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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1980

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, 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. Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. Stewart, Hon. James Wah-Shee

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Robert H. MacQuarrie): We are going to move to oral questions.

Item 2, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 2: ORAL QUESTIONS

I just remind Members that yesterday I was somewhat lenient in the type of questions that were put because of the special circumstances but I would remind you again that oral questions should not be argumentative. Simply put your question. It should be a question that is of some urgency and the answer to which you feel a Minister ought to have within his knowledge at that particular time. Otherwise the questions should be written. Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 63-80(1): Easter Vacation, Sir John Franklin High School

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. My oral question is directed to the Minister of Education. I was informed that some of the students attending Sir John Franklin High School have the opportunity to go home during Easter holidays except for people in the Keewatin region. Could the Minister tell this House what the policy of his department is with respect to Easter holidays for students attending Sir John Franklin High School?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I cannot at the moment because I do not know but I will find out what the policy is and advise the House when that information is available to me.

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

Question 64-80(1): Drivers' Licences In N.W.T.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask but I am not really sure who I am going to ask or who knows the answer. In the Northwest Territories we get a driver's licence every year and we get it renewed every year. In the provinces is it the same or is it different? If it is different, how is it different? How long do they have these drivers' licences or how many times do they get renewed? I just want to know about this. MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, that would fall under the responsibility of the Department of Justice and Public Services and in view of the three or four questions contained in the general question again I would like to have them examined and reply in detail which I cannot do at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. That would be an example of what I consider material for a written question rather than an oral question. Other oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 65-80(1): Government's Treasury Board Submission For Utilities

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Hon. Tom Butters. I wonder, Mr. Minister, in your capacity as the deputy chairman of the financial management board if you could advise this House if you have yet been notified of the terms and conditions attached to the approval of this government's Treasury Board submission for utilities funding for the 1979-80 fiscal year?

Partial Return To Question 65-80(1): Government's Treasury Board Submission For Utilities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that I have not been informed of those conditions. The Minister did indicate when he was here that he would, I believe, try and get them with all possible haste and I did say communications should be made to Ottawa yesterday evening to determine that. The result of those phone calls was not productive and this morning I asked the executive assistant to the Commissioner to send a message over my signature and to request the same from Mr. Ewan Cotterill. I requested the answer to that question from Mr. Ewan Cotterill.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Other oral questions.

Item 3, questions and returns.

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ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

We will turn then to returns and I might just suggest it is obvious with written returns that since the questions that are asked are sometimes of concern only to the Member who asked them I would at least venture a suggestion to Executive Members that if the reply is very long that the Executive Member might consider giving a one paragraph brief answer and then indicating that the written answer will be tabled and do so at the appropriate time if that is the wish of course, of Members, if there is not a protest from Members concerning that method of dealing with them. All of us do have the opportunity to read those written responses at our leisure since they are placed in our information books so that would be a suggestion to save time where responses are very lengthy and of particular concern to an individual Member. Are there returns from Executive Members? Hon. Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 15-80(1): Game Advisory Council Appointments

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: It is a reply to Question 15-80(1): Game Advisory Council Appointments, asked by Mr. Curley. The appointments of members to the Game Advisory Council with the exception of one member will expire at the end of February, 1980. The status of the Game Advisory Council is being reviewed and if it is decided that it will continue to operate in its present form I am ' prepared to recommend to the Commissioner the appointment of a nominee put forward by the Keewatin Inuit Association.

MR. SPEAKER: Other returns. Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 17-80(1): Apprenticeship Wildlife Officer Training Program

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Reply to Question 17-80(1) asked by Mr. Patterson, subject, renewable resources technology on-the-job training program. I will be tabling at this session of the Legislative Assembly, the proposed renewable resources technology on-the-job training program for Members to comment on.

---Applause

Because there are a number of unknown factors I am at this time unable to provide details on the timetable for implementation.

MR. SPEAKER: Other returns. Hon. Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 44-80(1): RCMP Telephone Answering Service, Tuktoyaktuk

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, after your admonition I am a little afraid maybe to read these, but I have a response to the question asked by the hon. Member from the Western Arctic on February 11th relating to the RCMP telephone answering service at Tuktoyaktuk. Inspector C.R. Latremouille, administrative officer of G Division, headquarters RCMP, Yellowknife reports the following advice in connection with this question: RCMP policy in G Division allows detachments to install automatic telephone answering equipment. This is a service to the general public in small detachments where members may be away on duty and a call to the police can be answered and recorded. The Tuktoyaktuk detachment has this particular equipment installed in their office. The policy is standard throughout RCMP contracts in Canada for small detachments.

I have also a return in response to the question asked by the hon. Member from Frobisher Bay on February the 8th relative to the passing and failing of grades in Northwest Territories schools. This is about 150 words. If the House would wish it read I will do so.

MR. SPEAKER: I would say, yes, if you read them today. I was recommending something for the future so that Executive Members could maybe come prepared with a one paragraph answer which they would read into the record and table the full written answer. Since Executive Members would not be able to do that today I would say by all means read the answer, Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 42-80(1): Passing And Failing Of Grades In N.W.T. Schools

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In reply to the question asked by the hon. Member from Frobisher Bay on the passing and failing of grades in the North-west Territories schools, I wish to report as follows:

The department's policy for grades one to nine, on passing or failing students is described as one of continuous progress. Programs are designed using a scope and sequence format from grade one through grade nine, that is, skills and concepts to be learned by students are clearly identified and set out. Students progress through these skills and concepts as they master them. They should not be passed on to further concepts or skill learning until they have mastered the earlier ones. In that sense, the traditional concept of failing is not applicable in that students are not required to repeat a whole years work based on some arbitrary measurement at the end of the year. They should, however, be required to continue learning a concept or skill until they have properly mastered it.

The department recognizes the need to keep children of the same age group together and although instruction is difficult when there are different levels of students, it is the policy of the department to group children according to age wherever it is practical. For grades ten to 12, the department is obliged to follow a pass/fail system because of the system used by Alberta Education to grant credits to high school students. I would assume that would also apply for some of the eastern schools in which students may go to in Manitoba or Ontario or Quebec.

Return To Question 34-80(1): Education Information, Keewatin Region

I have a response to Question 34-80(1) asked by the hon. Member from Yellowknife South on February the 7th relative to education information from the Keewatin region.

In reply to Mrs. Sorensen's question of February 7, the figures on attendance and student-teacher ratios for Keewatin schools are as follows: Baker Lake, this would be the percentages here, Baker Lake G6.38 per cent, September student-teacher ratio was 19:1, January student-teacher ratio 19:1; Chesterfield Inlet 81.04 per cent, September student-teacher ratio 22:1, January student-teacher ratio 22:1; Coral Harbour 83.40 per cent, September student-teacher ratio 18:1, January student-teacher ratio 17:1; Eskimo Point attendance of 70.51 per cent, September student-teacher ratio 24:1, January student-teacher ratio 23:1; Rankin Inlet 68.23 per cent, September studentteacher ratio 24:1, January student-teacher ratio 22:1; Repulse Bay 73.24 per cent attendance, September student-teacher ratio 25:1, January studentteacher ratio 26:1; Whale Cove 81.41 per cent, September student-teacher ratio 22:1, January student-teacher ratio 20:1.

The cost in the Keewatin per enrolled student for the fiscal year 1978-79 was \$2055. The cost per school which does not include cost of utilities, subsidized housing, building maintenance, shared cost of regional and headquarters administration, and freight are as follows: Baker Lake, \$605,775; Coral Harbour, \$320,464; Rankin Inlet, \$604,527; Whale Cove, \$127,306; Chesterfield Inlet, \$205,909; Eskimo Point, \$541,831; Repulse Bay, \$200,642.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Other returns? All right, the proposed policy that I enunciated earlier would only be in the case of returns that are very long. In other words, if a return fits onto one page we could carry on as usual.

Item 4, petitions.

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Item 5, tabling of documents.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 7, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 7: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion 16-80(1): Weather Telephone Line, Forestry In Fort Smith

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice of motion that on Monday, February the 18th, I shall move a motion voicing the displeasure of the Legislative Assembly with the curtailment of the weather telephone line to Forestry in Fort Smith.

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

Notice Of Motion 17-80(1): Hydro Development, Slave River

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, January the 18th, I will introduce a motion asking for the Legislative Assembly's approval of the hydro development on the Slave River.

MR. SPEAKER: Might that be February the 18th?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I beg your pardon. If I did`not say February the 18th, that is what I meant.

MR. SPEAKER: You said January the 18th. Other notices of motion?

Item 8, motions.

ITEM NO. 8: MOTIONS

Motion 13-80(1), Standing Committee on Legislation, Terms of Reference. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, should I read the motion?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do.

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

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the existing terms of reference of the standing committee on legislation were adopted prior to the most recent revisions to the rules of this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS those revisions included provisions concerning all standing and special committees;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the proposed terms of reference of the standing committee on legislation attached as Appendix A be adopted.

