



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**DEBATES**

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Speaker: The Honourable Robert H. MacQuarrie, M.L.A.

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1980

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Arreak, Hon. George Braden, Hon. Tom Butters, Mr. Curley, Ms. Cournoyea, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Fraser, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. McLaughlin, Hon. Robert H. MacQuarrie, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Noah, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Sayine, Mr. Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. Tologanak, Hon. James Wah-Shee

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Robert H. MacQuarrie): Members will recall that Mr. Appaqaq, the hon. Member from Sanikiluaq was not able to be with us because of a death in the family and our condolences of course go to Mr. Appaqaq who is with us today. Welcome, Mr. Appaqaq.

Item 2, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 2: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Patterson.

Question 49-80(1): Sound Apparatus During Trials

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Justice and Public Services if his department has considered recommending that the Commissioner proclaim the recording of evidence by sound apparatus ordinance in order that summary conviction courts in the Northwest Territories might be able to hold summary conviction trials in addition to being sentencing courts.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 49-80(1): Sound Apparatus During Trials

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The simple answer is yes. I would just like to thank the hon. Member for not only advising me of his question but also informing me by letter of this apparent oversight. It would appear that legislation has been developed to provide for the type of service in justice of the peace courts as the hon. Member has outlined, but a proclamation or some legal thing has to be done to attain this end. I may say departmental officials are looking at various types of recording equipment and now are looking at one particular type which they hope will be technically expert enough to do the job that is required in this area.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. Oral questions. Mr. Arreak.

Question 50-80(1): Recreation Officer, Baffin Region

MR. ARREAK: (Translation) My question is to the Department of Local Government, the Minister of Local Government. Would Frobisher Bay get a recreation officer to deal with Baffin region?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would like to, Mr. Speaker, come back to the hon. Member later on.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Mr. Wah-Shee will take it as notice and respond at a later time, Mr. Arreak. Other questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 51-80(1): Fire Alarm System, Rankin Inlet

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Local Government. I am going to try that question again. In view of the present problems Rankin Inlet is facing with the fire system has the Minister any plans to replace that fire alarm system in Rankin Inlet?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that question under advisement.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Wah-Shee. Other oral questions?

Item 3, written questions and returns. Questions?

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. Patterson.

Question 52-80(1): Hunters' And Trappers' Conference, Baffin Region

MR. PATTERSON: This is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Will there be a regional hunters' and trappers' association conference in the Baffin region in the coming year?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Other written questions? Mr. Patterson.

Question 53-80(1): Caribou Hunting, Baffin And Keewatin Regions

MR. PATTERSON: This is also to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Has the Department of Renewable Resources taken any steps as a result of the motion by this House last fall concerning opening the closed season on spring caribou hunting in the Baffin and Keewatin regions?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Other questions? Returns from Executive Members. Hon. Mr. Butters.

Further Return To Question 48-80(1): Minister To Visit Akaitcho Hall

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to respond orally to oral Question 48-80(1) of Mr. Curley yesterday. I did visit Akaitcho Hall as he suggested and made the comparison that he suggested. I was struck by the same disparity that he was. There are two reasons for this and I trust that I will have an opportunity in debate of the Department of Education estimates to look into the matter a little bit more, but in response to his question, yes, we will begin to take some action to correct the situation which he drew to my attention.

Return To Question 25-80(1): Water Transportation Service, Fort Franklin

While I am on my feet, oral Question 25-80(1) asked by Mr. Fraser relative to water transportation service to Fort Franklin, Northern Transportation Company Limited will operate the 1980 Fort Franklin resupply. An intergovernmental study recommending alternative resupply routes for the future, 1981 and beyond, will be completed in mid-February. Public comments will be solicited before a choice of alternatives is made.

Return To Question 39-80(1): Classroom Assistant At Reserve In Hay River

I have one more return which I have held for three days, sir. This is a return to the question asked by Mr. Stewart, Question 39-80(1) relative to the provision of a classroom assistant at the reserve school in Hay River. In view of the improved attendance at the school on the reserve at Hay River, the Department of Education is prepared to provide a term position until March 31, 1981. The continuation of the position beyond that will have to depend on attendance at the school and the availability of salary money and man years.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Member Mr. Butters. Other returns from Executive Members?

Petitions. Mr. Wah-Shee. Sorry.

Return To Question 9-80(1): Remuneration For Hamlet Mayors

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: This is a return to Question 9-80(1). It was asked by Mr. Evaluarjuk, re increased indemnities for mayors. Under the terms of the Municipal Ordinance it is the hamlets themselves who set the honoraria rates for the mayor, deputy mayor and members of the council. They do so through a bylaw which must be sent to the Commissioner for approval before it is given third reading.

The hamlets are free to set any rates they want provided they stay within their total operations budget. The contribution which the Department of Local Government makes toward council honoraria is \$5000 a year for hamlets with a population of 500 or more and \$4000 a year for hamlets with a population of less than 500. If a hamlet wants to pay its mayor, deputy mayor and members of the council more than this amount, the hamlet council may either move the money from one of its other programs into council honoraria or raise the additional amount.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Wah-Shee. Other returns from Executive Members? Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 10-80(1): Dam Construction, Yellowknife Sewage Lagoon

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: A question asked by Mrs. Sorensen regarding the Yellowknife sewage lagoon. We have to defer the funding of the completion of the dam for the Yellowknife sewage treatment system. The city of Yellowknife has discussed this with the Northwest Territories Water Board. The board has recognized the problem of extensive financial cutbacks and will be adjusting its requirements accordingly. The chief of the environmental services division has been involved in consultations concerning this new sewage system from its inception. This work is now scheduled for funding in the 1981-82 fiscal year.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Wah-Shee. Other returns?

I will now move to Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, tabling of documents.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 7, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 7: NOTICES OF MOTION

Ms. Cournoyea.

Notice Of Motion 11-80(1): Telegram Of Congratulations, Shirley And Sharon Firth

MS. COURNOYEA: I would like to give notice of motion, seconded by the hon. Member from Inuvik that this House send an official telegram of congratulations and best wishes to Shirley and Sharon Firth and the other members of the Canadian women's cross-country ski team as they prepare to represent our country in cross-country skiing competition. I would be asking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today.

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Cournoyea. Other notices of motion?  
Mr. McLaughlin.

Notice Of Motion 12-80(1): Recess, February 18, 1980

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Friday, February 15th I will move the following motion, that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February 18th, 1980, and I will be asking later for unanimous consent to deal with the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Patterson.

Notice Of Motion 13-80(1): Standing Committee On Legislation, Terms Of Reference

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that on Friday, February 15th I will move that the proposed terms of reference of the standing committee on legislation be adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Other notices of motion? Mr. Noah.

Notice Of Motion 14-80(1): Construction Of Airstrip Terminal, Baker Lake

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, these things are written in English. I was going to give the notice today. I will try to say them in Inuktitut. I move that the Legislative Assembly should recommend to Ministry of Transport officials that construction of the terminal building in Baker Lake be undertaken in the summer of 1981. This is seconded by Mr. Curley.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Other notices of motion? Mr. Noah.

Notice Of Motion 15-80(1): Extension Of Baker Lake Airstrip

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I give notice of this motion which states: I move that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the appropriate authorities that an extension of the Baker Lake airstrip to a minimum of 5000 feet be undertaken during the summer of 1980 with the understanding that if necessary, completion will extend into the summer of 1981. It is seconded by Mr. Curley.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Other notices of motion?

Item 8, motions.

ITEM NO. 8: MOTIONS

We have Motion 10-80(1), Amendment of Policy for Department of Education.  
Mr. Sibbeston.

Motion 10-80(1): Amendment Of Policy For Department Of Education

MR. SIBBESTION: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the present policy of the Department of Education states that the Northwest Territories schools shall not be closed for more than two successive days on any occasion for the following activities; (i) professional development days (ii) workshops (iii) seminars (iv) conferences (v) in-service training activities;

AND WHEREAS this policy makes it difficult for the teachers in remote areas of the Northwest Territories to attend any in-service activity outside of their community;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the present Department of Education policy be amended by adding the following: That where local education committees in consultation with the regional superintendent of Education approve the closing of schools for in-service activities, that an additional period of time to a maximum of one day be permitted.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder for that motion? Mr. Patterson. To the motion. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, this amendment, this proposed amendment is just to provide for teachers in the remote parts of the Northwest Territories to be able to attend in-service training activities. Usually the teachers are required to go from their remote communities to the centre in their area, like in the Fort Simpson area, all of the teachers in Trout Lake, Jean Marie River, Tungsten, Fort Liard and Wrigley would go to Fort Simpson and have a conference there. With the present policy of not taking more than two days it is difficult for the teachers to be able to attend, because with this present policy they would necessarily only be able to leave on Thursday. Usually these conferences are on Thursday and Friday, so the teachers from the remote communities have to teach on Wednesday and then they would have to leave usually on Thursday and so they miss part of the conference. The matter of in-service training is of great importance to the teachers, particularly those in the remote communities where they do not have much opportunity to talk to other teachers and in a sense brief up or have an opportunity to be given literature or just generally to talk to other teachers within the same field or within the same situation.

Present Policy Limits Attendance At Conference

As I understand it under the contract that presently exists between the teachers and the government, five days are permitted each year for teachers to take in service training, that is professional training days. I understand that usually in the fall two of those days are used up and some time during the year, usually in February I believe, the rest of the time is taken up, but with the present policy it is very difficult for teachers to be able to attend any large conference in the larger centres.



This amendment proposed here would provide for teachers if they wished to attend such a conference to get the permission of both the regional superintendent of Education and the local education committee, so there is provision for some consultation and having permission from the local people. I suppose whether the committees would permit teachers to attend such a thing would depend in part on whether the community thought it would be a useful thing for the teachers to attend, so in a little settlement if the people feel the teacher is doing a good job and he in a sense deserves the additional time off and that he would benefit from going away then they would okay it. But I suppose in another situation where they thought that the teacher ought to just remain there and perhaps would not gain by going out then the people would not give him the additional half day or day necessary in order to attend the conference.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Does anyone else wish to comment?  
Mr. Patterson.

Problems On Baffin Island

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give an example in speaking to the motion of the sort of problem that this motion seeks to address. It does not necessarily even involve attendance in larger centres for workshops. For example, in Baffin Island there is currently being held a curriculum development workshop which will serve both teachers and classroom assistants. Now the community of Clyde River which is relatively close to Pangnirtung geographically is, however, isolated through air services so that unless the policy is changed it was not possible for teachers from Clyde River to even attend the conference in Pangnirtung without having to close the school for more than two successive days. It is interesting to note that in that community, Clyde River, the local education authority, itself, I understand wanted the teachers and classroom assistants to attend the workshop and found that it was being thwarted by this policy. They would have had to declare a school holiday or have the teachers declare a professional development day but it was not convenient on this particular day to do either of those two things. Changing the policy would avoid this sort of problem even in communities in Baffin Island which are relatively close to each other where they might want to get together for professional development purposes.

The other point I wish to emphasize, Mr. Speaker, is that this is not simply a motion that has been presented by the teachers or urged by the teachers. It is a concern of the local education authorities and requires their concurrence before the schools are closed for these purposes. So it involves the local education authority and for that reason I think it is a motion that people who support the local authority having control of their own schools cannot but support. I am supporting it because it will address current problems and also it allows the local education authority, really, veto power to determine whether or not attendance at these workshops and closure of the school is worth while for their particular school. Thank you,  
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Other debate on the motion. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Policy Developed By Legislature

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I will not be voting on the motion because I have no feeling one way or the other. I would just like to point out though, in case there is any misunderstanding on how the policy came to be formulated that it is not a policy that was developed on the third floor of the Laing Building. It was a concern that had been raised in previous debates on the Department of Education estimates when we examined the situation of teachers in the Northwest Territories. A number of Members pointed out that it seemed that teachers did pretty well as far as holidays were concerned and here it was the middle of February and they are off again and the schools are closed. The question was raised why can they not use other time to discuss these professional matters? A professional does not work from 8:30 to 5:00 o'clock. He or she works whenever one has to work and I think that there was some concern that the very prime time parts of the week that should be given to children were being invested in this other manner. So that is where the policy was developed. It was not at the request of the education officials. It was a concern raised by this House.

Now there have been some changes since that policy was put together and both the mover and the seconder of the motion pointed this out, there have been developed in the communities local education authorities. I would agree that this is the way to go. I would just like to assure myself though that if the motion passes I will make it very clear to the local education authority that when teachers come requesting three days or four days of school time that they know they have every right and responsibility to determine how many days will be permitted.

