



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pedersen, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Hon. Don Stewart, Hon. Gordon Wray

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): It seems to be quite a great deal quieter in here this morning, since the last time that I was in the presence of this honourable group. I understand that we have in the gallery today, Mr. Sid Hancock who was Deputy Commissioner in the Territories for a period, devastated Smith and wrecked Hay River, Mr. Hancock.

---Laughter

---Applause

Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, while you recognized Sid Hancock, I just wanted to add a word or two about Mr. Hancock. Mr. Hancock was a former director of Local Government and was also, at one time, the Assistant Commissioner. Before attaining such lofty heights in the government, Sid was the principal in Fort McPherson, I believe, and eventually became administrator of government in Simpson. This was in my juvenile years when I knew him.

Sid spent many years before he came to the North, working on reserves in the South. So, I guess he got good training, and eventually spent 18 years in the North working for people of the North. I have always found Mr. Hancock to be a fair, kind and above all, I feel he is a very good man. So, welcome back Sid, and it is nice to see you. Mahsi.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Orders of the day for Friday, June the 29th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Bill C-49

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that Bill C-49, An Act to Approve, Give Effect to, and Declare Valid, the Agreement Between the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement Representing the Inuvialuit of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and the Government of Canada, and to Amend the National Parks Act in Consequence Thereof, has received third and final reading in the House of Commons and the Senate, and is expected to be proclaimed later today. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Minister's Statement On Mine Safety Regulations

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. For the past two years work has been proceeding on a total review and revision of the mine safety regulations. As Members of this House are aware, the amended Mining Safety Ordinance was assented to December 1982 following a lengthy period of consultation with the mining industry. Bearing in mind the successful outcome with that process, a similar approach was taken in amending the mine safety regulations.

Earlier this year, a draft of the proposed regulations was given wide circulation and comment invited. I am happy to state that there was a substantial response from both management and labour, generally positive in nature. In order to review the requested changes, a meeting was arranged for June 18 and 19, to which union, management and government agencies, such as the Workers' Compensation Board, were invited. Delegates attended from mines throughout the NWT and over the course of two days, over 330 regulations were reviewed and agreement reached in the very positive atmosphere. All who participated in this meeting and in the consultation which proceeded are satisfied with both the process and the outcome.

The regulations agreed upon which are now being prepared for consideration by the Executive Council are progressive and properly address the occupational health and safety needs of the mining industry in the NWT. The regulations include a certification process for shift bosses -- the essential first line supervisors -- and a certification process for blasters and hoist operators which will ensure that such persons are properly qualified. I would like to express my appreciation to both management and labour for their co-operation and participation in this exercise which proves once again that consultation with those most effective in the development of legislation can prove most worth while.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' statements. Are there any oral questions today? Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 91-84(2): Funding For Baseball Diamond In Detah

MR. BALLANTYNE: I just have a quick one and this question is directed toward the Minister of Local Government. It is concerning funding for a baseball diamond in Detah. I would like to ask the Minister if he could look into what's happening with that funding, apparently there is some problem with it, if he could look into funding for a ball diamond in Detah.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 91-84(2): Funding For Baseball Diamond In Detah

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the Member will simply have to wait until next year. I'm sorry, I'm just kidding!

---Laughter

I must say that the Member has brought the matter of the ball park and playground area in Detah to my attention yesterday, and I have had my officials look into it and I propose to meet with the Member later today or the next few days to hopefully, successfully resolve any problems that may exist. And, if things go well, I may have a poem for you too later today.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: I trust there will be no poetry forthcoming on this. Are there any further oral questions? Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 92-84(2): Treasury Board Meeting And Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Proposal

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Minister, we are anxiously awaiting the results of the Treasury Board meeting yesterday which had on its agenda the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital proposal. Have you had any communique on that this morning?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 92-84(2): Treasury Board Meeting And Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Proposal

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Early this morning there was contact made between my officials and Health and Welfare Canada officials. The item of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital has been deferred on the Treasury Board's agenda until next Thursday. So, no decision was made on it yesterday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Supplementary To Question 92-84(2): Treasury Board Meeting And Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Proposal

MRS. SORENSEN: Supplementary to that, Mr. Minister, do you have a reason for why it was deferred? Have you been told whether there is more information required from our government, whether the federal arm, Health and Welfare, needs more information to get that submission through Treasury Board?