Establishment and Membership

(1) There shall be a standing committee of the Legislative Assembly to be known as the standing committee on legislation.

(2) The standing committee shall consist of not less than four Members to be appointed by motion of the Legislative Assembly.

(3) The Members of the standing committee shall, at the earliest opportunity following their appointments, elect a chairman from their own number.

(4) Three Members of the standing committee shall constitute a quorum.

(5) Meetings of the standing committee shall be held at the call of the Chair.

Responsibilities

The standing committee on legislation:

(a) shall examine such matters as may be referred to it either by the Legislative Assembly or by the administration or that in the standing committee's opinion require examination;

(b) shall review all draft legislation proposed by the administration for introduction into the Legislative Assembly;

(c) shall at each session provide the Legislative Assembly with a written report concerning proposed legislation and any other matters it has considered and may make recommendations concerning the policies reflected in legislation;

(d) may consult with any Member of the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Executive}}$ Committee and government officials; and

(e) may review current or proposed legislative policy.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Is there a seconder for that motion? Mr. Fraser. To the motion, Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, as the introduction indicates, the main purpose of this revised terms of reference is to reflect the new rules of the Assembly as they have changed and it is designed to make our rules to fit with the new rules of the House. I do not think there are any substantial changes. Generally speaking, the legislation committee wants to have the power to consider any relevant matters and it wants to be able to review legislative policy and it also wants to be able to talk to any Members of the Executive Committee or Members of the administration and provide regular reports to the House. I should say that the report to this House on legislation. We have referred certain financial legislation to the standing committee on finance for their views. The other legislation we will report on before it is introduced. That is all I have to say, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Other comment on the motion? Hon. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference seem most straightforward and businesslike. I would just wonder if the chairman of the legislation committee might not consider it helpful if there were a minor amendment made under responsibilities, to item (d). I would suggest it would read with this amendment "may consult with any Member of the Executive Committee, government officials or other witnesses". It would appear to me from time to time there may be occasion to call or make an opportunity to appear before them, the committee people having an interest in education, legislation and labour legislation, in all types of legislation produced by this House at which these representatives of particular groups may wish to appear and may wish to present a particular position or case and act in an advisory capacity to the committee and I was wondering if that amendment might be of value.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you moved that amendment, Mr. Butters?

Amendment To Motion 13-80(1)

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I would so move that (d) under the responsibilites be amended by adding the words "or other witnesses".

MR. SPEAKER: Then (d) would read "may consult with any Member of the Executive Committee, government officials or other witnesses". Is there a seconder for that amendment? Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Yes.

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MR. SPEAKER: Fine. Mr. Clerk, please. An amendment has been moved by Mr. Butters and seconded by Mr. Patterson. Any debate on the amendment? Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, very briefly, it is an eminently sensible amendment. Our minutes show that, and I will quote the minutes from our last meeting: "Members spoke in support of holding committee meetings outside of Yellowknife and making them open to the general public. Members pointed out that greater provision of information to and increased consultation with the public is absolutely essential." Do you want me to read the last part of that again? "Members pointed out that greater provision of information to an increased consultation with the public is absolutely essential." So our committee completely agrees with being able to talk to and receive communication from whoever is interested in legislation and legislative policies. Thank you for suggesting the amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Other comment on the amendment?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Amendment To Motion 13-80(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour of the amendment which is simply in (d) under responsibilities, the words "or other witnesses" added between the words "officials" and "and". Those in favour of the amendment indicate by raising your hand please. Opposed? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Other debate on the motion as amended? Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 13-80(1), Carried As Amended

MR. SPEAKER: Those in favour of Motion 13-80(1), the terms of reference of the standing committee on legislation as amended, please indicate by raising your hands. Opposed? Carried.

---Carried

Motion 14-80(1), construction of airport terminal, Baker Lake. Mr. Noah.

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

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Motion 14-80(1):

WHEREAS the climate in the north Keewatin region is extremely harsh;

AND WHEREAS Baker Lake, the largest community in that region does not now have an airport terminal building;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Legislative Assembly strongly recommend to the appropriate authorities that construction of an airport terminal building at Baker Lake be undertaken during the summer of 1981.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder for that motion? Mr. Curley. To the motion. Mr. Noah, did you wish to speak in favour of the motion?

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Yes, I wanted to say one thing, Mr. Speaker. The terminal, we have been asking MOT, the Ministry of Transport, for a terminal since 1962-63 but they have turned it down for a long time. They have held that back for what reason I do not know, maybe finances. They think that Baker Lake is a small settlement but now it is growing and also there is too much snow and a lot of people have to wait outside when they are waiting for

the plane. I said that in reply to the Commissioner, Mr. Speaker. In our settlement this has not been too agreeable. Now if they do not start it this year, 1980, if they do not construct it then, there is going to be an urgent emergency for the people that they want the terminal, whether they are non-'Inuit or Inuit in Baker Lake. As I said to the Commissioner's Address, the people who travel there in the plane, the plane goes into the settlement and sometimes the propellers do not even work properly because it is so cold outside. Also the Inuit who would like to see people coming out of the airplane gather around because they do not consider the propeller to be too dangerous so that need is rather urgent, especially when their relatives are coming.

We have been trying to get this in the hamlet. I have been trying to get this for a long time, since 1978-79. Now we are requesting this of MOT, if they have any finances for the airstrip, air terminal because you do not have any finances for construction of an air terminal in Baker Lake. Also the food is not supposed to freeze when it comes out of the plane and it is just put outside or in the back of a truck when the weather is really cold. The food that is not supposed to freeze stays outside and it takes a long time to load it up. To make it better for the Inuit and Kabloona we are determined to have an air terminal now, constructed this year, for the people in Baker Lake. It would be a lot better and they would not have to wait outside and leave the things outside and they would be able to put the things in the terminal, especially when the plane is late they could wait in the building and the food would not freeze. It would be a lot better for the people too when it is below 80 degrees Celsius. Sometimes it gets that cold and right now it gets below 40 degrees Celsius in Baker Lake.

Transporting Of Supplies Into Baker Lake

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I am going to talk about people who order things in Baker Lake. I am going to talk about this again after I make the next motion. The Hudson's Bay Company orders things, groceries and the airstrip is about one mile from the settlement and sometimes when the weather is really bad and when it is really cold the groceries, fresh groceries, it is not good for them. The people who order from the co-op order things that should not freeze, especially printer's equipment such as paint and other equipment and the Iglu Hotel has to order things like groceries for the guests in the hotel and the little shop such as soft drinks and other things like sweets.

Also there are people that order, the new limited company, they order snowmobile parts like Yamaha parts. They also purchase their things like other parts of snowmobiles. But right now I would not mind commenting or suggesting, Mr. Speaker, when the airstrip was made the airstrip was made around 1947 by the army and ever since there has not been any addition to the airstrip and now it is being used the way it is. One of the problems...

MR. SPEAKER: Excuse me, Mr. Noah. We will just deal with the airport terminal first if we may. Were you going to start talking about your other motion?

MR. NOAH: (Translation) My notes are switched around. If you do not mind, could I make another comment?

MR. SPEAKER: Provided it is on the need for a terminal building, Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Yes. Those charter planes, any kind of planes that come in that are charters have passengers, either Kabloona or Inuit. This has been a problem during the winter, especially when it is a long winter and maybe somebody else would like to make comments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Other comments on the motion? Mr. Curley is seconder.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I think it is the right of any community, any town, any city, I think Yellowknife certainly has proven that they cannot do without an air terminal. I think the motion as it reads is very important because no development can effectively take place without proper facilities, and an air terminal is certainly a right of people involved in the far North. Baker Lake has been known to be one of the coldest places in Canada time and again. I would just like to urge the Members here to support this motion and by supporting the motion we certainly should speed it up a bit and if possible not only should the authorities' accept the motion to build the air terminal by 1981, they should as a matter of fact build it quicker and build it by 1980.

Air Terminal Building For 1980

Mr. Noah has been very gracious not to put some urgent pressure on the authorities, but I am not sure they are under any pressure at all. They probably will end up sleeping on it for another two years, but I would like to suggest that some hon. Members should be very kind, enough to move an amendment to ensure that the authorities are urged to build an air terminal by 1980.

MR. PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. You know, the Baker Lake area is one known today for active exploration and this exploration activity such as uranium activity is certainly supported by federal government policies and territorial-wide. There is no doubt that an airport should be one of the priorities because the lack of air facilities has caused some great environmental problems in some areas because as Mr. Noah mentioned some of the freight that is delivered cannot actually be stored in 40 degrees below Celsius. So you can understand that this particular motion is important to Mr. Noah and I would like to urge you to support it and express your urgency to have that terminal constructed not only by 1981 but by 1980. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Other comment on the motion? Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: Just a question in regard to the motion. We have not dealt with it yet, but can I ask for confirmation from whomever, whether Baker Lake is in one of the airport upgradings in this years budget?

