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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, MARCH 2, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. T'Seleie, Mr. Wah-Shee

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Wah-Shee): Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Patterson's Reply

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, in rising to make my maiden reply to the Commissioner's Address in the 10th Assembly I should warn new Members that I have a bad reputation for making long speeches at the most inopportune times like the last day of session. I am going to try and do something about that reputation, Mr. Speaker, starting today, by throwing away the notes I prepared and speaking very briefly and off the cuff. I am leaving later this morning for an important conference on economic development in my constituency of Frobisher Bay and I will be going on to represent this House at the First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights.

I have many concerns from my constituency. I want to just touch on a few, but I am going to save my detailed reply for the May session. I spoke to one of my constituents last night and he said, "Where have you been? We are not hearing anything from you any more. Have you been at the Assembly?" I wish to assure my constituency that I have indeed been here, but I do recognize that the weight of Executive responsibilities has perhaps detracted somewhat from my ability to participate as fully and actively as I did when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly without other responsibilities, but I am very pleased to see the way new Members and other Members have tackled some of the major issues that do deeply concern me.

Alcohol Treatment Centre Needed In Frobisher Bay

I am particularly pleased that, for example, the pressing issue of alcohol and drug abuse has been addressed at such length and with such searching concern by other Members of the House because I can assure you those concerns are as deeply felt in my constituency as anywhere else. In fact I have received a number of expressions of concern from my constituents that there should be alcohol treatment facilities, particularly in Frobisher Bay. Some of my constituents have been sent as far away as the Yellowknife detoxication program and they have found that it is a long way from home, that there is no Inuktitut translation available and we do have a need for a facility like that at home.

Recreational Facilities

I would also like to say with all respect to Mr. Gargan that Fort Providence is not the only community that has pressing needs for a community hall, renovations and repair or replacement. I would like to take this opportunity, although I do have opportunities through working with Mr.



Sibbeston to draw it to his attention, to say that Mr. Gargan's description of the Fort Providence community hall reminded me very much of the state of repair of the community hall in Apex which is a small suburb of Frobisher Bay that is very concerned that they too should have a community hall and a community life apart from the hustle and bustle of Frobisher Bay. Their community hall is in similar disrepair. The heating system does not work. The electrical system does not work. I will serve notice now on the honourable Minister of Local Government that we in Frobisher Bay, as well, are going to require moneys for renovations and rehabilitation of that hall and also that the people of Frobisher Bay are concerned about expanding recreational opportunities in that community. There is an arena there. There is at the moment no ice-making equipment, however, and the arena is primarily used by people who skate and play hockey. The town of Frobisher Bay and the residents are very interested in developing a longer-range plan to improve the potential of that facility and other facilities in the community to expand recreational opportunities, particularly for young people in our community. I know that this is a concern shared across the Northwest Territories but I just want you to know that it is a strong concern in Frobisher Bay.

#### Housing And Rehabilitation Of Older Units

I would like to thank the Members of the Executive Council for responding so quickly to a grievous crisis that we too were facing in Frobisher Bay in housing, through the agreement that single and small family apartment units can be constructed this summer. I can assure you that this was a most welcome announcement in my constituency and it was most welcome to me because it was one of my campaign promises to try and do something to improve housing in Frobisher Bay. There are at least 100 names on the list requiring housing in Frobisher now and that is many more people because it represents families as well. So I was really pleased that this action could be taken, but a little disappointed that there has not been any money earmarked for rehabilitation of older units in Frobisher Bay this year. This is something that I think is a very good investment of money because fixing up these older units, first of all, is as good as giving people a new house. Secondly, I think it markedly reduces the tremendous cost of utilities that we have to pay. So I will be working with the Minister of housing to see if some more rehabilitation work can be done over the next several years than has been budgeted in my constituency because there is much more work that needs to be done.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I feel privileged to be part of the 10th Assembly. The Ninth Assembly for me meant new ideas, energy and having the courage to be decisive and bold. The world is a little more complicated now but the issues are no different. Are we going to be masters of our own destiny or servile in our own land? How long are we going to tolerate our genial smiling federal masters?

Mr. Speaker, I am heartened by the support that the people of the NWT are getting from the people of southern Canada in our battle for our place in confederation at the First Ministers' Conference. I am looking forward to forging on with that battle next week. I am also very hopeful that our Prime Minister -- whom I respect very much for the genuine concern he has for the people of the North, and I know his affection for the people of the North -- since this is probably the last major federal-provincial conference that Prime Minister Trudeau will chair, I hope very much that he will take a leadership role for the federal government, a role he really has not assumed at the preparatory meetings. The federal government, in my view, has been an arbiter of arguments between provinces and regions of the country. It has been a very neutral chairman, very reluctant to offer leadership and advice and seek bold ways of resolving the differences that have emerged. I hope very much that at this coming meeting that Prime Minister Trudeau will make a grand gesture and show a leadership role and come forward with initiatives that everyone can support. There just might be some initiative for the North in his last chairing of this process which he blessed. So I am looking for good things at that meeting.

#### Position Of Kitikmeot Region In Division

I am also looking forward very much to visiting the Kitikmeot Region in May. I think the people there, from what I know, are suffering from serious misunderstandings and confusion about constitutional development. They are not fully aware of the positions taken by the Nunavut Forum which would appear to permit at least the possibility that the Inuvialuit communities may wish to become part of Nunavut. We will be finding out at the end of March when we tour those communities. The people of Kitikmeot do not seem to be aware that COPE leadership has advocated that the COPE area be part of Nunavut. I am afraid that when they consider division they think

that they must necessarily be divided from their relations and kin and colleagues in work and hunting, in the Inuvialuit settlement area. Of course, that is not at all finalized and that is not true. The other confusion that I think may be in the minds of the Kitikmeot people, is that Frobisher Bay is going to be the capital of Nunavut. I would like to say that while I have some fondness for my own community as the MLA for Frobisher Bay and even talked about the possibility of Frobisher Bay becoming a capital in the last election, I certainly was speaking as an MLA for that constituency and not as chairman of the Nunavut Constitutional Forum. If the territory extends as far west as the forum recommends that it might, then obviously Frobisher Bay is going to be a very long shot for the capital because it will be on the wrong end of the territory. We would settle on Frobisher Bay for being an educational centre for the Eastern Arctic college and perhaps eventually a university centre, if in fact my constituency could not be the capital.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for this opportunity for these brief words. I am looking very much forward to the next session and to the next four years. I sense energy and determination to work together. I am extremely impressed with my new colleagues on the Executive Council who, if they have demonstrated nothing else, I think have shown the capacity for good hard work. I found that out when I was chastised for being a few minutes late for an 8:00 o'clock meeting this morning, Mr. Speaker, and I apologize to them for that. Thank you very much and I will see you in Kitikmeot.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, honourable Mr. Patterson. I am not sure whether it was a brief reply. However, we certainly appreciate your reply. Members' replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

#### ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

##### Minister's Statement On Contributions From Indigenous Language Development Fund

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I want to have the last word before I leave this morning. I am pleased to announce the approval of contributions which will be made from the indigenous language development fund for the 1984-85 fiscal year. Baker Lake, \$22,000 for the preparation and publication of resource kits to support 10 Inuktitut units prepared during 1983; Fort Resolution, \$11,800 to research and produce a Chipewyan language program for the school; Gjoa Haven, \$43,400 to continue production of Inuktitut legends, charts and workbooks in syllabics and Roman orthography; Lac la Martre, \$33,990 to continue the research and development to support the introduction of a school Dogrib language program in 1985; Broughton Island, \$38,800 to develop and publish a set of readers for the elementary Inuktitut program; Fort Simpson, \$29,900 to continue the preparation of materials for the Slavey immersion program and to provide instructional assistance for this program; Igloodik, \$40,050 to continue the development and publication of Inuktitut materials for teaching syllabic reading and writing to adult classes; Fort McPherson, \$47,000 to continue the development and publication of Loucheux materials to support the school Loucheux program; Pond Inlet, \$27,362 to prepare and publish Inuktitut materials for the kindergarten to grade nine Inuktitut program; Fort Providence, \$61,180 to complete native language instructor training to complete the transcription, editing and publishing of Slavey legends; to prepare materials to support the school's Slavey language program; Fort Franklin, \$58,410 to complete the establishment of a Slavey resource centre; to prepare and produce materials to support the school language program; to continue the collection of legends and stories for the Slavey program; Iqaluit, \$33,550 to complete the production of a set of grade two and three readers; Aklavik, \$7026 to prepare materials to provide a Loucheux language program in the school; COPE language commission, \$158,225 to continue the development of the Inuvialuktun-as-a-second-language program to provide training for language instructors; to complete publication of two more Inuvialuktun dictionaries; Clyde River, \$25,000 to prepare and produce materials for the grade two to six Inuktitut curriculum; Diocese of the Arctic, \$500 to provide training for two persons in the operation of the Inuktitut word processing equipment for translation of scriptures; Yellowknife Education District No. 2, \$10,000 to develop lessons and lesson aids for native language programs in Dogrib; Pangnirtung, firstly \$9600 to publish a collection of elders' stories and secondly, \$20,200 to research traditional Inuktitut terminology and to prepare educational material using this information; the Athapascan language steering committee, \$100,000 to provide Dene language structure workshops; to provide literacy and other training workshops; to provide secretarial assistance to the committee; to fund Athapascan language steering committee meetings; training, \$15,000 to provide tuition,

accommodation and travel costs for individuals attending courses at the University of Calgary in linguistics and curriculum development; and, finally, the Keewatin regional education authority at Rankin Inlet, \$22,500 to identify traditional language related to traditional land activities and to incorporate this into the grade seven to nine Inuktitut language arts program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Leader of the Government and it is with regard to a radio announcement that was made this morning around 7:45 or 7:48 a.m. It is with regard to a motion that happened yesterday about the alcohol program in which the vote was passed seven to six. The only thing that the radio station did not mention was that it was the six aboriginal people that voted for the motion. I do not want them to mislead people out in the communities to think that we were the ones that voted against a program that is theirs.