MR. BALLANTYNE: The guy should have supported Munro.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 92-84(2): Treasury Board Meeting And Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Proposal

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason that was given to us was that the Treasury Board requires more time to study the submission. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further questions? Are there any written questions? Mr. Appaqaq.

ITEM 4: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 93-84(2): Wildlife Officer For Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. We would like a wildlife officer in Sanikiluaq in 1985-86. That is what the question says. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Which Minister will reply to this or will the Leader take the question as notice?

AN HON. MEMBER: Pretty early in the morning, eh?

MR. SPEAKER: One is apt to follow the lead of others at times, unfortunately.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are supposed to be the leader.

MR. SPEAKER: I am having the same difficulty, yes. Are there any further written questions? Are there any returns today? Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 5: RETURNS

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, this is a return to the oral Question 49-84(2), asked by Mr. Paniloo on May 15, 1984, with regard to alcohol and drug abuse legislation. In response to Mr. Paniloo's concern about the lack of appropriate legislation in the area of alcohol and drug education, I have to inform the House that the new Liquor Ordinance has now been proclaimed in force, and has been in effect for some months. The ordinance contains extensive provisions allowing communities to set up types of schemes to combat the very serious problem of alcohol abuse. The legislation allows for several types of ration schemes to be set up and provides for stricter penalties for violations of the ordinance.

While I share the honourable Member's concern, I strongly believe that the answer to this problem lies in education rather than any legislation. If we are to succeed in defeating the problem of alcohol and drug abuse, we must educate our people in the ills of alcohol and drug abuse. A great deal of work in this area has presently been done by the Department of Social Services through their alcohol and drug program. A great deal more has to be done. I have, however, directed my officials to do a further study on the legislative aspects of preventing alcohol and drug abuse, and upon receiving their recommendations, I will be in a better position to decide on what statutory course to adopt.

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

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, this is a return to oral Question 51-84(2). This return is in response to Mr. Appaqa's question pertaining to the relaxation of conditions attached to the dining room licence for the Frobisher Bay Inn. The requirement to order a meal with every order for drinks in that dining lounge was removed some time ago by the Liquor Licensing Board. The board was under the impression that such a requirement posed an unnecessary burden on the clientele of the dining lounge. The board was also under the impression that the relaxation of this condition would receive general approval from the residents of the community.

Since that date, the Liquor Licensing Board has been informed of disapproval by the community of their action. The board has considered the matter and has heard the representative from Frobisher Bay on the board who has expressed great concern about the relaxation of regulations. The board has reconsidered the matter, and asked the mayor of Frobisher Bay to convey to the board the feelings of the town council on this matter, so that it may make an informed decision. It is expected that this decision will be made shortly.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 90-84(2): Rural And Remote Housing Program Fund

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to the written question asked by the honourable Member from Fort Smith, yesterday. The corporation's budget on the rural and remote program is completely allocated for this year. New construction has to be planned and budgeted for well ahead of time and people who wanted financing on the purchase of existing units were quick to take advantage of the limited funds available. As to the question of attaining a new infusion of money from CMHC, CMHC has approximately \$600,000 available to finance rural and remote projects. Unfortunately the corporation does not have the funding available to participate. The corporation is reviewing its capital funding to see if money can be reallocated. If funding cannot be identified the corporation will seek supplementary funds. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 80-84(2): Local Hiring For Road Construction, Fort Providence

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to the oral question asked by Mr. Gargan. A contract for reconstruction of the north winter access road at Fort Providence was publicly tendered during May 1984. The contract had not yet been awarded. In preparation for this work, highways division decided to clear the right of way on a day labour basis as opposed to machine clearing. This approach created 13 jobs, all filled by Fort Providence residents. To date, we have provided 2900 man hours of work for Fort Providence residents representing approximately \$39,000 in wages. Additionally a \$2000 contract for equipment rental was awarded to Michael's Contracting Limited, a Fort Providence business. Except for the project officer and highway technician, all project staff involved with managing the contract for reconstruction will be Fort Providence residents. We expect to provide employment for four full-time, and two part-time Fort Providence residents during the construction project, approximately mid-July to the end of September.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further returns? Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 84-84(2): Dust Control On Highway, Little Buffalo River

