



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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FORT SMITH, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): In accordance with section 28(1) of the Council Ordinance, I have to inform the House of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker, and request the Deputy Speaker to now take the chair.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Ms Cournoyea's Reply

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make some statements on behalf of the communities that I represent, Paulatuk, Tuk, Holman and Sachs Harbour. As a Minister, from time to time it is difficult to bring to this table some of the concerns that are in my community of interest, as our job mainly is to try and listen to the Legislative Assembly Members and try to take our concerns through the normal process. However, I feel that I must say a few things, in an attempt to bring to this Legislative Assembly the profile of the Beaufort Sea region which seems to be very important to a lot of people, even more so than we would like to admit from time to time in the press statements.

There was one concern that was addressed earlier and brought up in a previous session of the Legislative Assembly, and that is in regard to the role of the priests within the communities. I have two communities, Paulatuk and Tuk, that rely very much on the friendship of the priests who have been in those communities for many years. They have expressed one concern, that if at all possible, perhaps this Legislative Assembly could support or make a strong concern felt to whomever is responsible, that once the priest in the community has retired, there would be an attempt to replace him so that the communities would at least have someone on a continuing basis to act as a friend, as the priests have in the past in those communities. I realize that this particular issue is not really an issue of the Legislative Assembly. However, the people in the community have relied on the direction and the stability of these men in the community for many years. I probably could say that the religious following -- it does not show, you know, the support in the religious church, but at the same time, even if that does not occur, these people have spent their time and have been a friend to the communities and to the people on an ongoing basis.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: So I would like to suggest that at some point in time perhaps the Speaker or the Legislative Assembly make an attempt to give direction to the people responsible requesting that there be an ongoing attempt to have someone replacing these gentlemen when they retire.

In regard to the community of Paulatuk, the main concern of the community is the placing of the airstrip and ability to have the airstrip in a location that would be less hazardous in allowing aircraft to land. They do not have a roadway but there is a sealift once a year and the community depends very much on the reliance of aircraft. Recently there was one tragic accident and in the past there have been several others because of the way the wind is blowing across the airstrip. That particular airstrip has been delayed now for four years, continuously, and it is felt that the safety of the community very much warrants the fact that an airstrip be constructed as soon as possible as a priority of this government. In regard to the nursing station in that community, that also is a project that has been continually delayed and as a result of the recent accident it is more profound in the minds of the community that there is an urgent need to have a nursing station in that community. I understand it is one of four communities in the entire area and the entire NWT, that does not have a nursing station.

I would like to say just for the interest of the Members here, for the last four years I imagine that you have all heard me talking about impact funding for the community of Tuk, mainly because it has been an impacted community. As well, I do have a concern that the issues around impact funding for communities have not been addressed, but recently the Executive Council had finally received the proposal and have decided that perhaps it is time to move on it. But I hope it will not be too late and all the companies will not be gone by the time we deal with that issue.

In terms of Sachs Harbour, one concern that the community has is that of recreation. The recreation facilities are not available within the school. Recently a new building was erected in that community. The problem was that the community had to accept late architectural plans which had a play area that was approximately eight feet short of being good for anything in any type of competition. The hope is that that will be rectified so it could be a place where people can do their workouts and take part in recreational activities in the other communities and become competitive.

The problem in the communities of Holman, Paulatuk and Sachs is that for a number of years there have been no housing projects initiated there. That is a serious concern that they have, and their wish is that that will be addressed in the near future.

#### Culture And Tradition

I would like to attempt to talk a bit about culture and tradition. We can all probably agree that the subject is never-ending and probably the most difficult to express, yet it seems that it is culture and tradition that build strength and mark the soul of men and women. I feel that when there is a sense of cultural loss and a struggle to build, the issue is tender and should be treated with care, and when culture is alive and well, care should also be taken in an attempt not to lessen the value of such strength. Of course, history shows that wars have been fought by people and nations who believe that they have a right to live their own lifestyles with their beliefs, with their language, and with their own identity. Within the NWT I have the basic belief that the Dene culture has not been treated very kindly, nor with much respect, by the decision makers of the past. I do not believe there is much need to dwell on past history, as it is well told by the Dene themselves. What we must do now is to be committed to move ahead in a positive, supportive manner with the workers who are making an attempt to rescue themselves and their culture. The Inuit culture probably has been treated somewhat better, and the simple reason for this is that interference has not been as intense. Some learned people say the remoteness is the cause, the harsh climate, and then recently, no trees; that is what minimized the interference. The Beaufort Sea communities, the Inuvialuit, have not fared as well and we have had many visitors in great numbers and groups and sometimes they have left a not too pleasant mark on our own society. But I would like to say, and I would like to tell this Legislative Assembly that the Inuvialuit are alive, they are well, their belief in a strong cultural identity is not lost and there is no intention of selling nor allowing steps to be taken to sell the rights that belong to the Inuvialuit.

The Government of the Northwest Territories has made a very positive step in regard to the Inuvialuit and their land claims and their land rights settlement. I would like to, at this time, express my gratitude for the approach and manner in which the NWT government carried out their

responsibility in often difficult situations. I believe this government has acted in a positive and constructive manner and it has assisted, instead of trying to frustrate and delay. I believe this government has recognized the difference between an integration approach as opposed to an assimilation approach. It would probably do well for the government of the day to the West to take up the example.

Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned about some of the glaring misconceptions that exist within Canadian society about Inuvialuit, of their past, the present, and what their intentions are to secure the future. I admit at times it is an amazement to me what people are willing to believe or to write. Mr. Speaker, there is a limit to what can be tolerated. I strongly object to recent statements that have been made and spread across the country attacking the dignity of Inuit culture. Recently the story of statements that it is part of Inuit culture for Inuit males to molest and sexually use young girls is an ultimate insult to Inuit: Mr. Speaker, it is not part of Inuit culture. It is not true. The very high profile the media gave this story is unfair and takes advantage of a situation that Inuit will have to live with and explain for a long time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 2, Members' replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 13: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Method Of Making Appointments To NWT Housing Corporation Board Of Directors

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to respond to some criticisms which were made in the House yesterday by the honourable Member for Slave River over the method of this House making appointments to fill vacancies on the NWT Housing Corporation board of directors. Since you ruled yesterday that comments on the method of appointments would be out of order in considering my motion, I would like to make it clear to this House, the procedure that was followed in consulting all Members of this House on these appointments.

First the chairman of the corporation board of directors, on my instructions, wrote to each Member for nominations. Then, from those nominations, I recommended six names to the Members of this House who met in caucus yesterday morning, balancing as best I could the experience and regional representation of the nominees. Appointments are not made on a constituency basis. To do so would require a 24 member board of the Housing Corporation. My recommendations to caucus were discussed fully by the caucus, and in fact, one change was made on the advice of the caucus Members. I believe, where appointments are required to be made by this Assembly, it is incumbent on the Minister to seek recommendations from all Members, develop a short list which is as representative as possible, and then seek final approval from the Members in caucus before advancing a formal motion in the House. I feel it is most appropriate that these kinds of discussions involving judgments on who is best qualified, are most properly held in caucus outside the public view so that there would be open and frank discussions without the possibility of public embarrassment to the nominees. If the honourable Member for Slave River had been present during the caucus discussions of these appointments, his concerns would have been considered by caucus. I trust this clarifies the procedures which we presently follow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Curley.

Minister's Statement On Rising Interest Rates

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to make a statement on the role of the government on interest rates, as I said I would to the Member for Slave River.

Mr. Speaker, on April 1, 1984, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism lowered to 14 per cent the interest rate on all business loan fund loans that were originally issued at rates of 14 to 22 per cent and 79 businesses benefited from this rate reduction. The interest rates on these 79 loans will continue to be frozen at 14 per cent for the terms of the loans even if prevailing lending rates rise beyond this level. As far as new loans are concerned, our present policy ties us to the interest rate being charged by the Federal Business Development Bank. FBDB rates fluctuate with current market conditions and are rising presently, thus our business loan fund rates are on the rise as well.

The Department of Economic Development plans to introduce changes to the Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance this fall which will divorce our interest rates from the Federal Business Development Bank. None the less, our rates for new loans will still have to be set at market levels. Otherwise business clients who can obtain financing from conventional commercial lenders would tend to seek financing from us and the business loan fund would soon be exhausted. The new ordinance will contain provisions to allow businesses to renegotiate their loans if interest rates drop. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I feel that that should have been a return to Mr. McCallum's oral Question 24-84(2), and not as a Minister's statement under Item 3. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Butters.

Minister's Statement On Air Transport Committee Community Hearings

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the Commissioner during his opening remarks indicated that it appeared now that there would be community hearings of the Air Transport Committee throughout the Northwest Territories this summer. I have a tentative schedule which I would like to provide Members as part of a statement, and I will read it off and the MLAs who are interested in appearing at these hearings might take note. Again, I would warn the House Members that it is still very tentative but we are looking at a commencement of the community hearings at Rankin Inlet on June the 18th at the hotel; Baker Lake on June the 19th at the community hall; Spence Bay on June the 20th at the school gym; Coppermine on June the 21st at the recreation complex; Fort Smith on June the 25th at the town council chambers; Fort Simpson on June the 26th at the community hall; Inuvik on June the 29th at the council chambers; Frobisher Bay on July the 26th at the Discovery Lodge; Pangnirtung on July 27th at the school gym and Great Whale River on July 23rd, I do not have any location for that meeting. It is expected that the Government of the Northwest Territories will be making a presentation at one of those hearings. As yet, the Executive Council has not considered the position, but that would be my expectation, Mr. Speaker.

Minister's Statement On NorthwesTel Hearings

While I am on my feet, I have one other brief announcement too, with regard to hearings. NorthwesTel will be holding its review in Whitehorse and the best we could obtain from the CRTC was that they would hold one regional hearing in the Northwest Territories on the evening of June 7, 1984, in the Katimavik B in Yellowknife.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Nerysoo.

Minister's Statement On New Civil Claims Rules

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that as of June 11, 1984, new civil claims rules will be in effect in the Northwest Territories. The new rules will raise the jurisdiction of the territorial courts for small debt matters from \$500 to \$3000. It will therefore now be easier and cheaper for people to use the courts for actions arising out of disputes pertaining to goods and services. The new civil claims rules greatly simplify the procedure in court. Simpler forms and documents will be put into effect so that litigants can use the courts without the need of retaining a lawyer in every case. The new forms will be more convenient and could be mailed to the courts rather than requiring personal attendance. The rules provide for uncontested cases to be dealt with by mail. For contested matters, the court will hold proceedings in various communities during court circuit. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are finally able to respond to the direction of this House to raise the small debt limit to \$3000. The present limit of \$500 was set as far back as the 1940s and it was high time that the limit was revised.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 3, Ministers' statements. That appears to conclude Item 3. Item 4, oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 38-84(2): Policy Re Ordering Supplies For Construction Of Housing Corporation Homes

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Is there a policy or procedure used to determine where lumber or other supplies are purchased for the construction of homes, and if so what is this policy and procedure?



MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 38-84(2): Policy Re Ordering Supplies For Construction Of Housing Corporation Homes

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no policy per se. When the Housing Corporation tenders its contracts we leave it up to the individual contractors to locate their suppliers. We do encourage our contractors to use northern suppliers; however, we cannot insist on this. We have a policy now, whereby in terms of lumber requirements for the Housing Corporation, we will accept air-dried lumber, which therefore means that, for example, the Fort Resolution sawmill can provide the lumber to individual contractors for use in Housing Corporation houses. However, per se, we have no policy but we do encourage the use of northern supplies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

Supplementary To Question 38-84(2): Policy Re Ordering Supplies For Construction Of Housing Corporation Homes

MRS. LAWRENCE: Supplementary question then. Are you saying that it has to be kiln dried before they purchase the lumber, or it does not necessarily have to go through the process of kiln drying?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Further Return To Question 38-84(2): Policy Re Ordering Supplies For Construction Of Housing Corporation Homes

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, the lumber does not have to be kiln dried. Air-dried lumber is sufficient as long as it is -- I think it is less than 19 per cent moisture content. I think around 15 per cent is adequate, which the Fort Res sawmill is now meeting, as far as I understand. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Ballantyne.

Question 39-84(2): Employment For University Students

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader who is responsible for Personnel. The question is concerning returning university students, and this was brought up during the budget session -- the concern of some Members about finding some jobs for returning university students. I wonder, has the Government Leader been monitoring the efforts of the staff in this regard and what success are we having with fitting the young returning university students to jobs?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that question as notice and come back with a detailed answer and written reply to the honourable Member. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 40-84(2): Yellowknife Education Districts No. 1 And No. 4

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education. Could I ask the Minister for an update on actions that may have been taken to deal with the request of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 and Yellowknife Education District No. 4, that responsibility for kindergarten through grade 12 be placed under the jurisdiction of Yellowknife Education District No. 1? I know that request has been formally made, I know the Minister indicated it would be looked at. Could the Minister tell me where that is at now?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 40-84(2): Yellowknife Education Districts No. 1 And No. 4

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am aware of the request and I have asked my deputy minister to meet with the school boards and the society to discuss that issue. Unfortunately, due to other commitments that he has had, he has not yet had an opportunity to meet with the local education authorities, but I can assure the Member that this meeting will take place before the end of this school year. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 41-84(2): Liquor Outlets In Yellowknife

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Government Services. Could the Minister explain for me and some of the citizens of Yellowknife: While the GNWT summoned proposals for two liquor outlets in the city of Yellowknife and took some time in holding preproposal meetings to explain the proposals and so on, received nine or 10 proposals -- I do not know exactly what the number was -- and yet after all of that, the expense on the part of the government and the expense on the part of those who made the proposals, the government decided that it would not establish two liquor distribution systems in Yellowknife, that it would only establish one and, more than that, did not accept any of the proposals that people had put in. Could I please have an explanation on that?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 41-84(2): Liquor Outlets In Yellowknife

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Member for giving me notice yesterday of his intent to raise this issue today. The reason that all aspects of the proposals of the 10 proponents were rejected was because it was not financially feasible to place two stores in that community. In the Canadian experience two stores would be suitable for a town, of say, 40,000 people. The government was responding to suggestions, when we made this proposal, of the previous Members of this House and their suggestion was at that time that possibly when the new contract was put out for tender or renegotiated that it be examined in the light of a second store. That was the reason that the proposal was made.

I would point out, that as a result of Mr. MacQuarrie's interest in this matter of not only the past day or so but of the past three or four weeks, I did take the matter back to the Executive Council to look at the situation with regard to maybe compensating some of the proponents for the work they had done in making the proposal. The Executive Council during that review which took place two weeks ago reconfirmed its earlier decision that none of the proposals be accepted and that no payments be made to proponents who submitted competent proposals. This was a difficult decision to make but it was decided after consideration and after the extensive experience of the Department of Public Works which has dealt with such proposals and tenders for many government requirements and contracts. It was noted that while this department handles many such submissions it has never authorized such payments to proponents in the past. The Executive Council therefore, decided that such payments should be avoided since the contracting party, government or otherwise, must maintain the option of accepting none of the bids or proposals received in response to particular tender calls. This situation is generally recognized as one of the ordinary risks of doing business on the part of contractors and proponents.

I think the Member is aware that we have sought or are seeking proposals again for one store in Yellowknife and that request, I think, has now been made public -- again with the proviso that government, in requesting such proposal, reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. Now, the reason we are seeking a proposal on this occasion is that we do not have the specifics of the location or the type of outlet which we are seeking and because of that we are calling for proposals for a contractor that would cover either five or 10 years. This would then permit us to examine a proposal which is submitted on the basis of a leased premises or a proposal that is submitted on the basis of an erected premises.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 41-84(2): Liquor Outlets In Yellowknife

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I ask the Minister whether he does not feel that there is a significant element of unfairness in all of this? The statement is made that the experience is, in other jurisdictions, that you have only one distribution outlet for every so many population, but surely the government ought to have known that before they asked for proposals for two outlets. So you had a number of people, including one of my constituents, who went to a lot of work, took a lot of time and spent, I believe, close to \$8000 to prepare a proposal in good faith, only to find that the government was not going to do what it publicly said it would do. So he is out that money and is in a situation where, if the decision had been made last month, he could have gone ahead because he had an option on a building. He has not got that option any more, so he has lost the chance of putting in a subsequent proposal. So I just ask the Minister, would he reconsider again whether there cannot be some element of compensation in cases like that?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Butters.

Further Return To Question 41-84(2): Liquor Outlets In Yellowknife

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Member has identified, without naming, the same individual that I spoke of with regard to the matter. The amount spent, as I recollect it to be, was between \$5000 and \$6000, which is a considerable amount of money. My expectation would be that the 10 proponents who did submit proposals can use the information that they put together in developing their proposals, to make a realistic and comprehensive proposal on the single store without much additional cost.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. McCallum.

Question 42-84(2): Economic Advisory Council Members

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to ask of the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. In light of the announced members of the economic advisory council and because of the presence here in Smith of considerable expertise in business matters, may I ask the Minister his intentions to a) increase the size of the EAC or b) to stagger the appointments on a yearly basis to allow for appointments next year or c) if he would commit the next opening on that board to Fort Smith?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 42-84(2): Economic Advisory Council Members

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to assure the Member, as he knows, that I had a request specifically as well from the Chamber of Commerce this morning. I think for the record, I would like to state to the House and to the Member that the government is always in a position to assess and review the action that it has taken, and I assured the Chamber of Commerce this morning that we will be doing the same thing at this time. I urged the Chamber of Commerce to make presentations to me and to seek justification for -- if indeed we have to increase the business council, that we would have some substantial reasons for doing so. So I would like to be a bit flexible on that at this time, but I probably will not be making any commitment or statement further until the business council has got together and maybe had an opportunity to comment on the various areas that do lack representation in the Territories. I will, again, indicate to him that I, as a Minister, will also be assessing that and hopefully I will be hearing from the Chamber of Commerce directly, by way of letter, in the near future on the whole situation. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. At this time I would like to recognize Mrs. Whelly's and Mrs. Moskal's grade four class in the gallery.

---Applause

Supplementary To Question 42-84(2): Economic Advisory Council Members

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, just a supplementary on it then. I take it that the Minister is indicating that he will answer those questions as to his direction in that review possibly at the next sitting, in our winter sitting, in November or the late fall.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

Further Return To Question 42-84(2): Economic Advisory Council Members

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, what I said was, the business council will be sitting some time next month. Their first meeting is scheduled for around June the 9th and 10th, somewhere in that area. So I will be bringing the matter before them and hope to seek some consensus from them as well. As you know, the business council is -- as far as the appointments are concerned, the Executive Council is an appropriate body that would actually, if need be, increase the size of the membership on that board. So by then, before June, I would be hoping to communicate with the Chamber of Commerce more formally and see whether or not we would be justified in adding an additional member to the business council. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Any further oral questions? Item 4, Mr. McCallum.

Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister of Local Government, or, in this instance it is for culture and recreation. Can and will the Minister apprise me of the status of the Fort Smith friendship centre's request of the government and his department, for financial assistance?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I was in Fort Smith a number of weeks ago and during my visit, had a meeting with the town council, the band council and the friendship centre, or the group interested in obtaining funds to build a new friendship centre in Fort Smith. The Government of the Northwest Territories does not have a program to fund friendship centres and on my trip there was certainly no commitment on my part to change this or to develop a policy on funding friendship centres. Friendship centres are a federal Secretary of State program. What I did say during my visit, is that the Government of the Northwest Territories has a policy and a program with very limited funds, \$250,000 this year to be exact, to fund additional recreational facilities throughout the North. Each of the municipalities in the North during a five year period is entitled to a grant for additional facilities such as arenas and curling rinks.

The town of Fort Smith, as such, is entitled to certain capital grants under this program. What I stated was that if all major groups in Fort Smith; the band, the friendship centre, the Metis Association and the town, if the town of Fort Smith is prepared to give up part of its grant entitled and have it go toward a friendship centre, then I would be prepared to take it to the Executive Council, recognizing that at this level it still could be turned down. So to this date I am waiting to hear from all of the major groups that I mentioned to hear definitely if they are all united and agreeable on the friendship centre getting what funds may be normally available to the town of Fort Smith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary on that. I recognize what has occurred with the Minister in his visit here and I recognize that what he had indicated and said. It is my understanding that by formal motion at a town council meeting that the town council has done exactly what you said. I would expect that that has been transmitted to you and that occurred some time ago. Now, what I would like to know, is the Minister saying that he has not had that given to him by motion? If he has had it, then obviously the next question that comes, has he taken this particular request to the Executive Council? If he has not, when does he intend to do so?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Return To Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have not taken the matter to the Executive Council as yet. I appreciate that in Fort Smith, the town of Fort Smith proper is the most significant body, particularly for my Department of Local Government. In considering an issue like this, I was hoping to actually get the views of other groups in town. I consider the band council in Fort Smith of significance, I also consider the Metis Association of some significance and likewise the friendship centre. So whereas I did receive the motion that the Member referred to from the town of Fort Smith, I am still actually waiting for the other groups to see precisely what they think. I do understand there is some difference of opinion in regard to whether the friendship centre ought to be funded by our government, whether they ought to get the money that would normally have been available to the town. So it is this that I am waiting for.

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

Supplementary To Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, yes, I have a second supplementary. I have to bring to the Minister's attention that neither the band council nor the Metis council in whatever form it now is, have access to the kind of funds that the town council has access to and that the town council, by regular motion, has approved to give assistance to the friendship centre. So it may be in the Minister's interest to ascertain some viewpoint of these two bodies because neither one of those two bodies have any access under the assistance fund or policy or program that he had referred to. So I would suggest that it may be very nice to get an opinion from them, but certainly as the Minister of Local Government, he must deal with the municipal government. If the municipal government had indicated an acceptance of this proposal, then I suggest it is up to the Minister to proceed forthwith with that particular request. I do not understand the reluctance to do so.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Return To Question 43-84(2): Financial Assistance For Fort Smith Friendship Centre

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, again I wish to reiterate that certainly, what the town of Fort Smith says is of the utmost importance in an issue like this, and their position will be weighed very heavily in my department's decision in this matter. All I was indicating is that there are other groups here in Fort Smith and I do pay my due respects to the band council here and the Metis Association here. Obviously the friendship group is a very important group here in town. All I was trying to do was get consensus, if at all possible, from all organizations in Smith here, as to a major facility like the friendship centre. As I said, I have received the position of the town, but when I was here a number of weeks ago, there was not clear consensus by all the groups here in town as to whether the friendship centre ought to get the money that it is requesting from our government. So I will take what the Member has said as good advice. I will, in the short time remaining here, talk to all of the groups. I finish today with the band council and hopefully before I leave here, will get a good indication of what the town and other major organizations think. So I promise the Member that I will take the matter before the Executive Council in the very near future.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 44-84(2): Financial Assistance For Chronic Care

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Minister, at the winter session a motion that I had introduced was carried and it urged the government to alter regulations to ensure the families that were being charged for members in that family who required chronic care in institutions -- they were being required to continue to pay for those children beyond the age of majority right through until the time of his old age pension, as a matter of fact, and the motion asked that they be relieved of that unreasonable burden beyond the age of majority. So could I ask the Minister what has happened on that matter until now? We would have required a change in regulations; is the Minister looking into that?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 44-84(2): Financial Assistance For Chronic Care

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to tell the Member for Yellowknife Centre that I have taken this issue to the Executive Council and they have asked my department to do a little bit more work in the area, as to how many people who presently are not in the program might become involved in the program if the co-payment was not there. My department is trying to find that information out now. So it is an active item for the Executive Council and we will be going back before them again for a final decision on that. So I have brought it forward and hope to have that resolved in the next month or so.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Appaqaq.

