.

On divisional boards, the legislation is in place and I have in my travels throughout the Northwest Territories since that legislation was implemented, particularly in meetings with regional education bodies, spoken to them about the legislation, tried to explain how it works and how it might fit their particular needs. I should say that it has been received for the most part with interest, but cautious interest, and many regional education groups are still considering the implications and whether or not they might petition for divisional board status. The areas that seem most interested and perhaps most ready in my view for establishment as divisional boards are in the Dogrib area, the Dogrib communities, and in the Baffin Region which has resolved to aim for a target of September 1 of this year, although resolutions from each local education authority have not yet been obtained and are still being sought by the Baffin Region Education Society. I think Keewatin and Inuvik Regions are probably in the wings as it were in expressing interest in this possibility. I am looking forward in the coming year to having face to face meetings with the Deh Cho Regional Council and the Kitikmeot regional education authority and further meetings in the

south Slave area to flesh these ideas out further. It is going to be a slow process, Mr. Chairman, but I sense an interest in the pursuit of this option. In the meantime, of course, all the other possibilities for development of education authorities to committee, society and board status are still available for communities that wish to progress on their own without co-ordinating with other bodies in their area. I hope that answers the Member's question. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I am generally interested too in the transfer of the training function to the Department of Education, both money and man years. Could I ask when the transfer will be completed? When will the whole training function become an active part of the department's responsibilities? But more than that, assuming the training function, the question naturally arises, training for what? I am wondering whether in the whole plan there is -- you did not mention anything about the advisory council and so maybe it has some relationship here. Is there still going to be a relationship, for example, with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism? It seems to me that there ought to be co-ordination there so that if we have a comprehensive economic development plan -- which we do not yet but which I am hopeful there will be -- and that plan is able to identify areas of economic development and potential jobs and therefore potential training needs, is the Department of Education working closely with that department or with an advisory council that will direct the training needs? It seems to me that that is very important so it is not conducted in a vacuum, that the money is well spent in the sense that it is very clear that the training has an objective and that the objective will be fulfilled.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Labour Market Information System

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I should mention a major component of the reorganization we plan -- and I must emphasize that these are plans of the Department of Education which still require final approval by the Executive, which were initiated by the former Executive Council and now require implementation by the Executive Council of this House targeted for April 1, 1984 -- would be a labour market information system which would allow the government to plan meaningful training programs and employment strategies from a position of knowledge. This was the intent of the former territorial employment records information system which was operated under the auspices of the Department of Economic Development. It is felt that this kind of system, which will allow us to make long-range plans for training priorities, anticipating labour market trends in the Northwest Territories, will be an essential component to answer the very concerns that the Member has expressed. So this is an integral part of the proposed reorganization.

#### Citizens Advisory Council

Now as to the citizens advisory board, I forget precisely what it was called in the special committee on education, advisory council, I must confess that I have seen the Thebacha College board of governors, which I think is very broadly representative of citizens of the Northwest Territories as being a prime source of advice in the whole area of post-secondary education and development of the college system in the North and perhaps as a body similar to what was intended by the special committee. So I have at the moment no plans to create another advisory body of citizens as was anticipated because I think the Thebacha College board is working well and is broadly representative. It is quite a large board. I believe the numbers are now up to around a dozen or 13 and I try to meet regularly with them to hear their concerns, particularly in the training and post-secondary area. Thank you.

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

#### Training In Public Administration

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to Thebacha College I did hear you say in your opening remarks that you were planning increases in the staff there and presumably increases in the programs. One area that it seems to me would be very important -- we have heard over the past couple of days the fact that there is not as much employment of northern natives in the Government of the NWT as there should be. I am aware that in past years this government has done quite an effective job -- in my opinion anyway -- at political education through the Department of