The other thing was there was a mistake made too with regard to Mr. MacQuarrie making the motion on the chairman of the alcohol and drug committee to address the spring session. It was actually Mr. Ballantyne who made the motion, not Mr. MacQuarrie. So I wanted to ask the Leader of the Government if anything that goes on the radio is scrutinized by the Members of this Assembly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, before I ask the Leader to reply to your question I should point out to you that it was a point of privilege that you were requesting at this point to clarify a statement that was made in the media. However, I would like to ask if the Leader of the Government wishes to reply to that.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: No. Mr. Speaker, we have no role in censoring the press and I do not participate in determining what is or what is not available to the radio or to the media in general. They have the right to publish anything that they wish with a few exceptions of course, that are probably libellous, but the point the honourable Member raised is in fact a question of privilege and the individual can clarify in this House the positions that were taken.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 151-84(1): Funding For Slave River Sawmill

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) This question is on the sawmill. I would like to ask if there was any money given to the people of Fort Resolution to help them with the sawmill. Is the government helping them at all? That is the question I would like to put forward. Is anyone trying to help put the sawmill back together?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 151-84(1): Funding For Slave River Sawmill

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to indicate to her that my officials in the department are preparing a submission right now to the Executive Council and I believe also there is an interim arrangement being made which will I think carry them through until the end of this month. In the meantime we are dealing with the major overall problem and we will be submitting it to the Executive Council, I believe around the middle of March. Thank you.

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

Item 5, written questions. Item 6, returns. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 149-84(1): CEIC Sponsorship For Adult Upgrading, Fort Providence

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a reply, as promised, to an oral question raised by the honourable Member for Deh Cho yesterday. I have investigated the matter of CEIC



being unwilling to pay allowances to students attending academic upgrading courses in both Fort Providence and Snowdrift. I am pleased to report that we have been able to come to an agreement on a method for paying allowances to students at these locations. The adult educators in Snowdrift and Fort Providence will be notified of this development and students will begin receiving allowances effective March 1, 1984. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further returns?

Item 7, petitions. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. MacQuarrie.

ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the next item, I will table the report of standing committee on legislation, but at this point I will simply read in the latter part of it that does not deal with specific legislation. In a general way, as Members know, the standing committee on legislation has been concerned over the past few years with ensuring that proposed legislation is in its hands early enough to enable it to do a thorough job. This concern is reflected in the committee's report of March 4, 1982 in which it was stated "The committee continues to be faced with the task of carrying out its legislative review on short notice. The committee concluded that if it is to perform its function effectively, legislation must be in its hands six weeks prior to the session at which it is to be introduced. The committee agreed that where legislation is not provided complete with translations, six weeks prior to a session, the committee would decline to deal with it until it can do so thoroughly and without haste. The committee agreed to exceptions with respect to legislation: 1) That has been specifically designated as urgent by the Executive Council; or, 2) That has been prepared in response to a specific request by the Legislative Assembly."

Since then, Mr. Speaker, committee reports to the Assembly occasionally have referred to the committee being expected to examine government legislation in a hurry and superficial manner before or during the session. The committee feels six weeks advance is not unreasonable as it would allow time for mailing proposed legislation to committee Members, review by them prior to the meeting and travel to and from meetings. It also allows for public response and input where necessary. This time frame would end the necessity of meeting during sessions when time can be used more profitably by other committees.

The committee established by this 10th Assembly has recently affirmed its commitment to that policy and will be pressing the government to abide by it. Moreover it trusts that the government will continue its practice where potentially contentious legislation is concerned of tabling such proposed legislation in one session and dealing with it in the next. Indeed, Mr. Butters, who is the chairman of the Executive Council subcommittee on legislation, has recently called for a meeting to address the development of legislation in a spirit of co-operation and I am pleased with Mr. Butter's approach to this problem. I am, as the chairman of the standing committee, very happy and willing to participate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. MacQuarrie.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 31-84(1), the Standing Committee on Legislation Report to the First Session of the 10th Assembly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notice of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Motion 34-84(1), Prime Minister's Resignation. Mrs. Sorensen.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 34-84(1): Prime Minister's Resignation, Withdrawn

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, a Member of the Executive Council has informed me that a telex has been sent to Mr. Trudeau yesterday, expressing appreciation for his service to the country. In view of that I will withdraw this motion at this present time.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. Mr. McCallum, as seconder, do you concur?

MR. McCALLUM: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion 34-84(1) is withdrawn.

---Withdrawn

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 1-84(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1984-85; Tabled Document 4-84(1); Bill 5-84(1); Motion 25-84(1) and Motion 35-84(1), with Mr. Erkloo 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

Department Of Social Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The committee will come to order. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like permission to bring in my deputy minister, Mr. Moody, and assistant deputy minister, Mr. Dunbar.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Services To The Aged And Handicapped, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We were under page 14.08, services to the aged and handicapped. Total O and M, \$2,328,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we left off yesterday we were talking about the concern with future facilities for the elderly in Yellowknife. I remember earlier in this session in response to a question that I asked the Minister about what options were available, he did indicate that there was some possibility and three different options one of which was continuing to attempt to do something with the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital nurses residence which has not been much used over the past years for that purpose. Another was the possibility of building a new facility. At that time it was noted that under funding arrangements with CMHC for that type of facility I think the Minister said that this government would be responsible for 25 per cent of funding under those programs. At any rate, that is what the Minister said a few weeks ago. Yesterday the Minister said there are no plans for anything in Yellowknife other than, I gather, to support home care services a little more. So, could I please ask for some clarification. Which is the answer? There are no plans or just no plans yet or one of the options has not been selected yet. What is the situation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Since the original study was done, as we said yesterday, there have been some additional facilities at the Forrest Drive home. I would like to ask the deputy minister to go into more detail on that for Mr. MacQuarrie.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Moody.

Present Facilities In Yellowknife Adequate

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, the situation in Yellowknife with regard to the level II and level III care is just that an assessment has been done which shows that there is no need at the present time above the facilities that are in place which are the Mary Murphy Home and the Forrest Drive home. The budget shows that there is money available if there is a further requirement between now and when the new Stanton Yellowknife Hospital is built. That requirement would be taken up with possibly the permission of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital board. The building that is now the existing nurses residence, in fact might be very good moneys worth for about 20 beds. However, there is a distinct possibility that because of the basic philosophy which says that the best approach for older people is to let them remain in their own homes and not put them in institutions, we will be supporting this by putting extra funding into home care when the second and third level of care is required.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Moody. Go ahead, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The deputy minister referred to a report. It is the report of Lorna Willis, the consultant. I guess it is all that we have to work on but I am aware that there is a group in Yellowknife called the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors. People who not only express a theoretical concern but some of whom for many years have worked closely with the elderly and provide daily services to them. I am aware that they were not even approached when this report was prepared. I think one of those people, to my knowledge, had some conversation with Lorna Willis. The others were not approached at all; the association was not approached.

When the deputy minister says that the needs for care at level III and IV are not sufficient for a specific facility, that is possibly true, although it is always a fluid situation when we are dealing with the elderly and conditions can change quickly. Maybe part of the problem is that there are a lot of people at the II and III level not the III and IV level. We have the problem here where the Department of Health is concerned with level III and IV and the Department of Social Services is concerned with level I and II care. It seems to me from all the information that I get, there are quite a few people at the II and III level and yet they fall under different jurisdictions. It appears in each jurisdiction there is not a need, but when you consider all those people together there appears to be a need. I cannot really accept the statement of the deputy minister that the department is persuaded that it is better to have these people in their homes. If that is legitimate argument for Yellowknife -- and I am sure it is, providing there are all the back-up services to be able to serve them in their homes -- if that is a valid argument for Yellowknife why is it not a valid argument for Fort Smith and Inuvik which all have money in this very budget right here for senior citizens facilities of the type that I am talking about?

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is correct that there is a relationship between Health and the Department of Social Services on this. An example of how this could occur would be when a person normally under level II care, for example an elderly person might injure himself in a fall and go through a slow mending process with a broken hip or leg, in which case he would then be in a level III situation where the Department of Health and Welfare Canada would be having funds available to help us in that situation. As to the Member's first point about who was consulted and the facilities presently available for elderly people in Yellowknife compared to other communities, I would have to ask the deputy minister to respond for me.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, in answer to Mr. MacQuarrie's questions, there are a number there and first of all I would like to deal with the assessment. The assessment of just how many people require level II and level III care in Yellowknife was updated in February. This is not the Lorna Willis report, but is a health procedure that is structured to find out just what the requirements



of elderly people are. The present facilities with the Mary Murphy Home and the Forrest Drive home which include level I, level II and some in level III, plus the people in their own homes in level III are a sufficient requirement according to this latest update assessment for these levels of care.

Recognition Of Yellowknife Association Of Concerned Citizens For Seniors

Regarding the community association that Mr. MacQuarrie spoke of, we certainly welcome and have made an approach to this association to have it a formal part of our assessment procedure and in fact will be holding talks with them to go beyond that in any case in various other areas of the care process for older people. We readily admit that in fact in the preparation of the Lorna Willis report she did not talk to this association and we are sorry for this. It was an oversight and it has been drawn to her attention. If there is ever any update, I assure the Member that this association will be certainly drawn into the discussion process.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Moody. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: When the Forrest Drive home is mentioned I reiterate something that I said yesterday and that is that it certainly was not designed with elderly people in mind. It has stairs. It is on two levels and does not really take account of the special needs of the elderly as they begin to need care. But with regard to the last question for the moment anyway. It is said a suitable alternative is that home care services will be bolstered. Can I ask the Minister where is the evidence that that is happening in Yellowknife? How much was allocated for home care in the past year and how much is allocated in this year to provide those kinds of services?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just before I respond directly to that question, I am aware myself that I have got to get out into the community of Yellowknife and see the facilities. I have written Mrs. Bromley a letter to that effect and I did caucus all the Yellowknife Members at this session. I believe she is on holidays for a month, but that is what I would like to do in late March or probably early April and I will co-ordinate that trip so the Yellowknife Members can accompany me on it. At the same time I would like to see other Members when I am in the regions and I intend to tour all the facilities we have in Health and Social Services so I can be more up to date on exactly what exists in the communities. I am sorry I cannot answer many of these questions myself. I will have to refer this one also to Mr. Moody.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, in answer to Mr. MacQuarrie's questions, first of all his comment on the Forrest Drive home, the present facility has six people in it. The facility, as he says, is not on one floor so it is not appropriate for some elderly people. However, at the present time we are looking into the possibility of a stair-type elevator which is presently in the city of Yellowknife and there may be a possibility for use of the upstairs which would be another four beds.