Question 45-84(2): Ministry Of Transport Meetings

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to find out from the Minister of Transport, because there are meetings in Fort Chimo and Great Whale River, and I was wondering if this is true, or I was wondering if they are going to send somebody from Sanikiluaq north to this meeting.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of any of the details surrounding any of these community meetings. I just gave to the House information that had been provided to me in the last couple of days. I could look into the Member's question and see if I could answer it tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Appaqaq.

Question 46-84(2): Housing Contracts In Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of the Housing Corporation, in February I brought up the subject on the housing association concern about the contractors building houses and renovations of the houses. I have asked them who will be contracting, who was going to be contracting or who they were going to be employing but they still did not know. I was wondering if he knows anything about this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 46-84(2): Housing Contracts In Sanikiluaq

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At present I do not know. Most of the contracts have been tendered, some have been awarded and some have not. Sanikiluaq has not been awarded. However, I should know within the next week to 10 days and I will advise the Member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 47-84(2): Thebacha College Library Resource Centre

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have several complaints from students of Tu Nedhe about the facilities in our college and library. Is there anything being done about this library? This is to the Minister of Education.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson, did you get the question? Would you proceed?

Return To Question 47-84(2): Thebacha College Library Resource Centre

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have given a lot of attention to the problem of the library and the resource centre since I came to Fort Smith because I am pleased that it is a concern of the student council and the Chamber of Commerce and others. In my view the main current problem is not one of facility, I think the present space is adequate for the short-term needs at least, provided that shelving is constructed and provided we can get on with the job of cataloguing the materials that we have. I believe that we can move ahead in the job of cataloguing, partly because I have been able to make one additional position available to the

library. It should be filled shortly and will allow the librarian some assistance in getting the books catalogued so that the library can be used by students. I have also been able to provide an additional \$75,000 over the present \$50,000 library budget to allow for the purchase of new books.

In addition to those measures, I believe that we have to consolidate all the books that are now scattered throughout the college facilities, in the college programs and locate them in the library so that there will be one central place and better control over the books than we have now because presently each program maintains its own library facilities. Also, I am looking at consolidating the regional government's resource centre and its government material and publications with the Thebacha College library. It seems to me that we should look seriously at pooling those resources and requiring government staff who need to do research, to use the college library rather than having two resource centres located in the same town. And finally, as to the long-range requirements for a fully equipped resource centre; that has been addressed in the strategic plan which is being developed by the board of governors, which the Executive Council will be considering in July and we will be then making long-range plans for development of a proper resource facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Any more oral questions under Item 4? Mr. Erkloo.

Question 48-84(2): Minister Of Economic Development Visiting Baffin Region

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Curley. You have just become a Minister and I know you have a lot of work to do and you still have the responsibility of your constituency. There is a Chamber of Commerce in that area, and I think or I know you have been working very hard for the Keewatin Region. So I was wondering when you could start visiting around the Baffin area. I am asking this question because the Minister of Local Government had a chance to visit the Baffin communities and it was a very helpful thing when he came around. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 48-84(2): Minister Of Economic Development Visiting Baffin Region

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He was saying that I was working very well with Keewatin people. I have to work with those people very well because I am elected from there. We had a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce. They have an annual meeting and we were invited to come to this meeting. Just the other day I was invited to Baffin and I could not go because it was stormy. I would like to go to the Baffin area, and if there is any kind of meeting or Chamber of Commerce meeting in Elijah's constituency, I would like to go, but right now I will be going to the Central Arctic at the end of this month. Then I think I am going to have a tight schedule in the summertime, but I think that it would be better if I went to the Baffin area in the fall. I would like to let Elijah know that if there is any kind of meeting, I would like to go to it. Around July I will be visiting Resolute Bay. The Minister of the Environment is going to be opening the park in that area. I think the people in the Baffin area are very busy in the summertime, and so I would rather go in the fall.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

Question 49-84(2): Alcohol And Drug Abuse Legislation

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Government Leader, in regard to the alcohol and drug addiction in the Baffin Region and in the whole of the Territories. In the past few years when the ADCC have had meetings everywhere in the North, they always mention this problem, and whenever there is a major conference this problem has always come up. In this area there is no legislation for the Territories and I think it will continue to be a problem. We know that it is used and it is a well-hidden problem. In the smaller communities this is a major concern for the older Inuit and for the younger children because there is no legislation in regard to this problem. Have you ever considered legislation to this effect?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 49-84(2): Alcohol And Drug Abuse Legislation

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to indicate that I have not considered any legislation to date. However, the issue that the honourable Member raises is one that has received considerable discussion over the past few years and in fact, was a major item at the Baffin Regional Council meeting that was recently held. With the kinds of requests that are being brought forward, I certainly could review and consider what the possibilities might be. That would not suggest to the Member, though, that any legislation would be put in place, just a review to see what the situation might be. If it is possible, then that could be considered, but I believe that a review ought to take place prior to any consideration for legislation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 50-84(2): Hall For Hay River Reserve

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will use my own language. This is to the Minister of Local Government. (Translation) In 1986 we planned to finish a community hall, but they told me that they were going to try to build a multipurpose hall instead. In 1988, that is when they think that the multipurpose hall will be up. That is why Hay River phoned me and said they would like for next fall if they could have that school finished by then and after that we would probably start a multipurpose hall. That is our main concern, as that is what the Hay River reserve does not have, a hall for kids to play in, and that is the reason why if they hurried this up I would appreciate it very much. That is why I am saying this, on behalf of the Hay River reserve. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mahsi cho, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 50-84(2): Hall For Hay River Reserve

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gargan at the last session raised a lot of questions, and I believe was successful in convincing the government of the need for a multipurpose hall in Providence. Now he is wanting a multipurpose hall for Hay River. I think each MLA should just get one during the course of four years.

---Laughter

I will definitely take what he says as good advice and will consider what he has said and see what we can do. I should warn him, though, that there is just very limited money for multipurpose halls in the North and we must treat all parts of the North equally.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 50-84(2): Hall For Hay River Reserve

MR. GARGAN: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to talk to Local Government. The reason why I say it is because Hay River keeps writing to me and reminding me, even though I promised them that during this session I would say something. That is why I brought it up. Maybe now the Minister can write to Hay River and explain to them why there has to be a delay.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Return To Question 50-84(2): Hall For Hay River Reserve

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: (Translation) Thank you for what you are asking. I will examine the proposals and if we cannot accomplish it by 1988, and the other communities throughout the North are requesting things and -- thank you for telling me what you have. I want to help you but it is almost impossible because we have not got that much money. But I will send a letter to the people in Hay River.



MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Appaqaq.

Question 51-84(2): Relaxing Laws In Licensed Dining Rooms

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is going to be directed to Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Government Leader. When I was in Frobisher Bay last month in April, the Inuit association told me that the government has made an agreement in regard to restaurants -- not bars -- dining halls -- that the law has been relaxed and anybody can go into a licensed dining room and get drinks without making a requirement for them to have a meal. This gave us some concern especially by Inuit organizations. Is this true?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I will take that as notice and provide an answer tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I am going to have to ask your indulgence. I am not sure whether I am doing this properly or not and I recognize that under Rule 29 of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly, that I should raise a question of privilege at the moment it goes on. I wonder if you could determine whether I would be able to raise a point of privilege in relation to the statement of the Minister of Housing earlier today. I recognize that our rule states that I should draw attention on a matter of privilege as quickly after that as possible. I say this, Mr. Speaker, because yesterday in the debate on the motion that was presented to name members to the Housing Corporation board, the Minister did not participate in the debate at all. I made a statement, the Speaker at the time ruled on it, the Minister did not talk or speak to his motion. Rather he chose today, under the orders of the day, in Ministers' statements, to make reference to a motion that was passed yesterday.

I want to know from you, sir, how I get any kind of rebuttal to that because there is nothing that we have here in our rules that allows that. There is nothing under tabled documents, and if the Minister was reading from a prepared statement I would think he would have tabled that statement, but there is nothing in our rules that deals with tabled documents. So I wonder whether you could inform me, Mr. Speaker, when I would be able to rebut the Minister's statement wherein he made reference to what I was saying yesterday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum, in regard to the concern that you raised, the Chair will take the matter under advisement, and I will rule on the matter before the sitting day is over. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 52-84(2): Increase In GIS For Old Age Pensioners

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is addressed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. It is again with regard to the supplementary old age pension. I believe that the Minister indicated that the federal government was going to increase the GIS, guaranteed income supplement. I wanted to ask the Minister whether you know how soon that increase with the federal program would actually start. When is it effective?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: As far as I recollect, the increase was going to be effective this April, or maybe the announcement was made this April. I will find out for the Member exactly which month the increase was supposed to start in and get back to him. So I will take that as notice, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 52-84(2): Increase In GIS For Old Age Pensioners

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister consider other options if the federal government does not take action in increasing the old age supplement?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 52-84(2): Increase In GIS For Old Age Pensioners

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. If the government does not take action on the \$100 item which they announced in their budget, I will be taking the issue to the Executive Council. I expect that if the federal government has not started the \$50 a month already, they certainly will immediately before the upcoming federal election.

---Laughter

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I believe Mr. McLaughlin has some inside information that we are not aware of. Mr. Gargan, supplementary.

Question 53-84(2): Vehicles For Senior Citizens Homes

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a supplementary question, but it is to the same Minister. Again it is with regard to the motion that was passed requesting the mandate of the Department of Social Services to include provision for operations and maintenance of vehicles for senior citizens homes in the communities that have no other means of provision for such service. I would like to ask the Minister whether this has been brought to the Executive's attention as far as broadening the mandate of Social Services and when that would be in effect.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 53-84(2): Vehicles For Senior Citizens Homes

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, no, I have not taken that issue to the Executive Council. I have had the department seeing what they can do, and as I outlined the other day, the only area where we have identified we could help, would be possibly aiding local service groups who are making contributions themselves. In other words, if a local service group makes a vehicle available, we might help with the maintenance or the insurance as part of our contribution, but we do not have the funds or a program in existence to provide the full costs of vehicular services to old age residences, and in fact those residences are owned and operated by the NWT Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 53-84(2): Vehicles For Senior Citizens Homes

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a supplementary to the question, I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services -- that kind of informal arrangement is probably adequate in communities such as Yellowknife where the population is large enough to support effective service groups. However, in the case of smaller communities with a limited population and resource base, I feel that this is unreasonable to expect that local service groups should support the operation and maintenance of vehicles for a senior citizens home. I am requesting, again referring to the motion, that Social Services make provisions in their regulations or their ordinance so that provisions could be provided for cases where they cannot afford to have such services.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Further Return To Question 53-84(2): Vehicles For Senior Citizens Homes

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only commitment I can make is that I will be going back to the department and will take the issue to the Executive Council and I will let the Member and other Members know what decision is made by the Executive Council on this matter. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 54-84(2): Moneys Owing To Subcontractors Of Stuart M. Hodgson Building

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Public Works. It appears that one or more subcontractors are having trouble getting their money from the general contractor -- a southern company, I might add -- that built the Stuart M. Hodgson Building. That is

the new computer building in Yellowknife. I know one subcontractor that is owed something close to \$200,000. I would ask the Minister whether any of the blame for this kind of difficulty might lie with our government. Has our government held sufficient moneys back on the contract to make sure that subcontractors would be covered, and had it received signed affidavits from the major contractor indicating that subcontractors had been paid?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 54-84(2): Moneys Owing To Subcontractors Of Stuart M. Hodgson Building

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for giving me notice of this question. In answer to the Member's question, yes, the Department of Public Works did have enough funds held back to cover the cost to the subcontractors, but I will just explain what happens so that the Member is aware of the chronological order.