MR. PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

Decision Would Be Made In Communities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I would just like to note for the record, Mr. Speaker, that I had a "hear, hear!" from the mover of the motion who would appear to second that and agree with that and I would imagine the mover might also say "hear, hear!" I see he is sitting, nodding his head in agreement. If the motion passes, the responsibility of determining how the teachers will spend their time will be determined by the people in the communities. If they feel the time of the teachers will be best spent in in-service training, great.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. I would just like to point out it was the seconder, to make that very clear, that it was he who gave you the "hear, hear!" The mover's head went both ways at the same time so it was an interpretation that I do not know everyone would agree with. I am sorry, you will not have an opportunity to speak, Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: On a point of order, I think I may be permitted to correct the hon. Minister of Education when he suggested the motion would possibly allow four days of conferences. I believe the motion only allows an additional period of time to a maximum of one day from the present two. That is my point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe he was not referring to additional time though, Mr. Patterson, but rather time altogether and perhaps there could be four successive days.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Either we give the local education authorities the responsibility to make those decisions or we do not and I say we do it. If they want four, they take four.

Motion 10-80(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: That may be an opinion, Mr. Butters, but that is not what the motion states according to my interpretation. Other debate on the motion? Are you ready for the question? We have a motion moved by Mr. Sibbeston, seconded by Mr. Patterson that where local education committees in consultation with the regional superintendent of Education approve the closing of school for in-service activities, that an additional period of time to a maximum of one day be permitted. Those in favour please indicate by raising your hand. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms. Cournoyea, would you like the floor?

Motion 11-80(1): Telegram Of Congratulations, Shirley And Sharon Firth

MS. COURNOYEA: The motion seconded by the hon. Member from Inuvik:

WHEREAS the 13th Olympic Winter Games are beginning in Lake Placid, New York;

AND WHEREAS Canada has named a women's cross-country ski team to represent the nation in the cross-country skiing competition;

AND WHEREAS Sharon and Shirley Firth of Inuvik have been named to the national cross-country ski team and will be representing Canada at the 13th Olympic Winter Games;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the hon. Member from Inuvik, that this House send an official telegram of congratulations and best wishes to Shirley and Sharon Firth and the other members of the Canadian women's national cross-country ski team as they prepare to represent our country in cross-country skiing competition.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by Ms. Cournoyea, seconded by Mr. Butters. To the motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Ready for the question? All those...

MS. COURNOYEA: I know Shirley and Sharon Firth are very close to us in the Western Arctic but I would like to give some information on them before the vote on the question. As Shirley and Sharon Firth are twin sisters from Inuvik and have been named to represent Canada at the Lake Placid Olympic Winter Games as members of Canada's women's national cross-country ski team. The team is made up of four members, a third member of the team, Joan Groothuysen, was a former resident of Inuvik and she began her cross-country ski career under the Territorial Experimental Ski Training program more commonly known as TEST.

The TEST program began in 1966 under the guidance of Father Mouchet, the coaching of Bjorge Pettersen and support of the board of directors from Inuvik. The program was originally funded by the federal government and during the past five years the territorial government has provided an annual grant to assist this program. The TEST program provides coaching and leadership to skiers in many settlements in the Western Arctic and the coach of the program has travelled to the Keewatin and Baffin at the request of interested groups.

#### Achievements Of Skiers

In 1972 Canada sent both a men's and women's cross-country skiing team to the Winter Olympics held in Sapporo, Japan and members of the team who trained under the TEST program and skied for the Inuvik ski club included Shirley and Sharon Firth and Roseanne Allen, Ernie Lennie, Fred Kelly and Jarl Omholt-Jensen.

In 1976 skiers from the Northwest Territories again made up part of Canada's cross-country ski team at the Winter Olympics held in Innsbruck, Austria. Again Shirley and Sharon led the women's team and this time were joined by Joan Grootuysen. Shirley and Sharon Firth are the first North American women to have represented their country for a third consecutive time in cross-country skiing. This accomplishment did not come easily as it is not just a question of being the best in Canada. Selection for this year was based on the potential to be one of the first 15 to cross the finish line. We should have some pounding on the tables for that one.

---Applause

We in the Northwest Territories have reason to be proud of the accomplishments of these two women from Inuvik and they have been terrific ambassadors for the Northwest Territories and for Canada. During the past ten years many skiers from other national teams travelled to Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk and Fort McPherson to participate in the Top of the World Ski Championships held each spring and the impact of these visitors and the examples set by the skiers in the TEST program who have risen to national and international fame has motivated many persons to take up skiing in the Northwest Territories. I trust you join with me in sending our congratulations and best wishes to Shirley and Sharon and the other members of the team as they prepare to represent our country at the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, New York.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Cournoyea. I will not take your request for applause as a precedent. Otherwise we might never get through the replies to the Commissioner's Address if we have Members requesting applause.  
Hon. Mr. Butters.

Terms Of Reference Of Commissioner's Award

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to add to the very fine summary of the achievements of the Firth girls as the hon. Member from the Western Arctic notes who are internationally renowned. I would expect that it would be our Minister for recreation who might send this wire as the senior official in the government in the area of recreation, but I think that we should do a little more than that. I think, as Ms. Cournoyea has pointed out, we are looking at ten years in the area of national, territorial and international sport and they have carried not only the flag of Canada but the flag of the Northwest Territories proudly wherever they have gone.

It seems to me maybe we could enlarge the terms of reference of the Commissioner's Award to include a gift to those who have made an outstanding achievement in sport. I think the Commissioner's Award at the present time is for public service, for safety, but I think Sharon and Shirley should be recipients of that award and I think that I would be very happy to second Ms. Cournoyea's application on her behalf when she puts it in.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Other comment on the motion? Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

Motion 11-80(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: The question being called. All those in favour please indicate by raising your hand. Opposed? Carried unanimously.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin, would you like the floor?

Motion 12-80(1): Recess, February 18, 1980

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS Monday, February 18th, 1980, is the date set for polling in the federal election;

AND WHEREAS the employees and Members of this Assembly should be provided ample time to vote on that day;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February the 18th, 1980.

This is seconded by the hon. Member from Slave River.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you seeking unanimous consent to proceed, Mr. McLaughlin?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I felt that your wave of the hand for Ms. Cournoyea also included me, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: It did not, Mr. McLaughlin.

---Laughter

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask unanimous consent of this House to deal with this motion which I introduced earlier.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Does our caucus chairman have unanimous consent to proceed with the motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, Mr. McLaughlin, will you now proceed with the motion?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS Monday, February the 18th, 1980 is the date set aside for polling in the federal election;

AND WHEREAS the employees and Members of this Assembly should be provided with ample time to vote on that day;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February the 18th, 1980.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry now that you have moved that, was there a seconder included, Mr. McLaughlin?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. McCallum from Slave River.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that we do require some time to allow the employees of this Assembly to vote, I realize that this could be scheduled possibly in the morning and they could be given different times off during the day, so it could be handled that way, but it appears from talking to several Members that they will not be here on Monday and the fact that we did not have a caucus meeting this morning was why I decided to bring the motion onto the floor this afternoon.

A Quorum Unlikely

Also there are different employees who are contracted to the Assembly and if we could make our minds up now that their services will not be required on Monday then we will save some money for the government during these hard times. I think it would be very embarrassing for us to call a regular Assembly on Monday at 1:00 o'clock and not have a quorum for it and I do not believe there will be a quorum.

MR. SPEAKER: Other comments on the motion? Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the motion. I cannot go home to vote Monday afternoon. I am staying here. A number of my colleagues are staying here. Mr. McLaughlin urged us just the other day to get down to business and stop wasting time and I think his point was well taken, but I say we have a lot of work to do. We have taken a whole week on the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. It was time well spent, but there is a lot more of important business to take place before this House. If there is not going to be a quorum, Mr. Speaker, then the House will not sit.

I hope I speak for the majority of Members from the far regions who are making sacrifices in being away from home and one of those sacrifices is that we are not able to exercise our right to vote. Now Members are telling me, some Members are saying that they want the afternoon off so that they can exercise that right when others of us who are staying here are going to be denied that right. I think the Assembly should go ahead and if there is a quorum let the business of the House carry on. I do not think there is anything preventing any of the Members who can vote from voting in the morning. Even public servants are only allowed I believe a couple of hours off to vote. Why should we take the whole afternoon off?

Work Of Assembly Should Take Precedence

I am not going to vote in favour of the motion. I almost withheld my consent but I think it is important that we discuss it today so that people who are affected might be forewarned. Perhaps the vote will indicate how many people will be here. If it is possible might I suggest that a show of hands be requested by the Speaker to see how many people would attend the session and will be in Yellowknife and will be able to meet here, because I am becoming increasingly worried about the amount of business that we have to do and about the diminishing amount of time in which to do it. I think we should get down to work. We should not be particularly concerned with the federal election. We are Members of the territorial Assembly and I am not particularly unhappy about not being able to vote, because I am looking forward to working here and I do not see why Members who are close enough to vote should have any advantage over me who cannot go home for the afternoon to vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. With respect to your suggestion of a show of hands I will respectfully decline. Members certainly may indicate to this House whether they are going to be here or not be here as the debate progresses and they are certainly invited to do that.  
Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if we ought to indicate our party preferences so we know which party has the most to gain if we go home.

---Laughter

I was also going to say that maybe we should make a motion to the effect that we all support another Firth to represent us, this time in Ottawa.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston, while you are ranging far and wide do you think the Assembly should express its opinion as to whether the Olympics ought to be held at all? That is another topic again. Carry on if you had not finished your remarks.

MR. SIBBESTON: I also wanted to say that I agreed with Mr. Patterson that I think we ought to meet on Monday and it is true some of us can conveniently go home and spend a day in our home town and rally support for the party we wish, I guess, and spark things up, but I do think that there is a lot of work to be done and we simply ought to remain here and do that work. For those in Yellowknife, of course they have all morning to vote so I would not think that they ought to be permitted to vote on the question. Amen.

MR. SPEAKER: Other debate before I give Mr. McLaughlin the right of last reply? Is there any other debate? All right, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, with your permission I would like to move an amendment to that motion. Would that be appropriate?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it would.

Motion Amended

MR. CURLEY: I move that the amendment be made as such: That the Assembly not meet during the week of February 18th.

MR. SPEAKER: I will just pause while I see whether that is a legitimate amendment or another motion. Mr. Clerk. Yes, I would ask, Mr. Curley, that you give me the very precise wording of how your amendment fits into this motion, please. It could be important to the way I rule here.

MR. CURLEY: Well, when I get to see the original motion I may be able to put the amendment in.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe Mr. Clerk has it with him there. The motion had originally stated: "Now therefore, I move that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February the 18th..." and of course the preamble material indicated that it was to provide Members the opportunity to vote according to federal legislation which demands that they return to their ridings to do so. That being the case I find the amendment in order: "Now therefore, I move that this Assembly not meet during the week of February 18th."

Rules Of Debate

So I will invite you to speak to the amendment. Now, I noticed the other day when I was not in the chair during committee of the whole that a couple of Members were upset when they were ruled out of order by the chairman because they were not speaking to the amendment. So may I just clarify that? Any debate during this part of the debate is strictly to be directed at this point as to whether it should be for one day, Monday, February the 18th or the week of February the 18th and not as to the principle of whether we should be shutting down the Assembly for voting purposes. So while we are dealing with the amendment that is the only debate I will allow. Once the amendment is decided then we can go back to the principle. All right, with that -- pardon me, a seconder -- is there a seconder for Mr. Curley's amendment? Mr. Arreak. Okay, Mr. Curley, to the amendment.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to the amendment which I made. Anyone who wants to vote during the federal election who comes from the far away communities because if they were to go home for just one day they would not be coming back to the Assembly and then they would not be carrying on their business. Another reason that I made the amendment to prorogue for a week is because the Keewatin Members will not be here and I would like to be able to go home for awhile because I have got so much to do. The only way that I am really able to come back is on Thursday. That is why I make this amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: Other comments on the amendment? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Costs Of A Weeks Prorogation

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I am in support of the amendment, but there are some problems too with me. If we take off for a week, if we prorogue for a week, we have a problem in transportation. I also think that we do not have very much money at the present time, so if we are not going to meet for a week it could cost a least \$600. It costs about \$600 a day to rent this place and if we are not going to use it for about a week, they would take all of the equipment out and then put it back in again after about a week. In Canada if 15 people do not vote that would not make too much difference.

--Applause

They will vote again in the spring.

---Laughter

They will vote again in the communities at the outpost camps.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM. Every six months.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) There are a lot of people who are out on the land and they will be back in six months. If we go home for a week and do not meet for a week maybe we are going to have to lengthen our business again. I would like to be able to go home too, for a week but it is a problem for some of us too. I can say that if we could meet on Monday, we should meet on Monday but if we cannot, we will not. That is all I can say. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. To the amendment as to whether it should be one day or the week of February 18th. Hon. Mr. Butters.

Budget Must Be Approved On Time

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would urge all Members to consider the great deal of work that still remains to be done in the consideration of the budget.