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Mrs. Lawrence's question, NWT Highway 6. Highway 6, which runs between Buffalo River junction and Fort Resolution is paved for the first 23.5 kilometres to Pine Point. There is a dust free zone to kilometre 28 near the dump and airport. Dust free zones are also found at a rest area between kilometre 57.5 and 58.5, and at the Little Buffalo bridge, kilometre 66.8 to 67.8. Calcium chloride is used in these dust free zones. The general rule of thumb used on NWT highways is to have a dust free zone for passing areas approximately every 50 kilometres. This standard is met on Highway 6. Paving from Pine Point to Fort Resolution is not planned in the next five years. Low traffic volumes and road conditions do not meet the criteria for paving it in this time frame, given resources available.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. There do not appear to be any further returns for today.

Item 6, petitions.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, tabling of documents. Item 9, notices of motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 9: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 12-84(2): John Carr Munro Motion Of Appreciation

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, July 2, 1984, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that the Speaker convey to the Hon. John Carr Munro, our deepest gratitude and appreciation for his contribution and unbounded service to the NWT. Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Notices of motion.

Item 10, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 11, motions. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 11: MOTIONS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with my motion as earlier read.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being sought, are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion 12-84(2): John Carr Munro Motion Of Appreciation

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Hon. John Carr Munro was appointed Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development immediately after the 1980 federal election;

AND WHEREAS since his appointment, the Hon. John Munro has carried out his responsibilities toward the Northwest Territories with great enthusiasm, skill and understanding of northern issues;

AND WHEREAS the Hon. John Munro has provided advice and skilful guidance to the Northwest Territories through its constitutional evolution in the last four years;

AND WHEREAS the Hon. John Munro has been a great advocate of territorial rights and concerns in the Government of Canada, the Parliament of Canada, the First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights and other national institutions;

AND WHEREAS at the announcement of Mr. Munro's retirement from public life, the people of the Northwest Territories and the Members of this House wish to express their gratitude and appreciation to the Hon. John Munro;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that the Speaker convey to the Hon. John Carr Munro our deepest gratitude and appreciation for his contribution and undaunted service to the Northwest Territories.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no question about the kind of commitment that the Hon. John Munro has made to the Northwest Territories. In particular, the manner in which he has provided his service and his own skill in achieving and helping the Government of the Northwest Territories, the people of the Northwest Territories, achieve their endeavours. I do not propose to speak very long because I believe that history will show that Mr. Munro himself has been, in my consideration, the best Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that the North has ever seen.

---Applause

His contribution itself will be written in the history books of the North. It will be written in the history books of this country, and that, in itself, is a contribution and as important as my own opinion, my own comments to the man himself. So, I would like to defer to the seconder of the motion for further comments.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Does the seconder wish to speak to the motion?

Mr. Munro Has Always Listened And Treated The North With Respect

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My speech will be non-partisan. I do not guarantee that it will be eloquent. But I would like to say a few words about John Munro. I remember sitting in the session and with my colleagues in the Ninth Assembly wondering who our new Indian and Northern Affairs Minister was going to be in those early days of 1980. When it was announced that it was John Munro, we in the North did not know an awful lot about the man, but many of us decided to give him a chance. But we decided to do our part too, and that was to begin the process of educating him, of telling him about our issues and of lobbying with him for our particular needs. One of the things that he demonstrated right off the bat was that he was very prepared to listen.