At the beginning of February the department was notified that the subcontractors did in fact owe money to other subcontractors and to certain suppliers in Yellowknife. Then at the end of February Public Works was notified by the major subcontractor that the general contractor had not paid him and therefore he could not pay his suppliers. At that date the subcontractor was owed \$218,000 by the general contractor. The Department of Public Works had to hold back at the time, one amount for \$222,000 and one for \$196,000, which is sufficient to cover the amount outstanding to the subcontractor. At the end of March, the \$196,000 holdback, which is a statutory holdback of five per cent on the total cost of the contract, was released. However, we still had the \$222,000. Through the whole process our lawyers have maintained a continuous liaison with the general contractor and the subcontractors, and as matters stand today the lawyers for both companies either have, or are in the process of reaching an agreement of outstanding debts with simultaneous removal of liens from the state of the general contractor. So in a very short way, yes, we did have enough money left over as holdback to cover the costs to the subcontractor. Now, we did maintain liaison with both contractors throughout but it was about a month after the subcontractor ran into difficulty that we found out, and once we did we made sure that the subcontractor was paid out of what was held back. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Any further oral questions? Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 55-84(2): THIS Board

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes, one further question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Health and Social Services. During the budget session the Minister had indicated that at some point an amendment would be made to the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance in order to get rid of the THIS board, which seems to be redundant in the present situation. Could I ask the Minister when we will see such legislation?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 55-84(2): THIS Board

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for giving me notice on this. At the present time the schedule for this legislation to be dealt with and completed by the Department of Public Services, is 1985, in the spring or fall session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today. Item 5, written questions. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 56-84(2): Post Office, Resolute Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Government Leader. There is a post office at MOT section in Resolute Bay and it is about seven miles away from the Inuit community. I wonder if the Government Leader could ask the post office people in Resolute to have the post office located in the community. Would you please reply? Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Written questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 57-84(2): Rent Rates At Igloolik

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Gordon Wray. There are two letters here that are enclosed in this question. (Translation ends) The public housing rental rate in Igloolik has been increased at the rate of every three months at the request of the Housing Corporation in Frobisher Bay, to bring the rent rates in line with the rates charged for government staff housing. However, the Housing Corporation has levied an increase before the three months were up at one point this year.

I have two questions for the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation: 1) What is the purpose of increasing the rent rates to the level of government staff housing? 2) Why had they increased the rates before the three months were up at one point during the year? Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. Item 5, written questions. Item 6, returns. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 6-84(2): Housing Units Number And Location

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the requests from the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre for information on the NWT Housing Corporation's capital program for 1984-85, Question 6-84(2), I am pleased to provide the details attached to this return.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Returns. Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 37-84(2): School Fence At Cape Dorset

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to the question asked by Mr. Arlooktoo, May 14th, 1984, Question 37-84(2), regarding school fence, Cape Dorset. I have asked the Baffin regional superintendent to provide me with an estimate of the cost of a fence for the school ground at Cape Dorset. When we receive this estimate, I will attempt to find the money this year. Failing that, I am quite confident that the necessary funds can be put in the capital plan for next year.

Return To Question 32-84(2): Funding For Pangnirtung School

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I have another return to oral Question 32-84(2), asked by Mr. Paniloo, May 11th, 1984, concerning a Pangnirtung cultural program. Pangnirtung cultural inclusion funds have been reduced this year because the regional Education office, in consultation with the local education authority, wish to use the funds to hire more teachers. One new teacher will be hired in Pangnirtung in the coming year. Also, I have been able to allocate new teaching positions in the Baffin Region as a result of increased enrolments. One of these new teaching positions will be used to establish two new classroom assistant positions in Pangnirtung for the coming year. This should help to compensate for the federal LEAP funding which has run out this year. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Any further returns? Item 7, petitions. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Standing Committee On Public Accounts

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to present the first report of your standing committee on public accounts. The standing committee on public accounts met in Yellowknife, April 25th, 26th and 27th to review the following documents: Auditor General's Report on Any Other Matter for the Year Ended March 31st, 1983; Territorial Accounts for the Year Ended March 31st, 1983; and Territorial Government Response to the Public Accounts Committee Recommendations Concerning the Financial Information System Project and Other Major Projects. Five Members were in

attendance. Witnesses appeared representing the territorial government and the Auditor General's office. The proceedings were held in public with members of the press present for most of the review. A full transcript of the proceedings will be made available to the public and will be sent to all Members of the Legislature.

#### Background

The review of the documents, "Any Other Matter" and "Territorial Accounts" will take place each year on or about late March or April, following the winter session of the Legislature. Although these documents are available in late fall, a review is not possible at that time because the standing committee on finance is busy with the main estimates. Members will recall that the public accounts committee and the finance committee are one and the same. A full review of these audit reports in the public accounts committee reduces the time spent in formal session or committee of the whole. However, Members of the Legislature always have the right to question any information contained in these documents during any sitting of the Legislature once the information has been tabled.

The standing committee on public accounts began each review with an overview of the documents provided by the deputy Auditor General and/or the witness representing the GNWT. Members then had an opportunity to question both the auditors and the government on any issue. In addition, the auditors provided the committee Members with an overview and explanation of accounting terminologies used in the audit report. In preparation for the review, the co-chairmen of the standing committee along with the committee clerk spent a day with the auditors reviewing the documentation.

Turning now to detail of the audit report entitled "Any Other Matter", extensive questioning took place on an issue by issue basis. Not all issues will be raised in this report. However, Members may wish to refer to the transcript of the proceedings if they wish further detail or information.

#### Business Loans And Guarantees Fund

The committee does wish to point out that the auditor raised the matter of the Business Loans and Guarantees Fund under the Department of Economic Development. He referred to the management of this fund as lacking in basic controls and likened it to a disaster area. The department had little justification for the mess except that it had been turned over from the federal government in that state in the late 1970s. Since the observation was made by the auditors, the department has initiated a complete review of the fund and a reorganization has taken place. Corrective work has begun; however, your committee feels that sufficient priority has not been given to even solve the basic administrative problems. The committee strongly recommends that in future, any programs/services accepted by the GNWT, through devolution or decentralization from any other level of government, be immediately evaluated for basic administrative policy and procedures. If these are found lacking, that steps be taken at once to rectify the situation. Your committee further recommends that the administrative policy and procedure for the Business Loans and Guarantees Fund be finalized and implemented immediately.

Mr. Speaker, your committee also discussed at length the observations made that the regulations to the Small Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance assented to on March 5, 1982, still had not been amended to reflect changes resulting from the amendments to the Financial Administration Ordinance.

The committee was assured that action was indeed being taken to rectify the situation. However, this raised the issue of timely regulations being written and/or amended when ordinances were passed and/or amended. After consideration the committee passed the following recommendation. The standing committee on public accounts recommends to the Legislature and the Executive Council that wherever possible, that legislation including amendments to new legislation come into effect only when the regulations are amended and/or written and approved by the proper body.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee on public accounts feels quite strongly that legislation, particularly legislation designed to serve people, must have the regulations ready as soon as possible following assent. The regulations to any legislation provide the details to the administrative procedures, the explanation, the direction, and if not readily available can cause confusion and delay in the implementation of the law itself.

#### POL Fund

Once again the petroleum, oil and lubricants revolving fund was brought to the attention of the Legislature by the auditors. Your committee was assured by the Department of Government Services that changes had been implemented and that many of the outstanding issues were finally being resolved. Your committee is hopeful of hearing soon from the auditors that the POL system is finally under control.

#### Housing Corporation

Seven pages of the audit report were devoted to the NWT Housing Corporation. A page by page review of the observations raised was made and several additional pieces of information were requested. The committee looks forward to the report of the special committee on housing.

Your standing committee next reviewed the Annual Report of Territorial Accounts, 1982-83. Finally, a status and update on the NWT government response to the Ninth Assembly's public accounts committee report on future GNWT projects was requested. Your committee learned that the government presently has several ongoing projects including a performance measurement committee, systems development, POLARIS enhancement, data base design and others. Members interested in the GNWT response may refer to the proceedings. This concludes the standing committee on public accounts report, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. We will now take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

You people have no respect for Dene time. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. McCallum.

#### Interim Report Of The Special Committee On Housing

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, the Assembly passed a motion in the first session of this House to establish a special committee on housing, and I would like to have your indulgence to very briefly indicate what has occurred with that particular committee on behalf of my co-chairman, Mr. Pudluk, and Members of that committee.

#### Community Hearings

We have written all organizations, municipal councils, band councils, housing authorities and associations to advise them of the special committee's mandate, membership and the terms of reference. As a result, we have been asked to hold public hearings in 38 communities within the Territories and we will hold our first public hearing on housing in Pangnirtung on Monday, June the 4th. During June a total of 10 Baffin and High Arctic communities will be visited. They include Pangnirtung, Clyde River, Broughton Island, Cape Dorset, Lake Harbour, Frobisher Bay, Resolute Bay, Grise Fiord, Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay.

In July, the committee will travel to eight communities in the Mackenzie Valley and Delta. These include: Fort Good Hope, Colville Lake, Norman Wells, Fort Franklin, Fort Norman, Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

During August, September and October, the committee plans to travel to the city of Yellowknife, Dene communities in the southern Mackenzie region, several Kitikmeot communities and the Keewatin Region.

Schedules of public hearings will be advertised in advance of the committee's arrival and MLAs will be advised of any public hearings planned in their constituencies. Verbatim transcripts of the public hearings will be produced following each regional tour. These will be circulated to the communities, their MLAs and the district and head offices of the NWT Housing Corporation. These transcripts will be carefully reviewed so that the major concerns of people at the community level are identified. These concerns will, of course, be addressed in the committee's final report.

#### Written Submissions

There have been several groups and individuals who have notified the committee of their intention to present written submissions. To date, these groups include the Dene Nation, the Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation, the Keewatin Regional Council, the Baffin Regional Council and the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Several individuals and firms studying and/or actively involved with northern housing have also expressed their interest in addressing the committee. In so far as possible, the committee intends to receive these submissions in the communities in order to hear comments from the public. The committee has hired a co-ordinator, Ms Penny Aumond, of Yellowknife, to organize the community hearings and co-ordinate the work of the committee in general.