If we were to take a week off, that means that we have five weeks left of work and if you use as a yardstick the amount of time that has been taken on the Housing Corporation we could be here for another three months. However, there is a limitation on the time we have available to us and that is on April the 1st the money that this government starts to consume is contained in this budget and if we have not approved this budget I do not know where the money is going to come from. So we must complete this job of work. I think that that is what we should turn our attention to and that is what we should get at with all possible haste.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. To the amendment. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I think Members should take into consideration that we have rented this room for the period we are here at a considerable price per day and we all did take that into consideration when we met in caucus a week and a half ago, that we would not at that time, we decided, take a break, that we would go right through the whole session and we would just leave the Monday up to each individual Member. It was dollars and cents which caused me to make my original motion and which will have me vote against this motion as well because we are committed to renting this room and having the facilities set up. If you want to tear the facilities down and put it up again it would probably cost us as much. I really think I support Mr. Butters. We have a lot of work to do and we should do it. We should not take a week off.

MR. SPEAKER: To the amendment. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I thought it had been generally agreed that Members who wish to go home at any time during the session could go on their own, but the amendment would seem to virtually require us to go home. I cannot support it either, I am surprised, particularly surprised that the motion should come from my hon. colleague, Mr. Curley, because I would have thought that he would have thought twice before cancelling a week in which we are supposed to meet with officials of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada of which he had the honour to be the first president. I must respectfully speak against his motion and I will be voting against the motion as well, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: To the amendment. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have always said when we get into the realm of politics it is not reason so much. It is mostly emotion and the question of going home and being involved is a bit of an emotional decision. It is an emotional matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not just the matter of going home but whether it should be one day or one week. Are you going to address that?

MR. SIBBESTON: I just want to say I am going to let reason prevail this time and vote against the amendment and in fact the whole matter of even being away one day.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Amendment Defeated

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, Mr. Curley. You do not have a right of last reply with respect to amendments. Those with motions do. Question being called on the amendment. Are you ready for the question? I will remind you that it is simply the latter part that is being voted upon now: Now therefore, I move that this Assembly not meet during the week of February 18th, 1980. All those in favour of that amendment please indicate by raising your hand. Those opposed please indicate. The amendment is lost.

---Defeated

We will now return to the original motion: Now therefore, I move that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February 18th, 1980. Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Sibbeston have already spoken. Is there other comment on the motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Are you ready for the question? You have a right of last reply, Mr. McLaughlin. If there are no other comments I will take this as closing the debate.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to make it clear that my intent upon making this motion was to get a polling from the Members because we did not have a caucus meeting this morning and I felt the Clerk should be given at least a couple of days forewarning that he would not have a quorum on Monday. There are contractors who do work for this Assembly who have indicated to the Clerk's office that they would possibly not be here for the entire weekend if they did not have to work on Monday and we would not have to pay their expenses over the weekend in that case. My feelings on the motion, actually I do not care which way it goes but I felt this was the only way we could poll the Members to find out who is going to be here for sure and who is not so the Clerk can get ready for Monday or take it easy on Monday.

Motion 12-80(1), Defeated

MR. SPEAKER: All right. You will get a poll in a minute here or a shaft or something. That closes debate. Moved and seconded: Now therefore, I move that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February 18th, 1980. Those in favour of that motion please indicate by raising your hand. That is that this Assembly not meet on Monday, February 18th, 1980. Those opposed? Those opposed please indicate by raising your hand. That motion is lost.

---Defeated

I believe those were the two motions for which unanimous consent were sought, in which case we now move to Item 9.

Item 9, consideration in committee of the whole.

ITEM NO. 9: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND OTHER MATTERS

Is it the Members' wish to resolve into committee of the whole? Is it the Members' wish?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: This House will now resolve into committee of the whole for consideration of items listed on the order paper, with Mr. Patterson in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Motion 9-80(1): Special Committee on Unity, Terms of Reference; and Bill 1-80(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1980-81, with Mr. Patterson in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MOTION 9-80(1): SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNITY, TERMS OF REFERENCE; AND BILL 1-80(1): APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1980-81

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The committee of the whole will come to order. The first item on our agenda is Motion 9-80(1), Special Committee on Unity, Terms of Reference, which was moved by Mr. Fraser and referred to committee of the whole for discussion. Mr. Fraser, would you like to make any remarks about this motion of yours at this time?

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope everybody has had a chance to go through the terms of reference on this motion. The terms of reference were made up by a small group of this Assembly. We expect there to be some changes and modifications in the terms of reference. I think some of the wording might have to be changed. However, I am glad it was referred to the committee of the whole so all Members could discuss these terms of reference in more detail. The terms of reference were just set down as a guideline for this Assembly so we have some indication as to what direction this Assembly wishes this committee on unity to go. I do not think the committee has any objections to any changes, provided they are in line. With this, Mr. Chairman, I think I will just leave it open to Members and see what happens. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. We will see what happens. Any discussion on the terms of reference of the special committee on unity? Is it the wish of the committee that a vote be taken then on this motion? Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: What I see here is not a significant change, a wording change. I want to know, can I go over those right now? It is not significantly changing the meaning, but maybe making it more clear and concise.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Could I ask you, Ms. Cournoyea, if you ask to change wording, that you put it in the form of an amendment which we can vote on, please?

MS. COURNOYEA: Do you want me to do this all at once or do you want to deal with it point by point?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I would suggest if there is a separate sentence you are dealing with you make a motion concerning that particular sentence and then we will move on to any other sentences so we do not get too confused.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, if I may on a point of order, if there are any changes in the terms of reference as to wording or spelling I wonder maybe if you could ask the Legal Advisor if it has to be in the form of an amendment to these terms of reference. If there are any changes to be made in the terms of reference by the committee or by the House, I do not know if I could answer the questions as to why these wordings were in there but maybe one of us on the committee might be able to answer why this was worded this way. At this time is it legal to go through with these amendments to the terms of reference?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think I take your point, Mr. Fraser. It has been suggested that we wait to see what the amendment is before we decide how to deal with it.

Motion To Change Wording Of Terms Of Reference, Motion 9-80(1)

MS. COURNOYEA: Let me try this and see if anyone feels that maybe it should go to caucus for further discussion or whatever. The amendment, Mr. Chairman, would be deleting the indented words following the second paragraph under the heading "Mandate" to read as follows...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Could you tell us which page you are on in Motion 9-80(1)?

MS. COURNOYEA: The first page, terms of reference.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): All right. Please go ahead. Perhaps I can explain we are just trying to make sure that we all have the same piece of paper in front of us. This is Motion 9-80(1) in your motion book.

MS. COURNOYEA: It is page two of the motion, Mr. Chairman. The change takes place following: "In order to discuss the following". May I proceed?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes.

MS. COURNOYEA: I move that all words between the end of line three on page two of the motion and the paragraph beginning "it may also" be deleted and the following be substituted therefore: "an examination of political options including: (a) the modifications which might be necessary in order to make a single government acceptable to all people in the Northwest Territories; (b) alternatives to a single political jurisdiction; (c) a determination of the political option(s) preferred by the native associations; (d) resources to be made available to develop preference or options; (e) and other related matters".

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Okay. Thank you, Ms. Cournoyea. I believe your motion is in order. It is an amendment to the terms of reference but because it is fairly lengthy and other Members may have had the same problem I did in trying to write it down, I would suggest if the committee agrees that we should take a tea break early in order to permit the proposed amendment to be typed and circulated and adjourn now and consider the amendment after the tea break. Is it agreed? Yes, Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I might just add to your comments. We should have the amendments typed and circulated and translated, Mr. Chairman. Translated.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I agree, Mr. Fraser, that they should be translated and I think we will do our best to have that done. Is it agreed that we will take a 15 minute break now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The committee will rise for 15 minutes. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I believe we have a quorum. I should inform Members that I should have listened to Mr. Evaluarjuk when he told me that we should adjourn -- rise for half an hour for tea because of course we have had problems with the translation and it is not here yet. Mr. Fraser.

Motion To Report Progress On Unity Committee

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I move that we report progress.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. I take it that your motion refers to this item only, does it, Mr. Fraser?

MR. FRASER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we could report progress and perhaps carry on with the business of the House and maybe come back to this in caucus.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): All right. Mr. Fraser has moved that we report progress on this item and continue with the other business of the committee of the whole is I gather what you meant. I believe that motion is in order at any time, according to Rule 74, and the rule says that it shall be decided forthwith without debate. So I am going to call the question on Mr. Fraser's motion just to make it clear again to all Members. The motion is that this committee report progress on this particular item which is the terms of reference of the unity committee and that the other business of the committee of the whole continue. The intent of Mr. Fraser's motion is to get back to the terms of reference for the committee on unity at some other point in time, but it would require that I report progress on this item when the committee rises at the end of its business today. Is the motion understood by everyone? If so, I am going to call the question on the motion to report progress. All in favour of Mr. Fraser's motion please signify by raising your right hand. That is all in favour of the motion? Mr. Curley, did you vote in favour?

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I was going to ask what the motion was. I just got in here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): All right, we are going to have to vote again then. Mr. Curley, the motion made by Mr. Fraser was that this committee report progress on this particular item, that is the terms of reference of the standing committee on unity. The intention of the motion is that I report progress on this item at the close of the committee's business today, but that we report progress only on this item. In other words, it would allow the item to be brought up at a later time before the House and the intention is that the committee of the whole would carry on with other business this afternoon.

Motion To Report Progress On Unity Committee, Carried

So I am going to call the question again. All those in favour of the motion to report progress on this item please signify by raising your hand. Thank you. Opposed? Abstentions? The motion is carried and we will move on to the next item of business for the committee of the whole and I will report progress on the motion concerning the terms of reference of the unity committee.

---Carried

The next item on the agenda of the committee of the whole is Bill 1-80(1), Appropriation Ordinance and we are on the estimates of the Department of Social Services. I believe the Minister, the Hon. Mr. McCallum had given his general introductory remarks and is it therefore the wish of the committee that we enter into general discussion on the Department of Social Services? Is it the wish of the committee to enter into general discussion on this item now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It being generally agreed, I will open the floor to general comments and questions. Mr. McCallum, if you wish to take the witness' position please go ahead and I believe we had agreed that Mr. Stangier could also be present, so please go ahead, Mr. Stangier. This will be an opportunity for Members to make general comments and pose questions of a general nature and when that discussion is over we will move into the first item of the estimates for this department. Does anyone have any general discussion, questions or comments? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: This is for general comments and statements?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes.

Minimum Assistance Per Family

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a comment and then a question to the Minister. It is with regard to the financial contribution area of the social assistance. I think it might be appropriate to suggest that your department may be one of the most successful departments in terms of meeting that contribution or service to the people in the far North, but it is maybe not the most favoured department by many. I would just like to ask a question with regard to the minimum assistance to individuals -- per individual, because that was raised at Rankin Inlet while I was talking to the people in Rankin. I realize that social assistance is not the best example to the people, but to those who are in need of it I think they have no other alternative but to seek financial assistance from your department. Could you give me maybe a figure on the minimum assistance to a family or whatever guidelines you may have?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Go ahead, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, of course the minimum amount of basic living allowance that is paid depends upon the zone in which one would reside. In terms of Rankin Inlet, Rankin Inlet is in scale four and for a family of four, that is the basic food allowance, there are additions and I will come to that, the basic food allowance is \$371 per month. Now, in addition to the food allowance there can be an additional grocery allowance on the recommendation of a medical officer for each person requiring a special diet for the purposes of treatment, or the necessary protection of health, of a health supplement or a diet supplement. There is in addition to the food allowance a clothing allowance to a maximum of \$240 annually for each person in need, regardless of age. So that works out to about \$20 per person per month, so a combination of those two. There are other allowances that are being paid other than the basic food allowance and the basic clothing allowance. I should indicate to you that there is a proposal to have the total amount and the rates now being reviewed with the prospect of placing an increase before the Executive. We have not completed a review on it and we are in the midst of that kind of review.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Curley. Mr. MacQuarrie.