Local Government and others, political education in the communities toward establishing local authorities, municipal councils and so on, very well done. But it is obvious this government has not done as good a job in the non-political aspects, that is training people to take on administrative roles at the municipal level and Government of the Northwest Territories level. So I would ask is it specifically intended at Thebacha College that the area of public administration receive a priority and that that program is going to be expanded quite significantly in the coming year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, Thebacha College has, I think, been handicapped in its early years with a lack of permanent positions for some of these crucial programs such as the public and business administration program which was established specifically to meet the need that the Member refers to. Unfortunately, due to a lack of resources it has not always been possible to provide permanent instructor positions and we have had to rely far too heavily on casual and contract instructors. This has caused the continuity, and therefore the quality of some of the programs offered to suffer. I am pleased, however, to mention that we have plans to remedy this situation. Specifically, two new person years will be allocated to the college this coming year to allow permanent instructor positions to be created. The consolidation of training proposals that I mentioned earlier, would transfer another four person years and a position of a comptroller which is needed for the growing financial responsibilities at the college. The department is preparing a submission which would change up to 40 contract positions, presently, to permanent positions which would allow a much more stable component of instructors. Of course the latter will have to depend upon consideration by the Executive Council and the Financial Management Board. That is what we are doing in that area. I think the precise allocation of these instructor positions will depend on priorities set by the board of governors working with the Department of Education. I am certain that the public and business administration program is one of their priorities and one of our government's priorities because it is so obviously an area where jobs are going unfilled because northern people do not have the requisite skills. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I have a number of other concerns but I will defer so that other Members may have a chance. I would just ask one more at this time. At that level, the college level, is there some thought to introducing university-level courses with an aim perhaps to having a first year of arts or something in the NWT? In connection with that, there is an association of Canadian universities for northern studies, or something like that. Do we have a regular association with them? They seem interested not only in studying the North but in helping in the development of education in the North. Is it possible to be able to use those universities to second teaching positions for a period of time or something like that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Establishment Of A University In NWT

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do belong to the Association of Universities and Colleges for Northern Studies and attend meetings when we can. It is interesting that the Member should mention this because the recent issue of the AUCNS journal contains an article which is very negative about the possibility of establishing a university in the North. I was a little disturbed to see it, quite frankly. We find the main thrust of that organization to be research oriented but naturally it is of great interest to us because in working toward establishing a university we must have connections with universities in the South. I would say, in answer to the first part of the Member's question, that we do have university-level courses in various programs already existing in the NWT. The teacher education program and the renewable resources technology program, to name two, do provide accreditation and credit toward university degrees as does the municipal administrators course which is operated out of Thebacha College presently, under the Department of Local Government.

I believe, as to the possibility of establishing a university, that we have to build on a college system, a vigorous college system. I think this is traditionally how universities have been established in other parts of North America. I entirely agree with the suggestion of the Member that we should work toward establishing university-level courses under the auspices of the college in, for example, first year arts and first year commerce. I have in the back of my mind, although it has not yet come to the point of actually establishing a course, that we could and should



instruct students who are taking arts sponsored under our grants and bursaries program from the Northwest Territories, that the grant for travel to the South is no longer available because we are going to be establishing a program, for example, in Yellowknife, and that they can get support for tuition and books and transportation to that program in Yellowknife or in another northern centre but that we will no longer pay their travel expenses to the University of Alberta and other institutions. I think if we look at it on a course-by-course basis and use existing facilities that we already have rather than thinking about a university as a great big edifice, we can in fact incrementally work toward the establishment of a university based on the college system in the NWT. I am now working on a strategy which would see the college system legislated in the NWT, building on the experience we have had over the last couple of years and allow for the possibility of the establishment of, eventually, a university in the NWT under the authority of this government. But, I think to be honest, I see the university as following the building up of our college system. Thank you.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the Minister is supporting the adult educators and I have seen in minutes of the meetings that he has attended, that he was going to give the adult educators in the communities priority. There are about 64 communities in the NWT, and I am sure that they all have schools in their community but I see in the written report there are 34 adult education centres. Right now the adult education is very important. I feel it is very important today for two reasons mainly. One being that whoever is going to run the Nunavut government will have to know a lot of things. And we have to prepare them for this. Secondly some people who are ages 20 to 30 were taught to become whites are caught in the middle. They are neither Inuit or white.