In answer to his second question with regard to the amount of money in 1983-84 for home care and the increase or possible increase in 1984-85, I would ask the Member if we could give him that breakdown in writing at an early later date. The assessment shows that the increase in home care or the possibility for the increase in home care will not be immediate, but will possibly be in 1984-85 and it will be drawn from both the Departments of Health and Social Services, but if I could give this breakdown at a later date I would appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mrs. Sorensen.

Urgent Need For Personal Care Facility

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the three Yellowknife MLAs recently had a meeting with the organization that has been involved over two years working with senior citizens. Some of the people who belong to the organization are directly involved through home care services in that they are providing nursing and home care services to some of our elderly in their own homes. At that meeting I was struck by the urgency that these people feel for the situation in Yellowknife and I feel that the department is somewhat stonewalling on this issue. The house on Forrest Drive is not and never will be adequate to serve the needs of Yellowknife for personal care services. I can tell you right now that house is an interim measure and is not adequate. That is not only my opinion, but it is the opinion of the nurses who are working with these people.

There is a desperate need in this community for a personal care facility for the elderly, particularly those who are not sick enough to be in a hospital situation, but too sick to be cared for by their family at home. We have a growing number of those people, increasing every week. It would seem to me that rather than stopgap measures we must look at a personal care facility. The home care people have presented to the Yellowknife Members a survey that they did, not a statistical survey, but a house-by-house survey of the elderly in Yellowknife dated November 1983. There is a total of 170 seniors that they were able to list; 51 of those seniors were life-time residents and the remaining 85 have an average stay in the Northwest Territories of 22.6 years. So we are not talking about people who have come here five years ago and who are now sick and need housing and personal care and hospital care. We are talking about people who are here who have lived here for many years and who will die here. Co-ordinated Home Care right now is overloaded with people who are beyond 75.5 years of age. Some of those people are now living in the Mary Murphy Home where they are not provided with adequate facilities that are required for a person who needs 24 hour care, but who does not need to go into the hospital.

I just feel that there is not a recognition within the department that Yellowknife has to be served and I do not know whether it is as a result of comments that have been made over the past few years about Yellowknife and institutions and the capital city and all of that, but I think we really have to look at who we are talking about here. We are talking about our elderly people.

#### Adequate Care Impossible In Home Situation

Now with respect to the philosophy of keeping people in their homes, the group that we met with has no problem with that at all, if they can be handled in their own homes, but the people that they are referring to, the people that they say require a personal care facility cannot stay in their own homes. They are too much of a burden to their family. They are handicapped people who require hourly movement, who require bed changes frequently, who require often to be fed and to be taken to the bathroom frequently. They are people who, while it would be nice to keep them in their home are often living in homes that are not fully winterized, that are fire traps if a fire were to break out, that do not have proper sanitary facilities and who it is true would love to stay at home but who are in a situation where they are being left on their own for eight to 10 to 20 hours a day and who are being, not on purpose, but because of circumstances, neglected. I do not feel that the citizens of Yellowknife want their aged and handicapped people to be treated in that way.

Mr. Chairman, there is a need identified clearly by the people who have been involved in this community for many years. Barb Bromley has been the head of this organization, Co-ordinated Home Care Service and the new organization for some time now and she has identified this as a desperate need in this community for a personal care facility above and beyond this stopgap measure that has been instituted in this home on Forrest Drive.

The other thing that has been identified is that the Mary Murphy Home is old and falling apart and also needs to be renovated. Also there is a requirement for an upgrading of the home that provides housing for the independent elderly who still need some measure of assistance but can come and go independently. So I would ask the department to review with the citizens of Yellowknife the situation. Sit down with -- and they have indicated they are prepared to do that -- with this group that is just about at its wits end on this issue. Sit down with them immediately and work this problem out because I maintain that if we continue to treat our elderly in Yellowknife in the way that they have been treated over the past little while that we are going to see -- well, I just do not think that it is proper. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All I can say to that is that I promise the Members that I do intend to look at these facilities and see their present state, what condition they are in and have the local Members with me when I do. Our department is willing to review and work with this committee and see what the hard facts are on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### Increased Funding For Home Care

MR. MacQUARRIE: With respect to the bolstering of home care I certainly will wait for the information that the deputy minister indicated he would like some time to prepare. The information I have is that any increases that there have been in home care over the last four years have essentially been percentage increases that merely take account of salary increases and inflation



and that kind of thing, that in fact the home care program has really not been expanded in any way over those years. In fact, there are some indications that services provided through the home care budget have actually had to be cut because the increases did not even quite match the inflationary increases. So, if that part of it is an undertaking to bolster that kind of a service then there should certainly be a significant increase in the amount of money that is allocated for that.

If I could come back to the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital residence that at one point was being thought of as a possible solution. Can I ask what is the present usage of that facility? I gather it would be under the Department of Health rather than the Department of Social Services. But since it was being thought of as possibly a facility the information I have is that it has been barely used over the past couple of years. So, what would be the problem in identifying that as a suitable site for redesigning and putting in place what we have been asking for?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Stanton Yellowknife Hospital still uses that as a nurses residence and there are approximately a dozen nurses in there right now. It presently falls under the authority of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital board and presently the facility is required for what it was originally intended for, a nurses residence. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to echo my colleague's concern. Over the last four years I, like all of us, have been involved with groups of concerned Yellowknifers who have tried to get a facility and they are really feeling frustrated. I know at one time there was the idea of adding temporary trailers to the Mary Murphy Home and then for a number of reasons that was -- am I talking to the wall? Who am I talking to? Have they all gone? Where are they? But these people now really sincerely have come forward and tried one proposal after another. They are really feeling that they are not being listened to. I think everything else has been said now and I concur with my colleagues.

As a separate matter I would like to ask, there is an expressed desire and I think the former Executive Council recognized the need for the old age facility in Detah. I wonder at what stage is the facility in Detah right now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you. I will have my deputy minister answer that question about Detah.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, in this latest assessment which I referred to in my earlier answers, Detah was included. There are three clients at the level I care that are presently residing in Detah. They are receiving some home care and some home nursing care by the public health people.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the Commissioner want to say something?

#### No New Program Funding Negotiated

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I just sought an opportunity to say something very briefly about the financing of the program under discussion. The program of home care and nursing care has been recognized by my colleagues on the Executive Council for many years. The thing that Members have to understand is that in our negotiations for funds, for the last several years we have not been able to get any new program money. We have been held to existing programs, to the funding of existing programs. We have been prevented in fact from the enhancement of existing programs. Now, we all understand I suppose the reasons why, because we have had difficult financial times throughout our country but it is a fact that we have not been able to get money for a new program such as this. Anything that the Executive Council has been able to do to respond to your very legitimate requests in this area has been done at the expense of some other program. We have had to draw the money from somewhere else in order to get our foot in the door in nursing home care and home care services.

Now I say this only to indicate the grave difficulties that we have had in trying to set up a program that is becoming quite accepted across the country. We also recognize that there is a difficulty in the North, particularly that there are not very many older people who are able to pay for these services. In the South quite a number of people are able to do this and therefore they can subscribe to nursing home care and accommodation where nursing is provided, from their own funds. This is rarely possible here. But, Mr. Chairman, please bear in mind that we have not been able to fund these programs to the extent that we would like to and that any funding that has been carried out has been done at the expense of other programs. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) Thank you. What is the Minister saying about trying to help people that are trapping, hunting and people who are unemployed? What do they mean by that? Maybe they should inform us more on it.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: I will just wait and I will bring it up again later.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I was very interested in the comments that the Commissioner made with respect to the funding of new programs. That makes me even more fearful of the direction that the department has taken which is a philosophy of keeping people in their own homes. If in the past we have had difficulties getting new program money for such programs as home care, then how are we in the future -- if we have a philosophy of keeping people in their own homes with home care visits, a visiting nurse, a visiting person who as well does other things for them besides nursing care -- how are we going to meet that new philosophy in the department if we are now having problems finding money for new programs? How are we going to marry the two?

The other question I have concerns the philosophy of keeping people in their own homes. That is, what work is being done if that is to be the new philosophy, what work is being done with the Housing Corporation and other groups in the communities to upgrade these homes so that they can meet standards where an elderly handicapped person is safe in those homes? We all have heard about the problem of housing in the communities with respect to substandard housing. What work has been done to upgrade these homes, making sure that elderly and handicapped people stay in homes that are of such an upgraded position that they are not submitting these people to possible grave danger if their family is forced into leaving them unattended from time to time? Is there any co-ordination between departments as we begin to look at this new philosophy?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Commissioner has said, the capital funding is very scarce for us. Our philosophy is that people are possibly better off in their own residence -- we do not want to build facilities and put people in them if we do not have to. The other thing is that on the different services we can provide under Social Services, there is Canada Assistance Plan funding and under Health and Welfare Canada they help our Department of Health with funding for their level III and level IV. In the level III and level IV certainly it is a question of more use that is required. Strictly as the use goes up, then the O and M money becomes available to us just the same as with the doctor -- the more medical services are required. That is why you see our budget going up and down in Health because you are taking a guess at the medical services. So in those two areas we have help with the funding from various federal sources for our O and M.

In relation to other departments, for example, in Fort Rae the Housing Corporation and CMHC are being used to help us obtain funding for that facility, but as for funds being made available from government to individual people to upgrade and improve their own residences, I am not aware of any funding available. I will just have to ask the deputy minister if he is aware of anything like that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, I have very little to add to what the Minister has said. The housing problem in the NWT is not the responsibility of the Department of Social Services. It is a Housing Corporation problem and we realize there is a problem there both for elderly people and for people not so elderly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Thank you. I think we will go and have a coffee break for 15 minutes and I also will be leaving so I will see you in May. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

Services To The Aged And Handicapped, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): I call the committee back to order. We are on page 14.08, services to aged and handicapped, total 0 and M, \$2,328,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Financial Assistance Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 14.09, financial assistance services, total 0 and M, \$11,010,000. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister if we could get a breakdown of social assistance given out to each community in the West and I believe the East also requested the same thing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department can provide that to Members in written form as soon after the session as possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total 0 and M, financial assistance services, \$11,010,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Grants And Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 14.10, total grants and contributions, total contributions, \$2,738,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Detail of capital on page 14.11. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one question on 14.10 under correction service contributions, could I just ask for a breakdown there, what goes to non-government agencies for programs that deal with persons in conflict with the law? Could you give me the breakdown there, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The entire amount of \$205,000 goes to Arctic House which has a program for people in conflict with the law.