High Number Of Man Years Under Administration

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I have many questions for later but just one item that I would like to raise right now. It was kind of startling to me when I started looking through the Department of Social Services estimates and when I look at the allocation of man years. Now, I am sure there would be some very logical explanation as to why it is the way it is and I will be happy to wait and hear that, but I must say that at first glance I was kind of astounded to find that out of 279 continuing positions, that 126 of them are listed under administration. That is 45 per cent of man years under administration and for a department that is to deliver services to people I found that a very high number. The administration it says is responsible for developing, co-ordinating and managing the delivery of services and it just seems very high. So, could I please have an explanation as to why? When I compare it with the Department of Local Government or the Department of Education and so on it is high. Could I have that explanation, please?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the number of man years associated with administration includes everybody except for the institutional staff, for example, the staff of correctional centres, receiving homes, the Akudlik Transient Centre and the Joe Greenland Transient Centre. There are 24 people in Yellowknife at the headquarters level. There are 16 in the Yellowknife district office and 86 other people involved in the regions; 30 of them in Fort Smith, that is the entire Fort Smith region, 22 in the Inuvik region, 25 in the Baffin and nine in the Keewatin.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: In other words, those people who actually meet the public and deal with cases are included in this administration figure. If that is the case, it is understandable. I did not realize that that was the way it was divided.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Just to make sure Members know where we are in case you wish to refer to the estimates, it begins on page 13.01 of the main estimate book and Mr. MacQuarrie was referring to page 13.02 under administration. This is a period for general discussions before we get into the details, comments or questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Care Of Children

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your opening remarks you mentioned that the department was looking forward to a major review of legislation concerning the care of children in the Northwest Territories. Could you perhaps indicate to me how far you are along with that, how much lead time you will give to this Assembly to look at the proposed amendments and what kind of consultation will take place with those groups and individuals who will be concerned about amendments to this legislation?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we would hope to review the legislation by comparison with other Nordic countries and the northern parts of the provinces. We are at the present time trying to put together a paper that we can take to the Executive Committee that would allow us to get some kind of assent to us looking at various pieces of legislation of those areas that I suggested, how that legislation could be modified. We would expect that we would propose a kind of consultation or communication, an avenue for that with not only the judiciary and others that I had indicated, but with communities, the communities social services groups that I had indicated when I talked about this in my opening remarks.

These are the kinds of things that we would like to be able to deal with when we are talking about a review of the existing legislation. We would hopefully be able to make a proposal that will, of course, provide for the greatest amount of consultation and input from these communities and, as I indicated, there are a large number of them throughout the North. What we would expect to do then is to have this paper presented to the Executive Committee outlining the kinds of things and look for that kind of assent to a course of action that we are proposing so that in fact we can proceed on it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Mr. Sibbeston.

Social Services Advisory Committee

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was interested in finding out whether the department intends to continue trying to get local groups, panels, social development, social assistance aspects of the department. I am aware that in Fort Liard the band council has been handling the matter of giving social assistance to people who really need it. Also last summer and fall we had meetings with the regional superintendent of Social Services in Fort Smith who came down to Fort Simpson and said that the local people -- it was as a result of matters raised by the Hire North Committee and the band council -- that maybe an advisory, social services advisory committee could be set up. There was a local desire to in fact set up a committee and also have some funds to do some work in trying to deal with the alcohol problem for instance in Simpson. The only block or the only hindrance, the thing that stopped this happening was that it had to go through the village council and at the time there were no native people on the village council. So it seemed as if it was a situation where perhaps something could have been done but because it had to go through the village council it never did get off the ground so the opportunity was lost. I am just wondering firstly, whether you intend to continue your program of trying to get local groups involved in social assistance and whether you will continue to insist whether any social advisory group be handled or be first of all approved by village councils or settlement councils.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I want to first of all assure the Member that we would continue to promote the establishment of local social services advisory committees. The Member indicates Fort Liard and they have been doing that and just recently have indicated to the department that they no longer want to do it but for a different reason. They are not at odds with this government or the Department of Social Services. I think their difficulty is with getting information from the federal government so it is not that Fort Liard are against the Department of Social Services as such. But we will continue to press for the establishment of local social services advisory committees. In those areas where the local municipal body will take it over and be involved with it obviously that would be a preference but as the Member knows in the case of Liard that was not necessarily the case so in point of fact we have talked to other people or other organizations such as he indicates.

Certainly it would be a preference to have the local government and in those areas where there is a combination of both where the local municipal government is truly representative of the community, then that is obviously the route we would want to go. I would not want to rule out the possibility of other avenues but I do not think that -- it may be in the past that it has been insisted upon and I am not suggesting that we would not. We would obviously want to deal with my other colleagues on the Executive, especially the Minister of Local Government, in relation to having other groups than the municipal body serve as the agent for the delivery of those services. That does not stop



social service appeal committees being organized within other areas. I think we are dealing, if you will, Mr. Chairman, and if I may simply say with respect we may be talking about two different things, the delivery of social services assistance and the establishment of an advisory committee. I think there may be a line between the two.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Supplementary questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Local Group Handling Social Assistance

MR. SIBBESTON: I am just interested to know how sincere you are in trying to get local groups to handle social assistance in the communities because Fort Liard was one place that this occurred in the western North and I think Frobisher Bay is another place so that is just really two places in all of this great North. You know, it is good that it has happened but it is certainly no great achievement. I am just interested to know are you really trying to get local groups to handle social assistance by themselves or are you going to continue the present method? Fort Providence to me is a good example of a community that perhaps could handle social development, giving social assistance because I understand the arrangement there is every week or so somebody from Hay River comes in, drives into Providence and deals with it so the handling of social assistance is not a community process at all. It is someone coming in and making a decision as to whether someone ought to be given social assistance.

The other point is if you say that you are prepared to have other groups and the municipal councils involved in setting up an advisory committee, this is good because up to now I think the government has really taken the view that the only representative group in the community are the village council or the settlement council and I know that in Simpson the government continues believing this. They would be wrong because in Simpson the people that are on the village council do not always represent the community. There has sometimes been conflict on this point that many of the government programs which are directed at native people have to go through the village council and the village council does not fully represent the people and yet they have a great say in it.

So if ever there is going to be any change or if we are talking of getting people in the communities, native people to accept this government, then we have to make changes like this so that in Simpson if you are going to set up a social services advisory committee that you deal with the band council because it is mostly native people anyway that are being affected. I suspect the village council is probably not greatly interested in this anyway and there is only one native person on there and the rest are just business people who really are not the people who ought to have the final say on things like this.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

Responding To Community Requirements

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated in my opening remarks I think that nearly every community, in the Keewatin, the Arctic Coast and the Baffin have social services advisory committees and in some cases appeal committees. I indicated that there were fewer in the Western Arctic. I think that the department is actively pursuing this and attempting to have committees set up within the communities in relation to social services advisory committees. What we attempt to do is to not only deal with the people and talk to them through our social services workers, but also of course not pushing anything and having the community in point of fact request it. For example, the Member talks about Fort Providence. For example, the native women's group in Fort Providence is very active in a particular area of social services and that is the area of determining foster homes there. So it may not be in the totality of the program but certainly in certain aspects and in Rae-Edzo that also goes on.

We try to respond to what the community requires, what it asks for but that is not to suggest that we sit back and wait until we get the comments. We, through our social community workers and in a lot of instances these are people directly from the community who are involved in it, they assess and will continue to assess what kind of resources are available within the community to meet the needs of various aspects of the complete Social Service department.

To the comment of the Member that I should forget the village council in terms of Fort Simpson, I am afraid that I would be at odds with possibly my colleague, the Minister of Local Government, if I were to disregard completely what that is about, that is the village council. As I indicated we try to work in concert, we respond and I think we have been responding as a department to requests from communities to be involved with some or all of the aspects of social services and in some instances where the band council or another organization such as the Native Women's Association wants to take on certain parts of the program we have obviously gone ahead and we have done that. I would take the Member's comment of course as advice, but I want to assure him and the rest of the committee, Mr. Chairman, that in point of fact we are sincere, we are earnest in terms of devolving those aspects of social services to a community that in fact wants those services.

MR. SIBBESTON: Another supplementary.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Go ahead, Mr. Sibbeston.

Problems Involving Children In Fort Providence

MR. SIBBESTON: I will just put you to the test then, Mr. McCallum, and ask that you take definite steps in the next two or three months to go to Providence and see whether it is possible to make some arrangement with the local people there. In Providence most of the settlement council members are native people. You have them and you have the band council and you have the Native Women's Association there and try to work out something so that Providence can in fact deal with the matter of social assistance. I know Providence has a great problem involving children not going to school and I can just tell you what happened in that regard.

When I was on my way here a meeting was set up that I would meet with Mr. Frank Vojacek from Hay River. We had planned the meeting I believe the Friday before, a number of days before the meeting and he was to meet us in Providence and have a meeting with the local education committee regarding the matter of children not going to school. I ended up going to Providence and Mr. Vojacek never even phoned to say he could not make it that day. Later in the day about 3:00 o'clock or 4:00 o'clock one of the women from the education committee phoned Hay River and Mr. Vojacek said, "Oh, tell Mr. Sibbeston that I am sorry I could not make it. I was busy at meetings all day." So that is the type of treatment that some of your officials give people in the communities.

I know Providence is very unsatisfied about the way the social assistance is given. Someone comes in from Hay River once a week and just hands it out, it just goes out -- what can the person do? He does not live there. He does not know the people and really the matter of social assistance can better be handled by people in the communities who know the situation and people cannot bluff them. I believe they would give it out where it is only needed. So that type of a situation would be much better.

Social Services In Fort Simpson

Likewise, I challenge you or really encourage you to come to Fort Simpson and deal with the band. Forget about the village council as I said, because they do not represent the native people in Simpson who get social services or who are concerned with social services. I ask you to have a meeting with the band council and to see whether anyone else in town is interested and see whether you can get a social services advisory committee meeting set up so that again you can have some input from local people and just generally have better service to the people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Please go ahead, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would assure the Member that we will be involved in terms of Fort Providence. I should indicate to you that I have had some representation from other areas to get further involved, I mentioned Rae-Edzo. In Edzo we have had an open request for them to get involved in terms of that such as you are indicating and that is one area that we intend to pursue. We will pursue the same thing in Fort Providence. I do not think the instance is typical of the reaction of the department to be present at particular meetings. There obviously would be extenuating circumstances. I am not trying to be overly defensive I hope in terms of people reacting within the department, but I do not think that is a typical experience. I think that our people have been very responsive. In a great number of instances people who are in the area offices are people from the communities, involved as community social workers.

I would hope that in the instance of Fort Simpson that we may very well, to the total good of the community, involve not only the band council but the village council as well and maybe we could get something together. It very well may be as the Member says that they are not responsive to people within the community, but again I would have to work in concert with my colleagues on the Executive in terms of that, but we will make the determined effort to deal with those problems and take the two instances that the Member has put as examples, both Fort Providence and Fort Simpson.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Any other questions from Members? Mr. Nerysoo.

Providing A Community Service To Juvenile Delinquents

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, with regard to providing a community service to juvenile delinquents, I wanted to find out if through this budget that you were prepared to fund communities, I guess initiatives, where they were willing to start their own preventive and I guess to also start preventive services and to take their own children who were in fact breaking the law to camps where they thought they could do the best work or the best job. Basically this is in reference to an initiative taken by the people of Fort McPherson.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there is a provision within what we as a regional administration do to provide for the establishment and diversion of programs within various areas of a particular region. We would expect that those kinds of requests would be made to the region and that the region would be open to them and pursue the establishment of the kinds of things the Member is referring to in terms of diversion for juvenile delinquents. So there is that kind of provision within the region. It does require, of course, community involvement and I do not think the department would be adverse to taking the view that they would respond positively to community concerns.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Can I remind the Members that this is really a time for general discussion and general observations about the department? If you have a specific concern it would probably be best addressed when that particular part of the Department of Social Services comes up. Ms. Cournoyea, did you want to ask a question?

MS. COURNOYEA: Yes, I believe I would but I believe Mrs. Sorensen had her hand up before I did.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): She defers to you.

Workers Needed At The Community Level

MS. COURNOYEA: How co-operative. One of the problems that I see in the whole development of social services and I do not mean this as a total criticism, because I understand the problems in terms of working with staff, but in the whole running of the department in the direction it takes it seems like there are a lot of people sitting in offices. There are offices in Yellowknife, offices in Inuvik and offices in the communities and when you create an office it is sometimes more comfortable to sit in there rather than being out with the people. I find that this kind of work in the community where you actually go out and spend time with people in their homes, spend time with people counselling them, to me it would make a lot more difference to the people to get that direct feeling of being able to ask questions, being able to try to find solutions to their particular problems, because each family has a different kind of problem when they are addressing the social ills of the community. It is like drug and alcohol, there is not one solution for everybody. Sometimes there is almost a solution for each individual person who comes to you and I do not believe that social services is taking enough initiative in providing that kind of worker in the community. In order to do that I think the advertisements have to be less towards people who are going to take administrative positions in a community or in a region and the direction has to go more to I guess the "on the street" kind of counselling to young people, juvenile offenders, just people who are having problems in the home and this direction is not being taken at this time.

I know to a certain degree the department tries to do that but there is an imbalance and a serious imbalance of who is in the office and who is out in the field.

