



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 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. Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Hon. Don Stewart, Hon. Kane Tologanak, Hon. James Wah-Shee

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Wednesday, March the 4th. Item 2, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 2: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 131-81(1): ITC Land Claims Negotiations In Ottawa

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. I have heard rumours, Mr. Speaker, that this government's presence and participation at the ITC land claims negotiations in Ottawa have been questioned and that our representatives have thereupon been withdrawn by the Minister. Will the Minister assure this House that these rumours are unfounded and that this government is continuing to exercise its rights and to fulfil the responsibilities that it has in respect of the aboriginal rights negotiating process?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 131-81(1): ITC Land Claims Negotiations In Ottawa

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that we have come across a particular problem, which is not unusual. It is with regard to the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories regarding the negotiations with Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. I was informed yesterday that Tom Suluk, the chief negotiator for ITC, has indicated to my officials that they wanted clarification of our role in the negotiating process and the kind of mandate that we have, whether we should be permitted to take independent positions regarding the ITC and also with the federal government.

I had thought that the matter of our involvement with native organizations had been clarified a long time ago, since my officials have had many meetings with ITC, with Tom Suluk and his staff. However, yesterday I was informed by my negotiators that further clarification is required and that progress could not be made. Therefore, I made the decision to recall my negotiators to

Yellowknife and I had discussions with the chief federal negotiator and he is well aware of the problem that has been outlined.

In the interests of good relations between the Government of the Northwest Territories and Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, I thought it best that further clarification meetings will be required between Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the federal negotiator and the Government of the Northwest Territories. Therefore, I have sent a telex to the Hon. Minister John Munro, outlining the concerns that we have and that we feel that our particular participation and role should not be a continuing problem with ITC. I would prefer to see this situation resolved right at the very beginning, so that we would not have any further problem.

Continuous Clarification With Every Native Group

I also would like to indicate that ITC is very well aware of the sessional paper which has been passed by this House, which outlines the participation and role of this particular government. However, there seems to be some confusion in this area and I am more than willing to meet with representatives of ITC and the federal government to ensure that we have clarification in this area. I would hope that this will not be a continuing problem, not only with ITC, but with COPE, with the Dene Nation, because if we have to have continuous clarification with every native organization that is negotiating aboriginal claims with the federal government, then I think we have to have a set of standards in terms of our role as a government, as a Legislature, from which we take our mandate from.

I feel that it is rather unfortunate that we have encountered this particular problem, however, I would like to indicate that the mandate that we have from this House, as indicated to me as Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, states that we should be co-operative with native organizations and very supportive and that is what I intend to do. However, on the other hand, I also have the responsibility of protecting the interests of the non-claimants of the Northwest Territories, of the public institution as well.

MR. CURLEY: Shame, shame!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: When I indicate the public institution, it is also related to the future territorial government of the Nunavut territory.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Guidance Of Members Will Be Sought

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: So that, I feel that there has to be a balance and it may be left for the interpretation. However, I think that that interpretation will be coming about once the negotiations progress and when I present my progress report to this particular House. Of course, I always look forward to the guidance of the honourable Members of this House and I intend to follow your direction. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: The Commissioner will give it to you.

AN HON. MEMBER: All right.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary?

Supplementary To Question 131-81(1): ITC Land Claims Negotiations In Ottawa

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. You have answered a lot of important questions there. One that you did not answer and I would appreciate your answering is, may I assume then, that while we are not present, that negotiations are not, therefore, going ahead until the clarification takes place? That would seem to me to be very important.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Supplementary To Question 131-81(1): ITC Land Claims Negotiations In Ottawa

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, this is the very reason why the Executive has decided to send a telex to the Hon. Minister John Munro, clarifying the areas of concern that we do have. We have also indicated in the telex that there are certain jurisdictional responsibilities which have already been transferred to this particular government and that in those areas of jurisdictional responsibility that we do have, we have indicated in the very strongest possible terms that negotiations should not proceed in those areas that we have a particular responsibility.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Telex To John Munro Regarding ITC Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: For the information of my colleagues in this particular House, I would like to read the telex that I sent out this morning. It is addressed to the Hon. Minister John Munro, regarding ITC negotiations.

"The role of the Government of the Northwest Territories in ITC negotiations has become a major issue at the negotiating session currently under way in Ottawa. This matter has been raised in the past and I was of the understanding that it had been resolved on the basis of correspondence and a meeting between ITC and my officials. Naturally, further clarification was anticipated with respect to our role as negotiations proceed, but I felt that the framework was in place.

"At yesterday's meeting, ITC objected to our presence at the negotiating table and again questioned our role. They did not appear to want to give us the opportunity to participate fully and I was advised that ITC may walk out over our presence.

"In a phone conversation with ITC negotiators, I offered to recall my staff immediately, in the interest of good relations and to deal with this matter in a more appropriate forum. They agreed and I have instructed my staff to return to Yellowknife."

MR. CURLEY: That is good. Right on.