Administration

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Detail of capital on page 14.11, total buildings and works, \$20,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. Acquisition of equipment, total acquisition of equipment, \$15,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Administration, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total administration, \$35,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Family and children's services, buildings and works, \$245,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Acquisition of equipment, total acquisition of equipment, \$104,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Grants, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 14.12, total grants, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total family and children's services, \$459,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



Correction Service

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total buildings and works, \$4,370,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. Acquisition of equipment, \$228,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Correction Service, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total correction service, \$4,598,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Services To The Aged And Handicapped

Buildings And Works, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Services to the aged and handicapped on page 14.13, total buildings and works, \$1,310,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the buildings and works section there is \$140,000 indicated for a senior citizens facility for Yellowknife, but there has been some uncertainty as to need, or for whatever reason, the use of this is unclear. Can I ask the Minister, he did say at one point there were no plans, so could I ask what would happen to this amount here?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funds are in there in case a facility is required. The Forrest Drive facility is already put into place and this funding could be used, for example, to do the necessary work in the nurses residence, but once again I guess it remains to be substantially proven to the department that a facility is required.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Commit \$140,000 For Senior Citizens Facility For Yellowknife, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will make a motion at this time. The Minister did indicate that he would like to sit down with the group in Yellowknife who are concerned particularly with senior citizens to try to see what is the best path to go. So in order to help facilitate that, if it is determined that the best path is a personal care facility, Mr. Chairman, I will move that the Executive Council seriously consider committing the \$140,000 in the budget for a senior citizens facility for Yellowknife to the design of a personal care facility for Yellowknife.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. MacQuarrie, may we have a copy of that? I just draw the committee's attention to the fact we have a group of students here from Gjoa Haven in the gallery who are now on their way out to Burnaby, British Columbia on a student exchange visit. They are from Mr. Angottitauruq's constituency. I would just like to welcome them here and wish them well in their visit.

---Applause

Mr. MacQuarrie, your motion is in order. I will read it again if I may: Moved by Mr. MacQuarrie, that the Executive Committee seriously consider committing the \$140,000 in the budget for a senior citizens facility for Yellowknife to the design of a personal care facility. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I will not speak at length. The kinds of concerns we have have been expressed earlier and it is just perhaps to focus a little more -- it is certainly not binding on the Executive Council, but it may help to impart some direction. So I would appreciate it if Members could support it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour signify in the usual manner. In favour? Contrary? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): We are at page 14.13, services to the aged and handicapped, detail of total buildings and works, \$1,310,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence, did you have a question?

MRS. LAWRENCE: I had a question on page 14.09.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Is the committee agreed to go back to page 14.09?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Proceed, Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) I would like to ask a question to the Minister about the hunters and the fishermen who are unemployed. I would like to support those people and I would like for him to tell me more on it. I am not very well informed yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. Minister. We are at page 14.09 and the question is regarding the economic options in co-operation with other departments.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I will get my deputy minister to explain what is currently being done in developing programs in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Social Services initiated about a year ago, what is being called the economic options initiative. What it is then is a rationalization of all the different funds, including social assistance, which is supplied to the trappers and hunters. Since they get funding to assist them from a great number of programs across different departments, there has been an interdepartmental working group in researching the idea of funding them from a single source instead of the five or six or seven different sources that they get their funds from now. An interim report has been prepared and an options paper has been prepared for the Executive Council and it will be going forward in the next few weeks. The direction after that interim report will be decided by the Executive Council.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Moody. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) After that report has been done will we be able to look at it?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The report is being made by the department for review by the Executive Council. At that time the Executive will have to make the decision on whether they will have the report available to everybody or whether we will come up with a policy as a result of the report.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence, any further questions on page 14.09? Page 14.13. Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Just to ask when Fort Simpson is likely to get a senior citizens home.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: At the present time there is no budget allocation for looking into an elderly folks home for Fort Simpson, Mr. Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I should perhaps have been a little more precise. There is an old folks home in Simpson already but it is small and overcrowded. There is a need for a new and enlarged one. I am aware that a local committee has been set up in Simpson. They have done all of the studies required and I know that their findings are that there is sufficient need for a new old folks home. So I know a lot of work has been done locally. I am aware that somewhere in the works there are plans to build a new old folks home in Simpson. So I wanted to know, I appreciate it is not in the budget now, that is obvious, but when is it for? Is it in this century?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There has been no definite decisions taken by this government or the department on that yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Sibbeston, do you want that \$30,000 back now I suppose?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect I think we ought to be able to get a better answer than that. The department must have some plans for old folks homes in the next few years. Is Simpson on the list at all or must we do something to put it in there?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My advice to the Member would be that he should go home to his community and whip up some enthusiasm for this project. Perhaps the local MLA from there will have some persuasion over the rest of the government to look at the priority of Fort Simpson for an old folks home.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: The last question. There is a lot of enthusiasm in Simpson for it. In fact I was involved in a committee over a year ago to start the process of planning. There is a fair amount of paper work, as people can appreciate, in finding out how many people need home care. So I am aware that a lot of work has gone into it. So there is a lot of enthusiasm in Simpson for a new old folks home. I was advised by government officials that construction or planning money would be made available either this year or next year and construction the year after. So, as I appreciate, the Minister may not have the information at his fingertips today but somewhere in the department I am aware that there are plans for an old folks home to be built in Simpson. So, if the Minister is not able to tell me, does not have the information available today, I accept that. But I do not think he should leave the impression that nothing is being done in Simpson and that there is no consideration at all for the old folks home anywhere in the department because I do know that it is somewhere in the works, Simpson should get a new old folks home in the next two or three years.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Minister, do you have a rebuttal?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nothing is in the five year capital plan yet. Nothing has come out of the region. The officials of my department in the region are dealing with the community on this. We expect that it will be fitted into the Fort Smith regional proposals coming toward our government and to headquarters.

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. The detail of capital, page 14.13, total acquisition of equipment, services to the aged and handicapped, \$20,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Services To The Aged And Handicapped, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total services to the aged and handicapped, \$1,330,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Financial Assistance Services

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total financial assistance services, acquisition of equipment, \$28,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total department, \$6,390,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Pages 14.14, 14.15 and 14.16 are information items. Back to page 14.03, the total O and M, \$34,412,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total capital, \$6,390,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): I believe that concludes the Department of Social Services. Mr. Minister, you may wish to shift players and we could move now to page 13.01 which is the Department of Health. Mr. Minister, you have an opening statement or other witnesses you would like to invite into the House?

Department Of Health

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I would like to ask my assistant deputy minister, Mr. Mike Pontus, to join me at the witness table.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Does the committee agree to have Mr. Pontus at the witness table?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister. Do you have an opening statement?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I do. Mr. Chairman, the Government of the Northwest Territories believes that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every resident and that health is a partnership involving personal responsibility of individuals in conjunction with supportive programs and services. Our government delivers its health programs in conjunction with those of the federal Department of Health and Welfare. The budget before you outlines those programs for which the territorial government has funding responsibilities. The NWT health insurance program is by far our largest responsibility and accounts for 88.1 per cent of the department's total budget. This program is comprised of health care both inside and outside of the Northwest Territories, medical care by doctors, medical transportation and supplementary health programs including pharmacare, extended medical benefits and chronic psychosis services for the mentally ill. Both medical and hospital care are required under our national health insurance program. The costs are a direct result of patient and physician needs and therefore we have little control over these increasing demands on our budget.

The Northwest Territories public health care program is our second largest funding responsibility and accounts for 7.3 per cent of the Health budget. Presently this cost is to cover our share of the health programs and nursing stations operated by Health and Welfare Canada. Since this program is normally a provincial responsibility and affects all residents of the Northwest Territories, consideration has been given to transferring this health service to the Government of the Northwest Territories. A transfer is being considered in the Baffin Region where the Inuit Tapirisat, Baffin Region Inuit Association and the Baffin Regional Council are interested. The administration of the programs I have just described accounts for 3.2 per cent of our budget. This includes some clerical staff provided at cost to Health and Welfare Canada's Yellowknife regional office.

Mr. Chairman, over the next year my administration will be conducting a review of the NWT health insurance system. The goal of this study is to review the causes and patterns of utilization and relating to the significant increase being experienced currently by the insurance system. The department will review health services to the elderly; although representing only three per cent of our population, this group utilizes a large portion of our health services budget. The department will continue discussions with the federal government with respect to the transfer of federal programs and services in Baffin. The NWT Department of Health, Health and Welfare Canada and DIAND will work jointly on securing Treasury Board approval for the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital project.

In summation, Mr. Chairman, the budget will allow us to maintain our insurance programs, challenge our hospital boards to greater efficiency, but allow us little if any room for new benefits or new programs. As I mentioned earlier, we are working in conjunction with Health and Welfare Canada and the Department of Social Services on preventive programs, recognizing the fact that we can instil personal concern and responsibility into the residents of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would now like to proceed with the budget in detail.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): The Department of Health, page 13.01, the objectives. General comments?

#### Health Awareness At The Community Level

MR. ANGOTTITAUROUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at the objectives here under administration, there is a line that says something about health awareness activities at the community level. I have to bring this up because to my constituency this may be very important and I hope in some way the Minister of Health will communicate within the zone and I too have to communicate to the zone director. I would just like to bring this up so that it could be known.

In a lot of communities we have only two nurses and I believe they work at least 18 or sometimes even 20 hours a day to fulfil their duties. They have many duties to fulfil. I do not think they fulfil their duties fully at the community level because there is nobody really to carry on the activities toward education regarding health. Sometimes the two nurses, one of them has to take some patients out and the other one has to look after some patients in the settlement because some of these settlements have over 600 people. I do not think that it is enough to have just two nurses to service the whole settlement because they have a lot of other duties they have to carry out. They try their best to fulfil their duties, they do all kinds of other things, not just looking after patients. They have to also worry about prevention. I am wondering if the Minister could give me an answer whether two nurses in some settlements with a population of 600 is enough,

seeing about a quarter of the settlement are children that require home visits sometimes and also some older people, some other patients. Besides that they have educational programs that they have to carry on. I wanted to know because that to me seems to be making the nurses work too hard.