MR. SPEAKER: I presume that would be Mr. Wah-Shee. Do you have an answer for that to enlighten us a little bit, Mr. Wah-Shee? I see that you are busy at the moment. The question is: Is there a plan already to develop airport facilities at Baker Lake?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I will have to confer with my officials on this. I do not really have any details on it, so I will come back to Mr. William Noah on this.

Priorities For Upgrading Airports

MS. COURNOYEA: The only reason I am asking it is that when we are passing motions and we are in the budget session I want to know just how much we are going to be increasing the budget or when we come to that particular point of discussing the airports then we will have to make a revision on the priorities, so I just wanted to know whether that was done already.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Is there no one who could enlighten, immediately enlighten, Ms. Cournoyea on that point? You can, Mr. Fraser? You wish to speak?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, I would just maybe like to make a motion that we defer this motion until we can get the answer back. It is very important I think that we get the answer back to find out whether there are plans for Baker Lake or there are not plans for Baker Lake. I do not know how long it would take to get the answer back for Ms. Cournoyea's question, but I think it is very important that we wait for that answer and come back to this motion maybe later on in the day.

MR. SPEAKER: So you have made a motion to defer, Mr. Fraser?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, it was just a suggestion. I do not think I should make the motion. The motion is already on the floor.

MR. SPEAKER: Just one moment and I will check with the Clerk. Yes, rather than another motion being made could we have agreement of this Assembly? Are there others who wish to say something first -- I was going to say until later in the day when we may have more information on the topic? Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: I was just going to suggest that Mr. Nerysoo had some clarification on that point.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Not that I am an expert on airports, but I do believe the request for an extension on an airport over 5000 feet as an A airport is therefore a federal responsibility and the jets are able to land on it and it also has asphalt.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. We are dealing with the terminal rather than the airstrip at the present time. Look, I am going to put it this way: Is there unanimous consent to set this motion aside momentarily until we have more information? If there is not unanimous consent we will proceed right now.

Federal Money Involved

MR. McLAUGHLIN: A point of information, Mr. Speaker. For my own constituency I have been pursuing this and the money involved is federal money and will not involve the territorial government.

MR. SPEAKER: I asked the question, do I have unanimous consent to set this aside until later in the day when there is more information?

MR. CURLEY: Nay.

MR. SPEAKER: I hear a "nay" so we will proceed with the motion. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, this setting aside of the motion, I would like the motion to be looked after the way it is now and right away, like, I would like to support that motion too.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Evaluarjuk, if I may, it is not to set it aside. We will deal with it immediately. Would you like to speak in support of it or against it at this time?

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I think the motion clearly suggests that we recommend to the appropriate authorities which, of course, certainly could include the federal government if the appropriate authorities are the federal government. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the other -- the fact that the federal government has set different priorities in the Northwest Territories has been brought to our attention and I commend the attitude of the hon. Mr. Sibbeston and the fairly calm approach of the hon. Mr. McLaughlin as well, in pointing out that communities in their constituencies may well be affected by this motion. I am glad that we have that information while we are voting on this motion, but I must say, Mr. Speaker, that unless I hear strong opposition from Members in other constituencies I am very impressed with the urgency of the need in Baker Lake where the climate may be more inclement than it is in other places. I have been to Baker Lake and did suffer because there was no air terminal.

I think Mr. Noah has suggested there also might be a safety factor and I must say that I therefore am inclined to support the motion notwithstanding that it may result in deprivation to other parts of the Territories whose need is undoubtedly great, but I am not sure if I have been convinced that their need is greater than this one, according to the eloquent way in which Mr. Noah has described the problem. Therefore I will vote for the motion. I do hope that it is meaningful, that the federal government's appropriate authorities will recognize that this Legislative Assembly is representative and should be listened to if it feels that their priorities are wrong. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Other debate on the motion as amended? Mr. Wah-Shee, I recognize earlier you were clarifying on the basis of questions that had been asked and you did not tend to advance an argument either way so you may speak now.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to also provide more information in regard to the Baker Lake terminal. The Baker Lake terminal is on the federal schedule of 1985-86 capital budget and just to clarify the timetable, Members have to keep in mind that the responsibility of airport construction and terminals is still a federal program. It is a federal responsibility and the territorial administration in agreement with the federal government, once the funds are made available, get involved administering those funds. Also the Commissioner has sent a letter to Transport Canada on February 8th asking them to consider moving the dates ahead so that is the information I wish to share with Members at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Other debate on the motion as amended?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 14-80(1), Carried As Amended

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. I will read it again. Now therefore, I move that this Legislative Assembly strongly recommend to the appropriate authorities that construction of an airport terminal building at Baker Lake be undertaken during the summer of 1980. That is the motion as amended. All those in favour please indicate by raising your hands. Opposed? The motion as amended is carried.

---Carried

Motion 15-80(1), Extension of Baker Lake Airstrip. Mr. Noah.

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

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Mr. Speaker:

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WHEREAS the present Baker Lake airstrip is only 4200 feet long which limits the type of aircraft which may use this facility to F27's and 748's, DC-4's, mining companies' Hercs;

AND WHEREAS a longer airstrip would enable that community to be served by larger types of aircraft with a resultant reduction in freight rates;

NOW THEREFORE, 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.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder to that motion? Mr. Curley. You may speak to the motion, Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I talked about before, I will say again. I said before that the airstrip was made in the 1940's sometime during World War II. It was made by the army when it was constructed. It has not been extended and has been used by different airplanes. Just to study it, the 747 or some kind of plane landed on that airstrip but the airstrip was too short so it landed somewhere else in about 1977. With this airstrip in 1977, 1978 and 1979, the airplanes used to land in the water because the airstrip was too short for the mining company. In 1978 the Rankin airstrip included the hotel and the houses there. This is very dangerous to the hunters when they are coming in or coming out or to the children that play around the ice. The planes were dangerous to them. The Twin Otters used to land. The airstrip is operated by the MOT and it is too short for the mining them not to land. The airstrip is operated by the MOT and it is too short for the mining companies to land on the ice, even though we did not like this, in 1978 and 1979, especially in 1979.

Pollution Of Drinking Water

They had an airstrip where we get our water for drinking and this was very polluted from the gas leakage. The employees were spilling other stuff onto the land and they would go and relieve themselves or something. This polluted our water and it was not good for the people. We did not want the mining company to have an airstrip on the ice because it is our drinking water. If this airstrip is not extended our drinking water will be more polluted from the different planes. Right now the Hercules is bringing supplies into the settlement. I think there are about three or more. While this is going on the airstrip is to short. The DC-4's and DC-3's are bringing in supplies to Baker Lake and our airstrip, if it is not extended, the people of Baker Lake do not want them to land on our ice. The MOT authorities do not want them to land in the water and they are changing a lot of things in the community. The drinking water we have has been polluted by the gasoline and oil and there could be a sickness when these things are happening.

So I want the airstrip to be extended to 5000 feet. The supplies that come in by plane, we have to use the right plane to bring in the supplies and the 748 is too small to bring in supplies that are ordered and it is expensive. Baker Lake has a population of 1068 right now. The 748 is too small for the people in Baker Lake to bring in supplies and mail and passengers. This is very inconvenient for us. If other planes could come into Baker Lake supplies would be cheaper and it would be faster coming in to Baker Lake. We want this to be supported by the Legislative Assembly. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Debate on the motion. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am not going to speak very long on this one. I think this particular motion again is not trying to put an extra burden on the Assembly or the Members but I think Baker Lake has been a centre for extensive activity in mining and exploration for the last few years anyway. My colleague gave clear examples of the way the community has been put under a burden and pressure in trying to accommodate the airplanes that come in and go: that are chartered and carry special freight and equipment for the mining activities. Unless this Assembly takes an urgent instruction to the Ministry of Transport to try to improve these conditions we are going to continue to see the polarization of the communities and the authorities. I think Baker Lake was an example last year where they had no recourse but to go to court, a court case through the judicial system but right now I think this motion should be an example of how the people of Baker Lake want to try and develop a relationship not only to get into the confrontation aspect but try to see that this Assembly does recognize the problem and that this information is passed on to the Minister of Transport.

I realize that there are some other urgencies in other regions and if any hon. Member from the Western Arctic would like to introduce a specific motion then I would like to support him, but I do not like it to seem that we are trying to take all of the action in the Keewatin region. Maybe we have more problems in that area and the people are prepared to deal with the cases rather than just leaving it up to the authorities.

MOT Well Aware Of Statistics

The Ministry of Transport has had a communications centre in Baker Lake for many years and no doubt they are very well aware of the statistics and if the Assembly requires from them how often the planes come in and go -- I think the matter of safety is also a matter of concern here -- I think the motion is very clear and I hope that the rest of the Members will give support to this motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak in support of this motion and I want to say that on reflection of the substance and intent of this motion as well as Motion 14-80(1) which we have just passed, it represents to me another case where the federal government has made decisions concerning development of our non-renewable resources and in this case it concerns a significant uranium field in the Keewatin. Yet it is not prepared to install even the most basic of the required infrastructure to handle the impact, which at this point in time, is at the exploration stage.