---Applause

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: "The Executive Committee has reaffirmed its desire to participate in the negotiations in a role consistent with the sessional paper on constitutional development and aboriginal rights approved by the Assembly in June, 1980. However, we would not want the issue of our presence to

continually surface at each meeting and consequently feel that this matter of our role must be resolved early in the negotiations. In the interim, we would urge that matters for which this government has jurisdiction or in which it has a vital interest, not be dealt with..."

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: "...in negotiations unless we are present. I have invited the ITC leadership and Mr. Mitchell..."

MR. CURLEY: Are you looking for confrontation?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: "...who is the chief federal negotiator "to discuss this matter with me in the very near future. As this is a matter of political jurisdiction, I would appreciate that you would reconfirm our status at the negotiations so that this difficult situation may be resolved at the" -- very -- "earliest."

---Applause

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the topic of the negotiations. Does the Minister not feel publicly announcing the status of the negotiations really is unnecessary? Do you not think that you might be creating a confrontation atmosphere by publicly announcing, while the negotiations are under way with the two parties?

I believe this kind of an announcement, when the two parties are negotiating, is really not in the best interests of the claimants and federal government. I believe what you are saying is really creating a tension and will create further tension if the practice continues. I would advise the Minister to keep those confidential if he is so serious and concerned with the progress of the negotiations. Can I have the Minister's assurance that he will keep the progress of negotiations in camera and within his own officials and not make them public until solutions have been made so that the negotiations can continue to go on without further jeopardizing by this Assembly?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I find this situation rather difficult, Mr. Speaker, because when I was given the responsibility of Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, I accepted that any Member in this House can ask the administration oral questions. I could refuse to reply. However, that would put me in a rather difficult situation and I do feel that I have a responsibility to reply to the honourable Member for Keewatin South, if he wants to inquire regarding aboriginal claims respecting the Dene Nation perhaps or COPE or ITC. I think that we are operating with a consensus government. I have heard that term over and over again.

I had intended to explain the current situation respecting the ITC negotiations within my progress report. However, I had to make some changes regarding that because of this particular problem, and I am sure that ITC, for all I know, may be making statements regarding the current problem that we have encountered and I would be required to make some statement regarding this, whether I do this today or next week or whenever I table my report, because obviously Members would be interested in the current situation respecting ITC claims.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Much better than rumours, Mr. Minister.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: As well, Members would be inquiring regarding the COPE claims and also the Dene Nation. So I have no intention of making public statements regarding the negotiations when they are under way...

MR. CURLEY: They are under way.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...but obviously there are no negotiations proceeding at this particular time with our involvement as a government. The Legislature has given me a mandate and has outlined the role respecting aboriginal claims which deals with ITC and other native organizations as well and this is not a personal decision, honourable Member.

MR. CURLEY: You are creating a confrontation atmosphere.

Respect For Confidential Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would like you to know that confidential details regarding particular areas of negotiations, as they proceed, naturally I would respect that. I have no intention of making available detailed information of negotiations public, but this particular telex that I have sent out is basically outlining the problem that has come up and really we have to make a decision respecting this. So therefore after much discussion with my colleagues, we have decided that we ought to recall our negotiators and this is not a situation where I, as Minister responsible for this particular area, am making information available which is of a confidential nature.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary. Mr. Curley.

Supplementary To Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

MR. CURLEY: I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights whether ITC has, in fact, approved the guidelines that he has issued, the Executive Committee's guidelines on the aboriginal rights negotiations. Has ITC accepted them and if so, will he explain them in this House? Also, I would like to ask the Minister whether or not it is his policy to make public every letter or correspondence that is sent to the Minister regarding the nature of the negotiations between ITC and federal government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Supplementary To Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, it is not my policy to make public all correspondence that takes place between myself and John Munro and even, for that matter, between myself and Michael Amarook, the president of ITC, nor Georges Erasmus nor Sam Raddi. On the other hand, regarding the guidelines, I think that we have had consultations with all native organizations regarding the guidelines. At some point in time, as an Executive, we had to make a decision regarding that. Obviously we cannot accommodate every little change in wording or sentences respecting the particular guidelines that we have to give to our negotiators.

Also, I would like the Members of this House to be aware that the guidelines are an internal document. I am sure that the federal government is not going to make public the internal guidelines between cabinet and the federal negotiator, nor COPE the internal guidelines which are given between Sam Raddi and his negotiators, nor will Dene Nation reveal those from Georges Erasmus their chief negotiator, nor ITC those from Michael Amarook to chief negotiator Tom Suluk. So really we are extremely vulnerable every time we take a position or action respecting various issues. I would like to have some understanding in this particular area because as I said earlier, it is extremely difficult for me, as Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development.

I have some comments and recommendations that I would like to make respecting the sessional paper which has been approved. I am not completely happy with the sessional paper, because there are areas which are rather vague. I would like to have some fairly good clarification in those areas. I think the honourable Member will appreciate that it is extremely difficult to accommodate certain directives or directions or concerns which native organizations may have in terms of the way we are conducting ourselves as a government.