In the past, in about the late 1960s there used to be some lay dispensers and they are in the settlements and not doing anything. They are not working for the nursing station and I was wondering if those could be thought of because they are good people. They have already had the training and they are the people who should be really trying to prevent illnesses in the settlements to take the load off the nurses who are working. I was wondering if the Minister could give me some answer on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One thing I would like to answer in the area of community education regarding health, is what the Health and Welfare nurses work on -- we are hoping as a government to aid them in this area because the Department of Health is developing a health curriculum within the Department of Health right now and this will be a curriculum carried out in the Department of Education in all the schools. So there will be an aid to the nurses in the communities once the school starts educating the youngsters in all the schools in the Territories about health and general health situations, how a healthy lifestyle can prevent future illnesses amongst our residents as they grow older.

The Health and Welfare department of the federal government, as the Member knows, actually runs the nursing stations, not our department. It is under consideration by this government and by the federal government that the turnover of nursing stations should be done and, as I said, the first place we are considering doing this is in the Baffin. The idea is that the nursing stations would be put under the authority of the hospital board, which presently exists in Frobisher Bay. That is an area we are looking at, taking over these nursing stations so they would be under our control. I can tell the Member that the Department of Health and Welfare itself has a lack of funds or a lack of new funds just the same as we have and have been restricted in that, they do not have enough money to hire new nurses or to start up new nursing stations in the Territories right now. As to the last suggestion the Member made about using some of the people in the communities who exist there and have the training, I would like to defer that to the deputy minister to answer, because I am not aware of that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Moody.

MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, less than half a per cent of the Health budget is allotted to preventive care. We have a small amount of money that is spent in the communities for health in the preventive area and we would certainly like to increase that. One of the initiatives would be the community health representative initiative which has been tried before in the Northwest Territories; it is a program of Health and Welfare Canada. It has worked very well in the South and it has been tried over a number of years in the Territories. Right now it is at rather a low ebb but we would like to encourage Health and Welfare Canada. We run this program ourselves in Rae-Edzo under a different name but with the same aims in view and with considerable success, but we have had to curtail that because of lack of funds.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Moody. Further comments, general comments. Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe it is because a lot of Members have left here that I feel good to talk but I would not want to push too hard on it. I just want to thank the Minister for giving me some answers on it. I know I am not exactly on the right track talking about nurses because some other department is looking after that. I just want to thank you for your comment there. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Members that are interested we have got in touch with Mr. Maurice Aked who is with Health and Welfare Canada. The intention was for him to be here and he has been advised we have started the budget, so if Members want to invite him later to specifically talk about nursing stations, that could be done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Butters.



Transfer Of Health Responsibilities To The NWT

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Are there any negotiations currently in progress between this government and the federal government as to continuing transfer of health responsibilities to the Territories and, if so, has a timetable been set up as to when this transfer or turnover of responsibilities would occur?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, as I said, so far we have considered this in the Baffin only. Initial talks have taken place. There has been no timetable set on this, but what we as a government require, before we can look at these transfers, is basically the approval or concurrence of all the different players in each of the regions. The Baffin Region Inuit Association, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and the Baffin Regional Council have all agreed that this would be advantageous to them. So that is the area where we are first negotiating with the federal government on such a turnover. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Honourable Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: As the Minister mentioned, Mr. Chairman, there is a requirement for the concurrence of particularly native organizations for such a transfer or for such negotiations to occur. Are there any discussions now currently being carried out with native organizations in the West to effect such a transfer?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, honourable Mr. Butters. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: There have been no formal negotiations. There has been communication between the Dene Nation and the Metis Association I believe, with different officials in the Department of Health, including Mr. Moody. Myself, I have talked to a few people but only on a casual basis, more for information than anything else as to what present positions are. So there have been no negotiations, just basically fact finding, although the communities in the Fort Simpson area have written Monique Begin and myself asking that the hospital in Fort Simpson and the other facilities should be turned over, I believe, through this government to a local regional council.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Extend Sitting Hours, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I move that we extend the sitting hours today to deal with Bill 1-84(1) and Tabled Document 4-84(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): We could break for lunch. Hold the phone, Mr. Butters. We will just check that out. Mr. Butters, the motion is in order. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? Contrary? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Further general comments, Mr. Ballantyne.

Ambulance Service In the NWT

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I tabled a document prepared by the city of Yellowknife dealing with the responsibility for ambulance service for the Northwest Territories. If I could, I could bring the Minister up to date on exactly what has been going on in the last few years; it concerns not only the city of Yellowknife, but the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities. Back in 1981, I was at the time mayor of Yellowknife and we realized that there was a problem with ambulance service. So we got in touch with the government and they said they would look into it. In the next three years I had my staff and the city carry out quite detailed research looking at all other jurisdictions in Canada, and there was a motion passed by the NWTAM supporting the city of Yellowknife on this matter.

Late in 1983 we again approached the government to see if we could get any action about it. And there was a meeting then with the executive director of the NWTAM and the deputy ministers of Local Government and Social Services. It was decided then, probably the Department of Health or Social

Services should be the department responsible. At that time, Mr. Peter Owen, was assigned to undertake the research. The city of Yellowknife offered Mr. Owen all of our collected two-year research but no request was made from Mr. Owen. The NWTAM wrote to Mr. Owen saying that the executive director would be pleased to assist him at any time. Again, no request was made. Now it has been learned that Mr. Owen has left the department and further inquiries revealed that no apparent progress has been made to date.

I am going to go into some of our concerns but I understand that the Minister and his staff are going to address this problem at the annual meeting of the NWTAM which will be held in April. I am going to ask exactly what has been done. I want to outline for everybody here in this tabled document some of the very significant concerns that the tax-based municipalities especially, have. The city of Yellowknife provides a full-time 24 hour a day service and we charge \$50 a day for city residents. It costs the city of Yellowknife an annual deficit of \$125,000 a year. The major concern is the cost of that to the city of Yellowknife. Then when we looked into the matter we found out there was neither legislation nor policy for the matter of ambulance services addressed by the GNWT. We looked at all the other jurisdictions, our concern even became more so. I think one area that should concern all Members is that there is nobody now responsible for ambulance service on the many miles of highways that exist outside the municipal boundaries. I do not know if people can recall, last year there was some sort of a conflict when there was an accident on the road between here and Rae, of who should look after it. The federal Department of Health, who I understand run the ambulance in Rae, said we have no right to do it. I told my staff, look, if there is an emergency go for it. We are not going to argue about jurisdiction.

#### Ambulance Service, Other Jurisdictions

This is I think a major concern to everyone. After when we looked at all the other provinces, with the exception of the NWT and Alberta, the level of government responsibility for providing ambulance service is the province or territory's responsibility. Only the NWT and Alberta do not actually do that. Most of the provinces have contracted private companies, individuals or municipalities to carry out that task. The Yukon Territory actually operates this service with their own staff and vehicles. In the province of Alberta there is a myriad of ways that it is handled. Generally, there are no subsidies given out by municipalities for ambulance service. The exception is the city of Edmonton which gives \$1.43 per capita to subsidize the ambulance service. In Yellowknife we are giving about \$12.50 per capita. So in all other provinces where the service is provided by other than provincial agencies, the province provides some form of subsidy to the operator who picks up the actual cost of operation. In all other jurisdictions except Alberta there is specific legislation, orders in council or policy, in place for the operation of the ambulance. These legislation, orders in council or policies specify such criteria as levels of funding or subsidies, standards of training for operators, legal authorities to operate, liability protection, safety standards and ambulance equipment standards.

Another very important concern for the municipalities is the lack of formal recognition for the provision of ambulance service. So there is a concern that the municipalities presently operating services in the NWT will not have protection as far as legal liabilities if there is any accident because we do not have any form of protective legislation. So our major concern is: one we think, in all other jurisdictions it is a territorial or provincial responsibility financially; two, there is no legislation in place setting guidelines or policies and therefore, there is a fear that there is some liability if anything happens in the municipality; three, there is the whole area of the Territories not within municipalities that right now are not covered. There is a major potential for disaster in that area. I wonder if I could ask the Minister, has his department actually looked at this and if they have not, is he prepared to do it and will he be able to make a statement to the NWTAM in April?

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department has the information referred to that was given to Mr. Owen and Mrs. Elaine Berthelet in the department, heads that division and is aware of all the information. The department hopes by the time we have the NWTAM meeting that we intend on having people from the department there both as resource people and with information that we have gathered to date. We will be looking for some detail with recommendations from the Association of Municipalities before we go to Executive Council with any type of a proposal to them. The problem is complicated by the fact that this service is not carried by Health and Welfare Canada. It is not an insurable service so that the funds for this would have to be new for us or we would have to get our hands on and reallocate from within somewhere.

I share the Member's concerns through living in a community on the highway system, I am aware of the problems that happen when there are accidents in between communities or somewhere between High Level and Hay River. Which province or which municipality is going to go to the aid of the people in trouble? Are they going to be able to recover their money? It has always bothered me that when someone goes down in a plane they will spend millions looking for them but when someone has an accident on the highway there is an argument over who is going to pay a rather small and insignificant bill. So it is an area that some policy has to be set up for, so people know where they sit. The department is anxious to meet with municipalities. I will have officials there. We will not have a position. We are still looking for more suggestions and consensus on what has to be done before we go to the Executive with any kind of a proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are on general comments, Mrs. Lawrence.

Training Programs For Takeover Of Health Responsibilities

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under your objective I see there is some negotiation going on with the territorial and federal governments on some kind of an agreement to take over some of the health programs. If that is the intention -- although it is not confirmed that the health program will be transferred, you are initiating discussions and all that -- is your department training people to take over some of these responsibilities? I remember there was a time in the department when they had training programs such as administrators and that. I have not heard of any kind of training except for eye technicians -- there is a word for it. Is there any other kind of training program in your department at this time?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past there have been training programs. Currently there is nobody in training in our department in these areas. Also the Member should be aware that the whole aspect of training employees of our government and training programs in advanced education -- an attempt is being made now by this government to consolidate all of that under Education. So I would imagine that such programs in the future were to fall into that area.