MR. PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Now, we have heard Mrs. Sorensen and a number of other Members speak on this particular issue with respect to Tuktoyaktuk, with respect to Norman Wells, with respect to Resolute Bay and other centres in the North and we have to bear the brunt of the impact resulting from federal decisions.

Now, I believe that the federal funding for the Baker Lake extension and possibly if I could just refer back to Motion 14-80(1) for the construction of an airport terminal, should not come from any existing capital funds which have been allocated for the purpose of creating or lengthening airstrips or constructing airports in the Northwest Territories. Let the federal government seek the extraordinary funding from outside that which has already been committed. AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: I say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let them take the responsibility for the impact of their decisions about resource development.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Other debate on the motion?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: The question being called. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I was not going to say anything but I was so moved by the eloquence of the hon. Member from Yellowknife North that I was just wondering and hoping that although the motion does not include the concept and the suggestion that he made, I would assure the House that if it is passed, his remarks will be attached to the motion and sent along to the Ministry of Transport and other ministers of the new government which will be in place Monday next.

Motion 15-80(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Other debate on the motion? Are you ready for the question? It has been resolved that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the 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. All those in favour of the motion please indicate by raising your hand. Opposed? Carried.

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Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: A point of order, Mr. Speaker, or point of privilege, I do not know what. Could the record show that the vote was unanimous?

MR. SPEAKER: It does so now, Mr. Patterson. That is it for motions for today. Is the House agreeable to resolving now into committee of the whole?

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will now resolve into committee of the whole...

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: A point of privilege, please. Yes, earlier on during the motion there was a suggestion or a request for a clarification on the airport. I stood to speak on that clarification and the Members opposite said that I had to speak to the amendment and I would like in future that you, the Speaker, in fact rule on that instead of the Members.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not clear on the point that you are making, Mr. Nerysoo. Would you state it again, please?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. I rose to speak on a clarification on what B and C airports were, which the hon. Member from the Western Arctic in fact asked. I was speaking on that issue and not to any motion or amendments to motions.

MR. SPEAKER: At any time in the proceedings any Member is entitled to raise a point of order and that is what the Member was doing when he pointed that out and I have forgotten the details at the moment but I believe that I concurred that it was a commentary on something other than what we were dealing with right at that moment, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: I am not sure whether this is a point of privilege or order, but could I ask, Mr. Speaker, before we get into the committee of the whole whether or not the order of business that we are going to proceed with has been changed and, if so, could we be advised so that we would be prepared to comment on it before we get into committee of the whole?

The Order Of Business Of The House

MR. SPEAKER: My understanding is that it is as listed on the order paper. We will conclude with the estimates of the Department of Social Services and when that has been concluded we will move along to the Department of Education. Perhaps that is the point that you are raising, Mr. Curley. It was pointed out yesterday when we were going through the orders of the day that the Executive Members wished to make that change and I thought if there was any objection it would be raised at that time. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, a point of privilege again. The reason my colleague and I are concerned with this is because Education, I think, is the responsibility of all of the Members and I was not paying particular attention to the orders of the day when they were read, but at that hour normally Members do not pay much attention. I would like to suggest, if you would be agreeable, that we just proceed with the outline as it was given to us and as it was approved when it was presented by the finance committee chairman, because I would just like to recommend, I do so move that we proceed next with the Department of Health, the Department of Health after Social Services mainly because of the fact that my colleague and I are going to be out of town Monday and we will not be able to get back until the earliest plane on Thursday and on that basis I would prefer to go on with the original order and I do so move.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. One moment please. I believe the specific order of business in committee of the whole can be decided by committee of the whole. I am going to resolve into committee of the whole and if you wish to challenge the order of business that is stipulated then you can raise it and presumably if you can get a majority of Members to agree with you then that is the way it will be handled. Is the House ready to resolve into committee of the whole now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

MR. SPEAKER: This House will now resolve into committee of the whole to discuss the items listed on the order paper or other items if the committee should decide to do so, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Bill 1-80(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1980-81, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-80(1): APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1980-81

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) The committee will come to order. We are going to recess for 17 and a half minutes and not over, for coffee. Let us have coffee, Members.

---SHORT RECESS

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) The committee will now come to order. We have a quorum. The Minister of Social Services, would you like him to come in? Is it okay with Members?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Could you please welcome him? On page 13.04, any general discussion on page 13.04? Mr. Patterson.

Children In Custody Become Delinquent

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, carrying on from where we left off yesterday, I would like to ask Mr. McCallum is it a problem or do you recognize it as a problem that children who are in the custody of the superintendent of child welfare do get into trouble of a juvenile delinquency nature and cause serious problems to themselves and to the communities while they are waiting to be placed in foster homes? Is it agreed or do you agree with me that delays of up to two months have been known to take place while children who have been ordered to be put in custody of the superintendent of child welfare are waiting to get a foster home? First of all, is it agreed that that is a problem?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Member that if a juvenile offender gets into trouble after he has been apprehended and is waiting for sentence that is obviously a problem. I think the Member would agree himself that it would be a problem.

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

MR. PATTERSON: A supplementary, Mr. Chairman. I did not ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, if this were to happen would it be a problem. I asked the Minister does this not presently happen in the Northwest Territories and, therefore, is it not presently a problem in the Northwest Territories?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it is not a generalization that can be held to be true. There are obviously some instances where that very well may have occurred but I do not think it is a generalization that holds true.

Restitution For Damages Paid By Superintendent

MR. PATTERSON: I think it is in the nature of a supplementary, Mr. Chairman. In view of the fact that it is undoubtedly known to the Minister that at least on two occasions to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, the judges have either fined the superintendent of child welfare of the Northwest Territories or ordered the superintendent of child welfare to pay restitution where children under his care had caused damage or committed delinquencies. In view of the fact that the judges in making these findings, either fining the superintendent or more especially in requiring the superintendent to pay restitution, which order was based on the ground that the superintendent of child welfare had added to the commission of the offence, he was in part responsible for the children committing the offence. Is it not possible that when members of the judiciary make such rulings that this is more than just a scattered or insignificant problem? THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Could you answer that, Mr. McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The Member is referring to a judgment made by a particular judge in the case of Fort Simpson. Similarly, with the questions the Member was asking yesterday it stems from a piece of correspondence that not only in terms of the judge in question, his particular judgment but also from a letter that was written not to me. This has occurred, this instance did occur in Fort Simpson wherein the judge, when the juveniles did get into trouble after they were apprehended the first time and the judge, as I recall it, recommitted them to care. I think that is the incident or incidents the Member is referring to. I did not say it was insignificant. I do not think I used the term. That is the Member's term. I said it is not a generalization that holds true totally across the North. There are incidents. As far as I know that is the only time that has occurred. Maybe the Member does know of others but in my recollection that is the only one.

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

Report On Juvenile Delinquency Will Be Tabled

MR. PATTERSON: On a point of clarification, Mr. Chairman. I understand that Judge Eckhardt, in a decision several years ago, fined the superintendent of child welfare when a juvenile appeared in court who was in the custody of the superintendent of child welfare and that is another incident than the one mentioned. Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I would like to ask the Minister if he is aware of the report of Judge William Little of the juvenile family court of metropolitan Toronto which was made in August 1968, on observations respecting the state of juvenile delinquency and related problems in selected areas of the Northwest Territories. I may explain to the House that I hoped to table that report today but unfortunately it was not able to be copied in time. I will table that report as soon as it can be copied for information of the Members. I would like to ask if the Minister is aware of that report and recommendations, the Minister or his department is aware of that report and the recommendations contained therein?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I have been aware of this report. I was in the Northwest Territories at the particular time of the report, involved with children through education. I know of the report. As the Member said, it was done 12 years ago. That report will be looked at, the recommendations that were put in that 12 years ago before this government was involved as a department, along with other information as I had indicated, along with other kinds of information and consultation that we will have take place and obtain in the review that I referred to in my opening remarks.

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

MR. PATTERSON: Again with your permission, Mr. Chairman, a supplementary question. In view of my desire that the recommendations of the report, as old as they are, should be considered now by this House in considering these estimates, I would like to ask the Minister, in view of recommendations in the report such as the one on page eight, this is commenting on Yellowknife: "It would appear there is an urgent need for a small but adequately staffed receiving home for small children of both sexes who are the counterparts of children's aid wards and who require temporary quarters pending foster home placement, adoption or ultimate return to their home." It goes on to say, "Merely placing children on emergency or long-term bases in long-term foster homes can create many more serious problems than are solved without due cognizance of the prior need of interim shelter, treatment and assessment."

Need For Children's Aid Shelter

With reference to his study of Fort Resolution, page 13: "It has been pointed out in Fort Resolution that there is a need here as in Fort Smith for a shelter similar to the children's aid shelter in southern parts of Canada for those children of either neglect or misfortune situations. Such a service would fill the need of finding appropriate foster or adoption homes for many children that are not receiving proper attention now."