The first big issue, Mr. Speaker, that he had to deal with in a meaningful way, was the pipeline issue, and I think all of us can agree that Mr. Munro came out of that issue smelling like a rose. He made an early commitment to make announcements in the North rather than in Ottawa, something that we had been hoping Ministers would do since the time of the first Minister of Northern Affairs, and he made a commitment to consult as much as was humanly possible. He appointed northerners to his staff. Again something that was important from our perspective, which would allow us to have access through that staff to him. He involved immediately the mining industry on his staff as well. He worked well with the Government Leader of the time, even though that Government Leader was a confirmed Tory and made no bones about the fact that he was a confirmed Tory. Mr. Munro worked well with George Braden our Leader, and in fact, had many dinners in Ottawa with Mr. Braden discussing territorial issues.

He tried, Mr. Speaker, he tried his best and we always knew where the man stood. I think that was one place that he shone, that was important to us. He treated us with respect and with dignity. That also was important to us. No matter what kind of lobby we put forward, no matter what the issue was or how small in the national scheme of things, no matter how busy he was, he treated us with respect and with dignity.

During the constitutional crisis, when our Legislature went down en masse to Ottawa to attempt to reinstate aboriginal rights because they had been removed literally overnight, and to declare our opposition to section 42(1) (e) and (f), Mr. MacQuarrie tells me that it was John Munro who met with a small committee of the Legislature early during our visit there and who listened with a very sympathetic ear to what we had to say, and then went away from that meeting and helped us get the meetings that we needed with Mr. Chretien, Mr. Lalonde and eventually the Prime Minister of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the question of federal support for division was high on our minds and the minds of the people of the Territories following the spring of the 1982 plebiscite, and by the fall, Mr. Munro had a response for us, and that showed a commitment to responding to the wishes and the needs

of the people of the North and of the Legislature. He did not wait two years, he did not wait six years, he responded within six months, and he responded with the kind of response that we could accept and agree to -- conditional support, support in principle subject to four conditions.

There were many other issues that Mr. Munro addressed personally and I think our Minister of Finance can attest to the many times that he and Mr. Munro sat outside Treasury Board, sat outside other doors waiting for a chance to get on the agenda because we had a special need, a special need for impact funds, a special need for utilities funds, a special need for extra percentages in our growth factor that was required and he was responding to our special needs. He appointed and recommended northerners to national boards. For the first time we have an array of northerners sitting on boards that are making national decisions and making decisions that are affecting the North. And, we have good people from the North, from all over the North, on those boards. And it doesn't matter whether they are good Liberals. Who says, a good Liberal isn't a good Canadian and shouldn't be on those boards?

The Best Indian And Northern Affairs Minister

Mr. Speaker, I can honestly say, and I will join others who have already said, that the Hon. John Munro has been the best Indian and Northern Affairs Minister that we have ever had, that I have enjoyed and have been honoured by having the opportunity to work with him and with the people that he has working for him. I regret that he is not able to be with us here today. The only reason that he is not here with us is because in the last and dying moments before the recess in the House of Commons, he is still shepherding bills through that House and that has got to be his first priority and he has chosen to stay there and honour that commitment even though he will not be running again. As all good Liberals do, they honour their commitments. So, I will close by saying I salute Mr. Munro and I hope that my colleagues will join me in that salute. Thank you very much.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak now because I did regard the performance of Minister Munro very highly. He did an important job and I think he did a job that he can be proud of. And the reason that I would like to speak is so that members of his family will understand that this is not merely a formal motion in this House and not really a partisan motion at all since I am non-partisan in politics.

MRS. SORENSEN: Politically unique!

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, you could say that. You might put it to the test if you wish, Mrs. Sorensen.

---Laughter

At any rate, I really believe that he has done an excellent job as the Minister of Indian Affairs. I first saw him in action in the summer of 1980, not long after he had been appointed as the Minister of Indian Affairs and he attended the Dene National Assembly in Fort Good Hope. And, talk about a baptism of fire! He was under a great deal of flak at that meeting and of course being criticized for many things that he had not done. He was new to the portfolio. But I watched him carefully and I came away very impressed. He didn't wilt and he didn't flare. He listened carefully, he asked very pertinent questions to clarify issues, he responded forthrightly when he had the information necessary to make responses. I feel that that kind of approach has characterized his time as Minister of Indian Affairs. I believe that he has shown himself to be sensitive to the concerns of northern people. He has developed a very clear grasp of the issues that are facing northern peoples and I think that he has worked very, very hard to do as much as he can to help native people and northerners generally.