We can make all kinds of laws, for example, it could be with economic development or other things in the NWT but if they are not supported by the communities it will not make any sense. Anything that we have brought up may be of importance to the communities but it has to be supported by the communities, because it is the community people who have to take the consequences. I know that the divisional boards are going to make some changes in educational programs. But the history of the Department of Education shows that when the territorial government moved to Yellowknife there were the chief and other people who were responsible for adult education. As the years go by there are fewer and fewer people of that particular department and finally almost down to zero in Yellowknife. What I am saying is that whatever decisions we make in the Legislative Assembly, they have to be supported by the communities and by higher civil servants who have to find funds for us. My question is will adult education still be the priority on the Minister's list? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Adult Education A Priority

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, absolutely. This is why I have prepared a submission to the federal Treasury Board asking for an additional 24 adult educators for the NWT at a total cost including materials and supplies of \$1.989 million per year. There would be four and a half more person years provided for Baffin, five for the north Slave region, one more for Keewatin, three for Deh Cho, another one and a half for Kitikmeot, seven for Inuvik, three for south Slave and a corresponding increase in funding for the boards to allow enhanced continuing education to take place. This would be aimed at having one adult educator per education district and I fully agree with the needs that the Member has so well expressed, perhaps based on his experience before he became a Member of this Legislative Assembly.

I will agree that support for adult education was eroded in previous years. I do not think it is any less important a priority than the schools programs which sometimes get more attention and more pressure for expansion. I think especially in the NWT our adult population, our drop-outs, our young people are in tremendous need of training at the community level. I am trying to address it through the federal Treasury Board submission which I am sure Members support and also through this reorganization of training under the Department of Education which would allow us to have better links between communities and the college program. Thank you.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard what you have just mentioned. Those things are very true and I am in support of it and I would like to make an additional comment. The people that are in cultural shock right now in our communities do not even know how to go hunting because they have not learned how to hunt. They have not learned the school programs altogether. Sometimes instead of looking for a job they just go breaking and entering and committing crimes. They seem to go and do what they are told not to do instead of looking for a job because they do not know where to go. Sometimes you feel sorry for them rather than wanting to discipline them. Even for those who are married now it should be carried out, the business of adult education. I have this paper. It was produced in November 1983 when the Baffin Region Education Society met. They said since 1978 there has been a two per cent decrease in education funding and they are asking the Department of Education to produce teachers, in 1984 to get 16 additional teachers. I just wanted to know if you have heard about this. That is my first question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Requests For More Teachers

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I certainly am aware of the strong requests that have come from the Baffin Region Education Society for more teachers in Baffin. The particular communities that have been identified as having the greatest need according to the last meeting were Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung and Cape Dorset. As I said earlier in my opening remarks, following this session I will do everything I can to see that where classes are overcrowded and where there are special needs we allocate the staff available to us in the best way possible and I am quite open to receiving advice from Members about where they might feel staffing levels are insufficient. It appears there will be some opportunity to provide a limited number of new teaching positions. Certainly 16 in Baffin Region is simply not possible, but there will be some possibility of increases in teaching positions especially where enrolment has gone up and where school populations have gone up dramatically because of improvements in attendance. I have not made any firm decisions yet on how the teachers available to us might be allocated in the coming year. I wanted to hear comments from this Assembly before finally making these difficult decisions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also the same society requested to run their own society in the Baffin Region. For example, get away from BRC and just go on their own and they wanted to start in September of 1984. I have received another letter from them that this should be. John Amagoalik has told me that they do not want anything done by the Legislative Assembly before Nunavut is going to come into effect but I am going to agree to the money already voted. I would ask the Minister, are we just going to wait for Nunavut? Is the Minister going to be in support of the new Education Ordinance before Nunavut is to come into effect because I have a letter from the land claims people on what their thoughts are on the Education Ordinance. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

#### Relationship Of Ordinance To Land Claims

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I am fortunate in having other responsibilities in connection with aboriginal rights and land claims to be able to meet with the Tungavik Federation and the Inuit Tapirisat to discuss their aspirations with respect to land claims and political development. Several years ago while the special committee on education was doing its work I met with the Tungavik Federation. We discussed their objectives for education and I got the clear impression that the directions being recommended by the education committee, namely, handing more power, decision-making authority to elected people at the regional level was in accord with the general feelings of the land claims negotiators on how political development should take place in Nunavut. I proceeded with the amendments to the Education Ordinance allowing divisional boards to be established with the conviction that this political change would be appropriate in Nunavut as I believe it is appropriate in the NWT while we are working toward establishment of Nunavut. So I do not feel that we are in any way going against the establishment of Nunavut in encouraging the Baffin Region Education Society to establish a school board. It is really just the same kind of board that the city of Yellowknife has, the same kind of responsibilities and powers. I think it is time that these kinds of authorities were given to people in the smaller communities where they want them and where they are ready for them. So I have not heard any complaints about this