As to the takeover of those facilities, our government is interested in pursuing this. When we have the agreement of all the parties concerned in any particular region, like I said in the Baffin, all the various players in that region are interested and therefore we are pursuing it in that area. We are not pursuing it in the other areas because we do not have the necessary incentive to do it by the different regional groups in the other areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: So, at the present time you do not have anyone training in the health field then?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Like I said, within our department we do not have anybody training in the administration. There are people training in nursing, under Education programs in the government. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: When you say nursing, are you referring to a certified nursing assistant training that they have?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the certified nursing program at Thebacha College.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: How many people do you have training at this nursing school then?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do not have that information but we could get it for the Member from the Department of Education.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: To make the children aware of different careers in the nursing field at the community level, what kind of awareness do you have for children at the community level besides Yellowknife and Inuvik? I understand they do have awareness week, career week or whatever they want to call it. But in the smaller communities how are you promoting any program in the health field?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: The Department of Education has career week I believe in some of the high schools. Our department is not involved. That is basically promoted within the Department of Education. Our public education on health is through the nursing stations in the communities and the only thing that we are doing in that area right now is developing a program within the Department of Health to be used as part of the education curriculum by the Department of Education to teach students the importance of health and making them aware of some of the harmful effects of alcohol and drugs, for example. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

Medical Travel

MRS. LAWRENCE: I have another question. I had a call the other day from someone in Hay River who complained she got a bill for someone she had escorted a year ago. I understand your department is billing people from as far back as 1982. I really do not know what she was talking about. Does your department know anything about charging patients when they are transported to another medical centre?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On medical travel there is a co-payment made of \$50 each way and this is billed after the fact. The travel is not held up by this billing. Travel is arranged and is done as expeditiously as possible at the time and the co-payments are billed after the fact.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: So, are you telling me they have a backlog as far back as 1980 or 1982?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was a backlog and the department is working on getting that backlog cleared up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Does this apply to everyone?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, in the case of status Indians and Inuit, the travel is paid for by the federal government Health and Welfare Canada.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have received some complaints about people who have to go to the hospital in places like Edmonton. These people cannot speak English. So I am wondering does the Health department have some policy or service for escorting older people to hospitals in the South?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When people have to go to hospitals down south, in situations like that, if it is an elderly person who may need physical help or may have a translation problem, the local nurse can ask for an escort to go with the patient. There are

arrangements made with Health and Welfare Canada in Edmonton to help out, although I do not believe that interpreters are readily available in Edmonton. We are hoping to rectify this situation so that we do not have to send people, especially chronic care people, out of the Territories for a long time. That is one of the reasons we are trying to develop a facility in Yellowknife that would serve the people in the immediate Yellowknife area and we would be able to rectify the situation to some degree. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: When a patient is sent to a hospital in the South, who makes the decision about whether or not they get an escort? Is it more or less automatic or when the patient asks for it or what?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The nurse at the nursing station, if you are talking about starting out in one of the small communities, the nurse at the nursing station would make this recommendation and get approval from the zone director for that area of Health and Welfare Canada. That is how the approval is gained. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I am concerned about this because I think sometimes what happens is that, because some of the older people can speak some English, some of the nurses automatically assume that they can make their way around and read airplane flight schedules and airplane tickets and those kinds of things. I know some older people who are like that. I know for sure that they cannot follow airplane schedules. That is the reason for my concern. I know in the past there were some people who should have had escorts but did not and that is why I bring it up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Mr. Minister, do you want to comment?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It is definitely a situation where the local nurse has to make a special decision on the situation and the federal person supervising that nurse makes the ultimate decision as to whether an escort is going to be allowed. As well as an escort service, if an escort is not provided, people in that situation who need some help are supposed to be met by federal Health and Welfare people at the airports in Edmonton and Winnipeg and Montreal in order to help them find their way from the airport to the hospital, etc. So that service is supposed to be available but it is important though that the nurse in the community makes the different officials in the federal system aware of the problem so that these people can be properly served. So it has got to be initiated by the local nurse. Failure to do that means that the service will not be provided. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Members of the committee, unaccustomed as I am to wearing this great mantle of power I now have, but since the hours have been extended I will recess the committee now and reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

---LUNCHEON RECESS

I now call the committee back to order. We were on general comments, Department of Health. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the objectives it says there is some thought being given to the revision of the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance. Could I ask what the Minister has in mind with respect to that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have to ask my assistant deputy minister, Mr. Pontus, to answer that.

MR. PONTUS: The Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance was struck in 1960 and many of the terms and conditions specified are now superseded by the development and hospital practice since that time. As well, the ordinance contained the establishment of a commission-type operation

called the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services board and now with the development of Ministerial offices in the Territories and political responsibility, it is felt that this will be turned back over to the Minister and the board will be removed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Pontus. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. I am pleased to hear that. I know that an illustrious predecessor of the present Minister had thoughts a few years ago of doing something with respect to the THIS board. I was at that time the chairman of the standing committee on legislation and that is how I became aware of it. It appeared in fact, the way things are structured now, the board may very well be redundant and stands in the way of more efficient operation. I am pleased to hear that. In respect to that I notice that the budget review hospital figures for this coming year are not listed. Do I assume that they do not yet know what budgets they will be operating under in the coming year?

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I assume from the preliminary comments Mr. MacQuarrie has made as the chairman of the legislation committee that he is waiving the six weeks notice we have to give to that committee for the legislation. I will have to ask Mr. Pontus to answer the question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, the hospitals are currently preparing their budgets for submission and they are due the first week in March.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I ask whether the hospital boards or their finance committees have direct input into the GNWT budgeting process? What role do the boards themselves actually play in generating the budget that finally comes before the Assembly?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I will have to ask Mr. Pontus to respond to that as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, the boards develop a budget and the budget is then reviewed according to the funds available and the final budget struck according to the funds available from the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: So I gather they do not have after a preliminary budget is prepared, they do not have direct participation in determining finally what will be allocated to the various hospitals. Is it possible that if the THIS board were found to be redundant and removed that they would have a more direct role in developing the final budgets that they are going to have to operate under each year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Mr. Pontus to continue with this line of questioning.

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, they likely would have a greater role. However, the process would remain much the same as it is at the moment. The hospitals budget cycle is different from the budget cycle the government is currently on in that it starts at a later period in time. If the budget cycle was revamped and hospitals forecasted much earlier in the year, then they could have a greater input.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. MacQuarrie.



MR. MacQUARRIE: So, you know, what would stand in the way of revamping of this schedule? Is it possible in fact it could be revamped and that synchronization and greater participation could result from that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Mr. Pontus to respond to that as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the hospital boards prefer to have a longer period of time in order to get the actual experience for a particular year before developing a budget for the subsequent years.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Pontus. We are on general comments the Department of Health. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice on the next page of objectives under medical services contract they are going to review the need to continue the contract. Now, first of all, am I clear that it is the medical services contract between this government and the federal government? If that is the case, what is the problem? What is it going to be, the review that is going to be undertaken with what in mind?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our department has some employees on contract with federal Health and Welfare people here at headquarters. It is strictly an in and out thing in our budget. We send them a bill for the exact amount it costs us to do. I am not sure on the details of what they do. I believe it accounts for around one per cent of our budget. I will ask Mr. Pontus how this works.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, there are approximately 20 clerical staff of the regional headquarters operation of Health and Welfare Canada who are GNWT employees and they work on Health and Welfare material. This was undertaken by this government to assist the move of the regional operations from Edmonton to Yellowknife and it is continually under review by both Health and Welfare Canada and ourselves as to its necessity.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Pontus. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Okay, just a final point on the earlier matter we were talking about. The answer was given to me that it seems the boards themselves prefer to have a different frame in which they prepare the budget and that that is what makes it difficult for the synchronization and greater input. So, is it possible that the boards prefer themselves to change that? There is openness on the part of the department to greater participation on their part.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. Pontus answer that as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Yes, we could, we have in the past asked the hospitals to forecast expenditures at an earlier date. They have had great difficulty in doing so, but we again can ask them to make forecasts at earlier dates. But the nature of the activity that they undertake varies such and the goods used that they have had difficulty in the past. We can ask them again.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. We are on general comments on the Department of Health. Are you ready to go into the budget?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Administration, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): The administration, total 0 and M, \$2,072,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Supplementary Health Programs, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 13.06, supplementary health programs, total 0 and M, \$836,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

NWT Share Of Health Care Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. Page 13.07, NWT share of health care services, total 0 and M, \$4,673,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total 0 And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you. Page 13.08, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, total 0 and M, \$42,846,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: A short question, Mr. Chairman. I wonder, right now in the NWT we are probably the only jurisdiction in Canada that enjoys totally free hospital care. There is no intention of this government to follow the lead of other provinces to start charging premiums to patients?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Most of the jurisdictions in Canada operate under the federal program offering free medical care for all the residents but there are some jurisdictions now where doctors have added on to fees and some where they charge patients so much a day, for example, to stay in the hospital. Our government has no intention of having a user-pay system except that we do have an existing situation as I mentioned earlier on escort travel. The escort has to pay \$50 there and back, in and out on the travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you. Mr. Minister, I am very glad to hear you say that because I think that the right to free hospital care is one of the few considerations we receive nowadays to compensate us for the high cost of living in the North. Maintain that philosophy and we are right behind you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister, did you wish to comment?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, just one other point I missed is that we also have some patients sharing the cost for some extended care services when families are able to pay part of it themselves. Thank you.