Further he notes in the end of his report at page 49: "It has been noted in Yellowknife as in Fort Smith that there is a real problem posed for welfare officers in the area of children who fall into the category of deserted, abandoned, or in other ways neglected, who require immediate assistance for varying lengths of time. Welfare has receiving homes in Yellowknife, Fort Smith and three new ones are under construction, 20 beds each for Hay River, Fort Smith and Inuvik. This problem is met in southern provinces usually through Children's Aid Societies who maintain, with public funds, small children's shelters with supervisory staff and a field staff of social workers or otherwise qualified persons to act as home finders for such children who require adoption homes or other residential needs because of misfortune to parents or outright neglect cases." Now, in view of the clear recommendations from that report in favour of receiving homes, admittedly it was at a time when the Northwest Territories was under federal jurisdiction, I wish to ask the Minister if his department and this government are abandoning that policy of providing receiving homes for those children who need care while they are being placed in foster homes? Is the closing of the receiving home in Hay River and the closures that have taken place in other parts of the Territories already an indication of that stated policy?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment on the comments that the Member read from this report. He mentioned first of all in terms of page eight, they were talking about Yellowknife. I do not see any particular reference to Yellowknife regardless. It says at the top of page eight "It would appear that there is an urgent need for a small but adequately staffed receiving home for small children of both sexes." To provide, if you like, temporary quarters pending foster home placement or adoption or ultimate return. And he quoted from the last sentence in that particular paragraph.

Very Few Social Workers In 1968

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As the Member knows, in 1968 our resources in particular communities at that time were very limited and there were very few social workers under the federal government in 1968. What we are doing now is to provide small interim placement centres, notwithstanding the fact that the honourable gentleman who wrote the report, Judge Little, of metropolitan Toronto suggests that placing children on emergency or long-term bases in temporary foster homes creates many more problems. We believe that in the years since this report, with the movement we are going to because the communities have been built up since then, because we have a better inventory of resources, that in point of fact by placing them there in group homes or in foster homes is better than was done at that time. The Member quotes again from other places about Fort Resolution having a need for it. He indicates that there were at that time receiving homes being constructed. There were receiving homes being constructed, but not as it is suggested here in the paragraph on page 49. There was a receiving home in Yellowknife at that time but not in Fort Smith. The receiving homes were built in 1967, 1968 and 1969. There were not any at that particular time. We believe that the route we arè taking now more adequately meets the need at this particular time in 1980 than u as a justice of the peace many years ago I had the unfortunate ce a lady to 30 days in jail and the police car arrived at my right children ranging in age from one to ten and I had eight 0 days, to look after. I was very careful in the future who checked out exactly what the situation was like. It is not situation really, but what are you going to do with the kids in cerim when you have no facilities at all? Once you close the receiving ce in Hay River you have nothing.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not know of the instance the Member refers to when he indicates the other night six kids, I am not sure what terms he uses. Regardless, I know nothing of that particular incident.

Emergency Foster Homes In Hay River

As I indicated yesterday, there are emergency foster homes now in Hay River. They are being used. That is a standard in other areas, in other jurisdictions. As I indicated previously, if there is a need to open a group home or the group home in Hay River then I shall. I have said to hold the phone, Ed. If in fact as I say, there is a need to open a group home in Hay River then I shall. We have been involved with a study in conjunction with other departments of the government. I am not sure whether the report has been released. As yet it is in review with departments. It is a study done by the Consultants In Behavioral Research Ltd., CIBER. The essence of that report as I know it, briefly is that the route we are going is the correct route. Again I do not know whether the report has been fully reviewed by the departments concerned, but that is the type of in-house study that has been going on.

As to what we do to take care of children on an emergency basis, I can relate again that we have emergency foster homes, that it does take time as I indicated yesterday for proper placement of children. I know from experience, personal experience, it does take time, but I think that we will be able, in what we are providing, to look after the needs of children in the communities.

MR. STEWART: Well, another question that I have not been able to satisfactorily answer to the people of Hay River is the fact that there are two receiving homes, on the south side of the lake, one is at Fort Smith, and the other is at Inuvik. Now, it seems to me that if you were going to close one receiving home that you should leave the one open that is in the more central area to service the south side of the lake. Certainly you cannot justify that Fort Smith is the closest to the populated areas of the Mackenzie River and Great Slave Lake proper.

Location At Regional Headquarters

There is a very strong feeling that again it was a case of a regional office and government people deciding on a location, not on a geographical basis of where it might give the best service but rather the fact that it was at headquarters and this, of course, in my view is not good enough. Hay River is closer to Fort Resolution, Pine Point, Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Enterprise, Kakisa Lake than Fort Smith is. Fort Smith is another 180 miles by road, another 100 anyway by road from the Pine Point cut-off.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: It is 147.

MR. STEWART: Yes, 147. But we have talked often in this Assembly of distributing departments to various areas, but it seems that every time that we turn around everything either goes to Yellowknife or it goes to one of the regional offices.

MR. PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

MR. STEWART: These are the types of things that people are getting awfully fed up with and unless you have got a good positive answer for them and I do not have one, do you have one, Mr. Minister?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) We will follow our policy and anyone who has comments will only talk for ten minutes. I will write down the people who raise their hands and whoever raises it first will be first to speak. Would you like to answer that, Mr. McCallum?

Communities Are Responding

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I obviously am not going to be able to give the Member a satisfactory answer in terms of not only the parts of the question but obviously the question as a whole. I believe that in the communities the Member listed; Hay River, Providence, Pine Point, Kakisa Lake, Fort Resolution, that these communities are responding by the provision of homes where individuals can be placed. I do not have any ready answer as to why government seems to be robbing Hay River to the benefit of Yellowknife and Fort Smith as a regional centre. I do know that the Government of the Northwest Territories has in the past year or two moved parts of divisions, divisions of departments to Hay River and there is contemplation by the government through the efforts of the Member to even go further in devolution. I do not believe that we are robbing Peter to pay Paul or robbing Hay to pay Smith or Yellowknife. I think there has been concrete evidence of the Government of the Northwest Territories moving things from both Yellowknife and Fort Smith, from regional headquarters, over the past few years.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Have you anything to say, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: I do not know what I should say. I will just pass.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I am going to talk about what you have been talking about for a while now, about children. We know that everywhere there are problems with delinquents, especially in bigger places where there is no place to put them, but the government says that they are dealing with this but we have not seen anything. I would just like to comment on the Minister's answers to various questions. You know, for the last two days we have been presented with the government's positions with respect to services for juvenile delinquents. It leads us to think the department is providing for the juveniles and so on, but what we are faced with as an Assembly, Members from all regions, we are not quite satisfied with the way the answers have been provided.

Department Should Provide Answers To Problems

You know the status of living conditions in the North has improved over the last ten years, no doubt, but the rate of juvenile delinquency certainly has increased. I am a little concerned that the department itself is not assuringus or providing satisfactory policy proposals for providing services for young people, for children in the North. We have been assured the family is the answer to that situation but the way the delinquency rates are happening in the settlements it is one we are not facing squarely. We have to deal with the problem but there is no assurance whether or not the department in fact is providing answers. No doubt headquarters may be satisfied with the amount of services that it is providing and no doubt they are probably satisfied with the way the other Assemblies have provided the funds for them. But I am just a little concerned that unless the department makes those in-house studies, those considered opinions are made available to us, I am not sure at all whether we should not defer this to the last item of the House until we are provided with the answers to the kinds of questions that have been posed, until a proper explanation has been provided. I am inclined to defer this particular item to the last of the priorities of the budget debate. If someone would like to maybe add to that, I would be very interested to hear. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would only want to say that there are 76 juvenile delinquents or juveniles who are non-wards of the government. They are at home. There are 47 juveniles across the Territories who are wards of the government. Of those 47, 13 are at home. Six are in foster homes. Six more have been placed in the Fort Smith centre. The remaining 22 are in various group homes, camps. There are two in Ranch-Ehrlo, two in Grollier Hall, two in the Yellowknife group home. We are talking about 47 juvenile delinquents. Before I get caught on that I do not mean to say that I condone the very small number. I am not suggesting that. I simply put forth that information to Members of the committee, Mr. Chairman, to indicate where these peole are.

Advice From Personnel Is Good And Proper

A final comment. If this committee and then in Assembly, indicate to me as Minister that the decision to embark on the philosophy that we are on is wrong, then I suggest you say it. Then I can determine what course of action I would want to take, whether I would want to continue where I am or whether you would prefer to have somebody else do it. I believe in the advice that we have and I believe it is the best possible advice we were able to get in the situation we are in and I mean that in terms of the personnel involved who provide advice to us, that I get good and proper advice. The decision having been made; because some time, somewhere along the line somebody has to make a decision as to what we are going to do, what course of action is to be followed in the provision of services to northerners.