legislation from the people involved in land claims and I personally told the Baffin Region Education Society at their last meeting that if they petitioned to establish a divisional board I would do what I could to meet their goal, even as early as September 1, although I think that would be quite a rush and I encouraged them to seek community support. I feel they are ready and are capable of taking on more responsibilities since they have been operating the longest of any regional education authority in the NWT. I hope this answers the Member's question. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Appaqaq, one more question.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all in his opening statement the Minister stated that Sanikiluaq would be receiving a school. I was very happy about that and I thank you very much, but last year he also stated the same thing and I was very happy then.

---Laughter

MR. McCALLUM: Just so it does not happen next year.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Maybe you could transport it by skidoo and build it in Sanikiluaq. I am just saying that as a comment because there was no ship last summer.

I would like to make another comment, a short comment on schools. I talked to the adult educator in Sanikiluaq and he said that in his educational material he has no curriculum to teach with. He said the only teaching materials he has are for the people to read. Sometimes they just fall asleep because he does not have any good curriculum. I do not think that is very good because for example I know that for the Inuit culture, like how to make a komatik because there is no grade limit for persons who can go but if they are not going to have any curriculum for the adult educators the students keep falling asleep. I think there should be better written curriculum materials. There should be some educational curriculum in Inuktitut in the communities. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Firstly, Mr. Chairman, the Member I believe has seen a scale model of the new school for Sanikiluaq in the hamlet office. So it is getting closer to reality. I can further report that tenders for the project will be opened February 28, 1984. So, it is going to happen and I will look forward to celebrating the opening with the honourable Member in the not too distant future. It looks like a really nice building as well, may I say.

#### Program Evaluation And Development

On the question of adult education in Sanikiluaq, Mr. Chairman, I am not really familiar with the program that is being offered there and the problems that the Member referred to. Let me say, however, that I do agree that we need to be concerned about standards and consistency of programs in adult education in all communities. The reorganization of the Department of Education which I mentioned earlier which will bring the training functions into the department and try to have better links between adult educators and the college system will attempt to provide consistent programs along the lines the Member requests. This new division that will be established within the Department of Education will be able to look at program evaluation and program development, or curriculum as the Member described it. So I hope we can address that in a meaningful way through these changes that are under way in the Department of Education. I thank the Member for that advice.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was very interested and supportive of the Minister's concept of first year university courses given in different communities using existing facilities. I wonder, though, are some of these concepts included in the college's strategic plan right now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, the college's strategic plan which I would be happy to make available to the Member, which is quite a tome, does not really address the issue of university-level courses but I do not think that should stop us from addressing it in considering this strategic plan. I think we should see colleges as the foundation for universities and we should look at this plan as really a college and university strategic plan. Thank you.



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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would appreciate a copy of the strategic plan and also I think a number of MLAs would appreciate some input into any discussions or ideas about expanding or implementing university-level programs in the Territories. I think it is a very good idea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. We are now nearing the hour. I wonder if the committee wishes to report progress.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say I am willing to give copies of this plan to any interested MLAs. It is such a huge document that I decided I would not table it, but I would be glad to make copies available. Furthermore, once the Executive Council has had a good look at the strategic plan and has taken a position on the direction we should go I would be happy to inform MLAs and seek their input.

One other final point, if I may, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned in my opening remarks, I regret that due to my required attendance at the First Ministers' preparation conference on aboriginal rights in Toronto on Monday and Tuesday of this coming week, the House should not plan on continuing with the Department of Education, if I may request that. I will be available on Thursday to continue the examination of the main estimates for Education. I trust that Members will appreciate why I must be absent. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree with the Minister's request?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Point of order, Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, does that mean we will go into Government Services on Monday?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): On Monday we will go into Government Services.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Once again, does the committee wish to report progress, agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-84(1), APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1984-85; TABLED DOCUMENT 4-84(1), 1984-85 MAIN ESTIMATES