#### NWT Housing Corporation Review

The committee has, as well, met with the NWT Housing Corporation board of directors and senior management and, in fact, the Minister. At that meeting there were concerns raised about the role of the special committee on housing and the way in which the committee intended to review the corporation itself.

What I would like to do on behalf of the committee is to emphasize the response given to the board of directors on this matter, which is that the committee does not intend to make a scapegoat of the corporation and/or its board of directors in its final report. But the committee, rather, views the exercise of public hearings and the review of the corporation as a positive one. It is the intention of the committee that the recommendations outlined in the final report be responsible, realistic and able to be implemented in a way that will improve the housing situation at the community level.

The NWT Housing Corporation board of directors plans to submit a report to the committee in August. A comprehensive review of the corporation will commence in the fall, once the transcripts of many of the public hearings have been reviewed and major areas of concern identified. The committee also plans, of course, to meet with every district office of the corporation during the course of its travels.

#### Request For Extension Of Mandate

We have outlined a work plan that would, in our view, allow sufficient time for community hearings, research, review of the corporation and reporting to this House. Given the scope of the committee's mandate and the basic importance of housing to the people of the Territories, we do not feel it would be realistic to expect it to table a final report at the fall session. Therefore, your committee requests that we look for an extension of the mandate so that the responsibilities that we are charged with can be carried out with a conscientious deliberation and the full consideration the issue deserves. We will need time to listen at community hearings to interest groups, individuals who make submissions and also, of course, to the corporation. We will then need time to review the transcripts. Written submissions must be reviewed so that the main issues are correctly identified and research must support the conclusions and investigate possible solutions. Finally, we will need time to develop recommendations that are not only responsive, but also responsible.

#### Reporting

We are to make an interim report to this House at the fall session. At that time we shall request, for all of the above reasons, an extension of our present mandate regarding a final report. I would wish, on behalf of my co-chairman and Members, to extend to all Members of the House, an invitation for you to accompany us on tours of your constituencies, where it is possible. Housing is a universal concern, one that has been addressed by all Members, and your committee requests the support and participation of all elected representatives in the process of addressing this critical issue of housing. Thank you.

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document. Tabled Document 12-84(2), Northwest Territories Business Loans and Guarantees Fund Annual Report 1982-83, and a summary in Inuktitut. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table Tabled Document 13-84(2), the first Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. McCallum, tabling of documents.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 14-84(2), Interim Report of the Special Committee on Housing, May, 1984.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document. Tabled Document 15-84(2), 1983 Annual Report, Public Utilities Board of the Northwest Territories.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 9, tabling of documents.

Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 12, motions. Item 13, first reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 13: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 9-84(2).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Do I hear any nays? Mr. Nerysoo, please proceed.

First Reading Of Bill 9-84(2): Official Languages Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 9-84(2), An Ordinance to Recognize and Provide for the Use of the Aboriginal Languages and to Establish the Official Languages of the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: First reading of bills. A motion has been made. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? Bill 9-84(2) has had first reading.

---Carried

Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 8-84(2): Public Utilities Ordinance

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 8-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Utilities Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Public Utilities Ordinance to provide that the members of the Public Utilities Board be appointed by the Commissioner upon the recommendation of the Executive Member and to provide that members are appointed at pleasure.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. All those in favour? All those opposed? Bill 8-84(2) has had second reading. Bill 8-84(2) has now had second reading, therefore I will order it moved into the committee of the whole for today after the appearance of the chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: sessional paper, Official Languages in the Northwest Territories; appearance of chairman of Advisory Council on the Status of Women; Bill 8-84(2), 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 TABLED DOCUMENT 11-84(2), OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; APPEARANCE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN; BILL 8-84(2), PUBLIC UTILITIES ORDINANCE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Committee will come to order. Is it the wish of the committee for Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. Lal to come to be witnesses?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tabled Document 11-84(2), Official Languages In The Northwest Territories

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): At this time I would like to remind the committee we are on the sessional paper, Official Languages in the Northwest Territories. Anybody wish to make a general comment at this time? Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman, just prior to proceeding, I would like to introduce the witness who has been asked to join me in the House, and it is Mr. Stien Lal, who is the deputy minister of Justice and Public Services, just for the record.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Leader of the Executive Council just a couple of questions. I would like to know what the next step in the negotiations with the federal government is. On page seven of the sessional paper, you refer to developing a package that you want to negotiate with the federal government. I just wonder what the process is in developing this package and how you plan for people to have input into developing that package that you plan to negotiate with the federal government.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, just to indicate to the honourable Member that the basis of negotiating with the federal government is first to consider the recommendations that are being presented to this House, seeking approval from this House. Secondly, there is certainly the ordinance and that was introduced by myself yesterday and given first reading today. It was also one of the items that will be part of the negotiation process.

Personnel Involved In Negotiation Process

We have had a number of meetings already with the federal government and it designated Mr. Roger Collet as the individual who was responsible on behalf of the federal government. In our case we have set up also a task force to work on what the requirements would be for this government. Mr. Bob Pilot, who is the deputy minister of the Executive, is chairing that particular working group for us, and that working group consists of representatives from Information, Education and Justice and Public Services. There are a number of people also whenever we require other officers that are necessary to develop the position -- particularly with regard to finances -- so I should indicate to you that the Department of Finance is involved, so that we develop a total package on all of the financial implications and the financial requirements that are associated with those areas that apply to aboriginal languages.

We have indicated to the Secretary of State that because of their past experience in the area of providing French services to other jurisdictions, as well as their expertise in providing that service in the federal government, that we could utilize their expertise in that particular area. So they are also developing a position on what the requirements will be in implementing French in the NWT. So it does not necessarily mean in passing the legislation or in endorsing the recommendations that we will assume the particular responsibility. It could be that we agree that Secretary of State will be the initial department that is responsible for providing the French service, and if that is the case, then that is strictly part of the negotiation process.

The memorandum of understanding which I indicated to you was part of the ongoing or the negotiation process would be a document that would give political commitment on the part of the federal government and on the part of this government to negotiate those areas of concern as they relate to, firstly, the aboriginal languages, and secondly, to the French language issue. In that particular document we would outline how we would introduce our amendment to the legislation before the House of Commons and how we would proceed here in future with our legislation. Depending on the type of commitment that was given by the federal government to myself as Minister -- it may be that I will come back and indicate to the Members of this House that we have not received the kind of support that the Executive Council could consider as positive and therefore the whole strategy would have to be re-thought and rewritten, and in fact the manner in which we dealt with the issue could very well change. But at the moment it seems to be going very well. But I cannot indicate to you yet whether or not the federal government has made any serious commitments.

I believe the only way in which that serious commitment could be made is if they sign on the dotted line and say yes, we are politically committed to, in fact, dealing with you very seriously on the aboriginal languages issue and then we are committed to dealing with them on the French language issue. That is the only way in which I believe there could be a clear political indication that that commitment is there.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Does anyone else want to make a general comment? Does the committee agree that we proceed with the adoption of the recommendations in the sessional paper? Mr. Nerysoo, could we move to the recommendation A 1? Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion To Adopt Recommendation A, Tabled Document 11-84(2), Carried

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I move that recommendation A 1, English and French to be recognized as the official languages of the Territories be adopted by this Legislative Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The motion is in order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, may I just ask that each recommendation be read as it is named so that in the transcript it is clear as to what we are discussing and voting on? So rather than just A 1, would he read the recommendation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo, could you read recommendation A 1?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Recommendation A. I move recommendation A be adopted and recommendation A is: It is recommended that appropriate directions be given to the Executive Council to develop official language legislation based on the following concepts:

1. English and French to be recognized as official languages of the Territories;
2. The rights and freedoms flowing from the recognition of the official languages are to be based on those rights and freedoms contained in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and would include the following: a) French or English could be used in the debates or other proceedings of the Legislative Assembly; b) ordinances, records and journals of the Legislative Assembly would be published in both languages; c) French or English may be used by any person in any court established by or pursuant to territorial legislation; d) a person would have the right to communicate with and receive services from the head or central office of the government in both French and English.
3. The aboriginal languages which are indigenous to the Territories would be recognized in law as the official aboriginal languages of the NWT. The preservation, development and enhancement of the aboriginal languages be expressly declared as the aim of the government so that they may at the appropriate stage be used for all or any of the official purposes of the Territories.
4. By regulation pursuant to the Official Languages Ordinance, the manner, nature and extent of services to be provided in the aboriginal languages would be spelled out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): I think question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Nerysoo, recommendation B.

Motion To Adopt Recommendation B, Tabled Document 11-84(2), Carried

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, it is further recommended that the Executive Council, on an urgent basis, continue negotiations with the appropriate federal Ministers to arrive at suitable funding arrangements to allow the Government of the Northwest Territories to pursue its committed goal to preserve, develop, enrich and enhance aboriginal languages for official purposes of the Territories.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed? Carried.

---Carried

Recommendation C. Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion To Adopt Recommendation C, Tabled Document 11-84(2), Carried

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Recommendation C. It is further recommended that the Executive Council, on an urgent basis, continue negotiations with the appropriate federal Ministers to arrive at suitable funding arrangements and an appropriate implementation schedule to allow the Government of the Northwest Territories to introduce French as an official language in the Northwest Territories and to provide services in French as outlined in this sessional paper.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to make a further comment on this paper? Mr. Nerysoo.

Comments Of Government Leader

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I think that it is quite clear from comments that have been made over the past day, and particularly yesterday, the concern that Members had about the aboriginal languages. I can assure the Members that have raised the concern, and from the discussions that have been held in the Executive Council, and certainly by the support that has been given by Members of the Executive Council, that we will do everything that is possible to ensure that the protection of aboriginal languages is of primary consideration in this whole issue.

I just want to also indicate to the Executive Council, particularly being Leader and having been given the responsibility for this particular area, my appreciation for all the time that they took in discussing this particular item, because it has taken a lot of time over the past month. Also I would like to indicate to those officials that have really taken their time to participate in the discussion, particularly the working group and those officials that have had to leave other work that has been important in carrying out their duties -- I would like to extend my appreciation to them for their efforts. Also no doubt to the chairman, Mr. Pilot, and to my legal adviser, Mr. Lal, for their efforts in trying to work with Ottawa on a continuing basis to ensure that whatever concerns which have been expressed in this House, and in fact prior to the item being discussed in this House, by the Executive Council, that those issues were raised in the official meetings with the federal government. I also would like to thank all the Members here for receiving the sessional paper the way they did. I realize the controversy that such an item could create, and certainly from the comments that have been made, the attitude that has been shown here, I would like to express my own appreciation to all Members in this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. Lal. This matter is now concluded. Does the committee agree that this matter is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The committee will now deal with the appearance of the chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Mr. Patterson.

Appearance Of Chairman Of The Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is barely into the second year of operation of the new Ministry of the Status of Women. Under the direction of my predecessor, the Hon. George Braden, an ordinance to establish an advisory council on the status of women was passed by the Ninth Assembly. The Advisory Council on the Status of Women met for the first time last fall, and I can say that especially since I am not a woman, I am very pleased to have had the excellent advice of the members of the advisory council. I was also pleased at the budget session of the 10th Assembly in February of this year that many Members had questions about the role of this new Ministry and the advisory council, particularly how that new advisory council and activity might help women in their constituencies, and how the territorial advisory council was going to have impact at the community level.