This concerns me in the Western Arctic because some of the smaller groups in the community who try to help each other are very successful. Maybe they do not have 152 people walking in and out of their office, but the desire to live a better life is there but the problems in trying to overcome the new kind of life we are facing are very serious things that people face day by day and the department really is not taking the initiative at the community level and working with the people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

Local People Involved As Community Social Workers

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, to a degree I would agree with the Member, but to a degree only. What we have within our community are social workers, roughly 60 to 65 who are northerners, native northern people who are community social workers. Now, there must be times when they have to be in a particular central area to go to talk to people, not totally. I think that we have been taking steps over the past number of years and we will continue as I indicated in my opening remarks to have more community social workers who will go out, assess the community for its resources so that when there is a particular difficulty, when there is a difficulty that would arise that the community social worker can react quickly because they had assessed the resources of the community and can meet that particular need.

I think that one good example would be that we are tending away from the large institutions into smaller institutions, in smaller group family homes, if you like, in terms of child welfare services where the worker has to get out and know the community, where the worker has to get out and talk to individuals within the community. To say that we are not taking the initiative I do not think is quite correct. We obviously have to do more. I think that in the ten years that the department has been in existence as a territorial government department we have learned a great deal in the care and provision of services to people regardless of their age. We will continue to do that. We will continue to press for more community social workers so that people, the social workers, do not spend their time sitting at a desk, but there are times when that is necessary. We would hope to get the proper balance and I do not mean a true balance of spending 50 per cent of the time in the office and 50 per cent out, but getting a true balance that would represent what is required in a community.

So I do agree to an extent, Mr. Chairman, with the Member's comments, but I suggest to you and to Members of the committee that we are indeed pursuing the idea of having local people involved as community social workers who then will spend the time in the community talking to people, being aware of what their needs are, being aware of what the resources are in the communities so you can meet those needs.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mrs. Sorensen.

Community Correction Programs

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am interested in your comments with regard to alternate forms of sentencing, particularly in light of what you had to say about the cost to the government of that individual who chose to spend seven days in jail rather than pay a \$50 fine. I believe you said it cost around \$1000. Has there been any attempt at all to try to establish in the Northwest Territories a system whereby young offenders or indeed any offender could work off their fine in the community?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, yes, there are instances where this does occur in communities, a community service order where there is an order from the court to do community work. That has occurred in some communities. We have to of course become involved with the legal profession, law enforcement agencies, the native court workers as I indicated and in fact the judiciary in attempting to promote community service programs, community correction programs as the alternatives to incarceration. We are actively pursuing discussions with these groups not all at once, with individual groups or smaller groups of people in communities whereby this is under way now and whereby we could attempt to do it, to try to work out within the community that a community would benefit from the kind of difficulty or the kind of offence that was committed within the community, benefit from that individual or individual's work or in providing public service, but there are instances where this does occur.

In the case of juveniles, for example, there are juvenile court committees that do get involved and are primarily volunteer, who deal with the juvenile before that juvenile gets to court in an attempt to keep the juvenile out of the court. We work very closely with the law enforcement people in this particular instance and in some instances these are very, very successful. We are attempting to look at any other alternatives that we may discover or come upon in our consultations with other agencies.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Mr. Arlooktoo. I am sorry, did you have another question? Pardon me. Please go ahead, Mrs. Sorensen.

Discussion Papers Should Be Prepared

MRS. SORENSEN: I must commend you, Mr. McCallum. I am impressed that the department is going to be looking at these kinds of things. I feel quite strongly that the Northwest Territories and the people who live in the Northwest Territories must address these issues of young offenders, juvenile delinquents, the high cost of our penal system, as quickly as possible. One of the things that I would really like to see us do is prepare discussion papers and release them before the Executive Committee takes decisions on some of these things because if the decision is to go with community involvement, then, in taking responsibility for instance for working off fines and for supervision of people who would be working off fines I think that decision would only be as good as the community is willing to put the effort into it. I think that there is a tremendous amount of discussion that has to go into this whole philosophical direction before we move into it. I would just ask that we discuss it openly before we move too quickly, particularly in this House and within the various groups and organizations and of course the courts who will be involved in this. I have more questions if it is all right.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): If your questions are of a general nature, Mrs. Sorensen, there are other Members who have questions as well.

Foster Homes In The N.W.T.

MRS. SORENSEN: They are of a general nature. I feel obligated since Mr. Stewart is not here to bring up the topic of the Hay River receiving home being closed. I accept the philosophy that the department is moving toward because I agree that foster homes are by far better than institutions, but are we assured that we do in fact have enough foster homes? Are our rates for foster care fair and equitable? What about the increasing number of women who are finding it very necessary to go out to work? Is that going to make a difference in the years to come as to how many foster homes will be available in the Northwest Territories?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just a quick comment on Mrs. Sorensen's previous comments before the questions. I would agree wholeheartedly that there must be increased community interest and concern to find options to incarcerations which are community service orders and community work comes within it. I agree there must be consultation with the community. The community must become aware and respond positively to taking some responsibility and a great deal of responsibility and I think that leads into the questions concerning the foster home philosophy if you like in relation to larger institutions for children.

I would thank the Member for taking up Mr. Stewart's request. I would not have let it pass regardless. I would have commented even more in the absence of Mr. Stewart, but nevertheless you asked questions as to the number of homes. Are there a sufficient number of homes? In point of fact as regards Hay River, yes, there are enough homes, foster homes. Yes, the community is responding in the provision of foster homes in that community. No, the foster home rates are not sufficient. We would hope to be able to do something about that. You know, we would have to try to put forth proposals to increase foster home care because it is not adequate. I am not suggesting that people should make it a business, foster home care, but there are people not only in the Northwest Territories but elsewhere who do provide over long periods of time good foster home care for large numbers of children. I would hope that we would be able to put forth some kinds of proposals whereby we would be able to increase the rate for foster homes.

#### Day Care Grants

As to a comment regarding the increased appearance in the labour market of married women we, as I had indicated, that is, the department, are going into a new approach to day care in that children of these women who may be going into the labour market, women going into the labour market their children would receive day care grants. I understand what you are saying in terms of as women go into the market there are fewer homes where there is a husband and wife. A wife there totally, but that is not a unique thing in the ordinary family. Husbands and wives are there. When the husband and wife are working children normally are in school if they are of school age. If they are not, then you get into day care or some other service. I am not sure whether I could answer that in a positive or even a negative way, if there would be enough foster homes to look after children who require somebody full time as it were. I do not know. I guess one would have to look at population statistics and statistics of people going into the labour force. I would hope that there would be. I think there is a great number of people in the Northwest Territories who have raised large families and who now would be in a position who would want to contribute to the community and take foster children in as well. I would hope just as a final comment, I would hope that there would always be enough homes for foster care rather than have children going into large institutions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Go ahead.

#### Children Who Are Apprehended

MRS. SORENSEN: Just to comment on that and then I have another question. I simply want to be sure that before we close down a home we are relatively sure that we do have enough foster homes.

The other point is that when you apprehend a child it sometimes is different than when you are just looking for fostering. You apprehend the child often because there are serious problems in the family. It is not always possible to put that child into a home where the mother is home all day, however that child more than anything needs constant supervision and care and the attention of the mother. That is why I was concerned about the fact that more and more women were going to work and therefore the kinds of home that we might be looking towards, particularly for children who are being apprehended, were going to be less and less.

With regard to one of the recommendations the finance committee made concerning the day care subsidy I again commend you on your very quick action. I wonder though for the Members here, if you could perhaps describe the problem that deficit funding of day care presents and why this new direct subsidy is perhaps a better system.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Just hold the phone a minute.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum, if you want a few minutes there is a matter I can raise.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I do not think so. I was listening to Mr. Stangier just for a few moments to get it straight. I can respond to it. There is no difficulty, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Please continue.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: May I please first indicate that where children are removed from a home on an emergency basis, we have in communities in addition to the work of the community social workers an inventory of the resources so that there are in most all places emergency foster homes that look after that. In some case the situation may be better served if the parents are removed and then we move some people into the home and in point of fact, I guess I am safe in saying that that has occurred on a very interim basis, but that goes along with the evaluation of the inventory within a community, that you have these identified, where people will take children on an emergency basis into a foster home and care for them.

#### Funding Of Day Care Centres

To get back to the other points in terms of day care contributions, in the past what we attempted to do is to provide deficit funding to day care centres and there was so much money put into that particular box or pot or whatever you want to call it. When the money ran out there was no way that we could help people and we were in fact subsidizing the centres when in fact we should have been providing to the individuals. In some instances these centres grew from federal funds for a short period of time and the federal government would provide these funds to set up a day care centre and being against day care centres is like being against apple pie, motherhood and the flag, but the problem was that the federal government would only provide those funds for a limited period of time. When those federal funds ran out then obviously they had to come to the territorial government.

We believe, as the standing committee on finance, that it is much better and to be preferred to provide and to implement a program of direct assistance for day care to those individuals who require it, who ask for it, who qualify for it. Now, there obviously will have to be appropriate standards put into place to get the program going, but I think that what we are concerned with as I think the Member said is that it is much preferable in this way rather than subsidizing the centre itself, to give that to the individual or the individuals who qualify so that they can then pay for day care.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I would like to give someone else a chance, Mrs. Sorensen. Maybe you could just have one more question for now.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the appropriate standards that you talk about, would appropriate standards allow an individual to have their child taken care of in a home as opposed to a centre, because obviously not all communities have day care centres?



HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I recognize that obviously in all communities there are not day care centres and the flexibility of the direct subsidy or the direct payment if you like, assistance program, would hopefully provide for that, that we would have to have the flexibility of being able to do that. So that allows by paying the direct assistance to the individual, that allows that individual then as it were to go out and go to that place, whether it is a day care centre or another area, a home where there is not any, to their preference and I think that is a good point as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think Mr. Arlooktoo was next.

Social Worker In Lake Harbour

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, my first question to the Minister of Social Development, now I come from a place where there is no social development, no social worker in Lake Harbour. Have they been prepared so that Lake Harbour can have a social worker?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there were obviously communities in the Northwest Territories where it has been determined, at least up until now, that there is not the involvement to necessitate putting a full time social worker in all communities. Now, should that change and should the community of Lake Harbour -- should it be identified as an area where we do require a full time community social worker then obviously the department through the region would respond to that. As it now is Lake Harbour is being looked after as far as the department is concerned by a social worker from another community. Mr. Chairman, it may very well be that it is looked after by other government people, other than social workers. It may be a government liaison officer as we now call them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Members Of Appeal Committees

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you for informing me of that matter. My second question that I want to ask is those social workers, the social services of your committee would they be the same or are they going to change every year or if the people of the community do not like them could they be taken out of that appeal committee or who do we inform, Local Government or the Commissioner to get a member of the appeal committee to be deleted from that committee? Who will we inform?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it normally is the practice and has been that in communities, at least primarily in the East, that the local council has advanced the names of individuals to serve on the social services appeal committee. Those nominations are forwarded to me and I then would appoint them. If the community through the settlement council does not want these people then they can of course recommend that. They can then present or forward that to me and we would obviously react to whatever the community would want in terms of people. They in essence then, can be changed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. It is now time for tea. In view of the delay earlier today -- perhaps I could indulge the Members of the committee before we go to tea. There has been a request from Mr. John Gilmour from the CBC that they do a little filming tomorrow for the Saturday night news. There will be a couple of lights and a television camera here tomorrow. Is it agreed? Do the Members agree that this should happen?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): We will rise for tea for 15 minutes. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): We have a quorum. The committee will come to order. I have Mr. Curley down next for general questions.

Utilizing Community Resources

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know there have been questions raised already with regard to the juvenile delinquency problem that we have in the North and the fact that juvenile delinquent correction centres have been raised from time to time. I would like to expand that a bit and see whether or not social services is prepared to explore the possibility of not only sending juvenile delinquents to correctional centres here or there, but consider the possibility of utilizing the experience that people in the Eastern Arctic have, the Inuit people particularly when the offenders are Inuit people by utilizing the resource that they have, which is mainly the hunting economy. That ties up all of the economic aspects. I believe the construction of correction centres involves the financial aspects of the government. But my view is that it would be a lot cheaper to build, for instance, tying up all of the other departments involved like Renewable Resources, fuel, and then that part of Economic Development and tie it up to the resource harvesting project part of it as a means to sending those young offenders into that field. In my constituency, in my riding many Inuit people are concerned that the young people are getting into so many problems these days because of lack of action, lack of opportunities and lack of motivation in the community. Surely these people with lack of motivation are usually the offenders of the justice system. As a result of that when I was in Eskimo Point on a radio show people were speaking about, "How about Social Services helping to establish outpost camps, buildings in the field where hunting is good?" Those young people who must be sent to correctional centres can be sent to them. The older people would be very much in favour of training them, because the educational system does not allow them to take part now in educating them to the hunting economy, the skills of the hunter.

I am wondering whether or not the Social Services would be prepared to expand that and study it and seriously develop it? I know one elderly gentleman in Rankin Inlet who would tell you the same thing if you were to talk with him or consult with people of that group. So my question today to the Minister is: Would you be willing to explore that and maybe if it looks possible that you would be prepared to make a gentleman's agreement with me on that?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Hon. Mr. McCallum.