But I would appreciate then if in fact we are not doing the proper thing, then let us know. You are asking me to give you responses to pertinent questions in terms of what the government, what the department and hence the government and hopefully the Assembly decide is a proper course of action. If it is not, then say so, but I, Mr. Chairman, do not want to sound defensive and I hope I have got the cool down, but we can go on and on about where we go, how we go about it. I believe that we are doing the proper thing, the right thing. I do not expect to bat 1000 and have everybody agree with it. I said yesterday I do not -- I will say it again -- I do not agree with the judiciary in what they have indicated and I would say that either in the ropes or outside the ropes, not in any kind of criticism of what an individual judge may believe but, as much as he has his opinion about where we are going as a department in the government, I have my opinion as to where we are going with it and in point of fact as to where we are going with this particular process.

Decision Will Have To Be Made Sooner Or Later

If it is the considered opinion then of this committee to set it aside for now, so be it. Fine. But you are going to have to come back to it later. You will have to make a decision on it the same way as we had to, as I had to make a decision. I may not agree with that decision if it is contrary to what I decided in the first place. Then I can determine what I want to do.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Mr. McLaughlin, you can speak.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make it clear what I think about this and knowing the topic was coming up I consulted with people in my town and also with the Member who represents Fort Resolution, who is absent today. Both of us feel that we would like to keep our children in our communities and that we would be in favour of a foster home in both of those communities or, failing that, we would like a receiving home in Pine Point and Fort Resolution too. I personally believe that foster homes are the answer, that the child should be in more of a family situation. I think the money is far better spent putting foster homes into smaller communities because when you pick up these kids in smaller communities, in Fort Resolution, Pine Point, we have nothing to do with them right now. If we had a foster home, there would be a place to put them. And before it becomes sort of a contest to snatch children off the streets, in order to build up the percentage occupancy in receiving homes in the south of the lake area to determine who is going to get to keep a receiving home, I will tell you now we would like the children in Pine Point and Fort Resolution to stay at home. Thank you.

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Mr. McCallum, would you like to answer that? Would you like to say something?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: No, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Is there anybody else who has not said anything? Mrs. Sorensen.

Native Women's Group Favours Foster Homes

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to add to what Mr. McLaughlin has said. On the one hand we have a situation where native groups such as the Native Women's Association is making strong representation to the department for greater emphasis on foster homes as opposed to institutional care. This is happening, as a matter of fact, right across the South. Here we have a situation, at least in my estimation, where an institution is being kept open 24 hours a day seven days a week at tremendous expense for a decreasing number of apprehended children. I really believe we can provide facilities for emergency situations in every community whether that is in foster home care or in some communities, in a group home situation. I believe we can take the money that we would be saving from this institution in Hay River and put it to good work in more than just the one community. I also believe that we must be very careful that our decisions are based on what is best for a community and its children as opposed to what is best in terms of economic benefits and the employment that such an institution will generate in any community.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Mr. Patterson, you can speak. You have to speak only for ten minutes and I will stop you when you go over that.

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I recognize I have talked an awful lot, probably too much. Let me say two things. There are arguments on both sides. I think the points stated by the hon. Mrs. Sorensen are well taken. I quite frankly wanted to present a viewpoint that was urged upon me by members of the judiciary because I think it should be discussed publicly, but I am not entirely sure that the Hon. Mr. McCallum, the Minister, is going in the wrong direction. All I think I am saying and I think Mr. Stewart would concur with me, that this House should have a little bit more information about the reasons why this kind of significant change is being made. Mr. McCallum assures us that the reasons are good and he informs the House that they have made what he calls in-house studies, that there is a study in conjunction with other departments of the government by an organization, CIBER I think it is called, a behavioural institution -- anyway a study has been done by a behavioural group presumably by contract and earlier in his discussions he mentioned there was an inventory of foster homes available.

Item Should Be Deferred Until Reports Examined

Now, I would simply like to suggest that this House, in making what appears to be a very important decision not just for Hay River and the area south of the lake, but rather in terms of the implications for the policy that the Department of Social Services seems to be taking, we should have some of the reasons and some of the documents before us, if we are to endorse this sort of an action and if the Minister is to be responsible to the House. I would simply like to suggest that this item be deferred until the reports could be made available to us. I am sure they are not a secret or they should not be made available to us.

Might I also suggest that since the opinons of the judiciary have been rejected by Mr. McCallum that we invite Chief Judge Slaven of the territorial court or Chief Justice Tallis of the supreme court before this committee when these reports have been tabled to give us their opinion because they, presumably, do know something about the juvenile problem and the problems of children in need of special care, apprehended children, etc., in the Northwest Territories.

Motion That Item And Vote On Department Be Deferred

So, therefore, I move that the item family and children's services in the main estimates, and the final vote on the Department of Social Services be deferred for consideration by this committee until reports of the Department of Social Services, including in-house studies, the report of, I am going to try and say it, CIBER, the inventory of foster homes available in communities in the Northwest Territories and any other relevant reports on policy for juvenile delinquents and children's services in the Northwest Territories can be tabled in the House.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To that motion? It is going to be, the motion is going to be read by the Clerk.

CLERK ASSISTANT OF THE HOUSE (Mr. de Vos): Mr. Chairman, the motion you have on the floor reads: "I move that the discussion for family and children's services and the final vote on the Department of Social Services be deferred until the relevant reports referred to can be made available to the House."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I intend to support that motion, because the other day we were discussing the concerns that we have with respect to juveniles and so on. I think it is important that the clear intention of the department be presented to Members so that we can make a decision and get on with this job. I think it is important too, that the kinds of reports that the Minister has referred to are available to us, that they are not only in the hands of headquarters. I think this will help us a lot. I only now wish to indicate to the Members that I will support this motion. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion? Don Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can support this motion. The suggestion of the hon. Member, Mrs. Sorensen, that some of us may be looking at dollars and cents rather than the welfare of the children is rather a cutting type of remark and certainly not the intention of this debate. But I think if we were to know and fully understand the problem at hand that we have to have more information to be able to judge it. The dollars and cents are certainly secondary and I agree that the foster home concept is probably being more universally used than any other. It is just a matter of what you do in the interim before you can place children in a foster home if you get an overload like you do on certain occasions.

Hard To Justify On Political Level

I just cannot help but say that the problem here is that Fort Smith has two group homes plus the receiving home and we do not have anything. Now, this is the type of thing that is very difficult on the political level to be able to justify, but that is not the criterion. The criterion is for the welfare of the children in the areas that we are referring to. So I support the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion, anyone else? Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would be in favour of this motion, hoping that the study would give good cause to shutting down the receiving home in Fort Smith as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion? Are you ready for the question? Mr. MacQuarrie, I am sorry.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I will support the motion, Mr. Chairman, I suppose not so much because of the very specific issue of the Hay River receiving home, but rather because I think it is important to alert Ministers, or at any rate all those who have the authority to make decisions that affect the lives of other people, that it is important to consult with those people to the extent that it is reasonable and possible to do so before such decisions are made, and also to alert all departments to the idea that where significant shifts in philosophy when it comes to dealing with problems that these departments have to deal with, that significant shifts in philosophy should be referred to Members of the Assembly for direction, not necessarily on the floor of this House but that Members be alerted to the possibilities that new paths will be taken and given the information that seems to indicate why those new paths should be taken, so that Members prior to a situation like this will have the kind of information that they need to make a good decision.

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion? Arnold McCallum, did you want to say something?

No Difficulty In Releasing Recommendations

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, perhaps you will allow me just to make a couple of comments on it. I do not know whether it is directly to the motion, but you will correct me if it is not. The comments or the discussion on this total budget was studied by the standing committee on finance of which a number of Members compose that particular body.

I have no difficulty in conjunction with other departments in releasing the recommendations of the CIBER report. I think roughly they are 20 in number. I would have a difficulty in releasing the report because it deals with individual children and I have a reluctance in terms of that, identifying them. Now, I would hope that the Members would respect that.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to continue if I may. There have been a number of things said in relation to Judge Little's report and, of course, one can take from that on certain pages certain particular things to make a case and that is fine. Let me read you, Mr. Chairman, a couple of other comments that the honourable gentleman makes. Now, recall that this is 1968 and we are relating what he is saying here to today. He indicates that to place children back in their own homes indiscriminately is to undo everything that has been accomplished. Possibly foster homes, possibly a foster home is required. It goes on to deal with Fort Smith.

"Your people in Fort Smith have limited recreation." I do not know when the last time was that any of you have been in Fort Smith, but that is a statement that does not hold true again, because he uses that statement to make a following statement to say that things have to be done. There are other statements that he says. "It is not inconsistent..." for example, he writes, "...to have social work staff attached to welfare assistance, corrections, child welfare, community development officers acting as probation and parole personnel for regions of small population, but it is quite unsatisfactory for police to undertake these roles."