So I took the initiative of recommending to this House that it would be appropriate following the first meeting of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women to let the chairman herself explain directly to you how she sees the advisory council operating in the coming years and be available to answer directly any of your questions. I am very pleased today to inform the House that Mrs. Bertha Allen, who is chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, is prepared to make a short presentation to this committee and hear your questions. I would also like to ask your agreement if Mrs. Emelia Gratrix, who is from Fort Smith, and also a member of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women would be permitted to assist Mrs. Bertha Allen in her presentation; also Ms Sheila Keet, who has been co-ordinator of the Status of Women activities, would like to assist Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Gratrix. I wonder if the committee would also give permission for Ms Keet to be present when the presentation is made.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The committee is agreed. Mr. Patterson, could you bring your witnesses to the table?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My witnesses are Mrs. Bertha Allen, chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, Mrs. Emelia Gratrix, a member of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women from Fort Smith. They are accompanied by Sheila Keet, co-ordinator of the Status of Women activities. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. The Chair is proposing a 15 minute presentation by the chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and a 45 minute question and answer period. Does the committee agree to this?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen, would you proceed please?

Presentation By Mrs. Bertha Allen

MRS. ALLEN: Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to address this Assembly and give you an indication of what the Advisory Council on the Status of Women has planned for the future. We are all aware that the strength of this Assembly is made up of the wisdom of our elders, the political power of the Members of this Legislative Assembly, the ample resources of our women of the Northwest Territories and the energy of our youth.

First of all, let me remind you that the council is a new body which has had the opportunity to meet only once. That one meeting was a productive one which resulted in a clear direction for the coming year. An extensive list of issues was listed as a result of input from women's groups, individuals and council members themselves. We decided our priorities for this coming year must include letting women and people such as yourselves know who and what we are, and secondly, to promote affirmative action for women.

#### GNWT To Set Example Of Affirmative Action

We are urging this government to set an example as a major employer in the NWT by implementing an affirmative action program for women and natives. We include in this, improving the sad record evident in the too-few appointments of women to boards and other advisory bodies by this Assembly. Ours is the only appointed body composed entirely of women. All other boards and such are made up mostly or entirely of men. We are a group of nine women with a mandate which will enable us to advise your government through our Minister on any issue of concern to NWT women. We can, and will, be political and vocal where we see a nudge or an outright push is necessary. This is nothing new to native culture, of course.

In the past, native men and women always shared decision-making powers. It was the Europeans who brought us macho government and our men started imitating them and here we are with this chauvinistic system. Since it runs against the grain of the cultures of this majority native Assembly, we know we can count on your support in reinstating women to our rightfully equal place. Since there is such emphasis being placed on culture by this Assembly, I know you will agree that it is in keeping with your present direction to bring the old ways back into practice by sitting down with our womenfolk when discussing issues and making decisions which affect all our daily lives.

Let me congratulate you as well on being more enlightened than the governments of the Yukon, Alberta, British Columbia, which have not yet had the courage to set up an advisory council on the status of women in their areas. I cannot resist pointing out to our Commissioner, however, that if he had followed Carolyn McCabe's advice 10 years ago and set up our council then, the NWT could have set the trend for nearly every other province and territory in Canada. If we had been able to take our equal share of the power and the responsibility back then, I would suggest this government would be better organized and further ahead. At this time I would like to stress that when we first got organized -- I am referring to another organization that I am president of, the Native Women's Organization -- this Assembly and the native men, the male dominated organizations, were very threatened. They thought that we were in for a power struggle. And I am happy to inform you to this date that we are working side by side and they have found out that our actions are based on co-operation and not confrontation. Back to the document.

#### Activities Since Establishment Of Council

After all, look which of you walked away with three elected seats -- Eliza Lawrence, Nellie Cournoyea and Lynda Sorensen. Now how many other Members won that easily? As for the rest of us, we have been the unpaid volunteers for a very long time. Who blew the whistle on pornography and started a movement to get it out of the North? The women. Who stuck their necks out and let our judges know in no uncertain terms that violence against women and children is not part of native culture and current trends in sentencing are unacceptable? Again, the women. When the lives or the health of families and communities are affected, whenever you feel that something has to be done about that, it is the women who usually organize a response.

We have spearheaded movement on a lot of important issues in the brief seven months since the Advisory Council on the Status of Women and our working counterpart in government, the Women's Bureau, opened. It is our intention to see that the council gives the Minister sound advice. It is also our intention to see that the Women's Bureau in the NWT, like bureaus across Canada, operates at a senior cross-departmental level of government which will allow it to effectively carry out its mandate. That mandate is to bring about the changes necessary to give women in the NWT front row seats politically, economically and socially. We support you in your efforts to win the political power this government and the regions need to improve all our lives. To do that, you need unity, and that only comes about with equality of the sexes, mutual respect and equal sharing in top level decision-making.

I am headed off tomorrow to a special meeting of the Assembly of First Nations on section 12(1)(b) of the Indian Act. I am sure those chiefs are as co-operative -- I should say I sure hope they will be as co-operative and supportive about equal rights for Indian women as I am sure you will be about equal rights for the women of the NWT. Meanwhile, the council and bureau will continue working together on affirmative action, we will continue to work against pornography, against family violence, for improved day care, for a greater share of economic activities, for more women in positions of power and influence. The council represents all the regions, all the cultures, and as a political lobbying group we will bring our concerns to you. Improving the lives of women improves the lives of families and communities of us all. And since this is 1984, I want you to remember that "big sister" is watching you.

---Laughter

And at this time, I want to share with you some of the concerns of Emelia, who is a very well-respected member of this community and also a respected elder of the NWT, so I will pass it now over to Emelia.

MRS. GRATRIX: Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, I am here today to bring up a question which in the last week or so has been on the minds of many people. Was justice done in the case of a 13 year old girl who became pregnant after having sexual intercourse with three different men? So far I have been very silent on the matter. I think I am still in a state of shock that in this age of the computer and all the advanced technology, that there are people that allow a horrific thing like that to take place and call it culture. Well, the sooner the better that we do away with that type of culture and educate people and instil in them that those practices, if they were practices, should no longer exist. Any priest or minister can tell you that practices like that are contrary to the commandments of God. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" and we all know that means fornication with children as well. What I would like to know is will there be anything done in the future to prevent another such miscarriage of justice? Perhaps we cannot answer that question overnight, but I hope we can work together with the justice system to involve caseworkers, the native court workers, to review cases of that kind on behalf of girls and women. Perhaps, had a heavier sentence been imposed on the three individuals, then during the period of incarceration they may have been able to seek counselling with trained individuals in order that it can be instilled in them that this type of criminal behaviour be discouraged. Traditionally speaking these types of actions such as sex with 13 year old girls who reach their menstrual period are not accepted ways of the 20th century and should have gone out when the dogsleds and skidoos came in. They conform with the change in the traditional way of life and it should be applied to other so-called forms of the traditional way of life. As well, we are the protectors of our women and children. We are appointed to speak out for people who cannot speak out for themselves and I am not afraid to speak out for their rights.

I would also like to address the issue of battered women. I believe there have always been cases of victims of very cruel and unbelievable abuse. By speaking to other people on the subject, a lot of these battered women return to their husbands or boy friends. They do not have any other choice as they cannot make their own living and support their children. These women return to the centre more than once according to my informant and unless they receive protection will continue to live out their lives in such an environment. There does not seem to be much we can do unless they come to us and make some sort of effort to remove themselves from their unfortunate existence. It is a sad state that in a country where we pride ourselves on democracy that these sad things have to happen. For a democracy to be a democracy, all things have to be equal, and I do not think that beating an old lady to keep her in line should be practised. With groups of women in many parts of the country forming organizations for the betterment and concerns for women, I think that we should have a voice and be heard by everyone. That is only one of the reasons that I would like to reinforce Bertha Allen's request to have a seat with the Executive where we can be heard and be part of the action. In conclusion, I would like to thank you all for the opportunity that you gave me to speak. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. We will have a 15 minute break and come back for the questions and have comments.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come to order now, please. Mrs. Allen, do you have any comments before we get into the questions?

MRS. ALLEN: No.

Task Force On Spousal Assault

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any questions? Comments? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I welcome our witnesses to the Assembly and to the committee of the whole. I wonder if Mrs. Allen might give us some indication as to how she sees the task force on spousal assault and give us some indication about objectives it will pursue and when some recommendations might be available.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: Thank you for the question. I am going to pass that over to Sheila Keet to answer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Ms Keet.

MS KEET: Thank you. The objectives of this task force are to assist the Minister and his ministerial committee on spousal assault in determining just what the gaps and problems and services to victims of spousal assault and their families are. This is a senior level of people, including senior members of the judiciary, the RCMP and the government, federal and territorial, but what became very evident very quickly was that this ministerial committee could not really tell what the problems were at the community grass roots level, what problems are encountered by these women and the service deliverers in health and social services, etc. That is the mandate of this task force: To bring back to this larger body just precisely what the problems are and to give some recommendations that would be practical and enforceable. Probably we will be submitting a final report in the late fall, certainly no later than November.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Anybody else? Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has always been my culture's tradition that elder men look after their women and children that no harm comes to them. Lately the news has been all over, nationally, internationally, questioning if it is our cultural tradition to abuse the women and young children. It is creating a very bad image for our male leaders. How are you giving information to these communities, to women's groups, to improve -- note I did not say to change -- to improve their lifestyle? How are you giving that information to the communities encountering this sort of problem?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: Well, I do not know if you are aware, Eliza, but we do have a booklet out that is very useful, and you are in a position now to get that translated. The booklet is, "Does Your Husband or Boy Friend Beat You?" We have given directions to the readers of this booklet how they could go about reporting such incidents. That book is available. I think you can pick it up anywhere. It certainly is available at the office of the Native Women's Association and also at the office of the Status of Women.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: I realize it is available in the main offices, but how are you getting it to the communities -- not so much maybe in my constituency, because I deal with just the two communities, but for the other further, remote areas, how are you giving that information?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: We have sent out that booklet to as many communities as we could, and especially through our board members or anybody that comes to our office to pick up copies. The court workers also do have access to this booklet, and I am sure you do have court workers in your area. If they are concerned, I am sure they would make sure that copies of this booklet are left within that community that they represent.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. Anybody else want to ask questions? Mr. Ballantyne.

Revenue Canada And Maternity Leave Deductions

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, first of all, I am very happy to see the advisory council here in front of us, and I think that as the body develops there will be a lot more questions we will be able to ask and you will have had time to be able to do the research necessary to fill us in on many of these very important issues. One specific issue has been brought to my attention. Again it is the problem of whether or not women are being treated fairly in the work place, and there are a lot of problems in that area. Specifically, it is the concept of women on maternity leave, and my understanding is that when women are on maternity leave, they get a housing allowance, but the amount of the housing allowance is deducted or they are penalized somehow for getting that housing allowance and get less from UIC. I know that has been a problem. I wonder, has your group looked at that problem? If so, have you made any progress in dealing with that problem?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: Again this is a technical question, and my work horse beside me has been doing a lot of work on it, so will you allow me, Mr. Chairman, to pass this over to Sheila to answer?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Ms Keet.

MS KEET: Thank you. We have been working on the area and in all honesty have not made any progress. To give you a bit of background on that, GNWT employees who go off on maternity leave -- and sick leave, but about 96 per cent of them go off on maternity leave -- are offered a continuation of the \$450 per month housing allowance during the time that they are off. This is not part of the collective agreement. It is a separate memorandum that came through the Department of Personnel. This money is not considered taxable by Revenue Canada when these women are part of the work force. These families plan financially for maternity leave for these children, and when they go off, they have been finding that when they go to collect unemployment insurance, Revenue Canada changes its mind and this becomes taxable income and is deducted penny for penny from their UIC. So rather than the substantial income these women expected, they get next to nothing for the time when they are able to receive UIC.