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that your committee has been considering Bill 1-84(1) and Tabled Document 4-84(1) and wish to report progress.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: The report has been approved. Announcements. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to announce that I have consulted with my colleagues on the Executive Council and we feel that it is important enough that a Member of the Legislature be invited to appear also before the standing committee on Indian affairs in Ottawa regarding NCPC jurisdictional dispute. So, I would like to invite the chairman of the public accounts committee to travel, if she can arrange for financial assistance from the Assembly. If not, we are prepared to cover her costs to travel with us. I believe that the Minister of Justice, our Leader, will likely be able to travel as our representative from the Executive Council. Since this is a jurisdictional dispute I think it is important that we take up the offer of the standing committee on Indian affairs and present our case as strongly as possible. Therefore, I think the Member for Yellowknife South would be a very good representative as well to travel with us. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You can rest assured the Legislature does not have the money required. The Executive can look for it -- and that you have left the option open. Mr. Patterson, announcements?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could seek consent to make a statement on the overlap issue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: We are asking unanimous consent to go back to Ministers' statements. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Patterson.

### ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

#### Minister's Statement On Memorandum Of Agreement On Overlap

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, it is just a short report. Members of the House are no doubt aware from the news reports yesterday and this morning that the Dene/Metis and the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement have signed a memorandum of agreement on overlap. As I stated to the House yesterday, overlap is a matter of great concern to the Executive Council and we are delighted to hear that it has been resolved. I would like to take a few moments now to provide the House with a general outline of the details of this agreement.

It was negotiated bilaterally between representatives of COPE and the Dene/Metis meeting in Ottawa this past week and approved by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs yesterday. It covers three areas; land ownership, harvesting rights and the role of the Dene/Metis in management structures.

#### Land Ownership

Firstly on land ownership the Minister has agreed that the Dene/Metis can select 700 square miles of Aklavik land to the south of the existing Inuvialuit 7(1)(a) block with ownership to be on the same basis as Inuvialuit 7(1)(a) lands. The Dene/Metis are free to select within the southern part of the Inuvialuit block and if the Inuvialuit agree with the selection they will be able to select an equivalent amount to the north of this block. The Inuvialuit and the Dene/Metis would each own their own lands and any relationship as land owners would be worked out bilaterally. A 30 day period is provided to enable this land selection to be finalized. The Dene/Metis are free to pursue, in their negotiations with Canada, special environmental measures for an Aklavik protected

area. The Minister has agreed that in order to facilitate this process he will withdraw under the Territorial Lands Act an area of approximately 2000 square miles. This withdrawal may be rescinded when this process is completed.

#### Harvesting Rights

On harvesting rights, Dene/Metis and their descendants, eligible as beneficiaries to a Dene/Metis settlement, shall have the same hunting rights as the Inuvialuit within the Inuvialuit settlement region in any areas where they traditionally harvested wildlife. The Inuvialuit will be extended the same rights outside the settlement region in areas where they traditionally harvested. A process to identify Dene/Metis traditional harvesters has been agreed to. In both land selection and defining traditional harvesting areas the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has the authority, if necessary, to resolve outstanding matters within the time frame for the Inuvialuit final agreement approval process.

#### Role Of The Dene/Metis In Management Structures

Thirdly, on the role of Dene/Metis in management structures, the Dene/Metis are free to join, as full members, the Inuvialuit hunters and trappers committees. Dene/Metis communities close to the Western Arctic region boundary, such as Fort McPherson, can form hunter and trapper committees and participate on the Inuvialuit game council when matters affecting them are being discussed. The Dene/Metis are guaranteed a seat on all structures when decisions affecting their lands are being made. This memorandum of agreement was only signed late yesterday, Mr. Speaker, and government was not involved in the negotiation and copies have not yet been distributed to all interested parties. The GNWT will be receiving a copy today. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, this information is based on a verbal briefing to my officials but I thought the House would like to receive it. I know Members will want to join with me in congratulating both the Dene/Metis and COPE in reaching this agreement. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further Ministers' statements? Are there any further announcements? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): There will be a caucus meeting on Monday morning at 9:30 a.m.

#### ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Monday, February 13th, 1:00 p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Oral Questions
5. Written Questions
6. Returns
7. Petitions
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions: Motion 16-84(1); Motion 17-84(1)



13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 1-84(1); Tabled Document 4-84(1); Bills 2-84(1), 3-84(1), 4-84(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., February 13.

---ADJOURNMENT

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