He talks about Yellowknife. "In Yellowknife recreation is not dissimilar to other areas visited..." You will recall that he was visting Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, Inuvik, these are the places he is talking about, "...other than the greater availability of social activities for those of the white society such as outings by car and by plane for those who can afford them and a limited program of sorts in the schools." Because, he goes on to say that "The schools have to be used more often." In some communities I am sure that the Members know the school is open quite late for a number of activities in a number of communities. So, you can utilize particular things that Judge Little at that time has indicated and said to make particular assertions. I am saying that the information that he has in here is 12 years old and I am saying that we have learned a great deal in that time. We have provided many other facilities.

Government Groups In Hay River

But I have no difficulty with the motion, Mr. Chairman, and I know I am not particularly reading to it. In the case of taking from Hay River and putting to other places, I think if you go through the litany of decentralization by the territorial government to Hay River you will find that there is a district office of the Housing Corporation that is there that is not in Fort Smith which is in the region; that we have the operations of the highway division there, Local Government are involved with an assessment area, and the Liquor Control System. The Housing Corporation have entered into an agreement with the Hay River Development Corporation to set up a house building factory. The agreement has been signed. Those kinds of things are there. The territorial court is there. So in not every case do we take from Hay River and put into other places. I simply offer those comments because that leads to the kind of discussion that has been going on. Again I would have no difficulty with deferring this until we get the recommendations of the CIBER report and we would be prepared to bring those recommendations, but hopefully Members will agree that it is not necessary to read the entire report because of the concern that I had on the individuals named.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) To the motion. The person who made the motion wants to talk again. Mr. Patterson.

Request For All Relevant Reports

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I agree completely with the Minister that we are not interested in getting the names of particular cases and that should be deleted or blocked out from the report before it is presented. I agree that is not appropriate at all. I notice the Minister did not include in his agreement that we should have certain reports. Two other items I mentioned and one is in-house studies done by the department on this question which he referred to earlier which I presume will include the report of the CIBER group and secondly, what he called inventories of foster homes available in communities in the Northwest Territories. There is some question that has been asked about whether or not in fact there are enough homes, whether placements are available in all situations. I would simply also ask that if any kind of relevant reports like that are available, I would like to ask the Minister and I think it is in keeping with the intent of the motion, that they also be made available to the House so we can have all the possible information available for us in order to be able to make an informed decision. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Mr. McCallum, would you like to make a statement?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it was not my intention to suggest we would not make in-house reports available. Certainly we would. I can give the Members now a kind of inventory, not by community, but by region or district as to the number of approved foster homes as of December 31st, 1979. I would think that the Member is not asking for foster homes by community or name any of the actual homes, but certainly to give you an indication as to the number, or are you in fact asking us to list...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) I am sorry, Mr. McCallum. If you want to talk about that later, maybe you can talk about it later after it has been agreed to. Also would you like to vote on the motion? I have to recognize the clock. It is four o'clock. Would you like to vote on the motion right now or after coffee?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I guess, Mr. Chairman, I am only asking, do you want the inventory by communities? How do you want the inventory? Do you want how many homes are in each community and who they are or what?

MR. STEWART: Yes.

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Yes, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to make a comment now or after coffee?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I would like to make a comment right now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Go ahead.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: First I do tend to agree with the concept that Mr. Patterson is putting on the floor. However, I would like to ask him a question and that is this. Is it a precedent that prior to any decisions being made in future that we have to inform the Members of this House and to, in fact, supply them with all information before decisions are in fact made by Executive Members?

MR. PATTERSON: No.

Motion That Item And Vote On Department Be Deferred, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) On the subject here, we are talking about page 13.04, the family and children's services. I think you are getting off the subject, Mr. Nerysoo. Would you like to vote on the motion? Somebody asked a question? Would you like the motion read again? Okay. Could you indicate who is in favour of the motion? Very high, please. Down. Against? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Before we go for coffee I would like to tell you when we come back to the House after coffee we will be dealing with page 13.05. We will break for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I believe there is a quorum now and we will move on to the next item in Social Services. May I thank Mr. Pudluk for sitting in for me when I wanted to participate in the discussion.

MR. PUDLUK: You are welcome.

Services To The Aged And Handicapped

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I believe the next item in order is services to the aged and handicapped on page 13.05.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering when you would be dealing with the capital aspect of the family and children's services. It seems to me both 0 and M and capital had been dealt with more or less at the same time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston, I hate to comment on my own motion, but I believe that the intention of the motion and of the House was that the whole discussion on family and children's services capital and 0 and M be deferred until the final vote on the estimates of the Department of Social Services, be deferred until reports etc. were tabled. I think it is the wish of the committee that we leave that item altogether. Is that the general understanding of Members of the committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think that was the motion, Mr. Sibbeston, so I think it is appropriate that we move on to page 13.05, services to the aged and handicapped. I notice we seem to be missing the Minister. Is he under the table? I am sorry. Mr. McCallum, did you wish to make any introduction on this item, the services to the aged and handicapped? Do you wish to go right into questions on this one? Any questions on this item?

MR. CURLEY: Yes.

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

Services For Senior Citizens In Eskimo Point

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, my continuing question will focus with respect to the desire of the Eskimo Point community to provide a service for the I am wondering whether or not the Minister is prepared to indicate to old folks. the committee what he has in mind in terms of making financial assistance to the community and a facility. The old folks I think are the most affected with regard to this particular subject. I know that is contrary to the considered opinion of the department that old folks' homes are not the kind of institution that should be encouraged in Inuit communities. My experience is as a matter of fact, that old folks' homes are encouraged in the community because communities in the North, Inuit communities in the Eastern Arctic are very wide open and there are no services, no conditions and no rules for visiting with the families. It may well be that there would be some rules to visiting hours but they do not wish that this would happen but a place for them to be centralized so that services and the shopping and whatnot, the needs of the old folks can be centralized to a particular place.

Contrary to the southern way where there is an atmosphere of institutionalization in old folks' or senior citizens' homes when they are built, there is a need for old folks in the settlements getting more and more. There is evidence to provide that service. I wonder whether your department has prepared any kind of policy on that and, if not, whether they are prepared to. Another question is particularly dealing with the Eskimo Point situation. Could you respond to those comments? - 482 -

O And M, Services To The Aged And Handicapped, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Is it the wish of the committee that this item, operations and maintenance, services to the aged and handicapped in the amount of \$1,270,000 be approved?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Approved.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It is agreed?

---Agreed

Capital, Services To The Aged And Handicapped

The amount of 567,000 for capital, are there any questions on that? Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you could also indicate that the detail for that capital is on page 13.12?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I would direct committee Members' attention to page 13.12 where we have a breakdown of that capital item of \$567,000. It is broken down into buildings and works, acquisition of furniture and equipment and mobile equipment. Any questions? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, my question again is I could not quite understand except in some places like Yellowknife, the Housing Corporation is not likely involved in providing handicapped or senior citizens' home facilities, the building itself, and I am wondering why in the other parts of the area or in other parts of the area that the Housing Corporation is involved and in some places it is not. Could the Minister explain that for me, please? Thank you.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I am not quite sure whether I understand the question, but let me try it and he could correct me. Is the Member questioning why we have allocated \$420,000 for the construction of two group homes in Yellow-knife, one for handicapped adults and one for returning psychiatric patients and have not done similar things in other parts of the Territories?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Curley, could you clarify your question, please?

Designing Senior Citizens' Homes

MR. CURLEY: Yes, that could be tied into that. The other question or the other part of my question is why is the Housing Corporation involved in providing buildings or that type of buildings, because I do not believe that the kind of houses that the Housing Corporation provides in the Eastern Arctic are an appropriate type of building to be used as group homes for, like, senior citizens. In places like Yellowknife I wonder if the Housing Corporation will make that its facility and it is probably a capital requirement of the Department of Social Services to the aged and handicapped. So, could he explain why the Housing Corporation has to be involved in determining the type of house required in that area when in places like Yellowknife the Housing Corporation is not likely involved, or could he confirm they are involved in the type of design of the senior citizens' home?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Housing Corporation is involved in the senior citizens' home in Yellowknife. It is involved through the housing association in Fort Smith, for example, in senior citizens' homes so it is involved in terms of Yellowknife and larger centres just as well as it is in other communities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Any further questions on this item? Mr. Sibbeston.

Returning Psychiatric Patients

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was just curious as to the amount of money that is alloted for returning psychiatric patients. Is that a capital matter?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that is a capital matter in that the money indicated here is to construct or purchase a unit or a facility for that particular purpose, so it obviously would be capital moneys.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Then have you some indications as to whether you will be purchasing a building or building a building?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, with that particular amount of funding we have been attempting to identify facilities that we could purchase that would require, in some cases, some modifications. These particular homes were identified and approved in last years main estimates. These are particular funds which may or may not have to be used as a carryover amount for these two.

MR. SIBBESTON: Another question, that of \$100,000 being spent in Yellowknife for furniture for senior citizens in Yellowknife. Is this for the existing senior citizens' home?