All Government Documents Will Have To Be Made Public

I think that we do not ask the native organizations to provide a lot of information on their internal workings respecting their conduct or the way the negotiations ought to proceed. On the other hand, when it comes down to territorial government, we will have to make everything public, even the internal documents respecting the guidelines for negotiations, and I find that rather difficult at times. I am sure that the Members will appreciate that, under these circumstances, it is extremely difficult to conduct negotiations to ensure that the public institution of this government is adequately protected. At least those concerns ought to be raised above the table, but you want to have a micro sort of a situation where you want to have a say, regarding how we proceed from A, B, C, to Z, but we do not require that of the native organizations, which is rather ironic to me, because after all we are representing all residents of the Territories and you have got to keep in mind that...

MR. CURLEY: Even the Inuit people?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...you have to be a little objective, honourable Member for Keewatin, that you do not only represent all the Inuit people in Keewatin, that you do have some non-claimant people within your constituency like I do -- a relatively small percentage, of course -- but I think that this is what we have to keep in mind, and we have to keep a proper perspective when we are dealing with negotiations of aboriginal claims.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

Interests Of Other Northerners Are Responsibility Of The Government

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I do, as a Dene person, I have a responsibility to ensure that the interests of the Dene people are also adequately addressed. Likewise, on the other hand, I think that we also have other northern residents in the Territories who are not part of the negotiating process, and I think that the responsibility to represent them really falls on the Government of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Further Supplementary To Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

MR. CURLEY: Are there such rules? Thank you. In view of this Assembly's position that this government is an interim arrangement, will the Minister be a little more specific when he says that he has to protect the other interests? Could he be a little more specific in telling me exactly what he means by those "other interests"? Are they the oil companies who have the prospecting licence or permits in this part of the land, or is he talking about the private businessman in Yellowknife who may be worried about the native claims, or is he talking about the tourists, tourist camp owners in parts of Canada?

Does he not feel that he should be really representing the aboriginal people in trying to resolve their rights and represent them to the fullest extent as well, because he seems to be indicating to this House that he is much more interested in representing the others and therefore...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Not so, not so.

MRS. SORENSEN: Shame, shame!

MR. CURLEY: ...does not seem to be satisfied with the way these negotiators are continuing? I think he should give a little more emphasis to the fact that native people have the rights to certain lands and they certainly should have hunting rights. Is he concerned that the non-native people might not have hunting rights or this sort of thing? I would like him to be a little more specific when he says what "other interests" really means.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Further Supplementary To Question 132-81(1): Status Of ITC Land Claims Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I must say at the outset that I never expected my particular responsibility in the area of aboriginal rights and constitutional development to be an easy one. I am not particularly surprised that I find myself in this particular predicament regarding ITC claims. For all I know, I may find myself in the same predicament regarding the Dene Nation with COPE as well, and most of the people that have been involved with native organizations I have known for a long time. At the same time, I think we have got to keep a proper perspective in terms of trying to be as objective as we can although it is extremely difficult.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: It is rather fortunate that I had the confidence of the Members of this House to indicate to me that I ought to take on this particular responsibility. I think that as the Minister of this particular area, both in aboriginal rights and constitutional development, that I have to walk a very fine line which I hope the honourable Member will appreciate. I have to ensure that the interests of the aboriginal people are protected and I have to be very supportive and this is what I intend to do. I have every intention to do so.

MR. CURLEY: It does not sound like it.

Protection Of Interests Of Future Nunavut Government

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: On the other hand, I also have to protect the interests of the Nunavut government which is going to be coming up in the future. I do not expect that ITC will take care of the interests of "others" in the future Nunavut government because ITC is negotiating on behalf of the aboriginal people, of the Inuit people, in that particular area.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: And you cannot expect the federal government to take care of the interests...

MR. CURLEY: You are not answering my question.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...of the future Nunavut government which is really my responsibility -- to ensure that I take adequate...

MRS. SORENSEN: Precisely.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...protect the interest of the public institution...

---Applause

...no matter what it is. We may divide up into three or four separate territories but really it is rather unfortunate that we have to be too biased one way or the other and I cannot really afford to get caught up in that situation.

As you know, my constituency is 99.9 per cent Dene people. I have one per cent non-claimants so really it is not in my interest to go overboard and to be overly protective of the status quo. That is not my intention because what native people, through their negotiations, ITC for one, Dene Nation also, have strongly indicated is that there have to be some drastic changes to the present status quo, that we have got to make changes in government. This is what we intend to do. The direction has to come, a mandate has to come from this particular House on our role. What role do we have? Are we just going to say, well, let us completely disregard the interests of public institution? Let us go overboard...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Territories Cannot Afford To Have Internal Problems

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: What are we going to end up with, really? I mean this is really the issue that we are addressing and I would hope that we will deal with it in a way that we can all keep together in the North. We have a lot of problems.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: We have problems regarding revenue sharing, ownership of resources. Bill C-48 is just one example of the kinds of problems that we have in the North. I think that we cannot afford to have continuous internal problems in the Territories. Otherwise, the efforts of the Executive are going to be continuously undermined and that is going to undermine the efforts of this particular House. In the area of oil companies, I can assure the honourable Member that I have no interest, no contracts. I am not being bought off by any multinational corporation. As a matter of fact, we are...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you are going a little too fast -- getting wound up.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Great stuff.

MRS. SORENSEN: Standing ovation.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Honourable Member, I think that as far as industry is concerned, I have heard it before that native organizations generally are anti-development. That is not the case. That is not the way I read it. I am sure

that there has to be a balance regarding resource development in the Territories because obviously we cannot stop all types of resource development in the Territories.

Personal Viewpoint Expressed

There has to be some interim arrangement, if necessary, to ensure that negotiations can proceed but I can assure you, as far as I am concerned, and this is my personal point of view, and this is not the point of view of the Executive, that once claims are settled, once you get royalties, the native organizations who have set up these corporations will be the first ones to enter into negotiations and investments in gas and oil and mining industries. So therefore, I think it is really rather ironic that people ought to say that native people are generally anti-development. I do not think we are. In the area of tourism, that is another area. I think that area has to be tapped yet.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I think I should read -- pardon me, Mr. Minister.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would hope that...

MS COURNOYEA: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Pardon me, Mr. Minister. Relative to your orders, written and oral questions may be asked seeking information relating to public affairs from Executive Members. In putting a question or replying to it, no argument or opinion shall be offered nor any facts stated except so far as may be necessary to explain. Now, I think both sides have been guilty but I will not tolerate any more today. Mr. Sibbeston.

MRS. SORENSEN: I am next.

Question 133-81(1): New Mandate For Land Claims Negotiations

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister not agree that the matter of land claims negotiations is essentially between the federal government and the native people? Would the Minister not agree that almost every topic that is under discussion is likely an area that is within the jurisdiction of this territorial government? Would the Minister also not agree that it is only desirable to have the territorial government involved in the negotiations as third party as long as they are not an impediment to the negotiations between native people and the federal government? I applaud the Minister's decision to recall his officials. I think that is the right decision.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston, please, the rules. Ask your question.

MR. SIBBESTON: In view of the situation, would the Minister not agree that the proper role for him to take now is to come back to this Assembly with a report of the situation and also now seek a new mandate for his involvement in negotiations? Obviously if some difficulties have arisen, then we ought to consider that and you ought to seek the direction of this House from this point on.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 133-81(1): New Mandate For Land Claims Negotiations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I intend to table my report very shortly and in that area I will certainly comment on the mandate which I am presently working under and the concerns that I have regarding that. I would hope that the honourable Members of this House will take a very close look because really the issue is the involvement of the Government of the Northwest Territories regarding native claims or aboriginal claims. I would hope that we can clarify this once and for all because it is really frustrating for me to represent the Government of the Northwest Territories and also to represent the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories vis-à-vis the aboriginal negotiations.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 134-81(1): Retail Price Increases On Fuel

MRS. SORENSEN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Government Services. In the news yesterday, Mr. Minister, it was announced that there would be a special federal tax levied on fuel at the retail level. Has the Minister had an opportunity to analyse this federal initiative with respect to how it will affect the territorial government since our government is both a retailer and a consumer of fuel in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tologanak.

Return To Question 134-81(1): Retail Price Increases On Fuel

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been two retail price increases that have been announced January 1st, 1981, one dollar per barrel increase in the so-called Lougheed levy -- approximately one dollar per barrel. I suppose that is the one you are referring to. The January 1st, 1981, one dollar per barrel increase was not an immediate concern to the territorial government, my department, because it is a refinery levy. Our increase on this refinery levy is scheduled October 1st, 1981. However, the private sector, such as Yellowknife, Fort Smith and other areas that have easy accessibility to highway and can easily be resupplied would have to bear this increase almost immediately. The Lougheed levy was announced as a federal tax, specifically, a petroleum compensation tax. This tax was to be collected and remitted to the federal government.

My department was prepared to adjust retail prices, but it has now been confirmed by the Energy, Mines and Resources that the cost increase is not a tax. It is a refinery compensation cost levy. It is, in fact, a refined product cost increase. Therefore, our retail prices will not be increased until our annual resupply. The increase date will be approximately October 1st, 1981.

In summary, neither of the two retail price increases will affect our government on the published retail price list, but these cost increases will be reflected in the future retail prices. The Government of the Northwest Territories fixed price policy is more attractive to the Government of the Northwest Territories customers, which we supply to. For example, Yellowknife gasoline prices are rapidly approaching gasoline prices in many of the outlying settlements.

---Laughter

In Yellowknife, a check with the local oil distributors revealed that they will be increasing their fuel prices by up to three cents a gallon. This is based on the fact that Yellowknife is easily accessible, in other words, can be regularly supplied by the highway. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

Question 135-81(1): Upgrading Office And Housing For RCMP, Resolute Bay

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Deputy Commissioner in his capacity of being responsible for Public Works. It was suggested during debates in this House on the Department of Justice and Public Services yesterday, that the Department of Public Works has been somewhat slow in responding to upgrading the office and housing assigned to the RCMP in the townsite of Resolute Bay and that the RCMP are more than willing to move. Since this request to improve RCMP services in Resolute Bay is such a long-standing problem, I would like to ask the Deputy Commissioner, is it true that this government has been slow in responding and if so, why? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

Return To Question 135-81(1): Upgrading Office And Housing For RCMP, Resolute Bay

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PILOT: Mr. Speaker, the same question was raised last year in this House by Mr. Pudluk. As a result of the questions in the House, I had a meeting with the senior officials of the RCMP here in Yellowknife and at that time made an offer to them for two communities, one being Broughton Island, providing adequate accommodation for their detachment in Broughton Island. I also made the offer of two buildings in Resolute Bay, one for an office and one for a staff house for their member to live in. The RCMP then provided, after several months of negotiations, I suppose, with their headquarters, a series of drawings and stated that they had no funds available within their budget to do the necessary renovations of that office. I took it upon myself to look at our own capital plan, to identify funding, and offered \$40,000 to renovate the building in Resolute Bay to be used as an office. The slow response was not on our side, I believe, but from the RCMP themselves in not coming back to us stating whether they could, in fact, accept this type of a proposal.

I have the topic continually BF'd in a file on my desk, to bring forward, and was monitoring it throughout the entire year and kept pressuring the RCMP to respond to us. The response came in the early fall. They have now, as we heard yesterday, examined the building and I believe the building may not be adequate for their needs. So, I have to go back to some form of negotiation with the RCMP on that, but I do not believe we can hold our Department of Public Works to blame for the slow movement of the force to the townsite. It has been a question for six years now, of the people of Resolute Bay wanting the force to move to the community and I believe there has been a reluctance to provide that service in the community, at the community level.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Braden.

Question 136-81(1): Lougheed Levy

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have a quick supplementary for Mr. Tologanak. In his remarks, did he say it was a Lougheed levy or a Lalonde levy? I just would like that clarified for this side of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tologanak.

Return To Question 136-81(1): Lougheed Levy

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: It is not the French one, it is the Alberta one.

MR. SIBBESTON: Shame, shame!

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 137-81(1): Preparation And Survey Of Land Assembly Area In Tuktoyaktuk

MS COURNOYEA: I have a question to the Minister of Local Government and the Executive Committee Member responsible for Department of Public Works. Could the Members responsible please indicate why there is a continuous delay in the final preparation and survey of the land assembly area in Tuktoyaktuk, why the general assignment of lots was not completed by September 1980 as promised, and why NCPC has not been informed where the power poles are to be located, so they may get on with the job? Mr. Speaker, in view of the extreme need to meet the intense development strains on that community, what assurances can this community have that the matters of urgent nature can be dealt with in an expedient manner? If there is a reason to show that Local Government cannot depend on DPW, would Local Government contract out to another private firm? Could the Minister responsible ensure that the community of Tuk will be able to have this work completed in the near future, so that they can get on with their summer program?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Is that a question?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would like to ask Mr. Bob Pilot, the Deputy Commissioner, to reply to this, since it really has to do with whether DPW can really handle this particular contract. I think that if he cannot, then of course, I would be required to take some action on my part, as Minister of Local Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

Partial Return To Question 137-81(1): Preparation And Survey Of Land Assembly Area In Tuktoyaktuk

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PILOT: Mr. Speaker, the question is in two parts, because land assembly is the responsibility of local government and the funding is in the Department of Local Government and the program needs or requirements are developed by local government. However, it is the responsibility of the Department of Public Works to select the consultant and to prepare the tender documents to provide the work or to have the work done in the community. What has happened, and I have been on top of this particular concern, is the first consultant work that was carried out in the community of Tuktoyaktuk was rejected by the community council, by the hamlet council. So, we have gone back, I suppose you could say, to the drawing board. In October of 1980 a new consultant firm was selected and hired, from Whitehorse. They have been into the community of Tuktoyaktuk and met with the hamlet council, and I believe that the new town plan is beginning to develop.

With regard to NCPC, of course, we could not advise NCPC where the power poles should go until after the necessary new site plan and survey had been completed.

I know there is a lot more detail to this, Mr. Speaker, and if I may, I will provide a written response to this question and have it given to the honourable Member tomorrow or the next day. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Supplementary. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: This is a second question. Do you want me to hold while you deal with other Members?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, if you would, please. Oral questions. Anyone who has not had the floor yet. This is your second turn, Mr. MacQuarrie. Proceed.

Question 138-81(1): Government Position On Taxation Of Northern Benefits

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for the Minister of Finance. Yesterday, in a written return, the Minister made a comment which, when I checked the written return, was not there. It said "I will ensure that the proposal I referred to in the above statement is made available to Members." Could I ask the Minister, was he referring to the taxation alternative for all northerners and, if so, when and under what circumstances might it be made available to Members?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 138-81(1): Government Position On Taxation Of Northern Benefits

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Member for brief notice of his question. I believe it referred to written Question 19-81(1). I would like to, on this occasion, inform Members that the proposal I referred to in my return yesterday regarding exemption from taxation is available to any Members who so desire. Regrettably, because of the complicated fiscal terms it contains, it has not been translated but I will circulate to all Members the copy in English. This paper is the Government of the Northwest Territories position on the issue of the taxation of northern and isolated post benefits and allowances which has been presented to the federal Ministers of Finance and National Revenue.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 139-81(1): Subject Matter Under Discussion When Land Claims Negotiations Ceased

MS COURNOYEA: The question is to the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. Could he inform this House what was the subject matter under discussion in the negotiations with ITC and who was thrown out?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 139-81(1): Subject Matter Under Discussion When Land Claims Negotiations Ceased

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would like to inform this House and the honourable Member that nobody was thrown out.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who was asked to leave?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Nobody. I do not think anybody could be thrown out anyway, if they wanted to throw another member of the other negotiating parties -- just plain couth, I suppose. The area of negotiations was regarding wildlife. Wildlife, as you know, is the jurisdiction of the territorial government which has been transferred to the territorial government, was some time ago...

AN HON. MEMBER: I see.

MS COURNOYEA: A simple answer is required.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...which was really before my time. So that is the area which was being negotiated and the question that came up is a clarification regarding the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories within the ITC negotiations.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

MRS. SORENSEN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Education. The Minister of Education is aware that the special committee on education has tabled its recommendations in this House and that this House will be discussing those recommendations on Monday, March 9th. In order for the Minister to present a government position on those recommendations for March 9th, I wonder if I could ask the Minister if he has consulted with federal officials, and in particular the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development who was in Yellowknife recently, concerning recommendation number six where the special committee has advised this House to turn back the responsibility for post secondary assistance for treaty Indian and Inuit people to the federal government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government position that the honourable Member refers to will not be developed and I suggest should not be developed until after direction has come from this Assembly.

---Applause

Because of that principle which I feel the Executive Committee tries to follow wherever time permits, I have felt that it would be premature to consult the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs or the Secretary of State prior to this Assembly's position being finalized. I would add however, Mr. Speaker, that the particular program which the Member refers to is contained in a Treasury Board policy and that other federal programs which are implicated in the recommendations of the special committee on education are contained in the Canada Student Loans plan, which legislation and policies speak for themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. A supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Supplementary To Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. I am certainly delighted to hear, Mr. Speaker, that the government will await the direction of the House on this issue. Mr. Minister, I would ask if the government and the Executive Committee, and in particular the Minister of Education, is not going to come to the discussion on Monday armed with some facts on what the ramifications are to the recommendations with respect to constitutional development and the financial aspect of the recommendations. I think that as an ordinary MLA, it is important that I turn to my government for those kinds of information with respect to the recommendations.

---Applause

So would the Minister be prepared, if not at this point to take a government position, but at least to come prepared with the research that we will be required to study in order to make an objective and intelligent decision on these recommendations?

MR. CURLEY: Intelligent?

MRS. SORENSEN: All my decisions are intelligent.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Somebody has got to do it.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Supplementary To Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would be interested in hearing from the Member what constitutional implications she sees in the recommendations that we take better advantage of the Canada Student Loans plan and seek to provide an opportunity for native students in the Northwest Territories to participate in a federal plan which is eligible to native students across the country. I can say, Mr. Speaker, that my department is working, as far as it is possible, to prepare information on the financial implications of the recommendations but I repeat that I feel it would be premature to consult the federal government prior to this Assembly and the Executive Committee determining what the final recommendations will be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, another supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. A supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Further Supplementary To Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. Will the Minister then, on behalf of this House, have the federal government officials on standby in case this House would request that they come in during our committee of the whole discussion on Monday, to answer the questions that this House may have, if the government does not have any questions of them now before the discussion takes place? Would the Minister be prepared, on behalf of the House, to make that undertaking?

MR. CURLEY: Have you not talked to them already?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Further Supplementary To Question 140-81(1): Government Position On Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not prepared to even request that Mr. Fox and Mr. Munro be on standby...

MRS. SORENSEN: Standby -- local federal officials -- Mr. Witt. Mr. Witt.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...to hear our recommendations. Since I am aware that the honourable Member for Yellowknife South has already approached Mr. Witt on the matter of the recommendations, undoubtedly she will be able to report to us in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Shame!

MRS. SORENSEN: Shame, shame, shame! You are the Minister of Education.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize in the gallery Mr. Ulrich's grade six class from Mildred Hall. Welcome.

---Applause

Oral questions. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question 141-81(1): Rules And Procedures On Oral Questions

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I want to ask you a question, Mr. Speaker. How is the rule written when you are -- does anybody asking a question have to have an argument with other Members? How is our rule written down? Can you tell me? The reason why I want to know is because sometimes I think some Members just want to have argument. Is it so written in the rules? Then I will be most satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Your comments are noted, but the Chair cannot accept questions.

---Applause

Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 142-81(1): Inquiries on Student Financial Aid

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a final question to the Minister of Education. Has the Minister received any correspondence regarding the recommendations on student aid and if so, who has written to him? If he has replied, what content did he reply to the inquiries that he received regarding the student financial aid?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Laurel and Hardy.

MRS. SORENSEN: A conflict of interest.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 142-81(1): Inquiries On Student Financial Aid

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I have received correspondence concerning the special committee on education.

MRS. SORENSEN: Pensively, now.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I do not know just what the Member wants. I have taken the position that while it is somewhat difficult for me to be an Executive Member responsible for Education and a Member of the special committee on education -- I had raised this issue upon my appointment and was assured that while there were some drawbacks, it was felt that it would also be an asset for me, as the new Minister of Education, to be on this important committee at a time when all facets of education will be under review.

As the honourable Member may know, that issue has been explicitly discussed in caucus last month and it was decided that Executive Members such as myself, Mr. Tologanak, Mr. McCallum, and Mr. Wah-Shee, who now sit on special committees of this Legislature, could continue to serve on such special committees. I feel, however, that correspondence received by me concerning the special education

committee is most properly referred to that special committee, and that my prime responsibility is as Executive Member responsible for Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope that answers the Member's question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Item 3, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner and Mr. Commissioner. Written questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 143-81(1): Personal And Professional Information Circulated On Witnesses From Uranium Debate

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Justice and Public Services. I am aware that two pages of information entitled "Recent enquiries reveal the following personal and professional information regarding Dr. E.R. Young and Dr. R.F. Woollard" was circulated to certain persons during the recent debate on uranium mining. Which department prepared this personal and professional information and at whose request? Were Drs. Woollard and/or Young contacted? Where did the information come from? Why was this information gathered? Was other personal and professional information gathered on other witnesses to the debate?

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 144-81(1): Yearly Average Percentage Of Attendance In Schools

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the Minister of Education. Will the Minister provide this House with the following information:

- (1) The average yearly percentage attendance figures for schools in Aklavik, Baker Lake and Pangnirtung for the school year 1968-69; and
- (2) The average yearly percentage attendance figures for these same schools for the most recent school year for which complete statistics are available; and
- (3) Only if it is readily available, the average yearly percentage attendance for the entire northern school system in both years?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. Are there any returns today? Mr. Braden.

MR. SIBBESTON: Stick to your constituency.

Return To Question 70-81(1): Evasion Of Government Taxes On Liquor

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to written Question 70-81(1). It is a question asked by Mr. MacQuarrie on February 17th, and it concerns the Northwest Territories government taxes on liquor, particularly importing liquor into the Northwest Territories.

The Government of the Northwest Territories controls the importation of liquor into the Territories under the provisions of the Liquor Ordinance. Any importation of liquor in excess of the quantities permitted by the ordinance is in violation of the ordinance, and therefore illegal. The Liquor Ordinance contains appropriate enforcement provisions to enable peace officers to search for and seize illicit liquor. The responsibility for such enforcement therefore rests with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 129-81(1): Contracts Re Establishment Of Kestrel School, Yellowknife

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to a question asked by Mr. MacQuarrie on March 3, 1981, as an oral Question 129-81(1), and to which I agreed to make a written reply. It is concerning contracts regarding establishment of Kestrel school in Yellowknife.

The Department of Education entered into a contract with Brooks, Langford and Associates to enrol emotionally disturbed children in Kestrel school. The agreement was to provide tuition for up to 16 students, with a tuition of \$4250 per semester, per student, to be paid on the first day of school. The school opened on August 25. Only 12 students were enrolled. On October 27, Dr. Brooks gave notice to terminate the agreement on November 10, since he required 14 students to break even.

The department has examined Dr. Brooks' statements of account and is satisfied that for financial reasons the school could not continue. \$51,000 was paid under the contract and no further payments are required. A detailed account of the operation of Kestrel school could be provided by me upon request from Members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 93-81(1): Per Diem Costs Of Inmates

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I have three returns, if I may, sir. The first return is to a question asked on February 20th, by the Member for Yellowknife South, concerning the per diem cost of the Yellowknife Correctional Centre.

The per diem cost for an inmate held at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre during the 1979-80 fiscal year amounted to \$67.57. That per diem is based upon total costs of operating the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, divided by the number of inmate days, based upon 100 per cent occupancy, 72 beds, 26,280 inmate days. This figure does not take into account other costs to the Government of the Northwest Territories such as recruitment, removal and subsidized housing costs. During the 1979-80 fiscal year, the Yellowknife Correctional Centre operated above capacity, 31,098 inmate days. The number will be exceeded during this fiscal year.

Further Return To Question 96-81(1): Carvers In Correctional Centre

I have a further return to the question asked by the Member from Sanikiluaq, Mr. Appaqaq, concerning the moneys for carvings that accrue to the carvers while they are inmates at the correctional centres.

The money an inmate receives from a sale of a carving is held in trust for that inmate while he is incarcerated. Generally no charges are allowed against these moneys in order that they can be returned to the inmate on discharge. However, it is possible that when the need arises, an inmate can request and receive funds to be sent to his family to assist them in meeting their basic needs or charges are also allowed in order to purchase clothing immediately prior to discharge from the correctional centre.

Return To Question 119-81(1): Funding For Day Care Centre, Pond Inlet

Finally, a question asked by the honourable Member for Foxe Basin, Mr. Evaluarjuk, on February 27th concerning the funding for day care in Pond Inlet.

The Department of Social Services will provide financial assistance to qualified persons to purchase day care services when they assist that person to remain employed. The department does not provide grants or contributions directly to day care centres. A policy respecting grants to offset utility costs for day care centres is currently under consideration. A policy to provide a small matching grant to day care centres which raise funds on their own is also under consideration. The purpose of these two policies would be to provide some funding sources directly to day care centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 74-81(1): Information Re Government Programs And Unemployed Youth

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have a response to a question asked by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South on February 17th. That was written Question 74-81(1) dealing with information on government programs and unemployment of the youth. There are four supportive pages to my brief reply and I will just respond to the three items and allow the tabled documents or the attached documents to go without comment.