Social Services Involved In Programs

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we have attempted to focus a great deal of attention on not only community work programs at corrections centres which incidentally have proven to be very positive, but we are now attempting in relation to juvenile offenders when they are put into our care, to have them become involved with the kind of programs the Member is referring to. There were not all that many in totality, that is, those who were on temporary wardship. There are roughly the same number who would be on probation but those who were assigned to us as temporary wards, we attempt where it is possible to utilize the resources of communities and have these people go on programs at different times of the year, winter and summer, on-the-land kind of activities or other activities so related.

I would give the assurance of the department to the Member that we would continue to pursue that, that we will attempt to see if we cannot expand it and hopefully it will satisfy all the legal aspects we are concerned with that we would be able to have more on-the-land kind of programs such as Mr. Curley has indicated. Thereby we utilize people within the community who can teach those skills, who can take these people out into programs for the benefit of the offender. Obviously, as I indicated earlier, I guess yesterday, we are very much concerned

with preventive care. In some areas not only do we have them in terms of going out on the land or getting involved with community work programs, but in some cases there is a volunteer guidance program where they are able to sit down with people within the community and discuss their problems. So I think that we would continue hopefully to be able to do that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes, go ahead, Mr. Curley.

Contributing To Community Motivation

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. I know particular incidents here. One example that I have is I know a man who is now living in an outpost camp who depended upon social assistance for a living, but because of the family that went up there they offered to take him along and today he is taking part in the hunting economy at no cost to social assistance. I think social assistance should be contributing to that man who has taken the initiative to create some motivation in that man's life because they are doing a great program with what they call the STEP, Subsidized Term Employment Program. The thing is this young generation, these groups here should be able to explore and expand and be encouraged to motivate themselves or they are going to go right back to the original problem.

As a result of that the hunting economy, the hunters in Rankin Inlet and Eskimo Point this winter are averaging about at least \$4000 a month on their furs because the fur prices were good earlier and when you can get at least 50 foxes within a one week trip you are doing pretty good when you calculate that. So these men are prepared. I know they have come to me and said "If there was only a program I am prepared to take a young man or someone on social welfare assistance. I am willing to take him out, provided the social assistance department is prepared to contribute to my gasoline." They are not asking for major pay but these are the kinds of things that I would like you to explore rather than just tying it to the community, but broader. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you. Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: I would like to respond hopefully very positively to what Mr. Curley has said. I think that is something the department would be very much interested in. I would suggest to the Member that in his particular area that he could become involved with the department directly through the superintendent and through other individuals within it and propose that. I think that kind of concept would be met very favourably in their eyes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Emotionally Disturbed Children

HON. ROBERT H. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCallum, I notice in your introductory remarks on page 579 of yesterday's transcript that you did indicate that some of our children from the Northwest Territories, those who have severe emotional disturbances which require long-term residential service, are taken care of in the provinces. I also have noticed in several places that the Department of Social Services is very interested in preventive programs. You are well aware because of conversations I have already had with you and with other people that there are certain cases in the Northwest Territories now where we have emotionally disturbed children who had been referred to the care of psychiatrists in order to try to prevent the situation, obviously, where they would have to be sent out for long-term care. Of course now we have no psychiatrists in the Northwest Territories and we are trying to find other means.

This is not the point I am raising here. By other means we are trying to see the services of psychologists are available on a paid basis for such children so that the problem does not reach these critical proportions.

That whole question did bring to mind the problem of co-ordination of efforts and I can see that there would be a number of areas of overlap between the Department of Social Services, Department of Education, the Department of Health and maybe the Department of Justice and Public Services. Does this department have -- what would I call it? I guess a co-ordinating committee or something where there is regular, frequent and thoughtful contact on these areas of overlap with the other departments?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

Communication Among Departments Concerning Child Welfare

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there had better be co-ordination between Health and Social Services if I may be allowed that facetious remark -- I should not say facetious remark but a remark. There is and there has been communication, co-ordination between those two departments. As well there has been a great deal of co-ordination and communication with the Department of Education in this. Child welfare is a very grave concern within the department or I should say in all three instances. We do have a number of children for particular reasons outside of the Territories as well as children within the Territories placed in group care facilities other than those operated by the Department of Social Services. I think that what we would attempt to do would be to, in relation to those with severe problems, to look at it on an individual basis, that is, the individual concerned, try to assess, try to get that person, that child where he could be assessed and care could be given to him.

I recognize that this may not be the place to talk about psychiatric care and I appreciate the Member's remarks, but I would suggest to you that I have been in contact with local organizations who have a concern as well as organizations in other parts of the Territories, not just specifically in Yellowknife. We are pursuing an arrangement whereby we can provide that kind of service that would be required. We would hopefully be able to co-ordinate our particular concerns with those that are identified in the Department of Education and as far as this department is concerned we have had a policy where children under our care or outside the care of the department receive psychological services that we in fact do purchase, where that kind of expertise is to be had.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes. I did not intend to get into the specifics of that case and my question was more -- I will put it again -- is there presently a committee of some kind that meets regularly that is comprised of members of the Department of Social Services, the Department of Education, the Department of Health just to ensure that policies are co-ordinated, that there are not gaps and that sort of thing? If there is not such an organization, I do not necessarily assume there ought to be one, but would you care to comment on whether maybe there should be or not.

Special Placement Committee

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I apologize to the Member for not being more specific. I was just indicating in terms of an individual child, we do have a special placement committee within the Department of Social Services. Obviously we co-ordinate information and communicate with the Department of Education and the Department of Health but it is primarily done on an individual basis, that is, an individual child.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Would you care to comment please, Mr. Stangier? I do not feel the question that I am asking is being answered. There are some days I know when I am not sure whether I have a sensible question but I think I did and I am just not getting the answer I wanted.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Believe me, Mr. MacQuarrie, I believe it is not the question, but the practice is that questions are not asked directly of the Deputy Minister. They are here to assist the Minister and I do ask you to direct your question at Mr. McCallum.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: My apologies, Mr. Chairman. I will say I still feel it has not quite been answered yet.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, let me try it again then. Within our department there is a special placement committee that deals with an individual child as to where that individual child should go. We do co-ordinate with the Department of Education but there is no committee at the present time set up between the Departments of Education, Health and Social Services as such. We communicate with the other departments. How is that?

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Very good for the first half. My second would be, if there is not such a committee, do you think maybe one would be desirable or advisable?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, taking into consideration what the Member indicated previously, that he is not suggesting that there should be, I may be caught between the devil and the deep blue. I do not know whether this is such a situation. I think at the present time our communications are such that we are able to meet that need with the special placement committee. However, I had indicated that we are reviewing our total program in terms of assistance to children and to people in the provision of services and it very well may be that one of the things that we do discover in consultation with other people would be that we in fact need a co-ordinating committee for this particular subject.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I have one other question.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I guess what I am saying is that in reality there is an informal grouping. Whether there is a need to formalize it or not hopefully that we would come to grips with that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): One more, Mr. MacQuarrie?

Law Offenders And Rehabilitation

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, if I may. There are a number of things that I will just try to gather into one. It has generally to do with corrections, sentencing and rehabilitation and so on. Maybe I can start this way. Is there a succinct policy in the department with respect to the role played by punishment and rehabilitation? Or in corrections is the word "punishment" entirely anathematized, is it something that should not be used at all now? What is the department's philosophy with people who have offended against the law?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that basically our particular philosophy would be to protect the community against offenders and once in incarceration to rehabilitate them to the community.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: With respect to rehabilitation then, I would like some comment as to the success of the programs that are in place. I know that you said that just at the moment there is a study being done on recidivism and so I would not ask you, and I got the word correct apparently -- Mrs. Sorensen is applauding here -- that the study is being done and so I would not expect you to answer fully as to the success of your program. Yet in your own remarks for instance you did say what it amounted to, there were ten out of 24 young people under 19 who were in the institute for the second time and that is just the young ones, so it is some indication as to the problem of repeating crimes. Specifically what rehabilitative programs, not specifically but generally what kind of rehabilitative programs have you been running and what is your assessment of their worth?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

Rehabilitative Programs

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to attempt to indicate that we have been totally successful in rehabilitation. I know that there is a great deal to be done and the Member has referred to a kind of study that we were doing in attempting to develop programs for a greater success rate in rehabilitation. I just want to indicate before I come back to that good, bad or indifferent degree, we have recognized that there is a need for an information system in corrections, because all too often when one offender has been sentenced to a correctional institute that background information is not passed along as that offender is incarcerated. As I have indicated, that kind of information regarding the recurrence of the same kind of offences or allied offences or other offences we hope to be able to have that in place so that we then can plan a proper kind of program as regards rehabilitation.

Now, in our correction institutes both at the juvenile level as well as at the South Mackenzie, the Baffin and the Yellowknife correction centres there are particular kinds of programs that do go on such as -- there are on-the-land projects and there is one, a very successful one in the South Mackenzie where they are into fishing on the lake. They have their own boat. They go out onto the water to fish and we try to get them into areas, or those people to do things which they would be able to continue as they go back into their communities. As in the case of anybody going back to their community once they have been released, there is always the difficulty in the smaller communities to take up with those who you were involved with in the past. There is a degree of that kind of program that goes on. I am not going to suggest in any way that it is the ultimate in any kind of rehabilitation work.

We have a need for increased kinds of services in all our institutions in the juvenile area. These juveniles are taken into, in most cases, the regular school system. They are involved with the activities of the school. In the case of the other institutes we try to provide some program whereby these individuals would be able to pursue some form of activity and to provide them with some guidance. It may be that it is minimal and obviously we require a great deal more for me to go into greater detail as to giving you a list of the things. I think I would have to provide that information to the Member at a later time. I cannot right here, but we could provide other things that go on.

Programs For Second Time Offenders

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. McCallum, is there any difference between the type of rehabilitative program that is implemented for someone who is returning to jail when it is compared with someone who is coming to a correctional institute for the first time? In other words, it would seem to me that if you just repeat a rehabilitative program that did not work in the first place then it is not likely to work in the second.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, as one returns to a correctional centre there is of course a classification process that would go on, that is to determine whether in fact that individual, the first time there has been able to go on community work, to have the right to have day passes into work situations, whether that individual would require incarceration full time, whether he would require the minimum security or the maximum security and then that classification process goes on. As one enters into a centre for the second or third or more times then that kind of assessment that is done in terms of the individual would determine the kind of program that may be set up for the individual in the centre. As a result there would be, I would suggest, different kinds of programs available to an individual depending upon his reappearance or the rate of his reappearance.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. I would have many more things to ask about but I am yielding to pressure from the Chair. I guess I have overrun my time. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. I just would like to give everybody a chance on the first round anyway and I am going to go on to Ms. Cournoyea, please.

MS. COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, perhaps you can give me some guidance on what I want to ask. I think they are more of a specific nature, to make one comment on behalf of the Hon. Mr. Nerysoo, it is that in commenting on day care facilities that when the general proposal is written up that it should not be forgotten that men should be able to apply for day care as well.

---Applause

I have some general or maybe more specific natured questions and one of them is on the community services program and the other is out on the land. Would you wish me to deal with that when we specifically come up with those particular items in the discussion?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think the community social services issue could be addressed when we get to that department. Your on-the-land question sounds more general though. Please go ahead with that.

On-the-land Programs

MS. COURNOYEA: I just wanted to comment on the general approach to on-the-land programs as a correctional aid for young people. In Mr. McCallum's remarks in the area of the Delta the on-the-land program in itself is not funded as a camp, but the Social Services department does contract for numbers if there is one or if there are two or three, so I think the general flexibility in that program is very important and we have a number of agencies which do contribute to that program. I would agree with Mr. MacQuarrie that there should be some co-ordination, because it appears that in any line of trouble the flexing of muscles generally goes back to the land and I am wondering what kind of treatment the animals are getting?

So I think in the general contribution to on-the-land programs we have the drug and alcohol program that contributes somewhat to that and then we have -- some communities have their community educational advisory associations. We have the program of social services and if there could be some co-ordination in that area I think any of the people who are interested in providing better facilities to these programs would be inspired to provide more up-to-date facilities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you. Mr. McCallum, did you want to comment?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member was making comments. I would agree basically again with what the Member has indicated in her comments. We would see co-ordination from a regional viewpoint that it be done there and hopefully as people can provide better services that they do so, that we become involved with them so those services can be provided.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Nerysoo.

Alternatives To Incarceration

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, as you earlier indicated that you were open to alternatives to incarceration, I wanted to get some indication as to whether or not your Department of Social Services would be open to establishing I guess, alternative conditions by which financial assistance was given to people in communities, that is, people, like you said earlier, who are incarcerated rather to do some community work and especially some younger people who were given welfare and even older people who were in fact capable of working.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, yes, I think that we would be open to an alteration of funding regulations if in fact there were proposals put forward. It is like anything else, you know, you have to have the money and the tools to do the job and where possible I think we would be open to the kind of proposal he suggests.