As I said, I believe that his work was of a very high calibre, to the point that, I cannot remember whether it was about a year ago or so when it was announced that the Prime Minister was considering cabinet shuffles and I remember writing to the Prime Minister urging him not to change the Minister Munro because I felt that he had acquired a clear grasp of the issues and that it was important that he remain in the job. In short, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Munro is someone who has won my respect for the work that he has done in his portfolio and I would like that to be on the public record.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot add very much to what has been said but I would like to just read the House the text of a message I sent to Mr. Munro as Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. "It is with regret that I view the conclusion of your tenure as Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I believe that the challenges, frustration and hard work inherent in that portfolio are greatly misunderstood. I know that you have worked tirelessly for the NWT and its people and I believe that history will judge your performance very favourably. Most notable among your many achievements to my mind is the policy on division of the Northwest Territories and the settlement of the Inuvialuit land rights claim. Your support for aboriginal rights negotiations and political development initiatives have contributed significantly to the enthusiasm, energy and optimism evident in northern society today. Your leadership, commitment and hard work have set the standard for future Ministers of the department and yours will be a very difficult act to follow. I have enjoyed my association with you and wish you every success for the future." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

North Will Be Long In His Debt

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the time that Mr. Munro became the Minister I think the territories of the North had experienced some six Northern Affairs Ministers in as many years. One of the great difficulties in dealing with the federal government at that time was that you did not know which Minister was coming and which Minister was going. The two Ministers who, in my recollection, have served the North very well have been Jean Chretien for a period of six years and our current and soon-to-be-leaving Minister, Mr. Munro who has served for over four years. I remember when I heard that Mr. Munro was going to become our new Minister, I was very dismayed because I had had dealings with him as Minister of Labour and I found him extremely difficult to get in touch with -- well, I have found this week as well that he is still difficult to get in touch with -- and he was unresponsive to what I thought was an excellent argument being put by the Territories with regard to management of our labour concerns and conditions in these Territories.

However, over the four years I have had many dealings with the Minister and I can recall one occasion when I travelled with him in his consultations on the pipeline. I recollect his day started at 5:30 in the morning with a consultation in Norman Wells with people there and he was still going at 11:30 that night in Fort Simpson. As Mrs. Sorensen said, I think a lot of the understanding that was developed in that debate and in that discussion was the result of Mr. Munro's initiative and personal involvement. Too, on many occasions when I have gone to Ottawa seeking funds for this initiative or that initiative, he not only has been responsive but has taken our case in to the Treasury Board and in effect was almost able to see the Territories invited to make our own case. One of the things that John Munro is not, he is not a centralist. He may reside in Hamilton, he may represent that constituency but he has recognized that Canada is made of many parts. He has recognized the NWT is one of those parts and that we have increasingly aspired to obtain more responsibility, more accountability and in fact home rule for the NWT. John Munro has moved us a quantum leap toward that object. So, in conclusion, I just like to say that I think we all recognize John Munro as a sincere and dedicated human being and the North will be long in his debt. Thank you.

---Applause

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As mayor of the city of Yellowknife I had many differences with John Munro but I too would like to go on the public record expressing my appreciation for the things that Mr. Munro has done. Many of them have been mentioned here today but I think in the area of political and constitutional development, the NWT has taken tremendous strides during the time of John Munro. I know personally one area that Mr. Butters and I worked very closely with Mr. Munro was the taxation of northern benefits question. I remember Mr. Munro's first trip to the North, I guess it was in February 1980, and there was a demonstration against him on that very issue. He was very supportive over the four years and we managed to get that whole question resolved in a way that didn't solve it, but at least, came to grips with the issue. And I want too, on the record, to thank Mr. Munro, for that specific issue and also I think to express our appreciation for what he did during his term. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. To the motion. That appears to conclude. Would you wish to close the debate, Mr. Nerysoo?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to close this debate by saying that in the motion we are recognizing the contribution of John Munro. I would ask you, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of this House, as well to express, through your communique to the Minister, our appreciation to his whole family and, while it is not recognized in the motion itself, to their tolerance in having Mr. Munro pay a lot of attention and travel to the North. I think it is a contribution that they have made to the North as well. I would just like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, if you can include that in your communique. Thank you very much.