One person has appealed right through to the highest level of referees with CEIC, and the Minister, John Roberts, has indicated in our correspondence with him that he is not going to change his mind on this. We went to the Department of Personnel and have tried, to no avail, to get them to change what they call this housing allowance. If they used a subagreement and called it something else, these women would be able to collect these moneys. As you are aware, all pregnant women operate in a non-negotiable time frame. They are suffering all kinds of economic hardships that are really unnecessary and this money which our government has allotted for this, is going uncollected. So no, we are getting nowhere, and if there is anything at all that your Assembly can do to support us or help us, we would really appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Ms Keet. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: This is a question I asked at the budget session. I consider it a problem and I wonder what is the view of the advisory council? I asked how many women are in senior positions in the territorial government and the response was that there were very, very few. The question I would like to ask you is why do you think that is? Secondly, do you have any ideas on how to improve that situation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: This is why our priority with our advisory council for the future is affirmative action for our women.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. Mr. T'Seleie.

Community Involvement

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to share Mrs. Lawrence's concern about the manner in which this whole case of light sentencing is being handled, but I do not want to ask any questions on that. What I wanted to know from the status of women group is how are the communities represented in your group and which organizations do you deal with in the communities?



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: The way the advisory council members were selected was they were selected on a regional basis and consideration was taken for those women that have experience working with groups and also knowing the concerns of the communities. To answer your other question, how community people can be involved, we would like them to voice a concern to us either through our phone system or through another communication system, such as letter writing. We are really working very closely with other women's organizations. I am sure all of you know that I am also the president of the Native Women's Association and I do get a lot of feedback with concerns from the communities by our regional board members. John, if you have any concerns in your community, I wish you would approach Shirley Harley. I think she is a board member from Good Hope. I asked her to keep in touch with the women's groups in that area and to feed us information and for her to relay information back to those communities in her region.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, I was out making some telephone calls when you women made the presentation, but I would just like, as the Member for Aivilik riding, Keewatin North, to congratulate the Advisory Council on the Status of Women for the work that you women are carrying out. Firstly because I noticed earlier this fall and winter in my home town of Rankin Inlet, the women were getting involved and starting to tackle and carry out discussions in the community with respect to spousal assault. I think that was a very important step that the native women have taken in communities. I certainly like to see that this kind of discussion group continues in the communities. I am just wondering whether the Status of Women have a program going on where the public awareness programs are being carried out in the communities. I notice that even my own relatives -- I do not normally talk to them about political matters, because I enjoy being with them, but I did have quite an extensive discussion with my relatives about the women getting involved in the communities. I am just wondering whether or not you have an actual program or steps that allow these kinds of discussions to be carried out. Could you inform us of whether or not you are also going to continue this kind of encouragement?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mrs. Allen.

Co-operation With Inuit Women's Organization

MRS. ALLEN: I would like to inform the House that we are working very closely with the Inuit women's organization which was just formed recently and I know we would all love to see the ball rolling faster than we could. The bureaucratic wheels do turn slowly and volunteer work does take time. A lot of us women do the work at the community level on our own volunteer time. For your information we are working very closely, we are sharing ideas, sharing our material that we have researched with the Inuit women's organization. I know that there are annual assemblies coming up and they have invited me -- I do not know on which portfolio -- but they certainly are interested and they are looking at our organization -- I am talking now about the Native Women's Association -- with all the things that we have done, the programs that they have questioned a lot, especially on the life skills program. I think Geela Moss-Davies who is the president of the Inuit Women's Association is really seriously looking at our mobile life skills at the community level to encourage women to get involved at the community level. With this recent mishap of the Hall Beach incident we are stressing more awareness programs at the community level. We are going to step up our awareness program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly hope the other regional groups and the women's organizations are encouraged to carry out that kind of discussion because it was very difficult, I know, for native women to initiate that kind of first step. I think in my riding the information has gone out that women can take charge of the unfair treatment that they have had from the more dominant males in some parts of the region. So I certainly support that initiative and at every opportunity when I do see the native leaders, women, in these organizations, I will certainly encourage them as well.

I want to just comment on the other thing which is more politically related and I hope you will forgive me if I am being a bit too straight on this matter. I think there has always been an historic perception that men are more courageous than women, but I found that in some cases that is not always the case. I notice my colleague here sitting to my right has expressed some feeling that he is overworked and he is not spending enough time sometimes with his family which is very important when you are a family man. So I am wondering whether or not the Status of Women organization has given any consideration that he be relieved of some of his responsibilities so he can devote some time to his family. But he has not been able to develop enough confidence, I believe, to ask or consult with you on that subject. I just wondered how the women would feel about it if, in the event -- I do not know whether it is going to happen or not -- he were relieved of his responsibility for your organization.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: We have been very fortunate to have Mr. Patterson as Minister to our council. I am sure that there are others just as capable and I want to ask Mr. Tagak Curley, if he were to give up his post, if you have so much concern would you become the Minister and relieve him of his responsibility?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I would like to ask a question. The Baffin Women's Association and Mrs. Allen's group, did they ever meet together?

MRS. ALLEN: I did not meet with the women. Sheila did, so I will let her report on that meeting with your women.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Ms Keet.

MS KEET: Just for clarification, do you mean the Inuit Women's Association or the Baffin Women's Association or do you mean one of the local Inuit women's associations?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Baffin.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I believe he said the Baffin Women's Association. Ms Keet.

MS KEET: Actually I met with the Inuit Women's Association along with Geela Moss-Davies in Frobisher Bay and that included the Baffin Inuit women's local and I did have one meeting with the Baffin Women's Association, which is basically Frobisher Bay based I understand.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Ms Keet. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think people might think that I am against the Native Women's Association and I am not against women because I am married to one. You said that men and women should be working together and there are three women MLAs here and we have just got a female Governor General. Then we heard about the three rapists, three people that got a young girl who was 13 years old pregnant but I know that men are not the only bad people. I know that sometimes there are bad women too.

---Applause

I would like to ask whether some women might misunderstand native women's groups purposes and use them in a bad way. For instance, in our smaller community the hunters are only male and women do housework. I know this kind of group is more involved with working women who are paid lower than men or things like that. But my concern is that your group, rather than promoting women, do you not think it might be used in a wrong way in remote communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. Would you like to respond to that, Mrs. Allen?

MRS. ALLEN: I did not get the question. Was that a comment or was that a question?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. GARGAN): I believe it was a comment. Would you like to respond to that?

MRS. ALLEN: You know, we are sitting here as the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, not as the Native Women's Association. Maybe I have got some of you confused. I wear two hats. I am the president of the Native Women's Association and also president of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. What we are trying to do here is not start a war between men and women. What I have said is that we want co-operation, not confrontation. What our main goal is is trying to keep the family unit together. There have been a lot of problems at the community level that our women have no idea how to resolve, and we all must admit that we are living in a changing society. There is a lot of pressure within our communities. Every day of our life we are going through changes and we have to learn how to cope with it. This is why we feel that women that have experienced a lot of these changing lifestyles, that have learned how to cope with it, can be of help to the women at the community level.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Allen. General comments from Members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any more questions?

#### Sex Education In The Home

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did have a couple of questions. I guess the government positions and the treatment that maybe this government has been giving the women have not been very impressive. But a few years down the line, say there was an equal number of women working in jobs that are usually held by men, where do you see drawing the line as far as being first-class women and caring for the family with regard to educating their daughters so that they do not get into incidents as happened in the Eastern Arctic?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: I think where we are involved right now is in the development of a curriculum at the territorial level on sex education, you know, for our schools. We do have input into the development of that curriculum and we hope that these incidents will not happen once the public is aware of these issues.

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

MR. GARGAN: Okay. I guess I will follow up to your answer. You are suggesting then that eventually, regarding the young daughters or children of the family, the responsibility of the family would be more or less taken away and it would be up to the schools to start teaching their children sex education and whatever other education is required, and basically taking the responsibility of parents and giving that responsibility to the schools. Is that what you said?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: We are always supporting that the family unit is the basic disciplinarian in our society, and just let me inform this House that in the past native people generally have had a hard time discussing sex with their children. Maybe the new generation, the new mothers that are coming up will be more open. We just hope that it will be of some help to those that cannot sit down with their young daughters to discuss sex with them that at least somewhere, if not at home, it certainly is going to come in the education system. Not everybody is comfortable discussing sex in the home.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess they are conditioning people to be what they are not. I am saying that as far as spiritual values go, we have got priests in the communities that teach us spiritual values that are contradictory to our own culture. We have got schools that are teaching our children how to make it in the white dominant society, and we do not have really that many programs -- as far as the language program goes, it is just the first step that we are now taking with regard to aboriginal languages being implemented. So I guess what I am really trying to say is that for myself being a Dene, I consider that Dene is good, Dene is okay. In the eyes of maybe our own children, it sort of looks bad because if you look at any curriculums in the schools you do not have anything with regard to Dene culture or Dene spirituality. I have to say that being a Dene is okay. I am just wondering, you know, it is this kind of stuff that should be taken by the Status of Women group too, and they should start teaching them the moral values of being a Dene, that you do not just throw yourself at anybody that is available to our young girls.

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

MRS. ALLEN: I will just take that as a comment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Ballantyne.

Equal Pay For Equal Work

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to go right now and do an interview. I am not leaving because I am not interested in the conversation. One question, and one problem that women in the southern part of the country face, again in the work place, is that there are many incidents where women are doing an equal job to a man's and getting significantly less salary. Do you consider that to be a problem in the North, and if so, is the advisory council going to be looking at that problem, or do you have any ideas that you could share with us now of how perhaps that problem could be dealt with, if it is a problem?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: I will pass this over to my work horse.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Okay. Ms Keet.

MS KEET: Well, the work horse's response is that we are no better off here and in some ways we are much worse off. In the Northwest Territories, as in the rest of the country, women make 63 cents for every dollar that a man makes. We are ghettoized in the lowest part of the work force everywhere across the NWT. We all know that in these economic times many, many families require two parents working. We also know that many of the women in the work force are single parents. Women work because they have to and they make substantively less than men. What we are in the process of doing now is responding to this House's paper, we call it "the black paper", on affirmative action that was put forward by the native employment office. We feel that any affirmative action program which is initiated by this government should target women as well as native people, because we can show statistically that women and native people in the Northwest Territories are equally disadvantaged in the work force.

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

Creating Problems In Communities

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I just had one question here. In my own home community, I guess within most of the more, maybe, respectable positions such as band managers or settlement managers, we do have one band manager, we do have one settlement manager -- and those are native people I am talking about there -- and we have eight native school teachers and one male from the native group there. I am just wondering, I realize that we are raising the consciousness of maybe the male society in the North, but also I would like to maybe caution whether, you know, we might also be creating a situation where, like now, we are saying, okay, maybe we are going to have to be more competitive. Are the men going to have to start buckling up and try to get into more of the positions that the women are normally enjoying now? Is that being threatened by the movement that has been created here?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mrs. Allen.