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

Furniture And Equipment For Senior Citizens'Homes

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that amount of money is for the purchase of particular kinds of furnishings, not just for the city of Yellowknife, but for Fort Providence and Rae-Edzo as well. There is a need for a particular kind of furniture and equipment in senior citizens' homes for personal care of those residents and that is not totally in Yellowknife. It is involved with at the Fort Providence home and it is involved in Rae-Edzo as well.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am just curious as to whether, for instance -- if you would just let me rephrase that. I am aware that in Fort Providence a contract has been let with a supplier of furniture to supply the Fort Providence old folks' home with furniture and so far as I know furniture for the old folks' home has been purchased already. Does the department give money -- this apparently has been done by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, I am just wondering does some of this money end up in the budget of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it is correct as the Member has said that the Housing Corporation does provide basic furniture. We would transfer funds to them if there is a requirement for specialized furniture and I think this is the instance here. It does not end up in their budget but we transfer money from our budget in here to that facility or for that facility.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering whether the department is padding its budget in providing all of these moneys and it just seems to me that \$135,000 for furnishings is quite a great sum of money. Does the department really believe that it needs this kind of money in order to buy furnishings or have they really padded their budget in this instance?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston, I believe that might be a leading question, but it is not my place to say really. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it may very well seem or have the appearance of being a lot of money for it, but in the provision of personal care there are specific kinds of furniture that would have to be made available for people, for senior citizens. I think that the Member would appreciate that in this particular instance that this furniture is not expensive. I do not think that it is padded. I do not think that it is too much in here. We attempt to provide the best of furnishings for people with that kind of care. I think those items are expensive.

If I could continue, Mr. Chairman, I think that in trying to determine the kinds of special furnishings or furnishing for individuals in those homes we indicate or put a particular amount of money for an individual and we try to formulate it that way. That amount is roughly \$3000 to \$4000 per individual so they can be provided -- when you add the special furnishings for them it does amount, it increases.

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

Necessity Of The Equipment And Furnishings

MR. SIBBESTON: I am just curious, Mr. Chairman. Would it be true that one of your activities or one of the highlights in this area where you provide services to the aged and handicapped is all of this purchase of equipment and furnishings necessary? You are bringing people back to the Northwest Territories and now have to provide them with furnishings. I notice last year you had only spent \$80,000 and now you want to spend \$567,000 which is quite an increase. Do you think we can afford this?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the \$80,000 that is indicated there was for the building of those two particular units, not in the acquisition of furniture and equipment in previous years. That \$80,000 refers to the acquisition of two group homes, that would involve trying to get land for the buildings. We had approved those two particular homes last year. It does not refer to the acquisition of furniture and equipment.

MR. SIBBESTON: So you are absolutely convinced the purchase of all this equipment is necessary?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, maybe I can break it down even a little better. It is indicated \$100,000 in terms of Yellowknife, Rae-Edzo and Fort Providence. In Yellowknife, I said we had talked about particular units. In Yellowknife there were 15 units. We use a formula I indicated of roughly \$3000 to \$4000. In Rae-Edzo there are eight units and in Fort Providence nine. That is 32 units at roughly \$3000 a unit which brings it to \$96,000.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, -- go ahead.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we propose to utilize this money. We are asking for a pool to embark on that. It may very well be that the total amount as has happened in the past may not totally be used but we believe it should be at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston, you are getting close to using your time. If you wish to make a motion, please do, but...

MR. SIBBESTON: Just one more short question. Am I right in my information that Fort Providence, the furniture for the old folks' home in Providence has already been purchased by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and, if that is the case, then I would assume you do not need any more money for Fort Providence. It is \$100,000 presently allotted that ought to be reduced accordingly.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated, the Housing Corporation is responsible for the purchase of furniture for senior citizens. This department has an agreement with the Housing Corporation to provide a certain amount of money toward that furniture or toward special furniture at the rate, the formula rate that I had indicated. Again the furniture may very well have been purchased. We are fulfilling our particular part of that agreement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Any further questions? Mr. Curley.

Handicapped People In The Eastern Arctic

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. I would like to ask the Minister with regard to the handicapped adults. I do not see any of the financial assistance being provided to the regions like the Eastern Arctic hardly at all in this capital detail of the estimates. Particularly I am concerned with places like Chesterfield Inlet which I believe provides a lot of handicapped people and I am sure you know the building that accommodates those people is a pretty old building anyway, the one that the missionaries run. I am wondering whether or not any consideration has been given to at least providing new kinds of furniture and everything. The only one I saw here is with respect to the one in Manitoba. Could the Minister maybe explain whether the facility in Chesterfield Inlet is satisfactory or not.

The other question is I am sure there are many handicapped people who do pass through the Keewatin, particularly through Manitoba and from Toronto. There is no provision here to contribute in terms of financial assistance except for returning psychiatric patients from Yellowknife which is quite a large amount, \$230,000. Maybe he could explain to me, to convince me at least anyway that there are many more psychiatric patients in this area than the rest of the other two regions in the East.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think I can. I believe I indicated earlier when we were in this department first that the department is preparing a proposal for Executive Committee perusal and hopefully agreement that would see an increase of approximately ten per cent across the board, so that in point of fact there would be an increase to recipients of this assistance. We would hope to be able to have this come into effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year. During the past fiscal year the food rate allocations were adjusted. We are preparing, as I say, the groundwork for another increase to be recommended for April and if the inflation rate continues then we may very well be back to you for another review in the fall. As I indicated, the proposed increase is approximately ten per cent. Now, at the same time we are studying the food scale allocation and we very well might take recommendations for a more appropriate scale and distribution.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Did you have a supplementary, Mr. Curley?

MR. CURLEY: Yes. My supplementary question is as to whether or not this figure, this ten per cent increase is reflected at all in this estimate that we are going to vote on. Is it reflected in that?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

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

Amount Of Social Assistance Given Out

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was going to say how coincidental it is that Mr. Nickerson should walk in, because I was going to say something about something his Minister had said the other day. In a public speech over at the Yellowknife Inn the other day Mr. Epp said something to the effect that his government was going to get the North going in terms of development and so forth and saying that that was the answer to the North and that is when everybody works then hopefully the government will not have to give out any more social assistance. Anyway, I thought that he was rather unkind in making the suggestion that all the native people in the North were on welfare and I know in my area of the North that welfare is not something that is just given out very easily. I mean I have gone to the government office on a number of different occasions with people who I thought perhaps should have been given some social assistance but were denied this by the social worker. So I know that the government is not just doling out, just giving out social assistance in large sums.

I was just wondering whether or not the Minister has some information, some statistics perhaps on the amount of social assistance given out in various communities throughout the North. Also whether they have any breakdown as to the types of persons who get social assistance, by this I mean whether they give it to people who perhaps are unable to work because of physical disabilities or are sick as opposed to people who are just simply out of work and being quite healthy?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if the Member would like that broken down by community I am sure that we could provide that information for him. However, Mr. Chairman, if I may just indicate to the Member that I could indicate to him the cost of the monthly social assistance expenditure by cause of need. We provide particular funds, assistance, to people because of health reasons, because of dependent children, provide it to the economic unemployable and to others for other economic reasons and we provide a supplement. In terms of the need, the cause of need being health, from April to October of 1979-80, that amounted to about \$660,000; for dependent children approximately \$650,000; to the economic unemployable approximately \$815,000; to others approximately \$125,000 and other supplementary assistance approximately \$470,000.

Now, if the Member would like some kind of rate of incidence, if you like, or the number of cases and I would give them for that same period, April to October, and under the same heading, health, dependent children, etc., under health there were 2480 cases; dependent children approximately 2000; economic unemployable 2850; the others about 600 and supplementary 1800. So we have a total number of cases over that seven month period approximating 9800 and the total expenditure of approximately,I would say just slightly over, \$2.7 million.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston. If not, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. Yes, Mr. Chairman, you know I think it is an encouragement to those dependent on the allowance to hear that a ten per cent increase is being assured by the Minister.

Clothing Allowance

My other concern is with respect to the clothing allowance. It is stated in the regulations that a maximum of \$240 annually may be provided for clothing for each person, regardless of age. That would work out to about \$20 per month per person. It was expressed in one particular community that I visited that the clothing allowance did not even allow a person to buy the material for a parka, for instance. The duffel costs over \$22 a yard and one yard certainly is not even enough to clothe a person in need. I am wondering whether or not there is any special consideration given now to that area, particularly to the clothing allowance.

I am going to compare it to other allowances that the government provides to the public service, the figures that are at present in the public service agreement provides all the employees of the Government of the Northwest Territories, over and above their salaries, \$700 in Yellowknife as a northern allowance. That allowance is to compensate for the cost of living and I do not know to the South maybe and the maximum northern allowance that the public servant, a teacher or any government worker, the highest figure is \$4000 over and above their other benefits. To those in need, in actual need, you know, who require food as well as paying for their rent and clothing, \$240 is hardly enough to clothe a person in the winter. I am wondering if the Minister has any plans or any guarantees that he could assure the committee that rather than just increasing that figure of \$240 a year as a clothing allowance to something more relevant to the problems that we face in the North. Thank you.

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

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