Motion 12-84(2), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Let the record show that the motion was approved unanimously.

---Carried

Are there any further motions for today?

Item 12, first reading of bills.

Item 13, second reading of bills.

Item 14, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 10-84(2), Public Health Ordinance, with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

ITEM 14: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 10-84(2), PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come to order. We are dealing with Bill 10-84(2). Would the Minister wish to make a comment?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This reminds me of trying to get a quorum for some of the colonies when they left England. Bring me my gun.

Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this bill is to amend the Public Health Ordinance, to provide for the appointment of a chief medical health officer and to allow for the appointment of one or more health officers for each health district in addition to the medical health officer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister, are you done with your comments?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I was watching you for further instructions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Briefly, what the intent of this bill is is to make minor amendments in order to ensure that the chief medical health officer of the Northwest Territories has authority to carry out the intent of the public health legislation regulations and it is also to allow us to appoint more than just one medical health officer in any given health district. Right now, the ordinance is in the singular, that only one health officer can be appointed in any district. When this Public Health Ordinance was originally passed that was an adequate situation but now there are more people in the field due to the increase in population in the Northwest Territories and increases in the number of businesses like restaurants, etc., that have to be inspected by environmental health officers, so therefore it is necessary to update the legislation at this time in order to ensure that these people have the necessary legislative and regulatory authority to do their jobs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Would Mr. MacQuarrie like to comment?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation reviewed the bill and found it acceptable and it was informed at that review that the government had one additional clause that it would propose by way of amendment and indicated the substance of that amendment which was also acceptable to the committee. The committee agreed to refer the bill to the committee of the whole as it is, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Do we have any general comments? Can we proceed with the bill clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 2, chief medical health officer. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 4, chief medical health officer. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 5, health districts. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As discussed with the standing committee yesterday there is an amendment which is required, Mr. Chairman, to add a clause 6 to this bill.

Motion To Add Clause 6, Bill 10-84(2), Carried

Mr. Chairman, I move that Bill 10-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Health Ordinance, be amended by adding immediately after clause 5, the following clause: "6. The ordinance is further amended by adding immediately after section 5 the following section: 5(1) The designation or appointment of any person, prior to the coming into force of this section, as chief medical health officer or as a medical health officer or health officer by the Commissioner, other than in accordance with sections 5 or 6 as they read immediately prior to the coming into force of this section, shall be deemed to have been authorized by this ordinance." And, also I believe, Mr. Chairman, you have to mention in the off side of the paragraph, the marginal note is, "Authority for other appointments".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Minister. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? This motion is carried.

---Carried

Clause 6, authority for other appointments. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee recommend that Bill 10-84(2) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We will now report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 15: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 10-84(2), PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 10-84(2), and wish to report that this bill 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. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Members have heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

Item 16 on your orders of the day, third reading of bills. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 16: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 10-84(2): Public Health Ordinance

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik that Bill 10-84(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Health Ordinance, be read for the third time, as amended.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion on the floor. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 10-84(2) has had third reading. Mr. Clerk, will you check and see if the Commissioner is ready for assent to bills, please?

ITEM 17: ASSENT TO BILLS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I assent to Bill 10-84(2).

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to advise Members that certain parts of the official languages bill were proclaimed yesterday following the assent to that bill and it is my intention, acting on the advice of the Executive Council, following prorogation today, to sign into law the first regulations flowing from that official languages bill and those regulations are in fact the official aboriginal languages regulations. And if I could just say on a personal note that I am delighted to be in a position to take that action in this very, very important matter, a matter which has raised the level and the importance of aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories and in fact will have implications throughout Canada, particularly for native people in other parts of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to advise that the next session of this Legislative Assembly will be held in Yellowknife in the fall of this year but on a date and at a time yet to be announced.

ITEM 18: PROROGATION

I now, as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, prorogue this second session of the 10th Assembly.

---PROROGATION