MRS. ALLEN: In the work force now, you know, a lot of women are the ones who are doing the measly work, like typists and things like this. We see very few men in those positions. Here I am talking about qualified native women. If you are concerned about native women as I am, we would like to see them get all kinds of opportunities to move up. Some of them are capable of moving up. We just need to put that political pressure on the government to start moving some of our women up to that position. I know that the men are down at the first rung of the ladder. I am not saying that we want to compete with the men, you know, because if we do that, maybe in the next ten years we might have to set up a status of men council.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I am maybe suggesting is that a few years ago loose living was a problem for a lot of the communities, but for the communities that did not create the awareness that it is dangerous, most of the kids never bothered with loose living or were introduced to loose living. But with regard to other communities where there was a problem in that area, the problem was told and they were made aware of it and that sort of slowed it down. Okay? What I am saying now is that for a lot of the Dene communities, let us say even 80 per cent of the Dene communities, where there is a good, harmonious relationship going on, where there is a communal lifestyle, we should not try to rush this Status of Women in there and create a confrontation that might never heal itself. That is all I am concerned about. Maybe we are talking more about equality within government services. But as far as community life is concerned, if it is not happening in that area, why bother? Because, like I said, a lot of the good positions in my community are taken over by women.

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

MRS. ALLEN: I am happy that you have such a good working relationship and that you are on an equal basis in your community. I would like to send you on to some of the other communities to teach how the workload could be shared equally and responsibly, and I would like to congratulate Fort Providence for that movement. You have set a good example. I hope that the other communities will see fit to follow your example. But there are still other issues that do confront women in general.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more general comments? No questions? Mr. Pudluk.

#### Family Planning

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have very much to say to the organization, but I feel that the Baffin and Keewatin and the western part of the Territories should communicate their ideas together. First of all, I would just like to agree with the Status of Women group. When they talk, maybe they could talk a lot slower so we can understand them more clearly, so we can work together. I just want to ask the witnesses if they have thought of the young women that are giving birth to children. I am sorry, I have not seen the pamphlets that you have produced. I have not read them, I am sorry. I think we are going to have to have family planning. When the Baffin Regional Council met, they had discussed family planning, and the meetings were held just recently. I think the witnesses should be dealing more with family planning. I do not have much more to say. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Allen, would you like to respond to that?

MRS. ALLEN: I would like to respond to Ludy. I think that is a very important subject to all women. You know, we are all concerned. I certainly am. I am a mother of five girls myself and I have, I think, six granddaughters coming up. So I have to step up and start teaching sex education in my own home -- which is very uncomfortable, even in my position, to talk about. But now I am trying to do a better job with my granddaughters on the education. I think it would be really important if you approach the Inuit women's organization that are holding their upcoming general assembly in the near future, that they really should stress that. It was on their agenda at their founding conference. That is something I just have mentioned, that we are involved in sex education curriculum for the schools, and the Information department of the government could translate a lot of that. You see a lot of it printed in the English language. I think a lot of it should be translated into the native languages.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Our time is up. I want to thank Mrs. Allen, Ms Keet and Mrs. Gratrix for your presentation and for answering questions from the Members.

---Applause

Does the committee agree that this matter is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 8-84(2), Public Utilities Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The committee will now deal with Bill 8-84(2). Mr. Curley, do you have any opening remarks?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the chairman of the standing committee on legislation may want to make an introductory remark before I move the amendment that I have before me.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bill that was brought forward by the government was reviewed by the standing committee on legislation. That bill was proposing two amendments to the Public Utilities Ordinance and the first of them would have changed the method of appointing members to the Public Utilities Board. The existing legislation indicates that the appointments should be made by the Commissioner on the advice of the Council, that is, the territorial Council, or, as we call it, the Legislative Assembly. The Minister felt that there are times when it is difficult to secure a full complement of members on the Public Utilities Board if some terms should expire between sessions and there may have been some lack of foresight in reappointing; then the board was in a difficult situation where there may not be sufficient members to conduct business. So the Minister who is constructing this bill recommended and included an amendment in the bill which would give the authority for appointments to the Executive Member on the advice of the Executive Council.

In discussing that issue in the standing committee on legislation Members of the committee expressed concern about that. They recognize the legitimate concern that was being brought forward by the Minister and which induced him to propose the amendment but Members also felt that they had a legitimate concern as well and that was that the Assembly, the territorial Council as it is named in the ordinance, should continue to have the right to be consulted with respect to appointments. And after some discussion an agreement was reached with the Minister that seemed satisfactory to both sides and that will be proceeded with at a later date -- a method of appointment that would satisfy the Minister and address urgent situations and at the same time retain the general right of the Assembly to be consulted on appointments. As a result of that understanding the Minister agreed to drop the first clause in the bill that he had brought forward.

With respect to the second clause, the present legislation empowers the government to appoint members of the Public Utilities Board for three years. That is the way it is stated and so if someone receives an appointment they are in for three years. The Minister indicated that he wished to have the three years as an outer limit, that is, the appointment should not exceed three years but also wished that the words "during pleasure" should be included in the clause, so that if there are some members who are appointed but not performing satisfactorily, the Minister would have the authority to dismiss them. The committee agreed with that idea, and so the net result is that the government has agreed to amend its own bill and I believe the Minister is going to introduce the amendments in a moment and I may say that the amended version was recommended to this committee by the standing committee on legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Any general comments? Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Unless there are general comments I would like to move my amendments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): If there are no general comments does the committee wish to deal with Bill 8-84(2) clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1, board constituted. Mr. Curley.

Motion To Amend Clause 1, Clause 2, And Purpose Of Bill 8-84(2), Carried

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think I should proceed at this moment with my amendment and I believe that the motion is distributed and therefore I am now going to move that Bill 8-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Utilities Ordinance, be amended as follows: 1) by deleting clause 1 of the bill; 2) by renumbering clause 2 as clause 1 and replacing it with the following clause: "1. The Public Utilities Ordinance is amended by repealing section 5 and substituting the following: ' 5. Each of the members of the board shall be appointed to hold office during pleasure for a period not exceeding three years'"; 3) by deleting the statement of purpose and replacing it with the following: "The purpose of this bill is to amend the Public Utilities Ordinance to provide that members be appointed at pleasure to the Public Utilities Board for a period not exceeding three years."

Mr. Chairman, in order to make these various amendments more readily understood and for the convenience of the Members I have had the bill amended incorporating my motion. The bill, as amended, is now being distributed to the Members and I believe it already has been distributed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Curley, your motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just for clarification, as I said, the statement that Mr. Curley just read into the record to amend the bill was acceptable to the standing committee on legislation in its meeting and they recommended it to this Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Clause 1, as amended. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Further Amend Clause 1, Bill 8-84(2), Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would move a further amendment, just a wording change. It was noticed in the committee this morning but I see was not picked up. In clause 1 it says, "The Public Utilities Ordinance is amended by repealing section 5 and substituting the following" and it should say "substituting". So I will move the amendment that the word "substituting" in clause 1 be spelled correctly, and I hope I know how to spell it correctly: s-u-b-s-t-i-t-u-t-i-n-g.

---Applause

So the net upshot is that the word "substituting" be substituted for "substiting".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie, your motion is in order. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Clause 1, as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Bill as a whole, as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree that Bill 8-84(2) is now ready for the third reading, as amended?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): This concludes all the business. Does the committee agree to report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF TABLED DOCUMENT 11-84(2), OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; APPEARANCE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN; BILL 8-84(2), PUBLIC UTILITIES ORDINANCE

MR. ERKLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering the sessional paper, Tabled Document 11-84(2), Official Languages in the Northwest Territories and wishes to report the adoption of recommendations A, B and C as presented in the sessional paper and, Mr. Speaker, your committee has concluded discussion with the chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women and further, Bill 8-84(2) is recommended for third reading, as amended.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 17, third reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 17: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 1-84(2): Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 1-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. Are you in favour of the motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All those opposed? Bill 1-84(2) has had third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Ms Cournoyea.



Third Reading Of Bill 2-84(2): Science Advisory Board Ordinance

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 2-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Science Advisory Board Ordinance, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion carried. Bill 2-84(2) has had third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Ms Cournoyea.

Third Reading Of Bill 3-84(2): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 3-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called on Bill 3-84(2). All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-84(2) has had third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

Third Reading Of Bill 4-84(2): Council Retiring Allowances Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 4-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Council Retiring Allowances Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion on the floor for a third reading of Bill 4-84(2).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed, if any? Motion carried.

---Carried

Bill 4-84(2) has had third reading. Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 5-84(2): Temporary Borrowing Authorization Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 5-84(2), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds on a Temporary Basis, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a motion on Bill 5-84(2).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 5-84(2) has had third reading. Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 6-84(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 6-84(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1983-84 Financial Year, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, on Bill 6-84(2), it should read, "as amended".

HON. TOM BUTTERS: As amended, yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I hear question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 6-84(2), as amended, has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 7-84(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 1, 1984-85

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 7-84(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1984-85 Financial Year, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 7-84(2) has had third reading. Mr. Curley.

Third Reading Of Bill 8-84(2): Public Utilities Ordinance

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 8-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Utilities Ordinance, as amended, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 8-84(2), as amended, has had third reading. For the record, Bill 2-84(2) has had third reading, as amended. Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Speaker's Ruling On Case Of Privilege

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. In regard to the question of privilege raised under Rule 29(1) by the honourable Member for Slave River, Mr. McCallum, Rule 29(2) is clear, and I quote: "A Member may always raise a question of privilege in the Assembly immediately after the words are uttered or the events occur that give rise to the question."

A question of privilege is not a matter to be taken lightly, and I have reviewed this in accordance with our rules. I find that I have difficulty with the statement made by the honourable Member, Gordon Wray, under Rule 21, Ministers' statements, and I quote: "On Ministers' statements, as

listed in Rule 20(1) and (2), a Minister may make a short factual statement of government policy." I have reviewed the statement made by the Minister and find that the first part of his statement did apply to the government policy with respect to the method of appointments to the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation board of directors. The latter part of his statement, however, goes beyond government policy and raises points regarding procedures used in caucus and also makes a statement concerning the Member for Slave River and his attendance at caucus.

I find, after reviewing the matter, Mr. McCallum did not raise his point of privilege at the earliest opportunity. After the Minister made his statement, 14 oral questions with supplementary questions took place. Also the honourable Member, Mr. McCallum, asked two questions with supplementary questions before he raised his point of privilege. The orders of the day are laid out to allow a Member to ask oral questions on any statement made by a Minister. Therefore, I find the Member, Mr. McCallum, did not raise his point of privilege at the earliest opportunity, pursuant to Rule 29(5). Thus this matter is considered to be closed.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Can we understand from your ruling, Mr. Speaker, that the Speaker will interrupt Ministers if they appear to be going beyond a statement of policy, so that Members on this side need not raise questions of privilege with respect to this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take the honourable Member's point under advisement. Thank you.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, following up on that then I take it that the Speaker will also interrupt Members who digress from the intent of the motion, while discussing it, into other areas?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Wray, the Chair will also take your point under advisement.

Item 18, assent to bills. Item 19, orders of the day. Are there any announcements from the floor? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. At 9:30 a.m. tomorrow morning there will be a Social Services briefing on the Young Offenders Ordinance for the Eastern Arctic MLAs in the caucus room. At 10:30 a.m. tomorrow morning, a meeting of the standing committee on finance, for a briefing on formula financing. All Members are welcome to attend this meeting. At 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Petro-Canada luncheon briefing in the Wine Rack, downstairs.

#### ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Wednesday, May the 16th, at 1:00 p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Oral Questions
5. Written Questions
6. Returns
7. Petitions

8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions: Motion 7-84(2); Motion 8-84(2)
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Third Reading of Bills
18. Assent to Bills
19. Orders of the Day

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, May the 16th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT