



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Speaker

The Honourable Donald M. Stewart, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1877
Hay River, N.W.T., X0E 0R0
(Hay River)

Appaqaq, Mr. Moses, M.L.A.
General Delivery
Sanikiluaq, N.W.T.
X0A 0W0
(Hudson Bay)

Arlooktoo, Mr. Joe, M.L.A.
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.
X0A 0N0
(Baffin South)

Braden, The Hon. George, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 583
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Yellowknife North)
Leader of the Elected Executive and Minister
of Justice and Public Services

Butters, The Hon. Thomas H., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1069
Inuvik, N.W.T.
X0E 0T0
(Inuvik)
Minister of Finance and of Economic
Development and Tourism

Curley, Mr. Tagak E.C., M.L.A.
Rankin Inlet, N.W.T.
X0C 0G0
(Keewatin South)

Cournoyea, Ms Nellie J., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1184
Inuvik, N.W.T.
X0E 0T0
(Western Arctic)

Evaluarjuk, Mr. Mark, M.L.A.
Igloodik, N.W.T.
X0A 0L0
(Foxye Basin)

Fraser, Mr. Peter C., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 23
Norman Wells, N.W.T.
X0E 0V0
(Mackenzie Great Bear)
Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

Kilabuk, Mr. Ipeelee, M.L.A.
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.
X0A 0R0
(Baffin Central)

McCallum, The Hon. Arnold J., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 454
Fort Smith, N.W.T.
X0E 0P0
(Slave River)
Minister of Health and of Social Services

MacQuarrie, Mr. Robert H., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2895
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Yellowknife Centre)

McLaughlin, Mr. Bruce, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 555
Pine Point, N.W.T.
X0E 0W0
(Pine Point)

Nerysoo, The Hon. Richard W., M.L.A.
General Delivery
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Mackenzie Delta)
Minister of Renewable Resources and of Energy

Noah, Mr. William, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 125
Baker Lake, N.W.T.
X0C 0A0
(Keewatin North)

Patterson, The Hon. Dennis G., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 262
Frobisher Bay, N.W.T.
X0A 0H0
(Frobisher Bay)
Minister of Education

Pudluk, Mr. Ludy, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 22
Resolute Bay, N.W.T.
X0A 0V0
(High Arctic)
Deputy Chairman of Committees

Sayine, Mr. Robert, M.L.A.
General Delivery
Fort Resolution, N.W.T.
X0E 0M0
(Great Slave East)

Sibbeston, Mr. Nick G., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 560
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.
X0E 0N0
(Mackenzie Liard)

Sorensen, Mrs. Lynda M., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2348
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Yellowknife South)

Tologanak, The Hon. Kane, M.L.A.
Coppermine, N.W.T.
X0E 0E0
(Central Arctic)
Minister of Government Services

Wah-Shee, The Hon. James J., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 471
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2N4
(Rae - Lac la Martre)
Minister of Local Government and of Aboriginal
Rights and Constitutional Development

Officers

Clerk
Mr. W.H. Remnant
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Clerk Assistant
Mr. D.M. Hamilton
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Law Clerk
Mr. E. Johnson
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Editor of Hansard
Mrs. M.J. Coe
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Sergeant-at-Arms
S/Sgt. J. Morris
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1981

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Turning to the orders of the day for Monday, February 16th, Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address.

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO THE COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Noah.

Mr. Noah's Reply

MR. NOAH: (Translation) I would like to express my thanks to the Assembly that I was voted into co-chairman of the committee of the whole. I never even thought that the Members would place confidence in me to be co-chairman of the committee of the whole. I personally thought to myself that being relatively new to the Assembly, it would be a big job as co-chairman of the committee of the whole. It is obvious that every now and then as a co-chairman, I have been making some mistakes and I have already found out that I made a mistake in my first attempt as a co-chairman of the committee of the whole.

When I sat as the co-chairman, after the meeting of the committee of the whole and when I returned to my regular seat, I listened to the Speaker and I mentioned to Mr. Speaker that my ruling had been challenged by a Member of the Assembly. I should have mentioned to Mr. Speaker that my ruling was challenged -- Mr. Speaker's ruling was challenged, and I should have mentioned that right from the beginning. Mr. Stewart, Mr. Speaker, I would like you to forgive me for making this mistake.

Learning Experience In Languages

I am going to try and speak in the English language. I will probably make a mistake but if I try and talk in English more often, it will be a learning experience for me and it will give me the opportunity to learn the language a little bit more and perhaps the honourable Members of the Assembly will perhaps try to speak in the Inuktitut language. It will also be a learning experience for them and it will also be good practice for them. Mr. Speaker, I will now speak in the English language. (Translation ends)

Mr. Speaker, Members and my colleagues, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen, first of all I would like to congratulate the two Members of our Assembly, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Tologanak, in their new positions and I am sure they will do just great.

Mr. Speaker, there is a country song entitled "Green, Green Grass of Home". It goes something like this: The old Yellowknife hotel looks the same; as I step down from the plane; and there to meet me was Mr. Stewart; and he said I'm sick and tired of people calling the Executive names; and there was Mrs. Sorensen with arms reaching and smiling; she said the caribou are declining; and the Executive, they are crazy.

---Laughter

When I woke up I was only dreaming.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, I think seriously most of us are big dreamers but I honestly think that since we are being elected, we have done a lot of work together and a lot of political issues will be implemented in the year of 1981 and the year of 1982, whether you are an Executive Member or just an MLA.

I think other people across the Northwest Territories should at least say thank you to all of us for that hard work that we have done instead of this cursing and swearing.

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: I agree. Hear, hear!

MR. NOAH: Mr. Speaker, last year in 1980 when we added many people to the Executive Committee, we were so confident that things were going to improve and be implemented, especially on quotas of musk-oxen, sea mammals, such as walruses, and polar bears and whatnot. Nowadays, the word "politics" is not the word "politics" anymore but it is "Pontius Pilot". The Executive Committee washes their hands and say "I have nothing against it or I have nothing to do with it." The MLA's therefore cannot and will not do anything. If the Executive and the Ministers say that, "We have nothing to do with it", or are against it or whatever, nothing will work out according to the wishes of our people.

Knowledge Of Animal Migrations

I know what I know and I know that one of my constituents, mainly Repulse Bay, have been asking for 50 walruses quota per year and they were given only a 25 quota per year. We, as aboriginal people, have lived in the vast land of the Northwest Territories for over thousands of years and we know exactly the migration movements of the animals and the sea mammals. We may not have the electronics and mechanics to detect the animals' movements but we have lived with the animals in the North. I say again that what we know is what we really know. We do not just say it just by guessing or just by rumours.

Mr. Speaker, from the past year, the year of 1980, we found out -- we, as aboriginal people -- that the large herds of caribou mainly come in here. We have herds, Beverly herds, up river herds and even the Manitoba herds no longer migrate and move in the summertime but move in the fall and the wintertime now. We all believed that the animals would decline but we were wrong. The biologists were wrong. The federal and Northwest Territories governments were wrong and we aboriginal people were right all along.

Mr. Speaker, the blockage of these animals must be stopped. The trailway of these animals must be opened. Wherever there are caribou, caribou trails, there are always mining companies' camps. Not only are there camps but more and more equipment and gasoline drums everywhere, everywhere we go. Therefore, the caribou are not able to move in the summer but they have to wait until the pathway is clear and then finally move in the falltime or wintertime when the mining explorations have gone down south.

Plea For Stopping Uranium Exploration

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge this Assembly to stop the uranium exploration. We are not against the gold mine or diamond or nickel mines but the uranium mine must be stopped before it is too late. People down south are concerned about their health. We, as aboriginal people, we are concerned both about our health and animals, even more so with our animals and sea mammals because they are our only source of food and clothing for the winter. Mr. Speaker, there is the urge of temptation to kill all the animals before the uranium mines are opened in the North.

Mr. Speaker, once the uranium mine is opened our animals will be diseased with cancer and most aboriginal people who are not educated, although some of the white people are, will have no place to hunt nor employment, perhaps maybe even followed by the great starvation. Suppose we say delay the uranium mine until 1999 or 2000. That would make sense to our health and the animals of the North.

Mr. Speaker, our lifestyle is completely different in comparison with the southern people; even our culture is completely different. We northerners, we northern aboriginal people, are depending on fishing and hunting. The people down south are depending on agricultural and economical matters. The people down south can build rockets and airplanes overnight, but cannot live by hunting and trapping. We, as aboriginal people, cannot build a rocket overnight but certainly can hunt and trap different species of animals.

I hope that this is explicable and explicit to my colleagues. We must respect one another, not as individuals, but we as northerners respect the southerners and southerners respect us northerners. If we northerners say that there is to be no mine opened here, there must not be any mine opened here, especially the uranium mine which I am talking about.

No Response From Russian Government

Mr. Speaker, in the year of 1978 or 1979, the Russian satellite fell down in the Baker Lake area. The Canadian government asked the Russian government to clean our backyard and the Russian government never even responded to our Canadian government. How in the world are they going to clean up the uranium radiation way down in the open uranium mine near Baker Lake the next time when you ask them -- the next time when you ask the Russians to clean up our backyard for the second time?

The company who found the uranium is entitled the Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd., which is not an English name but a Russian name or a Russian word. When you ask the Russians what it means, what does Urangesellschaft mean, the buggers will not respond to you.

MRS. SORENSEN: Aha! I am not the only one who swears.

MR. NOAH: Mr. Speaker, the next time Baker Lake goes to the court of appeal, will the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories support us? Can we not fight this together? The people down south have been saying, we can look after the excess of the uranium -- they will look after it. If the uranium mine is difficult in Ontario and Saskatchewan, even so, it will be even more difficult in the North where the snow is 10 feet deep and runs down to the greater lakes in the springtime and during the summertime.

Mr. Speaker, are there any governments or individuals who will listen to my predictions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Speaks in Inuktitut)

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Replies to the Commissioner's Address. The hon. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley's Reply

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would briefly like to mention that we are happy we were able to come to Yellowknife to be in this Assembly and I am glad that everybody is in good health. I would like to congratulate Kane Tologanak and Dennis Patterson of the Executive Committee. I am very happy that they are now Members of the Executive Committee and staying on our side of the table. Thank you. (Translation ends)

I think you made the right decision. Stay with us as long as you can. (Translation) I know we will be able to work together, even though you are now Members of the Executive Committee and I would like to be consulted by you people all the time, even during coffee break. If it is possible, we would like to work together in order to make progress. It is the same thing with the people from across the table and perhaps, if they would like to come to our table to have short discussions with us individually, I would appreciate it very much.

I will make it brief. First of all, I would like to mention that our goals and objectives at the Assembly are very strong ones. We in the Territories have to work very hard in order to make progress, not only the aboriginal people, but everybody, and it has to be done in a relatively short period. The workload is increasing in our Territories and perhaps if the students from the high school can come and listen to the deliberations of the House, they can learn something from us for their future. (Translation ends)

I am just going to switch to English. I would like to make some very brief remarks to the Commissioner's Address. First of all, I think I can say, since this Assembly was elected a year ago there has been some improvement with regard to the government operations in the field. I think there is a tremendous attempt these days to open up -- but let us communicate. I can assure you that from my region these improvements are significant and they are starting to show and the progress is slowly coming along.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Communication With Regional Director

MR. CURLEY: I can say to you that -- maybe I am saying the wrong things, I do not know -- but I can say to you with the new regional director being hired in my region, an ordinary person can confidently go into his office and be assured in his own mind that he can have an audience and that he can communicate with the man. So, these are the kinds of things and results that I am starting to see, even though we have a lot of work to do yet.

I think we are making some progress with the relations between hunters and wildlife officers. There are some changes being made, but I for one would like to see some regulations and ordinances changed to reflect that desire to communicate and work in the field. So, these complimentary remarks that I have that -- I would not want to be misunderstood the fact that -- you know, I may be hanging my neck for saying those, but I think that it is only good that I

express some of these things, things that are working, the efforts that are being taken by the Executive Committee and the administration.

I have many concerns; constitutional development of the Territories. I am not going into federal because I do not know what kind of remarks I would say about Joe Clark. He can holler and shout until he is blue in the face and red and, you know, hot as 99 degrees but I do not know what kind of changes he is making. So I am not going to argue with him on the constitutional issues of the federal side, but in the Territories I think the desire is: Okay, can we set up a time schedule? Can we set up time limits to our own direction in regard to the political development of the Territories?

Timeframe For Political Development

We have attempted, and we have given the administration and the Executive Committee certain directions to take. Now the ball game and the court is back in your hands. Now we would like to say: Can you come up with a schedule, a timeframe, so that we will attempt sincerely to try to present to the public the kinds of things they want? I welcomed James Wah-Shee's remarks the other day when he said he is hoping to try and organize, you know, a sort of constituent or major conference involving organizations like ITC and Members of the Assembly. I think that is one that would be very much supported by the public, certainly, and I would certainly support that.

The other concern that I have, which may seem strange hearing it from me, but further, I would like to say a remark about our coverage here. I notice that there are at least seven CBC reporters standing around here, so I am confident that I might be getting the best coverage that I can, knowing that there are seven members of the CBC reporters sitting around.

---Applause

The other newspapers certainly are here and I welcome their presence, because they certainly contribute to the kinds of government that we have and the concerns of the Members of the Assembly.

Press Conferences During Session

I do not always agree with some of them. I do not always agree with what they say about me, but one thing I would like to see is, I think the Assembly and the press could possibly have a better relationship. I really think so. I think it is possible because the North is so diverse, so big. I would not mind, when we have a major conference in Yellowknife, for instance, to have at least one during the budget session -- to have the whole Assembly sort of have a press conference, you know, that the press would be given an opportunity to direct questions directly rather than on the basis of what we have said during the formal sittings and formal proceedings of the House. I think it would be kind of a good idea to give the editors of the papers or the CBC news coverage directors a direct opportunity to ask questions on the matters that affect our whole area. That is just a suggestion. I will not attempt to make any rules about it or anything.

Being a citizen and an MLA from the region that is probably having quite an activity with regard to mining development, I have some urgent sort of concern with regard to the need to try and ensure that there are the best possible employment opportunities given to our people, our young people. No doubt our educational system is continuing to go ahead, to try to develop our young people to the best possible potential that we can help them with.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. CURLEY: But the problem that I see in the Northwest Territories -- we are conflicting. There are so many conflicting relations between the native organizations, the government and the mining communities, this particular kind of development, the employment in resource activities or whatnot seems to be something that we are not really supposed to talk about freely in our land.

Frustration Of Unsettled Land Claims

I am getting to the point of being, I suppose, annoyed or frustrated from time to time with the fact that native people, young people, not only native people are looking for jobs, they are looking for work, because everybody knows that the cost of living is so darn high that everyone has to work in the North to survive. We hear sometimes in our native organizations, ITC or Dene Nation say to us, "Look, don't you dare support development until land claims are settled." I think we have heard that. I think we understood that, but I think, in my mind, I have to choose a certain line. Am I going to support employment for the young people who are coming out of school or shall I tell them, look, we cannot support your employment, your opportunities to work in the resource development or mining companies until land claims are settled? But I think that will be contradicting in my mind, to those who want to work because they should have the freedom of choice, like anyone in the Territories.

---Applause

Protection Of Native Employees

It has got to the point where some of the people want to work and want to work in the field, want to make the best dollar that they can get in certain mining industry, whether it be Polaris Mine, whether it be Cullaton Lake, maybe Norman Wells, but if he is of the native ancestry he goes out quietly and hopes that nobody would notice him -- the fact that he is working for these people. I think that is not fair. I think we have to give him the best possible protection in the fact that the laws of the country and the laws of the land allow him to go and seek employment with whomever he wants to.

I think it is about time, even we, the Members of the Legislative Assembly, go out and ask those people how many of the people in a certain area would like to work and cannot find work. If we were to ask them seriously, I think we would be overwhelmed, you know, affected so darn much that we would not be satisfied with our own performance in this Assembly.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear! Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: Sometimes I am ashamed to tell the young people, look...

MR. PATTERSON: What about uranium?

MR. CURLEY: I have not talked about uranium, no, and I think we have got to leave that for sometime next week, but I think many of our young people deserve to be represented as well. We have been representing the institution of the hierarchy, the grown-ups, for many years but we have forgotten to talk about the young people and I welcome the young people who are sitting here. They are getting the best possible education that they can get. You know, it may not always be exciting here, but at least we try.

---Laughter

We not only protect my interests, for speaking out for the needs of the young people who must be employed, who are looking for jobs.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear! Hear, hear!

MR. CURLEY: There are jobs that are available but we are leaving them to the southern Canadians because they have enough guts to work in the mining industry. I think it really is a shame that we have not done better, because some organizations have told you, look, you are not supposed to say that unless they concur with you, but if we continue to do that, I would be denying my responsibilities. So therefore, I may be risking my job in a private level, but there is always somebody that is better than I am, is there not?

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: You can work for me anytime.

Not Properly Representing Young People

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) I would like my Inuit young people to realize how much they must have employment. I received a letter from a young person stating that he was not able to get a job, and he was very critical of me, that I am sitting here in the House, not supporting and not properly representing the young people. When I receive a letter from a young person like that, there must be a hell of a lot of young people out there who are in the same situation, but I am able to express their concern to somebody, and we must strongly emphasize that there must be employment for young people. Sometimes there are employment opportunities for them, but if we do not support their aspirations into employment -- and sometimes they are told, this is a particular judgment on you. We must provide that our young people have the opportunity to be able to work and have an equal opportunity as these people are doing. If I try to just blockade the situation, I will be much-criticized. (Translation ends)

Recognition Of Aboriginal Rights In Constitution

I also would like to point out one important thing that I think we should at least compliment the federal government on, that is with respect to the recognition of the aboriginal rights to be entrenched in the constitution.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: I think that is one step. I think we should at least give them that benefit. Sure, we have a lot more concerns, you know, that we would like them to entrench them, but I believe that is one step of progress.

I would like also to point out my concern with respect to my constituency. I was somewhat disappointed that the territorial government, when it submitted its position regarding Air Transport Committee hearings -- sort of putting support to the carrier, against the wishes of the people in the community, I was -- that made it pretty awkward for the representative that appeared.

There were at least seven communities' representatives that appeared, who support alternative transportation for supplies because they believe that that would be the best deal for the consumer and for the small businessman, possibly not necessarily for the carrier. But I will want to further discuss that with the Members of the government so that a proper understanding is established with the community representatives.

Firm Employment Policy Needed

Mr. Speaker, I have no further substantial issues to talk about but I think it is about time today that this House really attempts to come to grips with the economic aspects of the Territories. We need certain jobs in the Territories. We need to establish a firm and permanent policy. We need to urge the organizations and whatnot to come forth with their employment policy. What are their employment policies? I believe that if we were to do that, the complex issues in the Territories would start to come into focus. They have been fuzzy for so long.

I think we have heard quite a lot about the desirability to settle the native claims. I think we probably have done as much as we can in researching the type of settlement that we should have. I do not know whether there is an individual or a genius walking around up here that we have not spoken to about the best possible settlement but if he is, I would urge him to come up and advise those groups so that they can at least get that settled and we can get on with the job that we are supposed to do in the Territories.

I am just saying that because I think if we are sincere and if we are reasonable, we can possibly come to terms; if this Assembly is prepared to support the best possible deal for native people, and I am going to make sure. But I also expect from them that they play the best reasonable game that they can get so we can encourage and we can enthusiastically endorse their position...

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear!

MR. CURLEY: ...because I am not sure if we continue to hold on, hold on, whether there is going to be anything to grab in the Territories. I am attempting, as an individual, to try and grab the best I can for the protection, for the job opportunities, for the people.

MRS. SORENSEN: Right on, right on!

MR. CURLEY: It is probably to cost me my job but that is not the only job opportunity that I have.

AN HON. MEMBER: It will.

COPE Pressing Its Position

MR. CURLEY: If I just expect the federal government to come up with the best possible deal, I am just going to be asking "Will you give me a welfare cheque please?" That is not the kind of thing I want. I think it is more challenging today to do things, for you to lay out your position like COPE is doing. COPE is not bending its back. They are saying "We want this kind of thing" and they are pressing it hard. I would congratulate them for that because you know their position and I know their position. I think today we have got to get on with the job as the Members of the Assembly, have to seek out further, you know, the positions of these groups. I think we, as the Legislature, are going to have to also urge that everyone get on the bargaining table seriously and even set a timetable if we have to. The more we delay, there is not going to be much for us to develop up here. We are going to get caught because resource development seems to be going ahead. No federal party seems to want to really put the brakes on the development of the Territories. I think it is going ahead. It is only a matter of time till we are going to have to start getting into the act and I would like to urge you that we do get into the act, that we have the courage to get into the act and that we are going to do it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Replies to the Commissioner's Address. The hon. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, is this the last day for making replies?

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow is the last day unless another motion is presented to extend it. I take it then that there are no further replies today.

Item 3, oral questions.

You might possibly be stunned but I did not think you were going to be that badly stunned, that there is not one oral question.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Come on Mrs. Sorensen, what is wrong with you?

MR. SPEAKER: Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

The hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 58-81(1): Tax Exemption On Northern Benefits

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister of Finance. Will the Minister indicate precisely what is the present status with respect to the temporary remission on taxation of certain northern benefits? And further, will the Minister indicate what efforts this government is making, if any, to try to find a long-term solution to the problem of disparate benefits available to various categories of northerners, by way of attempting to secure a standard but significant tax exemption for all northerners, or by some other means?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. The hon. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 59-81(1): Devolution, Hunters And Trappers In the Western Arctic

MS COURNOYEA: I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources, Richard Nerysoo. This deals with the question of devolution and a meeting you held on January 5th, 1981, in Aklavik. At that meeting which I attended, you received a suggestion from the Inuvialuit Game Council on what they thought meaningful devolution would be for the hunters and trappers in the Western Arctic. The Minister of Renewable Resources undertook to respond and have a meeting with the Game Council before the start of this session. Could the Minister tell this Assembly if he has had the meeting with the Game Council and if not, why? Could the Minister of Renewable Resources inform this Assembly what his response to their suggestions are and what time he contemplates for implementation for devolution?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. The hon. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 60-81(1): Development Of Economic Renewable Resource Industries

MS COURNOYEA: The question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources, Mr. Richard Nerysoo, and the Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Butters. Over the last year, the Inuvialuit Development Corporation has put in several applications with Special ARDA for significant renewable resource/economic development proposals. Special ARDA has referred all of these to the General Development Agreement for funding. Although the Inuvialuit Development Corporation has had assurances that their proposals have merit, there has been no action by the GDA committee and the required feasibility studies are being held up.

I would like the Minister responsible to give the reasons why there has been no support under the GDA and other joint federal-territorial funding arrangements for Western Arctic renewable resource/economic development projects. Would the Minister responsible advise this Assembly as to the priority for the development of economic renewable resource industries and what steps he intends to take to achieve the development of that part of our economy in the Western Arctic?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Further written questions? Are there any returns? The Hon. Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 12-80(1): Re-Establishment Of Credit Unions In The NWT

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have a return in response to the question asked by Mr. MacQuarrie on February the 6th, related to the re-establishment of credit unions in the Northwest Territories.

The only administrative requirement for the re-establishment of credit unions in the Northwest Territories is a Commissioner's Order to again put the standard bylaws into effect. A number of operational changes would be desirable prior to any credit union incorporation. In the developing environment in which we work, the control of the credit union must be simplified and secondly, the broad powers presently contained in the ordinance need to be revised so that associations can commence by providing savings and service only.

The demise of the Northwest Territories credit union system a number of years ago still surrounds credit union development with a credibility gap that would have to be overcome in any future development. Losses that were shared by government and the National Credit Union Society at that time were in the neighbourhood of \$1.1 million. However, we do recognize that financial service and savings institutions are not available in most communities and eventually that vacuum will have to be filled.

Finally, the re-establishment of credit unions in the Northwest Territories will require government resources to provide the supervisor with sufficient help to educate members and boards of directors in the operation and management of locally controlled financial institutions. Sufficient help will also have to be supplied to the supervisor's office to permit examination and control of the development in accordance with the requirements of the ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Are there any further returns? The Hon. Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 6-81(1): Energy Policy Development

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a further reply to a question asked by Mr. MacQuarrie on energy policy development. Reference to the last part of the question, "Towards bringing energy alternatives onstream; towards conservation".

In answer to the above portion of Mr. MacQuarrie's question: The energy conservation division, under the federal-territorial Conservation and Renewable Energy Demonstration Agreement, is engaged in the following projects:

- A wood gasified diesel electric generator that will supply electricity and waste heat to nearby buildings in Fort Providence.
- A heat recovery system from the ice makers in the Pine Point arena.
- A demonstration retrofit of a government staff house in Frobisher Bay using solar panels and wind energy. Phase II of this project will be on control houses using a lesser degree of retrofit in order to determine cost effectiveness.
- Funding is being provided for a conservation specialist recently hired in the Baffin region. The objectives are to promote conservation and the development of renewable energy resources.

There are presently 12 proposals under consideration totalling approximately \$832,000. They include a stack heat and jacket heat recovery system for the diesel electric plants at Pangnirtung, a heat recovery system for the Yellowknife arena, an energy efficient hotel, heat recovery from a groceteria's coolers, a retrofit of community buildings in the Eastern Arctic, and an energy efficient duplex. The proponents are private citizens, communities, businesses, the Department of Public Works and Local Government.

Other possibilities being examined are:

- The promotion and partial funding of 30 Arctic demonstration houses in partnership with Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.
- A district wood heating system for a southern Mackenzie community.
- A boiler conversion to wood for a school and apartment complex.
- A large wind generator for the Keewatin region.
- A micro hydro project for the Mackenzie Valley.

In addition to the demonstration projects, the energy conservation division, in co-operation with the Department of Information, has funded a broad based energy conservation campaign in six languages aimed at all sectors of the Northwest Territories. An infra-red scanner has also been purchased for use by DPW, the Housing Corporation and the conservation division for the measurement of heat loss in existing buildings and for evaluating the efficiency of new buildings prior to takeover from the contractor.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Are there any further returns? There appear to be no further returns.

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

The hon. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table for the information of this Assembly, Tabled Document 15-81(1), The Latest COPE Position. It is background information from the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, which includes an 11 page letter to the Minister, John Munro, from the President of COPE, Sam Raddi, a chronology of events from February 27th, 1976, to February 2nd, 1981, and a listing of the correspondence, letters, documents relating to this sequence of events.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

Item 9, motions. There are no motions in our book for today.

Item 10, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

Item 12, second reading of bills.

Item 13, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters.

ITEM NO. 13: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OTHER MATTERS

Motion 4-81(1), Response to Bill C-48. Then we will follow that with the Liquor Control System as far as Bill 1-81(1) is concerned and the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance. We will resolve into committee of the whole, with Mr. Noah in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Bill 1-81(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1981-82; Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, with Mr. Noah in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-81(1), APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1981-82; NINTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) The meeting will come to order. Do you want to talk on Motion 4-81(1), Response to Bill C-48? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in recognition of the controversial motion put forward by Mr. MacQuarrie and the fact that the House has not really looked at the motion as it relates to Bill C-48, I would suggest that, for the benefit of consideration and due consideration, this matter be put off until Wednesday and that in the meantime Bill C-48 be made available to the Members of this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed.

---Agreed

Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, for the committee's information, Members requested that this morning. I asked the staff of the Legislative Assembly and they hope to have copies of Bill C-48 available later today or tomorrow.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the provision of the proposed federal legislation would be most valuable to this House but I doubt if Inuktitut translations would be available to Members. The act itself is quite voluminous and I do not know how we can address the problem of ensuring that Inuktitut speaking Members are able to examine the document.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Butters. Shall we defer Motion 4-81(1) until Wednesday? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Northwest Territories Liquor Control System

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Right now, Bill 1-81(1), page 4.01, Liquor Control System. Mr. Braden, are you going to have witnesses?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might be allowed to read a few general opening remarks after which time I will be asking for permission from this committee to have witnesses from the Liquor System appear with me at the witness table. I would prefer to proceed in that way if I may.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Go ahead, Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Liquor Control System of the Government of the Northwest Territories is responsible for the purchase, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages through nine liquor stores, warehouses and agencies and various licensed premises in the Northwest Territories. In addition, the Liquor Control System provides administrative support to the Northwest Territories Liquor Licensing Board. A summary of the operation of the Liquor Control System has been presented to you in the 1979-80 annual report, which I tabled last week.

For the fiscal year, 1979-80, the Liquor Control System had gross sales of \$13.38 million, a gross profit of \$6.605 million and net income of \$6.03 million. This is an increase of 11 per cent from the previous year. It is also of importance to note that alcohol consumption in the Northwest Territories has decreased. In the fiscal year, 1978-79, the Liquor Control System sold 82,816 gallons of absolute alcohol. Last year they sold 80,995 gallons. This represents a decrease of 2.2 per cent.

---Applause

In the fiscal year 1978-79, the Liquor Control System transferred \$5.2 million to the Government of the Northwest Territories consolidated revenue fund account. In fiscal year 1979-80, the Liquor Control System transferred \$6.5 million to the consolidated revenue fund. This represents an increase of \$1.3 million or approximately 25 per cent.

The Liquor Control System has been authorized by the Assembly for a capital advance not exceeding \$2.5 million. Due to various cost increases, it is not possible for the Liquor Control System to stay within this limitation. A review of fiscal year 1979-80, and 1980-81 monthly inventory, shows that in August, September, October, November and December the monthly inventories far exceeded the \$2.5 million limitation.

Inventories in the above-mentioned months averaged around three million dollars. The inventories in these months are high because of annual resupply arriving and Yellowknife warehouse is filled to capacity due to freeze-up. Due to material price increases from suppliers and transportation tariffs, the Liquor Control System shall require the Legislative Assembly's approval to increase its capital by \$500,000, in order to maintain an economical quantity of inventory.

Comprehensive Review Of Liquor Ordinance Needed

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to indicate to the committee that following up on a commitment that was made by my colleague, Mr. Butters, I believe it was last year in Frobisher Bay, I am undertaking a comprehensive review of our Liquor Control System and our Liquor Ordinance. I have received some feedback from MLA's who were specifically asked to write originally to Mr. Butters, and now to me. I have had discussions with officials of the Liquor System. I have had discussions with liquor licensees and I intend, in the near future, to continue my consultation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police representatives on our Liquor Licensing Board and also representatives of organizations like the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council of the Northwest Territories.

I cannot be specific on when I will be able to bring in legislative changes, but I believe that given the seriousness of our alcohol abuse problem in the Northwest Territories, this is an issue which deserves consideration in the very near future. You have my commitment that I will be giving serious and thorough consideration to reform of our laws and our regulations, and of our system, in order that people in the Northwest Territories can better control the manner in which liquor is bought and consumed -- especially in view of the tremendous impacts that it can have on the people that we all represent here.

So, Mr. Chairman, that is all that I have to say in terms of my opening general remarks. I would now ask the permission of the committee to bring into this House Mr. Ed Pugh and Mr. Gabe Christoph, who are both employees of mine and work in the Liquor System. We would then be pleased to enter into further discussion of the Liquor System in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Agreed?

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

---Agreed

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Would the witnesses go with the Sergeant-at-Arms to the witness table? We are talking about page 4.01, \$729,000. Mr. Braden, Mr. Pugh, and Mr. Christoph, thank you for appearing at the witness table. You can go ahead now. Are there any questions? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a very brief general comment, if I might, and that is that a big part of the Liquor System in the Northwest Territories is the Liquor Licensing Board. I would like to very briefly pay tribute to those people who serve on that board. They have a very difficult job. Unfortunately, this year I think they have been subject to a fair amount of criticism, publicly and otherwise, and it probably is the kind of job that will never please everyone. There are some who say they are too lenient, others who say they are too harsh. I know there has been a lot of controversy in Yellowknife about certain decisions and, at the same time, controversy of a different sort in other communities. All I would like to say is, first, that I do not think we, as politicians, have any right to tell the Liquor Licensing Board whether they should be tough or not.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We have appointed them and put our trust in them and, therefore, we are bound by their decisions.

Secondly, I would like to say that I for one recognize that they are -- whether they are right or wrong in what they are doing -- they are a hard working group. I know that they went to great trouble to meet at least once last year, in Frobisher Bay, when there was a very important issue coming up. I know that the board is hard working and take their responsibilities very seriously. I just wanted to have the opportunity to give them my continued vote of confidence in what they are doing and express the opinion that whether I may agree with them or not, they have my continued support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Patterson. (Translation ends) Mr. Braden or Mr. Christoph. Forgive me if I do not pronounce your names properly because of my accent. (Translation) Are there any questions from the Members of the Assembly? Mr. MacQuarrie.

Serious Consideration Should Be Given To Liquor Licensing Board Appointments

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to support at least one element of what Mr. Patterson said, and that is that as a Legislative Assembly, I agree that we ought to give serious consideration in the first place, to board appointments. We ought to pass the kinds of legislation that will set the right kinds of controls with respect to that board in the first place. But then, like Mr. Patterson, I am of the same sentiment, that after we have done that, it is not our place to start interfering in decisions that are made by the board.

Perhaps of a general nature, I have a question that is related to that in the first place, then, and that is the question as to whether the individual who is in charge of the Liquor Control System should also be a member of the Liquor Licensing Board. Could I ask the Minister whether that question is being seriously considered? If it is, what would be required to make a change, if it were deemed that a change would be desirable? Again, in asking that question, it is not, from my point of view, any reflection of the general manager of the Liquor System, but it is a point of principle as to whether the person in that position should also be on the board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference to Mr. MacQuarrie's question, I would say generally that we are examining the manner in which various provincial jurisdictions distinguish or separate between the responsibilities and the functions of the distribution system and the responsibilities and functions of the liquor licensing boards. I guess in theory I could respond to the Member's question by saying that in some ways we, in our present system, have the individual who is responsible for the inspection function as one part of his duties also sitting on a board which makes certain decisions concerning licensees who have not complied with regulations. If I could draw a rough analogy, it is like having the RCMP charging you with a particular violation of law and then also sitting in judgment.

Now, I am just talking, Mr. Chairman, at the level of principle, which is what I think Mr. MacQuarrie wanted to hear. I have not drawn any conclusions at this point. As I indicated, we are examining the manner in which various provincial jurisdictions have addressed this issue. I think there is a lot of merit to having the general manager of the liquor system associated in some capacity with a board which makes decisions on liquor licensing and a board which also makes decisions on levying a penalty or a fine upon someone who has violated its laws and regulations. As to what that relationship or function should be, I cannot be more specific about it at this time. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. MacQuarrie.

Decrease In Consumption Of Alcohol

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one other comment then and that is with respect to hearing that there was a decrease in consumption. That is very pleasing for me to hear. I know that we have had a time in the Northwest Territories when there has not been much of a population increase and perhaps even a bit of a decrease, and I am just hoping that that is not what the decrease in alcohol sales can be attributed to. This is an important source of revenue to us, but I know that I, and I think many other Members here, would be happy to see the amount we get from it decrease over the years because there was a decrease in drinking in the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Braden. Mr. Sibbeston. Is that how you pronounce it?

Public Meeting In Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid that I cannot be as complimentary as Mr. Patterson and Mr. MacQuarrie have been as with regard to the Liquor Licensing Board. I am really quite angry at the Liquor Licensing Board. Members may or may not know but the band council in Fort Simpson has been trying to do something about the liquor problem in the community and the whole process began by inviting the Commissioner and the Liquor Licensing Board to Fort Simpson for a public meeting and there was a good meeting. In fact, it was the biggest public meeting that was ever held in Fort Simpson on alcohol problems in the community and the area. As a result of the meeting, the Commissioner was persuaded to take steps

to shut down the liquor store and restrict a lot of liquor that can be bought from the liquor store. As I stated to a subsequent public meeting, it seems as if a federally appointed person was able to react to the request of the band council with the support of many other people in town but it seems that our own Liquor Licensing Board has not been able to make a decision to date. The initial meeting was November 19th, and it has been quite a number of months.

So really I am quite angry at the Liquor Licensing Board for not having dealt with the matter more promptly than they have. I just want to know, when is the Liquor Licensing Board going to make a decision on the whole question of bar hours in Fort Simpson as well as the -- with regard to the off-sales licence in the hotel?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Yes. George Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am advised that the decision will be forthcoming from the board this week.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, I will not comment on that, and we will just wait until we hear the decision, but I for one do not have the same view about boards that other Members have. If a board is obviously not fair, if a board obviously does not represent the peoples of the North, and if a board seems, in its make-up, to be not very sympathetic to what in this case, native people are saying, I for one do not take the view that they are untouchable or that one should not be critical of them or anything like that. In a situation like that, it may be that I just do not have any respect for a board and will not accept its decision on a matter, but I am prepared to just wait until the decision and see what it is.

Improper Inspection In Local Bars

I would like to deal with another matter and that is inspectors. In Simpson, people feel generally that there is really no inspection of the licences, the bars and so forth. We feel that there is blatant disregard to the laws and the way in which bars should be run and just generally, people feel that there is no inspection, proper inspection, carried out, of the local bars. Mr. Pugh and Mr. Christoph will know that I had indicated to them last spring that there were quite a few complaints coming from people who were drunk and who appeared to be overfed liquor in bars and then eventually more or less shoved out or thrown out of the premises. As a result of this complaint, there was an inspector who had come to Fort Simpson to do some inspection, and at that time he visited me and we had discussions, and he said that he would again visit me the next time he was in town. To date, I have never seen the person again so I am just wondering -- since about April of 1980, how many inspections have there been of the Fort Simpson licenced premises?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In response to the specific question raised by Mr. Sibbeston, we do not have the specific dates when inspections were conducted since 1978 but on the average, I am advised that it is three to four times a year. I regret that the liquor inspector was not able to see Mr. Sibbeston the last time he was in Fort Simpson, but I am advised that it was because Mr. Sibbeston was out of town.

Inspections Too Infrequent

I would just like to say a few words on this whole inspection issue. In a meeting I had about a month ago with a number of representatives of the licensees and the bar owners, they indicated that they, too, were concerned about the frequency of inspections. When I pursued the issue with them, they indicated that as an industry generally they want to be sure that their business and the manner in which they are conducting their business comply with the regulations and the laws. There was some concern expressed that inspections were not frequent enough to give them the kind of confidence that their particular business or their operation had passed the various tests that are taken.

This is something I wish to pursue further with representatives of the Liquor System and also with the representatives of the industry if I may call it that. I believe that we need the resources, in terms of staff, to do our inspection job adequately and efficiently. There is no point in having something on paper if we cannot, or if we do not have the required resources to fulfil that job.

So, I recognize the significance of the issue brought up by Mr. Sibbeston and I hope, in my statement or in my proposals for change of the system, and the ordinance that we can address this issue of inspection. I would just say, in conclusion, that I am pleased as the industry itself has formed a somewhat loose or ad hoc organization. I think they recognize the need for regulations themselves and it is self-regulation that we are talking about. It does not look good for all members of a particular sector or economy if they have one or two of their members who are really not operating within the law and within the standards that are set by laws. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. Sibbeston.

Inspections In Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I think my question I asked is relatively simple. I want to know from the officials how many visits have there been made by a liquor inspector to Fort Simpson from April 1980 to the present. I am surprised that his officials, Mr. Braden's officials, do not know. I think they ought to know and if they do not know, I suspect it is because there have not been any.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I apologize. I misunderstood Mr. Sibbeston's earlier question. I understood he was asking from the period 1978 to the present. From April, 1980, to the present, there have been three inspections done in Fort Simpson.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: From the spring of 1980, in April to November, 1980, how many visits have there been? I am just wondering whether you are counting the trips made recently along with the trips that have been made by the Liquor Licensing Board to Fort Simpson.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: The number of inspections that were done between April, 1980, and November, 1980, total one. That figure of three that I gave you previously does not include the times when officials from the Liquor System and the Liquor Board were in Fort Simpson for purposes of the public meetings that we talked about earlier on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I just want to state again that in my view this is extremely unsatisfactory. The liquor situation in Simpson is really bad. Native people are trying to do something about it and we are aware that the bar owners and so forth are not doing a good job of serving drinks to people. We are aware that there are many people who are being overserved. There is no consideration for people it seems. There is just blatant overserving of people and when people get drunk, they are tossed out or helped out of the bars. I have seen a number of people who have been absolutely, just passed out outside of the doors of bars and it is for this that there is concern about having inspections done. I am just amazed and really disappointed that there have not been more inspections of Simpson bars.

Local Part Time Liquor Inspectors

One of the things that was raised at the public meeting with the Commissioner and the Licensing Board in Simpson was the idea of having a local liquor inspector and it was thought that if there could be a local person appointed as a part time inspector, this person could occasionally drop into the dining lounges or the bars and more or less check on the owners to make sure that they are complying with the rules and regulations. I had heard that Mr. Pugh or someone in his office had said that it is not possible and I believe that at the time he thought that we meant a full time inspector. Really, the people mean a part time inspector, as I said, to overview the local licences. Is that something that is possible, to have a local person be appointed a liquor inspector, and this could be anyone from the band manager, the village's secretary manager or someone in the social services?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would be prepared to work very closely with Mr. Sibbeston and the community on the appointment of an individual to work under Mr. Christoph on a part time basis to perform inspection functions. I would encourage my honourable colleague to submit to me and to Mr. Pugh names of people he would see as good candidates to perform this job.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. Sibbeston, (Translation) any more comments? (Translation ends) Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do agree with Mr. Sibbeston on the point of inspections and I am pleased to hear that the solution of part time inspectors is going to be considered. I do not know how many inspections have taken place in Frobisher Bay. I have mentioned, I think in the debate last year, that I felt it was unfair to expect an employee of the Liquor System to -- and a local resident -- to do that job. It is simply such a controversial issue in a small community that the people who have worked locally as liquor inspectors in Frobisher Bay, I think, really had a tough time. Also, of course, they are known and inspection cannot really be held with the element of surprise that I would like to see, or I believe should be part of a good inspection.

Frobisher Bay Standards Falling

I would agree with Mr. Sibbeston, generally, that the same sort of solutions have to be sought in Frobisher Bay that he seems to be referring to in Fort Simpson. My observation would be that in Frobisher Bay standards are falling. Perhaps I should have been a little bit more active and communicated this to the chief inspector, as Mr. Sibbeston seems to have done, but you know, I have noticed personally very alarming incidents in Frobisher Bay, including the serving of interdicted persons. I have pointed this out to the licensee and was assured that they were concerned, but it seems to me that there cannot be enough inspections. If the licensee is doing a good job, then the licensee should welcome inspections, as Mr. Braden says a responsible licensee would; but if they are not, then we can be assured that the situation will clean up.

Particularly, in Frobisher Bay, I think, although some of my constituents would disagree, we achieved an excellent compromise some years ago when the liquor store was closed to over-the-counter sales. It was a compromise for those people who seemed to feel that, you know, they have a God given right to drink. They still can drink in public places in Frobisher Bay at reasonable hours. However, it has to be qualified by, they have a right to drink, responsibly. The sort of violent crimes that were occurring when liquor was available over the counter in Frobisher Bay are starting to recur. As a lawyer who practised actively in criminal courts in Frobisher Bay, I was horrified at the number of crimes which resulted from alcohol consumed in public licensed premises. My concern was also echoed by judges in territorial court and supreme court, who made observations from the bench about the deplorable situation whereby certain people seem to have been allowed to consume excessive amounts of liquor.

Licensee Has Power To Control Amount Of Liquor Consumption

Now, you cannot always turn around and blame the licensee because I am well aware that it is very difficult to tell when a person is drunk, but there are people who are well-known to have a weakness for drink. There are sections in the Liquor Ordinance which should give the licensee the power to restrain or to control the amount of liquor such persons are being served, but it just does not seem to be happening in some instances in Frobisher Bay.

I was going to comment on it while we were in Frobisher Bay in my reply to the Commissioner. I neglected to do so, so I would just like to draw it to your attention now and recommend that part time inspectors would be the solution. I do not see why, even though it would be expensive, why an inspector could not visit the community expressly for the purpose of inspecting the licensed premises. We are I am sure, in Frobisher Bay, contributing our share to the general revenue of the commission and, therefore, if it is impossible to find local people, as I suspect it might well be, then I would suggest that a stranger, a responsible person from some other community, could probably do a very good job.

If the Liquor Board makes an unpopular ruling and suspends a licence for a while and sets an example, they are going to have all my support in the world, because I am not against drinking, but I am against irresponsible drinking. I think that that is a line that we have to very carefully draw...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...in places like Frobisher Bay, where there are a lot of people who are still learning how to handle liquor; not just natives either.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: So, if we could step up the inspection I think it would do a great deal to improve the situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) It is time for coffee break, not liquor. We will have a 15 minute break.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): The Chair recognizes a quorum. I have Ms Cournoyea on the list but she is not present. Yes, I have Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would give us a timeframe when he is willing to deal with the inconsistencies or the legislative changes. Have you set a timeframe where these will be dealt with rather than just saying "Well, we are looking at it"? Can we have some kind of timeframe?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, in response to the Member's question, at the earliest it would be the May session that I would be hoping to introduce legislative amendments. At the latest it would be the fall session.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

Alcohol A Privilege Or Right

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, one of the problems that I see in terms of dealing with the liquor is the general attitude towards it. I wonder if the Minister can give a clear statement to the general public of the Northwest Territories expressing whether he, as the head of the department, considers alcohol privileges a privilege or a right.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to get into a long discussion of how you define rights or privileges, but I would say that the consumption of alcohol is a privilege that is enjoyed by Canadians in our country, and that governments and the will of the particular community of people affects the manner in which alcohol is made available to residents of our country or citizens of our country.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I think that is more than I got out the last time I asked that question. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, would the Minister consider revamping the kind of set-up that we have on the Liquor Control Board? Some of the concerns that I have had expressed to me are that the person, the general manager responsible for the whole revenue and distribution, is also on the board. I am wondering if you could give us an assurance that when new legislation is brought forward, possibly in May, that this conflict could be reconciled by removing the general manager from the board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier on, we are examining the manner in which various provincial jurisdictions separate the distribution function from the licensing regulatory function. I indicated that I see it as very important to have the general manager of our Liquor System associated in some capacity with the Liquor Licensing Board. Whether the general manager of the Liquor System is a voting member or whether he is an adviser, I cannot really answer at this time. It is clearly evident though that there are some factors that we have to take into consideration in examining the role and relationship of the manager to the Licensing Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Ms Cournoyea, any further comments?

Role Of Liquor Plebiscites

MS COURNOYEA: Yes. I also would like to ask, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister would consider taking another look at the role of plebiscites and the large number of people who have to express a positive or a negative attitude towards a vote. Would you be considering that perhaps it is a bit unfair to ask a community to field such a large contingent to do something about an alcohol situation that was brought into the community without any plebiscite at all?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Well, if I can speak generally to this question, it would be my feeling that I would hope to see people in a particular community or a particular region resolve the problems associated with liquor distribution, liquor consumption and liquor abuse without having to resort to a plebiscite or vote or to the senior level of the territorial government.

I have not discussed this in detail with my colleagues but I can see it as an important function for the board. I can see that there may have to be certain legislative or regulatory tools or opportunities which a group of people can use when they feel that it is no longer possible for them to resolve a particular issue amongst themselves. I would certainly like to see us examine the possibilities of devolution of authority to make decisions. This fits in with the government's general philosophy and position that devolution should take place to the greatest extent possible to the level of government that is closest to the people being governed; and that is the local level of government. That may not be possible but all I can say, Mr. Chairman, is that I would look at the plebiscite tool in that context and if it was just not possible to see devolution of authority, to make decisions concerning liquor distribution and liquor consumption at the local level, then obviously we have to build those mechanisms into our legislation and regulations. I cannot really comment any more on whether it should be 60 per cent of the population, or 50 per cent, or 30 per cent. I have not really given it that much thought at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you. Ms Cournoyea.

Devolution Of Responsibility Difficult

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Braden, on your statements on devolution of responsibility for resolving alcohol problems, I believe that is very difficult to do because of the 60 per cent required vote out of everyone who turns up, and I do not know whether you have given it a great deal of thought but maybe this is one of the things that people like a little more sterile approach to, rather than something that you would have to deal with too closely at a community level, because it is a very ticklish issue. When you speak of devolution, I think the department should be very careful really what devolution is and what you mean by that.

I have not heard that anyone was talking about doing that and certainly in my experience lately, it seems that the very vocal people who feel that alcohol is a right will do everything to mess up anyone who is trying to do something about the problem. They seem to be able to mobilize themselves very quickly, and they use a lot of political manoeuvring to make sure that the status quo is there because they feel they do not have a problem or else they are alcoholics and they do not want to be seen going to the store too often, if you try to restrict them, they have to show up every day. There is a real political thing when

you come to talking about alcohol and, I would caution you, when you speak about devolution and in particular to that specific thing of law and alcohol.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Okay. Mr. Braden. Are you finished now, Ms Cournoyea? Thank you. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just wondering if I could get some information from the witnesses. Mr. Sibbeston seems to have a big problem in Fort Simpson. I wonder if they experience the same problems all over the Territories or are they just in Fort Simpson?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

Regularity Of Inspections

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier on, in the meeting that I had with licensees, the bar managers and the bar owners, there was an expression of concern about the regularity of inspections. Whether it can be put in terms of a major problem, as Mr. Sibbeston suggests, on the part of the liquor licensees, I cannot really say. They did express concern to me that they wanted a greater frequency of inspection so that they would know where they were going wrong, where they would have to make changes. They generally wanted to have a clear slate at the end of every inspection so that they could have that reassurance that they were continuing operation within the standards that are set by law and regulation.

We have heard from Mr. Patterson an expression of some concern about inspection in Frobisher Bay. I am advised that Mr. Christoph will be going to Frobisher Bay next month to do some work with a new trainee to work in the community. I think I can conclude by saying that there is some concern and that we are trying to take some immediate steps to rectify it. Also, in the review I am undertaking, the proposals for change that I will be developing and tabling before this House, will deal with the inspection function.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In most cases the story you get from the Liquor Board or the Commissioner is that if a settlement is seeking prohibition, they say it has to come from the people. When liquor was put into the country none of the people were consulted as to whether they wanted liquor or not, but when they do not want it, then they have to be consulted. All of a sudden the government realized that they had a problem which they created themselves and now they are trying to find ways and means to get out of it. There is no real solution. If there is, I would like to see where, or find somebody that could come up with a solution. It is here and we have it. We just have to live with it, I imagine. I do not think Fort Simpson is the only place they are having problems. They are having problems all over. It is maybe a little more obvious in Fort Simpson, but the problem is throughout the Territories. Just a comment, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Was that a question or a comment?

MR. FRASER: A comment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

Problems In Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, if I might just refer to the Fort Simpson situation again. A large public meeting was held in November regarding the alcohol problem and more recently, I believe on February 4th, another public meeting was held at the request of the Liquor Licensing Board. It was all to do with whether there should be restrictions on the bars in Fort Simpson and whether there should be any off-sales.

Now, I understand that since the public meeting in Fort Simpson on February 4th there has been a petition sent to the Liquor Licensing Board in Hay River and I am just curious to know the position of the Licensing Board; whether they feel bound to have a plebiscite held in Fort Simpson or whether the fact that there have been two large meetings and the band trying to deal with it, whether they are prepared to simply make a decision on the submissions they have heard so far.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am advised that we have not yet received the submission. Again, in response to the comments I made earlier on, as they relate to Mr. Sibbeston's question, I would sincerely hope, and I am prepared to work with the community to whatever the extent is necessary, to try to achieve a solution within the community that there is more or less agreement or consensus on. I guess in law we would be bound to respond, but I would hope, with a little more hard work, we can reach a solution which is satisfactory to all concerned in Fort Simpson, again, without having to resort to some of these existing mechanisms or tools that we have.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

Band Council Taking Initiative

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, as was stated by Ms Cournoyea, the matter of plebiscite concerns me because in order to win a plebiscite, you need 60 per cent who are in favour of the restriction, say, and I know that it is a very difficult thing to obtain 60 per cent. In Simpson, just to state by way of an example, it is the band council that has taken the initiative to try and do something about the misuse of alcohol, alcoholism and so forth.

There has been, since the liquor store opened in 1968, 30 some-odd deaths and they are all Dene people who have died as a result of overdrinking alcohol. In 1979, in Nahanni Butte, there were five persons who were killed or who died as a result of liquor and in 1980, I believe, five in Simpson. These are terrible figures when you consider that there, perhaps, could be nobody dead if it was not for liquor. So, the band council is taking the initiative to try to do something about it and they are met with a certain amount of resistance from amongst their own people.

Some people who are drinking and having a problem -- you cannot expect a drunkard to vote in favour of having restrictions. There is a certain number of white people in Simpson who support native people in this regard but, of course, there are others who greatly oppose anything done by native people in this area. Some of the people, it is because they own hotels or own bars that they are concerned. So, I am concerned about the present system of having a plebiscite, because it would be very difficult to ever win a plebiscite.

I am aware of one plebiscite that occurred in Simpson years ago, where one of the bar owners mustered a great deal of local support by driving people to the polls and providing them with free drinks and these sorts of things. So, the band council in this case is really quite sincere and intent on trying to help their own people, but they are just met with all sorts of resistance.

Surrounding Communities Should Get Involved

What I am afraid of particularly is, if the Licensing Board decision is not favourable to them, that there is going to be frustration and a feeling that, you know, what do you have to do in order to better the situation. So, the matter of plebiscite concerns me and one way of dealing with it, in an area like Simpson, is to also get the communities around it involved in the plebiscite,

because in the Simpson area we have got a number of communities that have done something about the liquor problem. Nahanni Butte voted for prohibition last fall and Fort Liard voted for restrictions. Just last week the Wrigley band council stated that they support the endeavours made by the band council, and there have just been fewer loads of booze brought into Wrigley from Simpson. So, if we had in a plebiscite that these outlying communities who are affected by a place like Simpson would also take part and vote, then I think there is a better chance of the native leaders helping and being able to help their own people by having some liquor controls.

As it stands, I could say that it is never going to be possible for a group such as a band council to be able to do anything for themselves, you know, to help their own people. I would say that if ever there is going to be anything done about liquor it is native people, native leaders themselves, who will be able to help themselves. It is not other people who are socially concerned and trying to do it. These things have been tried before and have not worked. So, in Simpson I know, for the first time the band has had the courage and the initiative to try to do something, but so far they have been frustrated, particularly with the Liquor Licensing Board.

So, in reviewing the Liquor Ordinance, it is something to consider. You either have to reduce the amount voting in favour in a plebiscite perhaps down to 51 per cent, or else making it possible for communities surrounding a larger area to be involved, so that there would be a chance of a positive vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister mentioned that he wanted to give more power to the local council. I am afraid to support this. There are a few problems in the community -- who are transient visitors and they do create problems. Mr. Minister mentioned that he is putting together an amendment to the ordinance.

First, what the Minister mentioned, I would personally support it very much. I do not know exactly what the wants and needs of the communities are. If they want to have a ration system or total prohibition in their communities, we are not even sure of it. I think I know, and perhaps Yellowknife knows, that the commission is quite a long way from Yellowknife and I have not even seen the people who enforce this regulation.

Monitoring System Of Alcohol Committees

I would be happy if the Liquor Control System could have a better working relation with the community. The Minister also mentioned that if he were able to have better communications -- this, I believe he mentioned to Mr. Sibbeston -- there are alcohol committees and various committees in the Territories. What I want to know, do you have any monitoring system to see how these community alcohol committees are working out in these communities? Please answer my question as I would like to get an answer on this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I understand it, the Liquor System itself does not have anything in place to monitor the success or lack of success of various community drug and alcohol committees' programs. We would be able to put together statistical information which would show the amount of liquor that is being sold in a particular community, but beyond that, I do not think that we would have anything more. However, there are methods of monitoring the success of these programs and committees. I would say in the Department of Social Services, and the Department of Health. We have the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council of the Northwest Territories which I am sure must monitor the success or the failure of these programs and committees.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Appaqaq.

Additional Funds Needed

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for giving me a sufficient answer. I wonder if you can include in the amended ordinance, which you mentioned you are working on to amend -- I would like you to consider that you have a closer working relationship with local and community alcohol committees. When you are a member of the alcohol committee, you do your utmost to control the problems in the community and we do not have any operating funds to operate properly. These regulations are broken more so than any other regulations or ordinances. We know this is a fact. I have also seen personally that the community education alcohol committees would like to work very hard but they do not have any operating funds. If the territorial government and the Liquor System do not have sufficient funds to make these alcohol committees operate successfully, I would like these to be included in the amended ordinance and I direct this to Mr. Minister. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that the Member's constituency is on prohibition and as I am the Minister responsible for the RCMP in the Northwest Territories, I will express to the RCMP the Member's concern that there have been violations in his constituency.

On his second point, I believe this was discussed in detail last year and I will certainly take his direction seriously. I would advise him though that perhaps when we get to the Department of Social Services, where the budget of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council is discussed, this would also be an appropriate time for him to bring up his recommendation that the committees be given greater funding to conduct alcohol related programs at the community and the regional level. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Braden. (Translation) Any more comments, Mr. Appaqaq? (Translation ends) Mr. Wah-Shee.

Use Of Excessive Force

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was interested in the comments made by the honourable Members for Frobisher Bay and Mackenzie Liard. Basically, regarding native clientele in the cocktail lounge licensed premises, is it reasonable to assume that all cocktail licensed premises are required to serve all clientele irrespective of their racial origins within these licences and if so, if they are refused service due to excessive consumption, does the Liquor Control Board condone use of excessive force to expel clientele from licensed premises? This is a question directed to the members of the Liquor Control Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Local Government brings up a sensitive and difficult question in that it is not the most pleasant performance to watch but at times the managers of licensed outlets have to exert a lot of force to remove someone from the premises, who is drunk or who is disorderly, in some fashion.

Now, section 72(5) of the Liquor Ordinance, dealing with objectionable persons, reads as follows: "A licensee, his employee or agent who has reasonable grounds to suspect from the conduct of any person who has come into his licensed premises, that such person, although not of notoriously bad character, is present for some improper purpose or is committing an offence against this ordinance may request such person to leave the licensed premises immediately and, unless the request is forthwith complied with, such person shall be forcibly removed with such force as is reasonably necessary."

That is the clause in law which gives the licensee, his employee or agent the authority, to ask someone to leave or, if necessary, to use force to remove that person from the premises. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Wah-Shee.

Discrimination On The Part Of Owner

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I have resided in Yellowknife for a number of years. As a matter of fact, I went to school here and in the past years I have witnessed a number of occasions where a native person was thrown out of liquor premises with excessive use of force and thrown out in the streets right in the middle of winter and so forth. My concern here is that I think that Yellowknife, being the capital, where a great number of native people come, I think that we have to ensure that the Liquor Control Board, through their inspectors, should be required to report if there is excessive use of force. I am concerned here because a great number of my constituents come to Yellowknife and also from Detah village, there are other native people that come to Yellowknife for a variety of reasons, such as for a conference. I think that the concern that I am raising should also be a concern to the residents of Frobisher Bay, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Smith and Hay River. There is a very fine line between the way in which the cocktail lounge licensees may or may not use force to remove a client. I think that they could sometimes be charged with discrimination. The owner of the liquor premises, I believe, have an unwritten rule, which entitles everyone to the right to be served.

I think that the Liquor Control Board, through their liquor inspectors, should be required to be very sensitive in the manner in which the native people are being treated on these premises, because I think we are trying to create a society where everybody is talking about equality, not only in terms of right of employment, but also in the right to education and also to receive a number of services and programs.

Abuse Of Privileges Extended To Owners

I think in the area of liquor premises, we have to be a little more sensitive. I do not think that the liquor premises' owners should be given the right to do as they please. I think that there has to be a means by which the Liquor Control Board can come down really hard on those people who abuse the right to serve their clientele. If a person has had an excessive consumption of liquor, then it should really go back to the owner as well, because they are the ones that are serving liquor.

I do not think that they should have the right to expel a client with unreasonable force. I would like to see a means by which the Liquor Control Board not only enforces the existing ordinance, but also beyond that, I think there is a question here regarding human rights, discrimination, the abuse of the privileges or powers which have been extended to the liquor premises' owners. Can I be assured that the Liquor Control Board will come up with a means by which they can ensure that this situation does not continue?

Next month the city of Yellowknife again is going to host the Caribou Carnival, and at times it is more of a circus when you walk into the bars. I think that I would like to see something come forward from the Liquor Control Board, because this is not the last time I will bring up the matter. I will continue to bring up the subject because you can go two ways. One is that we have got to have preventive programs which we ought to support; but on the other hand, I do not think we can tell native people, look, stay away from bars, do not drink and so forth. I mean we are not into that kind of a society. We are into a society where we give people the right to choose.

I think that a good percentage of native people when they come to Yellowknife, of course, they want to go and socialize. I would like to see this situation changed because it is really one which continues to come up. I have received complaints before. Could I be assured by the Liquor Control Board that this situation will be dealt with in a reasonable manner?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. My colleague has raised some sensitive issues. I am told that a formal charge has never been made under the ordinance, or under any federal or territorial statutes or laws. That is one avenue that is open. This is of enough serious consequence that I will immediately examine the authority of the inspectors and of our chief inspector -- and, if necessary, the other law enforcement agencies in the Northwest Territories -- to respond to formal complaints that overly excessive force was used in removing a client from the premises. I will certainly give it consideration in the long term as far as amendments to the ordinance and regulations are concerned. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Wah-Shee. Any more questions? Mr. Patterson.

Owners Are Guilty Of Overserving

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since Mr. Wah-Shee referred to my comments about excessive overconsumption and overserving, I want to make it clear that while I do feel that licensees in Frobisher Bay, and particularly in the hotel there, are guilty of overserving and the inspection is not rigorous enough, I would also want to agree that while it is fine to say that people should be refused service and shown the door if they have consumed too much, or even if they are what section 72(2)(b) says, "any person of notoriously bad character" -- I would classify those people who have demonstrated in the past that they cannot handle booze, who have committed acts of violence under the influence of alcohol -- that, none the less, those people should be treated with the same dignity that is accorded to any human being when they are being removed. There are ways of removing drunk people, and there are ways of removing drunk people.

I think that the police get criticized all the time. I would say that the RCMP in my experience in Frobisher Bay, are a lot more sensitive about the way they handle drunks than the goons that are sometimes hired to work in the hotels. So I would agree with Mr. Wah-Shee that this is something that should be within the province of liquor inspectors, whether it is or not. It is a chronic problem and in no way do I want to suggest that, while we should be sending people home who have had too much to drink, we should not be doing so in the most humane way possible.

I do not know what the solution is. I agree with Mr. Braden that maybe the ordinance has to be looked at again. The problem seems to be that the police are reluctant to enter licensed premises. They feel that the policing of licensed premises, unless there are actual crimes taking place inside, should be left to the licensee. Given that police of the RCMP -- which in a way I can understand, since being realistic about it, sometimes a uniformed man in licensed premises will just provoke trouble -- given that police then, maybe we ought to take another look at whether there are ways of seeing that the licensee treats their patrons decently.

Licensed Premises To Employ Native People

There are remedies in civil law for assault, and in criminal law for assault. In my experience, those are very rarely resorted to, and if they are resorted to, they may not cure the problem. So I would support that sort of review of the ordinance.

At the same time, it should be made clear that it is a very difficult job being a licensee because patrons do get quite nasty. I think the real long-term solution -- and I do not know why licensed premises do not see this -- the long-term solution is to hire native people to do the work in the bar because the manner in which a drunk person is sent home can provoke a strong reaction or it can provoke a willing compliance. To their credit, the Frobisher Inn has taken some steps in that direction recently. I think that is one solution, for the licensed premises to actually employ peers of those who are going to be served, so when it is time to go home it is done in a friendly and effective manner, rather than in a physical manner. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me from time-to-time the establishment serving alcohol does not really seem to take seriously the legislation that is in place right now. Number one, the legislation says you do not overserve, and if they overserve, they are responsible for those people they overserve.

Two and a half weeks ago I was called down to the hotel in Inuvik, to pick up some people I knew who were thrown out. I would like to get a clarification of this, but it was my understanding that when they overserved -- and those people were sitting in there all afternoon and it was 11:00 o'clock at night -- I suggested to them that it was their responsibility to provide them with a place to sleep if they had overserved them. Is that correct, or is it not correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, no, that is not correct. The licensee does not have responsibility to provide a patron with a place to sleep.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Bob MacQuarrie.

Moral Responsibility

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is related to that very last question. My opinion would be that there is no legal responsibility in that case, but there probably is a moral responsibility of some kind. It is my opinion that there would only be one thing worse than expelling patrons with excessive force and that would be -- regardless of the race of the person -- and that is, to permit them to drink so much in the first place that they have to be expelled by force. That is where the real crux of the matter lies, but I can see that it is a very difficult area, because first of all, you have vendors who want to sell as much as possible.

I do not say that in a cynical way. When you are in business, you do want to get business, but at the same time it is a judgment call, and so it is maybe very difficult, on the other side, for them to say to somebody, "We think you have had enough," because there is nobody whose ire will be greater than somebody who is being told that he has already had enough and will not be allowed to have any more. He does not think that that is the case. So I can see that it must be very difficult for vendors to come up and make that statement, before a problem, a behaviour problem, arises but because it is difficult I would not like to see, then, that vendors and inspectors just steer clear of the problem.

So I would like to hear, particularly from Mr. Christoph, what are the difficulties of enforcement, I think in section 72 that calls on vendors not to serve people who have already had too much? What are the difficulties that are involved in enforcing that? Would more inspectors be available and more frequent inspections help to solve the problem, and have any charges been laid under that section? If so, how frequently?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Christoph.

Bound By Budgets

MR. CHRISTOPH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The section which Mr. MacQuarrie just mentioned is the most serious and the most common one which is violated by licensees. During the past years that I was with the inspection, I found that 90 per cent of all cases where the Liquor Licensing Board found the licensee at fault, concerned this section of the ordinance, which we call "overserving", which means in other words, "to allow a person into the licensed premises already intoxicated," and allow him also to purchase more liquor.

The answer to the second part of the question as to what can be done, of course I would like to see nothing better than increase the frequency of inspections made through all the licensed premises in the Territories. Also, you will realize we are bound by budgets, and it is sometimes difficult to schedule a proper program which would allow for this sort of thing to happen. We have only, right now, one inspector on a full time basis, and that is myself. We have a further inspector who is employed; 50 per cent of his employment is located in Hay River and he takes care of communities like Pine Point, Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Enterprise, and Fort Providence.

We have right now no inspector in Inuvik, but we have an application which we have accepted, and shortly you will have a part time inspector in Inuvik. We also can say the same thing to the community of Frobisher Bay. So, these are the things, from my point of view, which I would like to see changed. You certainly have the power, in giving to the Liquor System a little bit more of that money it earns to spend for this purpose. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Christoph. We will recess for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Chair recognizes a quorum. On page 4.01, Liquor Control System, O and M, \$729,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just the question of having enough inspectors raised a matter that I was going to raise in a wider context. I wanted to leave it until the end, because I really do believe that the problems with respect to communities that are having alcohol problems and so on are most important, but we also do raise revenue from our liquor sales, and the question of treating clients in a businesslike way does raise its head. Because of the nature of the business, it could be very easy to sort of say, "We do not like being involved in the liquor trade, and consequently, those who are buying liquor from us, the vendors, are an imposition of some sort or other, and they are just going to have to take the kind of service that we give them." Again, I do not make that statement intending it to reflect in any way on the management, because I would say that if that were the attitude, sort of, that the staff had, it could partly be because that is the kind of attitude that a lot of us have as well.

Ensuring Good Service To Clients

Yet, I think that our government has a serious obligation, not only in this area, but in all areas where we raise revenue, to ensure that the people who are our clients are getting as thoughtful treatment as clients would get when they are dealing with other businesses; and that is not to say that I see the liquor business as being just like any other business. I do not. It is a different kind of business, and it requires different kinds of regulations and controls.

In summary, what I am trying to say is, I believe we should be releasing a larger part of the profit we make, number one, toward ensuring that our clients are getting as good service as we can possibly give them with respect to the number of staff who are available to serve them, the number of hours that we are open, so that it is convenient for them, but also, in the sense that Mr. Christoph just mentioned, so that we have sufficient inspectors to ensure that our ordinance and our wishes generally are upheld throughout the Northwest Territories. I will not make it a motion right now, but I certainly would like to see that kind of attitude borne in mind when any amendments are being made with respect to the Liquor Ordinance, particularly the question of inspection. If we need 10 man years to do an adequate job of enforcing it, I really believe -- I do not know other liquor inspectors, I know Mr. Christoph, and I may say I respect him very, very much -- if the other liquor inspectors are as concerned and dedicated as he is, then we have good inspectors. We may not have enough. So, what I am saying is, if it takes 10 to do it adequately, let us spend that money out of the profit and do it adequately.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Minister. No. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Underage People Drinking In Bars

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am only going to make a short comment, and this is related to my experience. I am from Lake Harbour where there is no liquor in the community and I order liquor through Frobisher a couple of times a year.

In the Frobisher bars, there are some underage people drinking in the bars. As a matter of fact, in 1980, I saw people not over 20 from my settlement who were in the bars in Frobisher. I think the underage people who go to the drinking establishments should be a major concern to the parents as their children are at the bars, underaged. The people from my community who go to Frobisher Bay -- the underaged people from my settlement to Frobisher Bay -- are a major concern for myself, but I do not know the situation at Frobisher; but this is what happens in Lake Harbour.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Are you asking a question or making a comment?

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) I am making a comment. What I am saying is that I would like to have the Liquor Licensing Board have restrictive controls when granting licences to the establishments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Noah.

Alcohol Education And Alcoholism Treatment Programs

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have three questions. Firstly, I think there has been an organization in the Territories at some point in time, the AA group. I wonder if this organization is still in existence and what kind of solutions have they come up with?

Secondly, there are a lot of Inuit people who -- there are a lot of settlements mixed with the Inuit people and it creates more drinking problems. I am not exactly sure if they do have too much of a drinking problem. What I would like to find out, I would like to know why the native people in the past have never been given any education on the problems of alcohol.

Thirdly, the people who have turned into alcoholics, if they were to be reformed, what programs, what alternate programs have they considered? If those people are missing alcohol completely, do they turn into any other violence that might have a relationship to their alcoholic situation in the past.

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to answer these questions as best I can for my colleague Mr. Noah. I would ask him to recognize that the Liquor System and the Liquor Board do not have an active or direct role in alcohol education and alcoholism treatment programs. The questions he is asking could better be answered by my colleague Mr. McCallum or someone from the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council.

Now, with respect to the first question, I understand that there is an Alcoholics Anonymous organization in the Northwest Territories. It is active in some communities. I am not all that familiar with the kinds of programs that they offer, but I understand that one particular approach involves counselling on an individual basis and also counselling on a group basis. Now, I would be pleased to get more information for the honourable Member on this. I am sorry, I cannot go into any more detail.

Alcohol Education Programs For Native People

With respect to his second question, Mr. Chairman, on alcohol education programs for native people in particular, again, this is an area where the Government of the Northwest Territories does provide financial assistance to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council; and also there is assistance provided by the federal government to an alcohol program. I am not quite sure what the name of it is. Just to give Mr. Noah an example of where we supported an initiative taken by native people, last summer in Snowdrift there was a large meeting of representatives from various band councils throughout the Northwest Territories. Some people who had experience in treating alcohol abuse in the native communities were brought in, from Alberta I believe it was. The Dene people used a rather interesting approach in that they asked a number of their elders from the Mackenzie Valley communities to be in attendance at this meeting in Snowdrift where alcohol abuse was examined from a native perspective. Our government supported that particular program.

Programs Available For Alcoholics

Now, the third question, the kinds of programs we have available for alcoholics, I would have to ask my colleague, Mr. McCallum, to indicate what the Department of Health offers. I know that we provide some assistance to the Detox Centre in Yellowknife, for example, and I would assume that an alcoholic can be treated under our health care system but I will -- I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I just do not have enough information. If Mr. McCallum can, at this time, I would ask him to briefly give some indication of what action is being taken in this area. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would simply indicate that there are a number of programs for information, drug and alcohol information. The Department of Information has put out a very worth-while short film I think on the kinds of programs that are involved. As I recall the program, they talk about what is going on in Igloolik, Pangnirtung and I think there is another community, I think one in the...

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Fort Franklin.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, and that is the kind of program in terms of information. We use Anik Info as well. There has been an increase in the kind of funding that has been given, the number of programs that have been funded under the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council, not only for work, within the community but to set up meetings, conferences, get-togethers of people in communities. One of the latest ones, I think, that we did outside the ADCC, was in Fort Simpson that we funded so that people can get together to talk about what can be done.

Treatment Of Alcoholics As An Insured Health Service

I think one of the things that we will be talking about under the Department of Social Services in relation to alcohol will be the idea of making the treatment of alcoholics an insured health service. At the present time it is not, but we will attempt to do that and then of course have it cost shared which will free up a great deal more money that can be used to fund the kinds of programs that are being requested by various communities. At the present time we have, I think, approximately \$1.2 million that is available for these kinds of programs. Now that is an increase over the past two years that we have been able to increase this kind of funding. It is not enough as yet to fund those programs because of the demands that are being made but we have been gradually attempting to meet those demands. I think that what we will be able to do in regard to having the treatment of alcoholics under a hospital insured service, that we would be able to free a considerable amount of money that could be put to use in other communities.

Government Funding For Community Alcohol Programs

Other programs that do go on in communities are pretty well set up by the individuals in that community. We would attempt, as a government, to fund them as well as we can. More and more of them come about. There are other things, of course, that people revert to or take up in place of alcohol and the use and abuse of alcohol. Some Members can obviously refer to the experiences that are being experienced in particular communities. I would imagine my colleague, Mr. Patterson, can indicate what has been going on in Frobisher Bay as to the availability of it.

There had been some talk that there would be use of other particular, drugs if you like, or other particular means of getting a high -- the abuse of them. We attempt to provide a great deal of information to people as to the use of it in an educational process, the abuse of alcohol and/or other stimulants or depressants if you like. We very much as a government and as a department appreciate the work of various groups such as AA who are pretty prevalent in the Territories. I am not sure, again, as to how many chapters there are but I know that they do a considerable amount of work.

What we are basically attempting to do is to increase the kind of funding that would be available to individuals in communities whereby they can work to handle the kind of situation -- come up with the training of counsellors in communities by using local people and having local people look after it. I think more has been done with that in the past year or two than for some time previously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Noah.

Native Life Before The Introduction Of Alcohol

MR. NOAH: (Translation) I do not have any further questions, but I would like to say, lastly, that the native people used to have a better life in our Territories before the introduction of alcohol to the Territories. Today, it is evident that it is impossible to identify whether they are human beings, or what else, when you see them highly inebriated. In the past, we used to be able to tell quite easily how the native people had very well harmonized life, and they would be able to hunt and trap properly and had a very strong, healthy body, and their way of thinking was very strong. They were able to make up their minds what they wanted to do. When the introduction of alcohol came, alcohol seems to have taken control over these harmonized Inuit people, or the native people, rather.

This is not our way of life, and the substance of alcohol is something that we have never made, and it seems to me that the non-native really realize that the lifestyle has been changed by the use of alcohol. They do not hunt and trap as much as they used to do, and some of them, by the use of alcohol, and the lack of education, are not able to find proper jobs for themselves.

It was shocking when James Wah-Shee mentioned that some of the people are tossed out of the liquor establishments by way of force, and it seems to me that nobody really likes to see a drunkard in a public place. It is sometimes even more gross to see a drunkard than rancid meat; let us say so.

I mentioned earlier that before the introduction of the alcohol, the native people were very healthy, and they did whatever they wanted to do. When the white people came to our homeland, they did not have a proper educational program on the proper use of alcohol, but on the other hand, they were given large amounts of alcohol for consumption, and the native people did not have a clue how to use the alcohol properly. If they had learned, right from the beginning, the proper use of alcohol, it would have been better.

Effects On Children

Even when we want our children to go to school, we have to insist our children go to school. We have control on what we want our children to do. However, we, the leaders, the native leaders in the Territories, they are neglecting their children. A lot of their children do not have proper clothing for winter, and when they drink too much, they do not change their way of life. They have a certain effect, a lot of effects, on their children, and sometimes it is gross to see what kind of conditions their houses are in.

I would like you to give more consideration on the matter that I raised, when we are discussing the use of alcohol. Perhaps we can be debating on the use of alcohol for ten days or more, but we would not come up with any resolutions. The person should be able to know how much he or she is able to consume, alcoholic beverages, and not be controlled by alcohol. The alcohol has had a drastic effect on the population of the Territories. It has caused death in the Territories, and has changed ways of life and it sometimes comes to the point that it is gross to see a drunkard -- more gross to see a drunkard than rotten meat. We can continue talking about the use of alcohol for a long time, but we must point out that an individual has the right to drink; ministers, pastors, or whoever else, cannot control and tell an individual not to drink so much alcohol. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Noah. Are there any further comments or questions? Mr. Sibbeston.

Closing Liquor Outlets During Community Meetings

MR. SIBBESTON: This is my third chance to say something, particularly in view of the fact that I guess our comments might be of some use when Mr. Braden is re-examining the Liquor Ordinance and so forth. I take it that he will use this discussion for that purpose. So anybody wanting changes, I would think it is a good time now to talk about it.

One of the things I was going to ask is, some of the Members may recall in Baker Lake that the Assembly had passed a motion in respect of community councils, band councils, and such groups in a community when they are having a large public meeting -- there was a motion to the effect that they be given the power, as it were, to instruct the board, or have the board close down all liquor outlets during the course of the meeting. I notice that there are some amendments being brought forward in the Liquor Ordinance now, but I do not see that particular provision and it seems that the provision that is in the amendment, was dealt with at the last Assembly session. I just wonder what happened to the motion made earlier, which I thought was of great significance. Is that something that is coming up at the time of the Liquor Ordinance review, in further amendments?

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I apologize to my colleague for not having discussed this with him. The amendments we are bringing in have to do with bootlegging, prosecution and the authority of police to adequately deal with this type of situation. His motion that was raised earlier on is an issue that I want to examine further, and maybe again in the context of community input to decisions concerning how liquor is sold and distributed in the community. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. Sibbeston.

Liberal Liquor Laws In The North

MR. SIBBESTON: I would just ask the Minister to then just refresh his memory and refer to the Baker Lake debate on amendments to the Liquor Ordinance, and he will have it there in front of him. I was going to make some comments. I have come to the conclusion that liquor laws in the North are very liberal, perhaps more liberal than even in the South. The North going through a developmental process, and as it is now, I wonder if the liquor laws are much too liberal. It seems that any area of Canada that is going through a developmental process has very tight liquor laws. Alberta, during the time that it was developing, I know had very strict liquor laws and it seems to me that that is

the way that we should be dealing with liquor in the North, but to the contrary, it seems that we have very liberal laws. Liquor is subsidized and made available to all northerners, whoever they are, for the same price and we have large amounts of liquor available. I take it, in the South a 40-ounce of liquor is not readily available, but in the North that is made available. Also, overproof liquor, I think the North is one of the few places in Canada where you can get overproof, and it just seems to me with the fact that native people have such a large problem with alcohol, it seems to me that it should not be so liberal.

The other thing is, I believe in some jurisdictions it is not possible for children to drink at home when their parents or guardians are there, and I find that the Liquor Ordinance does provide in the North for anybody -- children -- to be able to drink within their own homes under the guidance or supervision of parents or guardians. I think that is a law that, again, is very liberal and ought to be tightened up somewhat.

The other one is the hours. The hours in the North are extremely liberal, again. Bars and so forth can be open from 10:00 in the morning until 1:00 at night and I think they are too liberal. Bar hours should perhaps be from at least 1:00 o'clock or 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. That, again, is an area that I hope will be tightened up. I for one feel that people should work during the day and should not be sitting around in bars. So, bars and dining lounges should not be open during the day.

Native People Take On White People's Ways

White people should perhaps -- and when I say white people, I do not mean it in a derogatory way -- I just know that native people learn a lot, or tend to take on or to go according to the ways that are brought in from the South. There has been quite a bit of adaptation in this regard. I have always been amazed at the way that liquor was handled in a place like Simpson, where after the liquor stores were brought in and bars were opened, I just thought it was brought in in a very liberal way -- where native people are made to think that you can go to the bar at 10:00 o'clock and stay until 1:00 o'clock at night. You can buy great volumes of liquor. Native people maybe think that, well, I guess that that is the way that white people do, that is the way civilized people do it and I guess that is an acceptable way. I always thought that there should be certain standards set and strictly adhered to, to show native people how liquor can be used and used in a way that does not harm themselves.

There has not been that period of education or period when liquor was introduced in a very strict way. It was just introduced, and all at once, very liberally. I think that judging from the way that things are going in my area, I think people would be prepared to have much more restriction than they have had in the past.

Responsibility Of Leaders

The other thing is, as leaders I think there is a responsibility on us to set certain standards, and I always use the analogy of drugs. The politicians in Canada think that it is hazardous or bad to have marijuana used freely, so the country states, sets and makes laws, that make it illegal to have marijuana. Well, liquor is to native people what drugs are to white people and I really think that as leaders there is a responsibility on us to make laws that put some restrictions, or else sets a certain standard for usage of liquor. I just think that we have arrived at a time in the history of the North when we could be justified and supported in having tighter liquor laws, and I hope that this will be possible when the Liquor Ordinance is being revamped.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard. Do you want to make a comment, Mr. Nerysoo?

Excessive Force Used In Escorting People Out Of Bars

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask just a couple of questions. What rights does an individual -- when he goes to a bar -- have when the owner, for instance, or one of the owners in fact, while pushing him out, starts a fight with him, for instance? I really want to know, because that has occurred a couple of times in this city here, where some of the owners that do own the place are, in fact, assaulting the people that are being escorted out.

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Generally, I would like to say that I believe there are a lot of very responsible owners and managers in the Northwest Territories and they do not want their establishments to get the reputation of having fights and so on in their place of business. I think, as we have determined this afternoon, there are and have been occasions when excessive force has been used to remove a patron from an establishment. I suppose that in the situation which Mr. Nerysoo has just described, Mr. Chairman, if a fight ensues, then both parties may feel that they have sufficient grounds to take legal action against each other. But just to reflect a bit on the conversation we had before, I would say that there is a legal responsibility under civil law so that if a patron does get injured in the process of being thrown out, there is responsibility on the part of the owner or the manager of a particular premises. Let us say, for example, I was thrown out on the street and I was hit by a car.

AN HON. MEMBER: With me driving.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: There would seem to be some cause on my part to sue this fellow who threw me out on the street in the path of an oncoming car. So, there is a responsibility to use sufficient force to remove a patron but not to the extent where it can be demonstrated that excessive force was used. As I have indicated, I believe that there is some precedent in law, civil law, whereby individuals have successfully sued, a particular establishment for this. Thank you.

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

Responsibility Of A Third Party

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Supplementary to that, then, what right has someone who is just sitting there watching this whole thing develop? What right has he to file a suit on behalf of the individual that is hurt? Has he any right at all or can that individual, in fact, report the incident and therefore a charge can be laid?

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I would have to get a legal opinion on that. I cannot answer whether there is a third party responsibility or a third party action that could be taken. I do not know. I am sorry.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, just a question to the liquor inspector. Is it your policy to give notice to owners of establishments upon your possible visits to communities or is it not necessary, or you do not?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Christoph.

MR. CHRISTOPH: Mr. Chairman, the question that Mr. Nerysoo raised is a very good one, and the answer is no. It would warn the licensee unduly if you were to beforehand make an arrangement that you would come and inspect the licensed premises. You probably would find them a lot better than if you came into the licensed premises unannounced. I should say, though, it could be overvalued -- the moment of surprise. Normally what happens, if you go inspecting one evening, you do not just go into one licensed premises, but as soon as you appear in one, then the telephone is operated and the others are warned that the inspector is on the loose. I hope that answers your question.

O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Are you satisfied, Mr. Nerysoo? Any more questions on page 4.01, operations and maintenance, \$729,000?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I would like to thank the witnesses, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Christoph and Mr. Braden. I think we finished the Housing Corporation on Friday night, and I would like to thank those witnesses that appeared here. I do not think we thanked them at all, at the time when they left here. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not wish to appear to be questioning the O and M figure that you called out, but is it necessary to get agreement on any of the other aspects of the budget provided? For example, we are looking to increase our revolving fund in 1981-82 to three million dollars. I am not sure of the technicalities on this.

Revolving Fund, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I believe we have only O and M here on page 4.01. Okay, on page 4.02, revolving fund, \$3 million.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Thanks again. I will see you next year, same time, same place.

Financial Management Secretariat

Now, we are all moving on to page 5.01, financial management secretariat. Mr. Butters, do you wish to make opening remarks or do you wish to invite your colleagues?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I think that the lead member for the government position will be the Commissioner but if Mr. Nielsen and myself might be called at the same time to sit and possibly answer some questions on this particular section...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Do you wish to invite them now or do you want to make an opening remark first before you invite them?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, sir. I would just request the indulgence of the House to invite Mr. Nielsen to join the Commissioner and I at the witness table.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bring them in, please. Thank you, Mr. Nielsen, Mr. Commissioner and Mr. Butters. Before I ask this House for opening remarks of a general nature or something, I wonder if the Commissioner would like to make opening remarks.

Preparation Of Budget Is Principal Function

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We are proposing very few changes for the coming fiscal year in the financial management secretariat. It is a small secretariat and as you realize, the principal function of the secretariat is the preparation of the budget. Now, that has implications throughout the year because the preparations start very early in the fiscal year. In fact, we are now working on the next fiscal year before we have even implemented the new one. In other words, we are already starting the planning for 1982-83 and we are not yet into the 1981-82 fiscal year. I say that to indicate that this secretariat has a very full year-round job.

One of the things that you may notice is that there is a decrease in man years of four man years and I simply want to advise you that the four man years are accounted for by a transfer, a small transfer, of functions from the secretariat to the Department of Finance. It is a matter of administrative design. We have moved two operators of our word processing machines, one administrative officer and one allotment control clerk from this function to the Department of Finance and as I say, it is simply a matter of our administrative design. I have no other remarks of a general nature, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Before I call a question period, does anybody wish to make general comments? Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some general comments to make on behalf of the standing committee on finance. During the review of the financial management secretariat in early January, the standing committee was impressed with the hard work and the dedication of the individuals working in this area. We are certainly well aware of the many hours of overtime that have gone into the preparations of the main estimates, particularly this years.

Lack Of A Full Complement Of Staff

One of our major concerns, however, was the lack of a full complement of staff in the financial management secretariat. We learned, during the review, that the administration is finding it very difficult to fill some of the technical positions, positions which we would define, I suppose, as financial experts. Now, because the standing committee feels that financial management and control is absolutely important and absolutely essential to good government, we are certainly concerned about that. We are not prepared to have another year go by without that full complement of staff in this area. We feel that there is too much work to do and too many financial decisions which must be made by the Executive Committee to not have the financial expertise readily available in its secretariat.

The finance committee is also very anxious for this government to develop some long-range planning capabilities. For instance, the federal government and the provincial governments are entering negotiations now on changes to the equalization grant system. The federal government appears to be on the road to withdrawing or, at the very least, lessening the amount of federal financial

participation in the federal-provincial cost shared programs. I and the committee think there will be some implications to this government on the outcome of these negotiations. In other words, how will this affect the financial arrangements that the Northwest Territories has with the federal government, particularly under this new fiscal formula or formula financing? It is an important area for the financial management secretariat to be concerned about.

Financial Planning

There are many other financial issues which we feel this government should be researching and preparing papers for discussion and decision. For instance, this Legislature has asked for an accounting of how much personal income tax is not available to the North because of our high rate of transient workers who claim in the province that they reside in, as of December 31st. This is another area that the financial management secretariat could be working on.

We are interested as well in figures dating back to the first royalties paid to the federal government, royalties which might have accrued to the people of the North had the North had rights to its resources. So we are looking perhaps to an accounting sometime in the near future of those figures.

Other things that this secretariat could be doing with respect to long and short term financial planning, is the financial implications of the latest federal budget, its new energy policy and Bill C-48. This government needs up-to-date and expert advice when such things are being discussed in the South which do have major implications on northern government now and in the future.

In other areas, we are not happy with NCPC. We need financial advice to back up our demand for a territorial power corporation as adopted by the Legislative Assembly in Frobisher Bay. Questions such as how we would recommend to the federal government they turn debt into equity, can be answered by our government through the financial management secretariat. Whether we agree with straight line or sinking fund amortization, these are the kinds of questions that we should be addressing through the secretariat, or at least through the government in some department.

Need For Long-Term Financial Planning Within Each Department

There is a third major area of importance that was identified by the standing committee and that was the need for long-term financial planning within each department. We feel that there is a need to have co-ordination between departments on financial issues. An example here is, for instance, Renewable Resources might be aware that in one area of the Northwest Territories, the caribou is declining or the caribou will not be migrating through that area. Therefore, correlation with the Department of Social Services with respect to an increase in that department's assistance program might be necessary. We really need to see a very close co-ordination between departments with respect to their financing in the short term and in the long term.

I could give you more examples but I think that there is some indication that we do need some long-term planning and that the finance committee is anxious to see that visible within our government. So with all of these objectives in mind, the standing committee on finance will sponsor three motions when we discuss the O and M of the financial management secretariat. They are A1-81, A2-81 and A25-81 of the standing committee's ninth report to the Legislative Assembly. If Members could be ready to debate those, I will put them forward during the O and M, after general comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

Detail Of Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are there any other general comments? Page 5.02, the capital, \$10,000.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): On page 5.01, O and M, \$475,000. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I will put forth my motions before Mr. Fraser yells "Agreed". All right then, does everyone -- the recommendations have been translated. Do you have the copy of the standing committee's report? The first recommendation is on page four of the report.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A1-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance

MRS. SORENSEN: He is a good Member of my committee and is well trained. The first motion is then, on behalf of the standing committee on finance, I recommend that the Executive Committee take emergency action to: (1) review the staffing and salaries of the financial management secretariat; and (2) fill positions which have been vacant for up to one year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): This is a motion. Do you want to speak to your motion, Mrs. Sorensen?

MRS. SORENSEN: I think, Mr. Chairman, that I have outlined some of the concerns that the standing committee on finance has with respect to the staffing in the financial management secretariat. I did not mention salaries however. In the review that we had with the Deputy Minister of Finance and with Mr. Parker and Mr. Butters, it was determined that perhaps salaries were a problem here. Financial expertise is expensive and that perhaps we really did need to review the amounts of dollars that we were paying for this expertise. We know that across the South, financial expertise is in great demand, that we are, in effect, competing with the most expensive provinces, probably Alberta and British Columbia, and that it is difficult for us to attract the financial expertise given the demand in the South. That is why the standing committee felt that it was necessary to review the salaries as well as the criteria for the staffing in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. I wonder if the witnesses at the table would like to make a comment on that motion. No, okay. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A question has been called. All those in favour of that motion?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just a minute.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie.

Availability Of Best Brains In Finance

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would like to hear a comment from the personnel who are responsible for the secretariat because somewhere along the way, I had made a note to myself that I thought that we ought to spend very good money for the best brains available in the finance area in view of the many things that are happening. So I generally sympathize with this but I would like to hear a response from -- well, probably from the Commissioner.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Commissioner.

MR. FRASER: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Point of order.

MR. FRASER: Is there a motion on the floor?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes.

MR. FRASER: Can the Commissioner talk to a motion?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Sure, why not?

MR. FRASER: Okay. I was just checking.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it is true that we have had some difficulty in recruiting the staff necessary for this function and I welcome the support of the standing committee on finance and perhaps the support of this House in redoubling our efforts. I can only say that I hope that they will be successful. We are indeed taking measures to ensure that the staff is up to the proper level. We have to weigh, though, the salary demands in this area with salary demands in a variety of areas of expertise. It is true that today, throughout Canada, there is very heavy pressure on people with financial training, and if anyone was looking for advice to high school students, the advice that should be given to them if they are looking for ongoing lucrative employment, they should get into the money field.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I heard a question. All those in favour? Mr. MacQuarrie.

Emergency Action

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I ask the mover of the motion what she takes to be "emergency action"? How should that be understood by the secretariat?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I would like to see the financial management secretariat or the Deputy Minister of that division sit down and take a look at the staffing and the salaries as soon as this motion passes, if it does, and make recommendations concerning what salary levels he thinks would be attractive. Then take those into the financial management board and review with the financial management board the whole situation as he outlined to us in the standing committee on finance. Mr. Parker indicated in his remarks that special consideration to this area would have to be looked at in light of other areas as well and I do not deny that. I think one of the things this government is going to have to do is identify positions that are exceptional

and priority positions, positions that must be filled no matter the cost. Therefore, salaries would not necessarily follow the limits that are prescribed right now. Perhaps there has to be additional incentives given in order to attract those positions or to fill those positions.

Perhaps what we need is a review of all the positions in government to identify those special areas. What we tend to hear often is "We cannot do that because we do not have the people. We do not have the expertise." Then we hear that there are positions available but are not able to be filled. I get tired of hearing that the government cannot do it, because we do not have the people. What the finance committee is saying is "All right. We will give you permission to go ahead and review your salaries, review your staffing and then fill those positions if you can. If you cannot, then come back and we will have to deal with it again."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Special Exceptions For Financial Officers

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, in the light of that, I believe that I can support this certainly. It is not a question of competency for people that are presently there. I mean I like to think of myself as a reasonably intelligent person and yet not too long ago, I remember sitting in a room full of people that had been employed by a particular organization and I was absolutely overwhelmed by the brain-power that was around. What I am saying is that to certain other organizations who identify particular key people, money is no object. They get them because they are necessary. There are certain positions, I think, in our government, maybe three or four, that should be identified where we want absolutely the best advice that is available in Canada, if it is possible. So I could kind of agree that some thought should be given to that and making special exceptions. We should not allow the quality of what we are doing to be bound because we have a certain structure or system that is already established. If, in the odd case, it is necessary to work outside of that, I guess I would encourage it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. I think that Mr. Commissioner would like to make a comment.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would not like the impression to be left that we do not do any pay research. We do ongoing pay research. We are dedicated to that. That is done in the Department of Personnel and our Department of Personnel consults with other units so they keep themselves well up-to-date on pay research. I agree that we have come to the same conclusion that the standing committee on finance reached, that in the finance area it is the turn of financial officers to receive some special treatment because of their scarcity. We will be pleased to respond to this motion in a positive fashion, and I am confident it will pass, and make the reviews that have been recommended to us.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just a final comment on that if I may, Mr. Chairman, and it is that that is not quite the way I was looking at it. What I am saying is that in a few areas that we identify as crucial, we look around and say: Who is the best person in Canada, if possible, to do that job for us? Then the question is, do we pay whatever it takes in order to get that person to do the job for us? That is the kind of approach that I was suggesting. I just hope that that idea will be kept in mind and implemented, if at all possible; but certainly, I will support this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I was just going to comment on Mr. MacQuarrie's remarks and I would like him to feel this way about things, as some of us do, that time is money. I believe that Mrs. Sorensen made a statement and you quite adequately repeated it twice, and we thank you for that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. To the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: Question.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A1-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour of that motion, please raise your hands. Higher, higher, higher. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Do you wish to introduce any other recommendations? Mrs. Sorensen, go ahead.

Motion To Accept A2-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, I have a motion, A2-81. On behalf of the standing committee on finance, I recommend to the Executive Committee that the secretariat develop a "futuristic" capability to investigate and recommend and/or work with specific consultants regarding financial matters.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, I believe I also covered the reasons that the standing committee on finance felt that this was an important area for the financial management secretariat to be involved in. I believe that there is some work being done in the secretariat with respect to long-range plans. I am aware that the secretariat did hire a consultant to look at income tax incentives and that there is a report that has been done, a very good report by the way. However, I think that there is a need for more involvement in the secretariat, if people who can look into the future for us and make recommendations concerning financial matters which we, as a total government, may be faced with in the future. I am talking here about the federal-provincial negotiations on equalization. I am talking here about revenue sharing. We are talking here about all sorts of areas that we could be faced with as public government, over the next little while.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Do I hear question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A2-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

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

---Carried

Mrs. Sorensen, I believe you have another one.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A25-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee
On Finance

MRS. SORENSEN: This motion is number A25-81. On behalf of the standing committee on finance, I recommend that the Executive direct each department to do a forecasting of financial needs and demands for the next five years, based on internal and external factors.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Again here, Mr. Chairman, it is simply to get each department thinking about the future and about the future needs of the programs and services that it provides. There will be an involvement here with the financial management secretariat, and that is why I have brought this recommendation up under the financial management secretariat.

Over the coming years, there are going to be a lot of things that will affect our programs and services, for instance, the settling of land claims. There should be some work started in each department on how that will affect public government and its need to provide certain services and certain programs. There are other areas, such as the area I used as an example in my opening statement; the effect of a decline of a herd or the non-migration of a caribou herd in one region and its effect on social services, because if people are not able to hunt and there are no jobs, then there is an expectation of our Social Service department to provide them assistance and, therefore, we need that kind of planning going on constantly within our government departments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. Commissioner.

Five Year Forecasting Not Realistic

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the Executive Committee is certainly interested in forecasting our requirements as far ahead as we possibly can. I do not think that five years is a realistic figure, because I think years four and five are simply too far away for us to apply any meaningful numbers to them. The difficulty is that many things in the Territories today are changing very rapidly, and we are short of manpower, and for that reason then, we do not want to do more work than we think is going to be fruitful and valuable. So, I would say that in response to this we would look to, as a first step in forecasting, trying to do a better job of three year forecasting for O and M. We are now engaged in a good exercise in three year forecasting for capital and in that area we can do a better job. O and M is more difficult, but we certainly are anxious to try and forecast our requirements.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I guess the question is for Mr. Wah-Shee. Does Local Government not request the municipalities for five year forecasting?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Well, Mr. Chairman, I will be happy to answer any questions regarding Local Government once we get to our estimate. Thank you.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. I do not think the committee has any difficulty with three years, however are you aware, Mr. Parker, of whether this government demands five year forecasting from municipalities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am not certain whether we do or not, but you know, we do not always believe in the golden rule, "do unto others..."

---Laughter

We sometimes ask others to do more than we can do ourselves, but if we do ask them for that, we appreciate that they have the same difficulties that we have, particularly, in years four and five.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: If Members would agree, we could amend it to three years, if that is the recommendation of the Commissioner and Mr. Butters. I do not think the standing committee would have too many arguments about that. It is understood then?

MR. FRASER: No sweat.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are we going to leave it at the five years? Okay.
To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A25-81 Of Ninth Report Of The Standing Committee
On Finance, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. Down. Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Well, I think that with this recent little debate about three years and five years, I hope that in my work with small organizations making submissions to this government, that we will be alleviated from making a five year forecast. This weekend I was asked to make a five year forecast on northern games, and the federal government wishes that we do the same thing when we make submissions to them, and they like us to be quite accurate in calculating those estimates. So, I think this little debate will be well received by many organizations who are demanded of making five year forecasts.

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 5.01, O and M, \$475,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Expenditures

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total expenditures, \$485,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I have a question for Mr. Butters and it concerns the accountability based budgeting system. In the preamble of the financial management secretariat, it is stated that during 1980-81, considerable emphasis was placed on developing and implementing new procedures for budget development and review, using the accountability based budgeting system. I wonder if you could give us a status on the development of that system, whether that development has been completed or not.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that the monitoring aspect of the system has not been completed and is still to be put in place. With regard to the first two phases, they have been developed. Sitting to my far right is the architect of the system and if Members wish to hear his comments on the progress made to date in implementing that system, I would suggest that Mr. Nielsen would probably be the one best able to speak to this matter.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Nielsen.

Accountability Based Budgeting System

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, the intent at the time the accountability based budgeting system was put in was to develop a system that was relatively low in documentation but which would provide departments and Legislative Assembly Members with sufficient information to gain a good understanding of the responsibilities of departments and to provide them with an opportunity to review those at a subsequent date.

The first phases of the system were the definitions of those accountabilities and the further subdivision of them into tasks. That has been accommodated and a new financial information system substantially developed to accommodate that process. It would have been continued into further phases but so much development has taken place in the financial area over the last two or three years that departments have got significant pressure on them, so much so that it was felt that the system would fail if continued implementation took place too rapidly.

The next phase on the system, and it is intended that a proposal will go forward to the financial management board in the very near future, is that a task force be created to work with departments to develop program indicators for each of the accountabilities and tasks, and that at a subsequent date, those indicators be evaluated in relationship to the tasks actually accomplished and that reports be made up by departmental management to the financial management board and the Executive on the accomplishments of those tasks in relationship to the original objectives or accountabilities identified. That is not going to be an overnight process and our initial approach will be that we will do this with a few departments this year and if it is successful, extend that to additional departments in the following year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Nielsen. Mrs. Sorensen.

Importance Of Completing The Process As Quickly As Possible

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, Mr. Butters, I would just like to emphasize, and I know that we have corresponded by letter on the accountability based budgeting system -- I would just like to emphasize on behalf of the committee how important we feel it is that we complete the implementation of the system. The efficiency indicators

or the monitoring process is what the politicians use in this system to find out whether our dollars are being spent in the best way possible. In other words, are we getting good value for our dollars with respect to the kinds of programs that we are involved in? So that without the completion of the program, the system, while it is not useless, it is not as good as it could be for the politicians, for the Legislative Assembly and its standing committee. I would just emphasize that it is important that we complete the process as quickly as possible, realizing, of course, that it is an ever changing system and that we do want to be as up-to-date as possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the chairman of the finance committee describes the situation correctly. In my response to her questions earlier, I would agree that the system, to be efficient and satisfactory must be implemented in total and with her, I look forward to the early implementation of the third phase, the monitoring aspect, or the indicator aspect as Mr. Nielsen described it, put in place.

Total Expenditures, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Total expenditures, \$485,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

I would like to thank Mr. Nielsen, Mr. Commissioner and Mr. Butters for appearing before us. I wonder what this committee wishes to do now.

AN HON. MEMBER: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-81(1), APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1981-82; NINTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-81(1) and wishes to report progress.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Are there any announcements on the floor to this House? There being no announcements, Mr. Clerk, the orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Tuesday, February 17, standing committee on finance, 9:00 a.m., Katimavik A. At 12:00 noon tomorrow, room 301, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association executive committee. Wednesday, February 18, 9:30 a.m., room 301, education committee. Arrangements are being made, Mr. Speaker, with the Information department to take a new group photograph of the Assembly, Wednesday afternoon, 2:30 p.m., in Katimavik A. That is just so Members can be aware that that is going to be done.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, February 17, 1981, 1:00 o'clock p.m. at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to the Commissioner's Address
3. Oral Questions
4. Questions and Returns
5. Petitions
6. Tabling of Documents
7. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
8. Notices of Motion
9. Motions
10. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
11. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
12. Second Reading of Bills
13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Bill 1-81(1); Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance; Motion 4-81(1)
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I would just like to remind Members that tomorrow is the last day for replies to the Commissioner's Address. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 17, 1981, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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