Mr. Chairman, I should comment first of all that if I said I was open to alternatives to incarceration, I think we had better get it straight. I do not have much to do nor does the department with the directives to incarceration. Hopefully with discussion with those involved there would be alternatives developed, but it is not sufficient for this department to put forth that. That lays open the difficulties of trying to tell the court what to do and I am not the person to tell the court what to do, but nevertheless -- I had better be very careful and I hope the sanctity of this House is going to hold me -- I will be careful with what I say outside the ropes, but suffice it to say that we would rather see alternatives to incarceration, but incarceration of course that is a court order. I should say as well for the benefit of my colleague and for Ms. Cournoyea that in point of fact males do receive day care.

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Are you finished, Mr. Nerysoo?

MR. NERYSOO: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Noah.



Learning How To Live On The Land

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Regarding the same I have a comment. Maybe I am going to talk in Baker Lake dialect. The people, the offenders, young offenders talked about them in Baker Lake. They talked about them in Baker Lake. The people who do not have any jobs over there and there are no Boy Scouts or scout-masters working in Baker Lake. Also the old people or the parents or the guardians usually tell the offenders to go out on the land to hunt and they used to say that they were not useful. In the community this has been a big concern. Every year it is getting to be a bigger problem. The offenders, if we could help them more along the line of giving them jobs, if they are continuous offenders maybe we could put them on the land, in the camps and teach them how to hunt and how to survive on the land. Here in Yellowknife, in the correctional institute and I have seen it, there are a lot of people in there and there is not enough room, because it is very crowded I think it is a problem. There must be an alternative to rehabilitate the offenders in a better way. They do not have very much to do and they do not have any jobs. They usually keep on breaking the law that way if you do not have any jobs and nothing to do.

I would like to see the Inuit culture way of rehabilitating the offenders, because the Inuit people, the traditional people are sent out, the offenders. Even older people offend. I am sorry. The translator did not say it correctly. The delinquents that are breaking the law, it would be better if they were taught how to survive on the land or go out on the land. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Would you like to respond to that, Hon. Mr. McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would agree. I would think it would be better if juvenile offenders within communities, if the Inuit way of rehabilitation, that is as I understand it, to have them go out, go back out on the land, if that is the process by which they did it in the past I would see that that is a process that should continue. I would be all for that. Hopefully the community would make the decision in terms of that being a method of rehabilitation that as the Member suggests was successful. I would agree with him.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Mr. Appaqaq.

Cost Of Food And Alcohol In The North

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I have not said anything since I came here. I would like to say I am sorry that I was late but I had a reason. My in-law died. Everybody is going to die, you know. I did not think that I was going to be welcome in the House. I had been welcome and I would like to say thank you very much.

You do not have to answer my comment. What I wanted to say is I would like to ask the Social Services -- maybe I have been misunderstanding the idea of social services. It is not quite clear to me. The people who need assistance should be considered, especially the ones who do not have husbands or relatives. They are the ones who survive on social assistance and they do not have any ways or means of having wages, but now the problem that we have in Sanikiluaq is quite big. The people who bring food to the settlement are raising their prices a lot. Just a few months ago they just raised the amount of the cost of the food and also in the North we do not have any trees or locomotives to get them to the settlements. The only way that a tree comes up North is by plane. Now with the assistance that the social development people give to the people, it is not that much. Somebody first mentioned this last year, but it is the same problem this year too. They have to raise their assistance money in order to meet the money that is being given.

I have also heard that in the Northwest Territories if you order alcohol from the retail stores that they lower the prices but they are being ordered by the government. I do not really know too much about alcohol being a main survival thing up here in the North. I mean I have not heard that from the government if they are going to lower the cost of the food. This has to be thought about very much. I mean it has to be of very great concern. That is why I have said it. I do not have very much to say and I am grateful I had a chance to speak.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I think it is appropriate at this time that all of the Members with me should extend to Mr. Appaqaq thanks on his apologies for his absence and make him realize he is very welcome in this House and that all the Members are very appreciative of the helpful comments he made at the last session and today at this session regarding his constituency.

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. You said it for all of us. Hon. Mr. McCallum, do you wish to respond to any of Mr. Appaqaq's comments notwithstanding that he said he did not require a response?

#### Assistance Based On A Zone System

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would simply say that, as I indicated before, the assistance given to people in the Territories is based primarily on a zone system. There are certain communities in certain zones. Sanikiluaq happens to be in zone three. I indicated that the department was proposing an increase in the assistance and that we were going to bring this forward to the Executive. I am not sure what size of an increase we are contemplating, but I would roughly put it at about ten per cent across the board. While we are dealing with that particular review and a proposal, we could at the same time review the placing of Sanikiluaq in zone three as to its appropriateness there. It may be, upon review, that it should be in a higher category. I think that would be the only comment that I would want to make, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Mr. MacQuarrie, I will let you ask any more questions if there are no other Members who have not spoken already who want to ask any questions. Please go ahead.

#### Community Service Orders

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That is a pleasant surprise. The one I was going to lead up to immediately following what I was just discussing before was the problem of community service orders. I note that it is a policy of the department to try to move in that direction rather than having jail sentences imposed. I know that this has to one degree or another been a policy of the department for two or three years now. Apparently the information you give us or have given us indicates that despite that there were more incarcerations the past year than in previous years. Apparently these community service orders are not working. Could you give me an indication of what the problem is? Is it because judges or justices of the peace do not -- it is never called to their attention that that is something this government would like to see done or is it that attempts are made but there is no supervision and they fail? You know, it really does seem to me to be a very desirable kind of approach, such a thing as Mr. Noah referred to a short time ago, sending people to the land and yet the attempt seems to have been made in the past and we are not getting anywhere. Could you tell me why? Maybe we are getting somewhere and I am just not aware of it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Incarcerations are increasing but so also are community service orders, as there has been an increase in probations over the past. So it is not that we have not brought that to the attention of the courts. We are concerned with alternatives to incarceration, that is, as more people are sentenced and then committed. So also then there would be an increase in community service orders and an increase in probations. However, in terms of community service orders that depends upon the community being able to take care of those orders. There must be within the community the capability, the acceptance of those before that kind of program would obviously work.

I indicated as well that we were taking steps to introduce training programs for probationary officers and that our community social workers are involved in that kind of a program. As I indicated, the program makes the community social service workers aware of the requirements of a probation officer and attempts to develop these social service workers as a local community resource in matters pertaining to all corrections. We have volunteer probation officers and again that is determined within particular communities so as there very well may be an increase in court orders for incarceration. I think as well there has been an increase in community service orders and probations and I think that that is not necessarily a sign that the program is not going. I think the program is being accepted more and more all the time. I guess it does require more communication, dialogue with the courts in an attempt to promote this to an even greater degree, but the courts have to use community service orders as a sentence rather than an incarceration.

Now, I know that is not the exact question the Member posed. I think it requires an even greater degree of communication and I think that we have been getting that across but more and more people are being sentenced for shorter periods of times in lieu of fines or incarceration. I think that is the basic difficulty and you have to tread I think very softly when you are dealing with the courts because you can I think, get involved maybe to a difficult degree, but we would hope to be able to continue to promote more community service orders as the communities identify that they are able to look after those things and as they are identified within the community.

#### More Communication With Judiciary Needed

I think that the program has been successful. There is no question that it could be more successful and I would take the comment of the Member as an indication that we should be doing more in terms of communication with the judiciary, be it at the court level or even within the community at the justice of the peace level.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, and perhaps with community councils as well, to inform them of what the cost is of incarcerating people in a correctional institute and the fact that they become associated with criminals, sometimes habitual criminals and may represent in the future, you know, a more serious problem for the community.

One other question related to that if I may, Mr. Chairman. Is this an ordinance of ours that would demand, you know the example you gave us of somebody having a week in jail and being sent to Yellowknife, is it an ordinance of ours that demands that? It seems to me that there are many communities in the North that have local lockups and that if the Department of Social Services were willing to foot the bill for attendants and food and so on that that would be far less costly than shipping the person to a correctional institute. Is it at all possible? Could we change an ordinance so it would make that possible? It just does not seem to be sensible at all.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum, are you prepared to answer that one?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I would attempt to. No, it is not an ordinance of ours. We obviously have to accept the court order. Yes, where there are local lockups they could be used, but on a very short term. That is what I think the Member is referring to, the seven or five days in lieu of \$25 and so they could be used, local lockups where they exist, could possibly be used but it is not within an ordinance of ours. We have to accept the court order.

Use Of Local Lockups More Economical

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would very much like to see that pursued then, when these sentences are so short that there is not going to be any rehabilitative program anyway and obviously there is a penalty of some kind, obviously it makes sense to impose that penalty in a way that is the least onerous to society. That would be making use of local lockups in that case. I would like to see that pursued.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would agree that we could pursue that again, where they can be used. As well there is no question that it could be very much more economical and feasible to do it in that way and I will take the comment as a recommendation and ask direction to pursue it.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, are there other people indicating a desire because I will certainly defer if that is the case?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I believe; Mrs. Sorensen, you had some more?

MRS. SORENSEN: I will bring them up again under detail.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I have Mr. Sibbeston down as well.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, in regard to community service work, community service orders, in Fort Simpson we had a program for about two years where we had a person employed who would supervise community service work. During the time that the program was in place it was possible for the court to order a certain amount of community service work and the program did work quite well. However, the program was funded by the Department of Justice and they only funded it on an experimental basis I believe and only for two years, so the program has stopped. Attempts were made to get money locally in Simpson to continue the program but there were not any groups or persons interested in funding it so the program has died. But during the time that the program was in place and a man was hired it did work quite well, but of course without this person who was there to supervise the works the court no longer or very rarely sentences anyone to do community service work because the judge knows that there is nobody there to supervise the work.

Supervision Of Community Service Work

I recognize and I am sure that the judges and the justices of the peace know that, that this thing could be supervised or done by the social worker, but I suppose they feel that it is not really practically possible. So since we have not had a person looking after the program the courts have hardly ever sentenced anyone to probation and as part of the probation order, that a person do so many hours of community service work.

I am just wondering whether this is an area that the territorial government could perhaps become involved, have some money in place in the budget, perhaps even this year, for a number of places in the North for people who

really are interested in a program such as this, because it seems to me that only if there is a person specifically in charge of a program like this will the courts then order people to do community service work. It is either that or instructing these various social workers or probation officers to be in touch with the various judges or justices of the peace and make them aware of this program.

I can tell you that in Fort Simpson we have a social worker who is a lady and I do not think she is the type who would go out at 50 below zero to instruct, push or tell offenders or men what to do. So this is part of the problem. She is everything in the community. She is the social worker, the child welfare officer, the probation officer and in Simpson I know it is difficult to have the social worker run that program. So I would just like to hear what the big bosses have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure whether that includes me in the big bosses or not. However, I think that that is something that obviously we should be pursuing even more so, as we attempt to do in other places, in relation to Fort Simpson. The Member is absolutely correct that it was funded by the federal government in the past on an experimental basis. When we have community service orders done in communities the supervision can be undertaken in three ways. It can be done by volunteer people within the community, it can be done by the service workers, that is the probation officers and in some cases it may be done by town or municipal personnel, or in point of fact it may be necessary to pay people to do it. I think that I would take his comments as such and indicate to him that we would be prepared to pursue each or any one of these particular avenues as a means of providing supervision for community service orders in Fort Simpson.

#### Other Areas Have Contracts

There are those kinds of things done, as have been indicated, by contract in other areas. I think that they have had some success when they are done by an individual or a company, if you like, on a contractual basis. I think that what is required is for the department to sit down with the individual or individuals to assess the program and to come to some kind of an agreement as to the viability and the worth-whileness of it. So I would indicate to the Member, Mr. Chairman, that we will seriously consider that kind of project in terms of Fort Simpson.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, it just seems to me that in all parts of the North I think that if the department or the government is interested in having the justices of the peace and the judges impose more community service orders that they must be made aware of this Legislative Assembly's wish that there be more sentences made community service orders and that the department arrange to have its officials in the communities have meetings with the justices of peace and the judges to inform them that they are prepared to supervise these community service orders. I am sure that if this was done, that a judge or a justice of the peace knows that if they do impose a sentence, that of community service work, that the work is going to in fact be carried out and that the officials take these orders seriously then they are more likely to impose a sentence for work orders. So it just seems clear to me that your officials, a general memo or some form of instruction should go out to all of your officials, your social workers, for them to meet with the justices of the peace and the judges and tell them that we like community service orders and we are prepared to supervise them and in this way they will feel that this is an appropriate or possible sentence.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

Communication Should Be From Government As A Whole

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would just make a comment that following along the lines as the Member from Yellowknife Centre has indicated that we communicate not just as a department because I do not think that we are the only department. I think that kind of a communication goes beyond an individual department, either this department or the Department of Justice or Public Services. I think it goes beyond that to the totality of the government, in that communication is made from the government as a whole indicating as Mr. Sibbeston has said that this Assembly, that this committee is very much concerned and suggests to the judiciary at whatever level that they take into consideration and use community service orders as an alternative. It must be remembered, as well, that if this department is to do that kind of supervision that it will require of course more people, more funds. I would hope that we would be able to utilize community resources in the supervision of these community services orders as well as -- and on a volunteer basis utilize resources of the community itself rather than on a volunteer basis or any combination thereof as payment. But we would have to be cognizant of the fact that if this department is to do it then it will require more people, therefore more funds or if we are to use the present man year allocation and the personnel involved then there are other things that will have to suffer from it. I do not mean it facetiously but I am very sincere in that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Sibbeston.