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): On page 13.08, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, total 0 and M, \$42,846,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medicare, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 13.09, medicare, total O and M, \$9,905,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medical Services Contract, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Medical services contract, on page 13.10, total O and M, \$807,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medical Transportation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 13.11, medical transportation, total O and M, \$3,270,000. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice that our government operates a boarding home and medical referral centre in Winnipeg and we will be taking over referral services in Montreal during this fiscal year. I would like assurances from the Minister that whatever generous criteria were used to judge operating the Winnipeg centre would be applied equally to the proposal he has received from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, to my own request for a medical centre here in Yellowknife for the Kitikmeot Region and as well, to that of my three predecessors in this House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Pedersen. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The situation in Winnipeg is that the transient centre there is available for all people in the Keewatin. It is not particularly designed for Inuit people, with them only in mind. It was also done in co-operation with Health and Welfare Canada, and in fact at their behest, because they were having trouble handling the load of patients. I wish that we had a facility of our own. The proposal from the Kitikmeot Region was that the facility would be designed specifically for Inuit people from the Kitikmeot. That would basically be a difficult thing for us to get funding for from Health and Welfare. We were able to get funding for the one in Winnipeg because it serves all the people. It is not designed just for one ethnic group. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the request from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association was probably made that way because that is the group of people which they represent. Could I have assurances from the Minister please or would he comment if this proposal was modified to include all people of Kitikmeot Region, would it receive the same consideration as the Winnipeg operation has?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: We would still have to go into that with Health and Welfare Canada in order to ensure that they would pay a part of the cost. I would say "yes" if it was designed to serve not just people from the Kitikmeot but people from Inuvik Region and other outlying areas as well. Health and Welfare Canada would have a different attitude toward it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Thank you, Mr. Minister. On page 13.11, medical transportation, total O and M, \$3,270,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 13.12, detail of grants and contributions, total contributions, \$24,377,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

NWT Share Of Health Care Services

Nursing Stations And Residences, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Page 13.14, detail of capital, NWT share of health care services. Total nursing stations and residences, \$2,863,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total acquisition of equipment, \$239,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Territorial Hospital Insurance Services. Total buildings and works, \$1,090,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurances Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$1,340,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): The remaining pages are information pages. We will go back to page 13.04, the total O and M for the Department of Health, \$64,409,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total capital, \$4,442,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): That completes the Department of Health. I would like to thank the Minister and the witnesses and they are excused.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Well done, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Is the committee prepared now to go to Bill 1-84(1), clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Would the Minister like to make some preliminary comments?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Bill 1-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1985. Clause 2, amount granted for 1984-85. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Clause 3, purpose and effect of each item. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Clause 4, lapsing of appropriations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Clause 5, transfer of moneys. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Clause 6, idem. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Schedule. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total operations and maintenance, \$439,692,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total capital, \$83,902,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Total appropriations, \$523,594,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): We have Bill 1-84(1) now ready for third reading. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): Is it your wish we now report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I move we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McCallum): All in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-84(1) and Tabled Document 4-84(1) and wishes to report this matter concluded as reported in the proceedings of this House.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House has heard the motion, do you agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: I understand from the House Leader that he wishes to return to committee of the whole to deal with Bill 5-84(1), Young Offenders Ordinance. Is it agreed we resolve into committee of the whole to deal with Bill 5-84(1), Young Offenders Ordinance?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I wonder if Members would agree to go back to tabling of documents. Mr. Patterson left me something he thought Members wanted to have tabled and I would like to do that now at this moment if I could.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it agreed to go back to tabling of documents?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

REVERT TO ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Education and also the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, I would like to table Tabled Document 32-84(1), Municipal Lands Provisions of an Agreement in Principle, Tungavik Federation of Nunavut Aboriginal Claim, January, 1984. Thank you.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Honourable Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that some of the Members may be leaving this afternoon I wonder if we might move to third reading of bills before going back into committee of the whole to discuss the Young Offenders Act and whatever other business remains on the order paper. If we would go to third reading then we could complete Bill 1-84(1) and have it ready for assent.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it agreed to go to third reading of bills?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, third reading of bills.

ITEM 17: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 1-84(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1984-85

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 1-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1985, be read for the third time.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? This motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 1-84(1) has had third reading. We will now resolve into committee of the whole to deal with Bill 5-84(1), with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 5-84(1), YOUNG OFFENDERS ORDINANCE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): This committee will now come to order. Bill 5-84(1), opening remarks, Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no opening remarks on the bill. I will remain in my seat but I would like to ask my deputy minister, Mr. Moody, my assistant deputy minister, Mr. Dunbar, and also Mr. Patrick Orr from the Department of Justice to sit at the witness table in case any technical questions may be asked.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this House agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. You have the floor, Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Members of the standing committee on legislation thought it would be useful if I were to make some comments about the context in which this bill is being brought forward and the purpose and that sort of thing, so I would like to spend a few minutes explaining, as we understand it, what is happening with respect to this legislation. In sum, I think it would be best first of all to turn to the federal legislation that has made it necessary for the Young Offenders Ordinance being brought into this House so I will speak briefly about the federal measures and in doing that I rely heavily and quote extensively from an article entitled "Legislative Note: The Young Offenders Act" by William Wardell as published in the Saskatchewan Law Review, Volume 47. The comments I hope will be useful for other Members and also for the public as well.

#### Changes In Philosophy

On May 17, 1982, the House of Commons passed the Young Offenders Act and it is going to be proclaimed or implemented on April 1st of this year. The Young Offenders Act is the result of 10 or more years of effort on the part of the federal government to replace the Juvenile Delinquents Act as the criminal law statute governing the conduct of young people in Canada. In introducing it there has been some change in philosophy. The Juvenile Delinquents Act defined a child having committed delinquency, "not as an offender, but as a person in a condition of delinquency and therefore requiring help and guidance and proper supervision". The Young Offenders Act has a "Declaration of Principle" and this declaration reads quite differently declaring that "Young persons who commit offences should none the less bear responsibility for their contravention" although it concedes that "Young persons should not in all instances be held accountable in the same manner...as adults. Society must... be afforded the necessary protection from illegal behaviour." The new legislation amends the Criminal Code raising the minimum age of criminality from seven to 12 years. So "children" become persons under the age of 12 and persons between 12 and 18 years become a new group who are designated as "young persons".

The Young Offenders Act extracts from the adult system those 16 and 17 year olds in provinces which used under 16 as the Juvenile Delinquents Act minority age. The Young Offenders Act excludes from the adult system 16 and 17 year olds. The new act may facilitate a somewhat more lenient treatment of this group. It appears as a policy choice that the federal government felt that the 16 and 17 year old group might better be rehabilitated if dealt with quite separately from older offenders. The Young Offenders Act will give much more latitude in the sentencing process to impose more stringent sentences on the 12 to 16 year old group.

#### "Due Process" Changes

There are also changes with respect to "due process". The new Young Offenders Act has a host of "due process" type of changes which significantly clarify and increase the rights of an accused young person. That would be because they are regarded as offenders and, therefore, more needful of provisions of due process. A young person who commits another youth offence, or an offence while an adult, can have his youth court record brought up in sentencing. Under this act there is something called "dispositions". The Juvenile Delinquents Act provided a rather limited range of possible dispositions as compared with the Young Offenders Act. Under the Young Offenders Act custody may be either "open" as one alternative or "secure" as another. "Open" custody relates to group homes, child care institutions, community residential centres or forest or wilderness camps, as opposed to "secure" custody which refers to places designated by the province or territory "for the secure containment or restraint of young persons". Twelve and 13 year olds are treated more leniently under the act. They will be placed in secure custody only if, among other things, the offence carries a term of life imprisonment; if they escape; or if the young offender has a record of serious offences under the Juvenile Delinquents Act or the Young Offenders Act.

### Alternative Measures

Another important change perhaps though is that there is a review of dispositions. The Young Offenders Act has a system of review of disposition at intervals prescribed by the act during a young person's sentence and that is somewhat different from the provisions of the Juvenile Delinquents Act. The act also refers to alternative measures or diversion. The Young Offenders Act outlines methods of dealing with young offenders other than the normal court process. The act calls these "alternative measures" and is very specific about the situation in which a young person can avoid the normal court process but it is not clear at this time exactly what an alternative measure is. The act only states that it will be the province's or territory's responsibility to authorize these programs. Presumably these programs may be operated by provincial governments directly, or by non-government organizations, and may include some forms of community work programs or special education programs. Alternative measures though, where you avoid the court system, could only be used where the young person freely and fully consents to participate in the program. The act is very careful about the rights of a young person while deciding on alternative measures, because, by deciding to join in such a program a young person could be admitting guilt to a crime. That is why there must be the full consent to participate. I understand that if they decided not to participate in alternative measures then automatically the case would go through the normal court procedure.

Many issues still seem to be unresolved with respect to this. We heard our Minister refer to some of those yesterday when he was questioned on his return from a meeting with Mr. Kaplan, questions like, will the Charter of Rights require jury trials for young offenders? They are proposing alternative measures but it could be they will be challenged under the Charter of Rights and found to be non-constitutional. Will diversion programs actually be implemented? Will legal aid plans be able to cope with the added burden under the system with rights of due process for young persons? Of course, in our own case and in other provinces, what legislation will be passed to deal with provincial offences or territorial offences and criminal acts by those under the age of 12?

So, in summary it appears that more rights are granted to young persons in some ways, but considerably more responsibilities are also imposed. Without sufficient resources, the punishment aspect may be resorted to by courts by default of having few palatable alternatives. In short, the passage and implementation of this federal legislation means that we in the Territories must, for example among other things, establish or make provision for youth courts, be prepared for the custody of young offenders, and be prepared for the alternative measures that are enabled under the act. To take care of these various matters, the GNWT has prepared the Young Offenders Ordinance and that is what we are dealing with now. They submitted it to the standing committee on legislation for review.

### Review By Committee On Short Notice

The standing committee was very concerned at being asked to deal with such a significant piece of legislation on such short notice and directly expressed to the government its reluctance to do so. The government was asked to explain why it did not have the legislation prepared at an earlier date since the federal government had passed this bill in 1982. The government explained that it, like most provincial jurisdictions, had not wished to indicate to the federal government that it was fully supportive of the federal initiative until such time as it was satisfied that it would receive adequate funding to address the new demands that would be placed on GNWT resources. We see that this still has not been resolved satisfactorily yet. Also, the events related to the November territorial election added to the difficulty of getting this bill to committee Members at an earlier date. So the committee then asked the government what the implications would be if the NWT did not have a complementary ordinance in place when the act was proclaimed on April 1 of this year. The government provided a number of answers to this, the most important of them being that youth would be treated differently depending on whether they were charged under a federal statute or under a territorial ordinance, and that this could mean that a youth could be subjected to a more serious procedure for a less serious offence.

Secondly, we would not be prepared to handle alternative dispositions, thus resulting in conventional treatment for young offenders here, perhaps, while they would be treated in new ways elsewhere in Canada. And thirdly, of course as I think was pointed out yesterday by the Minister, the Juvenile Delinquents Act will be repealed with the proclamation of the Young Offenders Act thus leaving a legal vacuum.

Committee Reluctant To Refer Bill To Committee Of The Whole

So taking all of these matters into account but also seeing that a thorough review was simply impossible for the committee at this time, with such brief notice, the standing committee has reluctantly agreed to refer the Young Offenders Ordinance to the committee of the whole as it stands. But I would underline the word reluctant. It is an unusual procedure and we were very reluctant to follow it. However, the committee sees this ordinance as being very important and indeed upon being questioned yesterday, the Minister of Social Services indicated that he felt our government would be irresponsible if we did not move to put something in place now.

So since it is important, the standing committee intends to do a thorough review, seeking public input, as soon as it is reasonably possible to do so. Right at the moment the thinking of the committee is that the best time might be around the middle of August when the ordinance will have been in place for a few months. It may become apparent to people who have to deal with it what some of the problems are. So, the committee could do perhaps a very thorough and effective review at that time. It certainly intends to do that. On letting the government know that, the government has readily agreed to participate in this review and has indicated that it will be very receptive to recommendations or amendments that the committee might propose. So that was the understanding on which the committee agreed to refer it to the committee of the whole. On behalf of the committee I would simply ask the Minister now to make a public commitment to the undertaking that was given in committee, namely that it will be very willing to participate in such a review and that it would be as open as possible to recommendations for amendment that may be made at that time.

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

Commitment To Future Review

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, in response to the Member, I say that I made that commitment when I appeared, on behalf of the chairman of legislation and house planning, before the committee. I made the commitment that we would give the opportunity to the standing committee on legislation to review the ordinance later and that officials from both departments of Justice and Public Services and Social Services would be made available to the committee when they schedule it for review.

In relation to this and some of the other things that the Member said, Mr. Chairman, as yet we still have not received a letter from Mr. Kaplan outlining some of the details. So I should, in order to bring Members a little bit more up to date on some of the stuff I alluded to yesterday, I will, I just have a few notes here I would like to mention.

The Department of Social Services is currently completing a Treasury Board submission for funding necessary to implement the Young Offenders Act. The submission for person years necessary to undertake planning and introduction of the act will be presented to the Financial Management Board at their next session. It is not possible to provide an accurate projection of operating costs until the Treasury Board submission is completed, the final offer from the Solicitor General is received and a response to that is prepared and also until after a period of time when we have experienced the effects of the act on judicial disposition of young offenders. I will undertake now to say that I will table at the next session of the Assembly the financial details and will be working closely with the Department of Finance throughout the negotiations with the federal Minister and Treasury Board. It should be noted that the passage of the Young Offenders Ordinance is not likely to increase the cost of the act but will facilitate the smooth implementation of the act in the Northwest Territories.

I would also like to say, Mr. Chairman, that the Government of the Northwest Territories does not want to put an emphasis on putting up capital facilities to incarcerate young offenders. We definitely wanted to emphasize programs in the communities so that judges will be able to do these community dispositions. We feel that the emphasis should be on the correction service and that is why I emphasized to Mr. Kaplan, when I was in Montreal, that our government definitely requires that the Solicitor General's department allow us to appoint single family residences in our smaller communities as open custody facilities so that we do not have to have a large expenditure for this; so that we can keep young offenders in their own community, and community dispositions can be handled that way. I do not want to have any Member think that I am underestimating the difficulty



that we are going to have in setting up programs in some of the smaller remote communities because although there are social affairs committees and social services in most of the communities, most of them are not in a position at this time to operate the type of community dispositions we would like to see in place.

Also, I think some consideration has to be given by our Executive Council, to possibly emphasize the use of the existing local government councils because, especially in the smaller communities, it would be very difficult for these different existing committees to become societies, to have the finance officers and everything which is related to operating a society, which is probably what we would have to do in order to give them the funds to operate the community dispositions. So with that I will leave the floor open now, Mr. Chairman, to Members for questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Would the committee like to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Honourable Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just by way of process I wonder, in view of the fact that it appears the committee is accepting the ordinance being put forward by the government on the proviso that it will be re-examined by the standing committee on legislation and amendments suggested thereto if required later on in the year, whether we could not rather than going clause by clause just move to adopt clauses 2 to 129 inclusive.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I do not have a question with that as long as I can ask at least one question.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Good deal!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Please proceed.

MRS. SORENSEN: I have a question concerning clause 2 on page two and it is regarding the age. In my constituency a couple of years ago the issue of the age of 16 being the age where children could leave home and the parents could not force them to come back was raised and the Department of Social Services and a lawyer and the parents who were concerned about this all got together and discussed this issue. I see now that we have moved at the federal level to changing the age from 16 to 18. Am I reading this correctly? Is that what this says, that now a child who wishes to leave home can do so at 18? They cannot do so before that without parental consent. Is that what this part means now?

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I would have to defer to my deputy minister or perhaps Mr. Orr to answer that type of question. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Orr.

MR. ORR: Mr. Chairman, the clause to which the Member for Yellowknife South is referring is for the purposes of defining a young person for the Young Offenders Ordinance alone. The only purpose for that is to make it consistent with the definition in the federal act so that the age limit being raised from 16 to 18 is relevant here only for the purpose of defining when a person will be treated as a young offender according to this quasi-criminal procedure. It does not have any direct implications on when a child might be entitled to leave home. I do not have a copy of the Child Welfare Ordinance with me but I believe it would be a matter for that ordinance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. I wonder if Mr. Butters would like to repeat his motion.

Motion To Adopt Clauses 2 To 129 Inclusive, Bill 5-84(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think I could make the motion without at all interrupting any questions that Members would have with regard to the bill in its general sense. Mr. Chairman, if I may, I move that the committee adopt clauses 2 to 129 inclusive of Bill 5-84(1), Young Offenders Ordinance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is in order. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, the copy I have only goes to 127.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Honourable Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: You are right.

MR. PEDERSEN: I now have another one. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Clause 2, paragraph (a), I wonder if I could have an explanation of that, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Perhaps Mr. Orr, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Orr.

MR. ORR: Mr. Chairman, I just want to confirm it as paragraph 2(2)(a). That clause is a copy of the provision in the federal Young Offenders Act and the purpose of it is to allow jurisdictions, including the NWT, to reduce the age limit for a young person from 18 to 17 or 16 for the period of time from April 1, 1984, when the federal act comes into force, to April 1, 1985. The policy behind that I believe is to allow provinces and the territories to have some time to gear into the new system because the current age limit for a juvenile delinquent is 16. It is a transitional provision only.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Minister, I wonder if there is any intention of this government to enact that clause of this piece of legislation or will we be considering 18 right from the day that this piece of legislation is proclaimed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It is the intention of our government to take advantage of that so that, for example, we will not have to concern ourselves for the first year with the larger volume of possible closed custody situations which might accrue to us if we were dealing with 12 to 17 year olds inclusive rather than just 12 to 15 year olds inclusive so we do not expect in this first year -- it may happen and we are prepared for the rare case that it does but we do not expect that the closed custody situation will occur with 12 to 15 year olds. There is certainly a greater likelihood of 16 and 17 year olds possibly requiring closed custody, so this gives us one year to get ready for that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Sorensen, to the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: So am I to understand that until April 1, 1985, we will consider a young offender from 12 to 15?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, we intend to basically follow the existing age for the Juvenile Delinquents Act for the next calendar year and we can do that by proclamation by the Commissioner I believe. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: So that if there is a 16 or 17 year old who is sentenced by the courts to closed custody that child will, for the next year, go directly then to one of our institutions with the adults. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes. For the next calendar year of the Young Offenders Act, taking advantage of our ordinance being enacted in this session, we would be dealing with the same age group for the next calendar year that we would under the Juvenile Delinquents Act. Those people who are 16 and older would be treated as they are right now, as adults, for the phase-in year. They would go to adult court, as they would right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 5-84(1), short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bill 5-84(1) as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bill 5-84(1) is ready for third reading. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Shall we report progress? All those in favour, let me see your hands. Down. Opposed? It is agreed. I would like to thank the witnesses.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REVERT TO ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 5-84(1), YOUNG OFFENDERS ORDINANCE

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 5-84(1), Young Offenders Ordinance, and wishes to report this bill ready for third reading.

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.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.



HON. TOM BUTTERS: May we move to third reading of other bills and then possibly to assent to bills that have been given third reading?

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Third reading of bills, Mr. McLaughlin.

REVERT TO ITEM 17: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 5-84(1): Young Offenders Ordinance

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta that Bill 5-84(1), An Ordinance Respecting Young Offenders and the Young Offenders Act (Canada), be read for the third time.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Those opposed, if any? The motion is passed.

---Carried

Bill 5-84(1) has now had third reading. Any announcements from the floor? Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to return to tabling of documents.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

REVERT TO ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I would like the opportunity to read into the record Tabled Document 33-84(1), the telex that was sent from me as Government Leader to the Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. "On behalf of the Executive Council and all the people of the NWT I would like to express our most sincere appreciation for the personal attention you have given to the NWT over the past 16 years through your numerous official and personal visits. Your interest in northern land claims, aboriginal rights, constitutional development and your meetings with the Executive Council of this government have demonstrated to all northerners your deep understanding of our needs and aspirations. We extend to you in your years ahead good health, happiness and an open and warm invitation to visit the Northwest Territories. You will always be welcome to visit our communities and canoe and camp along the northern rivers. Yours sincerely, the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Government Leader."

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Any further announcements? Before I request the Commissioner to assent to the bills and prorogue this, the first session of the 10th Assembly, I wish to invite Members, staff and the press gallery to the usual Speaker's reception after prorogation. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to assent to the bills and prorogue the session?

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly. Because of the illness of Mr. Speaker Stewart, you, sir, and Mr. James Wah-Shee have been called upon to take up his duties for part of the session. I congratulate each of you for the excellent manner in which you have conducted the business of this House.

---Applause

I am sure that all of you join me in wishing the Hon. Donald Stewart a rapid return to good health. We look forward to his presence at the next session, bringing to that session his considerable experience and wisdom. During the course of this legislative session we have learned

that the Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau intends to retire from his position as Prime Minister. Mr. Trudeau has maintained a very special interest in the Northwest Territories throughout his career and in fact before he entered public life. Your government believes that this interest has been translated into positive federal action on several fronts and in particular through his recognition of aboriginal rights and his endorsement of constitutional changes sought by Members of this House over the span of his period of leadership. I know that I am joined by Members of this House and by all of the people of the North when I extend our very best wishes for continued good health and happiness to Mr. Trudeau and his sons.

---Applause

He should feel welcome to visit the Northwest Territories to enjoy the lakes, rivers and mountains of our wonderful part of Canada and to continue his friendship and contact with our people.

ITEM 18: ASSENT TO BILLS

As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories I assent to Bills 1-84(1), 2-84(1), 3-84(1), 4-84(1), 5-84(1) and 6-84(1). It will be my pleasure to issue a proclamation, in due course, calling for a spring session of this House to convene May 9th, 1984, at a place yet to be determined.

As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories I prorogue this first session of the 10th Assembly.

---PROROGATION

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