Options Should Be Made Clear In Ordinances

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that one of the reasons why perhaps there are not more community service orders made is due in part to the fact that under the ordinances which provide for offences there is not that option made clearly. The option is not made clearly, so a little justice of the peace sitting in Fort Liard or anywhere in the North, on reading the ordinance does not see where he can provide or order someone to do a certain amount of hours of community service work. In discussing the matter with a couple of other lawyers over there a possibility is to change some of the ordinances, the Liquor Ordinance, for instance, and other ordinances to provide specifically in the penalty that the court besides being able to impose a fine or a jail term can also order a person to do a certain amount of community service work so that there would be no question about that option in sentencing. It is something that I think the department ought to consider and maybe after some consideration the Executive could come to a conclusion on it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum, it did occur to me this is something we might ask our Legal Advisor to comment on. Did you want to comment?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I was going to suggest too that if the legal heads of this committee get together and indicate to us that there are particular ordinances where that may be done and the Liquor Ordinance may be in fact one, but the Corrections Ordinance does not apply I would respectfully submit to the legal people, the triumverate that are here, nor does the Criminal Code, but certainly the Liquor Ordinance may very well be one of these that could be. That goes back to the question raised by the Member from Yellowknife Centre, is the difficulty within our ordinances? I suggest no, because I was thinking specifically in terms of the Criminal Code where the order is laid out. In all humility and with a great deal of expectancy I bow to the legal knowledge.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It is not necessary to bow.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: As a figure of speech only, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): We are only in committee of the whole. I think the Legal Advisor has indicated that he can perhaps comment on the general discussion so I am going to ask Mr. Lal to enlighten us. Thank you.

Option Could Be In Specific Ordinances

LEGAL ADVISOR (Mr. Lal): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, for most of the offences that occur under our ordinances, the statutes provide that the penalties and procedure shall be determined in accordance with the Summary Conviction Procedures Ordinance or in accordance with a summary conviction procedure as set out in the Criminal Code. I would respectfully disagree with Mr. McCallum in that in my considered opinion the court could always pass a community services order under the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada. However, I would agree with Mr. Sibbeston that it might make matters clearer if in future or even in revising our existing ordinances, we specifically set out the option of the community service order in the ordinances. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Lal. Did you wish to add anything to that, Mr. McCallum, in view of that?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I do not want to add anything further to the legal opinion. I am out in left field as far as that is concerned.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest with respect to what we have been talking about that it certainly is quite possible I think that these community service orders could be supervised in communities by already existing associations, self-help associations which are looking for a source of funds. It does not cost the Department of Social Services more because if these people are not going to jail there are some funds saved which could be given to organizations like the Northwest Territories Mental Health Association or that type of organization in communities. Perhaps they would have volunteers who would supervise these orders, or it is possible in some communities that a specific organization could be formed for that purpose.

Relationship With Alcoholics Anonymous

On to something different though, if I may, there is little doubt at all in my mind that alcohol is one of the most serious, the most serious problem facing the Northwest Territories, a social and health problem. We have an enormously high suicide rate, increasing rate of crime, family breakdowns and alcohol is at the back of many of these. From my own personal knowledge I have a great deal of respect for the kind of work that Alcoholics Anonymous can do. I know that as an organization it does not want to be run by the government nor to have government funds, but I suspect too that perhaps in a number of communities in the North it is not operative because people there do not know about it or what it can do. Could you tell me whether this department has a relationship with Alcoholics Anonymous? Is it possible that at least this department could indicate, have a little brochure that indicates what Alcoholics Anonymous is and have that distributed in settlements indicating that if there were some people there who were interested in starting an organization the Department of Social Services would fly somebody from a community that has an organization to help them get started and so on?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the department does have a relationship, if you like, with the Alcoholics Anonymous organization, in literature that is sent around or published, put out. We do in fact allude and make reference to that particular organization. The department, as you know, is involved with the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. The Alcoholics Anonymous have representation with that group and there is very close co-ordination between the ADCC and our department, the Department of Social Services, in that we have a member of staff involved there I think as secretary to the ADCC so there is that kind of co-ordination. As to further involvement it may very well have occurred and it may be that it should occur even more. That is in relation to having people go into smaller communities. As the Member will appreciate, obviously with the Alcoholics Anonymous group, that is a group that as he has indicated are very jealous of what they do and I think it is a question of them being involved setting up chapters or whatever they are called in terms of an individual community.

Information From Department

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, but I also realize for instance, if there was a very active group of Alcoholics Anonymous in Hay River let us say they do not proselytize. They do not try to establish one in Nahanni Butte and Fort Providence and everywhere else. It is only if somebody happens to move there it will get started. My only concern is, could this government help at least to this extent that it is certain that every community in the Northwest Territories has information available to it that there is such an organization and that is how it operates and that the department would be willing to put communities in touch with people with experience in the organization if they should wish it?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that is done in terms of information either from the department or the ADCC, that they make communities aware of such an organization. I know members of the group who have -- I do not know how to call it -- they come together at different times both in the North and it seems to me a couple of years ago or maybe even longer than that it involved people from parts of Alberta and other parts in the Northwest Territories -- large, I would say conventions but I do not know if that is the proper terminology for it. I was going to say rodeos. I knew it was something like that. They are called round-ups. That is close.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: The final question for me this evening if I may. I am sure you have, Mr. Minister, as the rest of us have, a letter from the band chief at Fort Norman. We have copies which were sent to Mr. Parker concerned with the alcohol problem in that community. Maybe I am wrong, but at any rate it is a sample of the kind of problem that exists. A thought that occurs to me from that. Do we have an interdict list in the Northwest Territories? Is it possible in certain communities certain individuals as a result of having previous problems with alcohol are interdicted and just not allowed to buy alcohol? I do not know if that is an answer. I remember when I was young in my home town there were interdicts and I was too young to know whether it was a successful program or not but I was just wondering do we even have such a thing in the Territories? If we do, do communities know about it? Who can implement it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. MacQuarrie, I am advised that your question comes under the jurisdiction of the Northwest Territories Liquor Control System and the Liquor Ordinance. There is provision for interdiction orders I am advised but I do not know that the question really should be asked of Mr. McCallum. Mr. McCallum.



HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, there is an interdict list. I agree with your comments though, but nevertheless there is a tie-in as the Member indicated with alcohol-related offences and there is no question. I do not disagree with him, nor do I disagree, sir, with what you indicated.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Any other questions from the Members on the general subject of -- Ms. Cournoyea.

STEP Move To Social Services

MS. COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I hope you will guide me in this. In the discussions that were taking place concerning community service programs in terms of people who are put to work in the community to be occupied other than going to jail, adults. I do not know at what point in time I should do this as it covers various programs but I would like to provide a solution to that problem. In terms of the experience that we have in general in our community and a couple of other communities, I have direct experience with this. The STEP program should go in with the Social Services program where I feel it rightly belongs. You can guide me on it at what point in time we talk about that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Ms. Cournoyea, my view is that the subject sounds general. It sounds like it covers more than one department to me and I think you should deal with it now in case when we get into the specific discussion you want to really talk about more than one department. Please raise it now.

MS. COURNOYEA: The STEP program in the beginning was provided as an alternative for social assistance and I believe that it was a very commendable step to go and give people meaningful employment. The rate that is being paid, really does not justify an economic development. Most people in our area just will not work for that wage, but it does, to certain people, provide something meaningful to do. I am wondering why that program is not within the area of the Social Services department. I would like to see the criteria be broadened and to take care of the next problem. Where you find out why the community service programs are not successful it is very difficult to get people to supervise and create work for these people. Most agencies who are open to taking people into a job have more than they can do in just keeping their own staff going.

Items Should Be Co-ordinated

In the criteria for Canada Manpower programs there is always a separate item where you have a project development officer. I cannot see why the STEP program cannot be designated to its rightful place. In addition to that, some kind of criteria could be established where after you get so many people who can do community service that a supervisor be maintained. This can be done on a one month basis or whenever there is enough of a workload. Because you are dealing with two things. You are dealing with people who want to work rather than receiving social assistance and at the same time you are dealing with young people who are sentenced to community work but do not receive a wage. It seems to me in trying to co-ordinate those two items under the STEP program with a broadened criteria for a program director, you want to call him, a director or foreman, I think more communities can take advantage of that. Right now as it sits, the program is in Economic Development and people are running back and forth between different departments. You cannot employ anyone under the STEP program who could not, is not eligible to receive social assistance. So there seems to be a contradiction in that program. I feel that it is a very good program and it should be put in its rightful place.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

Subsidized Term Employment Program

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, STEP was introduced as a short-term alternative to social assistance payments, payments made preferably to people who required long-term social assistance. I recognize that one of the recommendations from the standing committee on finance was that the administration of the Subsidized Term Employment Program be removed from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and placed under the Department of Social Services. At the outset I would say that there were many pros and cons. That is a very interesting proposal that the Member has suggested. It should be remembered, however, that the involvement of Economic Development was seen as being beneficial because Economic Development was in the business of job creation and of course has developed the management and resource know-how. The Department of Social Services is primarily concerned with helping people to develop social skills that are necessary for an individual to function in the social environment, if you like, and hopefully to become independent, that is to get back into maintaining his own lifestyle.

I think that there has been a fairly good balance developed between the two departments that has a positive result and is beneficial both to the individual and to the community. It seemed at the time that that approach was more appropriate than the practice of asking social assistance recipients to work for their welfare, but as I indicated that is an interesting proposition as proposed by the Member. Others may very well have a different reaction to it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think Mr. Braden has a reaction unless you wanted to go on, Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: I am willing to listen to Mr. Braden's argument on why it should not be in the social services section, but the tune of the money is \$800,000 and I believe that many of the problems that we are talking about can be resolved by utilizing those funds and I would like to listen to Mr. Braden to see what specifically these benefits have created by being in another department, but I certainly do not see it where we sit anyway.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Braden.

Proper Management Of STEP Funds

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have had a number of discussions on keeping STEP within the department and at this point in time our arguments for retaining STEP within the department focus on a few areas which I will briefly outline now. I believe that this is a recommendation of the standing committee on finance and no doubt we can get back into it in more detail later.

First, we believe that right now the Department of Social Services does not have the required staff with project administration skills to provide proper monitoring of the program. Now, the hon. Member from the Western Arctic has proposed that we hire project leaders. Well, right now we have area economic development officers who as I understand provide this service and even if the fund or rather the program was transferred to Social Services, chances are that in the final analysis our area economic development officers would end up working with Social Services to provide this project administration function at the field level.

Further, we feel that financial management is a very important aspect of the program and that whichever department is responsible for STEP must be conversant and capable in the area of business, business management, employees and other related functions. So just to conclude at this point in time my remarks, I think that it is imperative that some familiarity with accounting and business procedures is necessary to properly manage STEP funds and Economic Development and Tourism has these capabilities. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Braden. I am going to recognize the clock. Is it the wish of Members that the committee rise and report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): We shall so do then. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF MOTION 9-80(1): SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNITY, TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND BILL 1-80(1): APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1980-81

MR. PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to report that the committee of the whole has made progress on Motion 9-80(1) and we have made progress on Bill 1-80(1) estimates of the Department of Social Services. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. One announcement that I remember then is the fact that the CBC will be here some time tomorrow afternoon doing some filming. Mr. Clerk, are there any other announcements and of course orders of the day?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Announcements. Caucus will meet at 9:00 a.m., tomorrow in Katimavik A. Following that Members will recall the proposal of the Northwest Territories Chamber of Mines to meet with them and that will be at 10:00 a.m., tomorrow morning in Katimavik A.

ITEM NO. 10: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, February 14, 1980, 1:00 o'clock p.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Oral Questions
3. Questions and Returns
4. Petitions
5. Tabling of Documents
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motion
8. Motions
9. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislative Assembly and Other Matters: Motion 9-80(1), Bill 1-80(1)
10. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House now stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 14, 1980, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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