(1) Job creation program. Total contributions of \$1,825,438 were made to the communities of Fort Simpson, Fort Providence, Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope, Hay River, and Fort Resolution. The federal government contributed \$1,581,402 through CEIC programs and the Government of the Northwest Territories, through STEP, \$344,036. A breakdown is given in Appendix A of this return. It should be noted that wages account for approximately 75 per cent of the total contributions. A chart providing information about social assistance expenditures in these communities is attached as Appendix B. The expenditures to December 1980 in the current fiscal year, 1980-81, total \$427,798 and the projected total to the end of the fiscal year is \$596,203. Housing and utility subsidies for 1979 and 1980 for the seven communities are given in Appendix C.

(2) Youth unemployment rates. The Bureau of Statistics estimates the total number of youth between the ages of 15 and 21 to be 699 in these communities. TERIS enumerated 373 individuals in that age group; 158, 42 per cent, indicated they were unemployed. A breakdown is given in Appendix D.

(3) Youth seeking employment. Of the 699 between the ages of 15 and 21, 407 were in school at the end of the first semester. A survey of future plans has not been made.

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

Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 5: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, although the information I believe was received by Members, I wish to table the document to enable Members to have as much information available as possible when considering the report of the special committee, and particularly those who oppose means tests, I wish to table Tabled Document 26-81(1), Canada Student Loans Program 1980-81, and Tabled Document 27-81(1), Post Secondary Education Assistance Program, Policy and Administrative Guidelines, DIAND, Indian and Eskimo Affairs, Treasury Board Authority Number 752408. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 7, notices of motion.

Item 8, motions.

ITEM NO. 8: MOTIONS

I have Mr. Butters with Motion 21-81(1). Mr. Butters.

Motion 21-81(1): Principles For The Development Of An Agricultural Policy Referred To Committee Of The Whole

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Tabled Document 11-81(1), Principles for the Development of an Agricultural Policy, be moved into committee of the whole for discussion purposes.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Braden. Discussion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 21-81(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: A question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Motion 23-81(1). Mr. Curley. You withdrew that yesterday. I am sorry. Motions 23-81(1) and 24-81(1) have been withdrawn.

MR. CURLEY: I can speak to it.

---Laughter

Motion 12-81(1): Assembly's Objections Re Environmental Assessment Panel's Report To The Federal Government, Withdrawn

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 12-81(1) is an old one that is still on the books. Mr. Sibbeston, do you wish to proceed with that motion today?

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to indicate that I withdraw the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Withdrawing Motion 12-81(1). There is no seconder on the paper so it is withdrawn.

Item 9, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 10, introduction of bills for first reading.

Item 11, second reading of bills.

Item 12, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters.

ITEM NO. 12: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OTHER MATTERS

We will resolve into committee of the whole to study Bill 1-81(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1982, with Mr. Fraser 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. Fraser 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. Fraser): Thank you. The committee will come to order and we will break 15 minutes for coffee and then come back.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum, finally. Mr. Braden.

Department Of Justice And Public Services

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do I have the permission of the committee to ask Mr. Stien Lal to join me and also, given that we are on the issue of museums, I would like to ask Dr. Bob Janes, from the museum program to join me as well at the witness table?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is it agreed that the Minister have the witnesses in? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Museums/Heritage Division, Total 0 And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We have Dr. Janes and Mr. Lal. Page 9.08, museums and heritage division. Mr. Arnold McCallum, would you like to continue with your presentation?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to kind of wrap up and get to the question that I was referring to yesterday. I want to very briefly then, reiterate the kinds of concerns that I have in this whole topic of territorial museums. The basic and the fundamental concern that I had was that as part of the total museum policy, the importance of the smaller museums in the Territories is recognized. It is recognized that there must be an increase in the kind of assistance that is being given to the smaller museums, notwithstanding, Mr. Chairman, as I had said yesterday, that I recognize that there is a legitimate argument for a strong central base. As I was referring to at the end of yesterday, we are talking about a budget of \$600,000 for museums, and with only \$49,000 being available to these other smaller museums.

Now granted, these museums are not the size of the central one in Yellowknife, nor are they the size of the one in Fort Smith, the Northern Life Museum, but I would like very much, Mr. Chairman, to reiterate that these smaller museums have to be adequately recognized and appropriately funded, as the policy is in the process of being developed.

I would like, again, to emphasize that the advice and assistance that can be expected from the central museum to these others is explicit, so that these museums can know what is available and that they are adequately funded. Again, the severe demands that are being made of the central museum, that is, in establishing a strong central museum, that those demands are kept in balance with the needs of regional and/or community museums, and as such, not unduly delayed, greater attention being given to the smaller community and regional museums.

Community Museums Co-ordinator

So, with that general statement then, Mr. Chairman, I would like to just ask one question concerning whether or not the museum, the central museum, is currently advertising for a community museums co-ordinator, because if in fact there is that position being advertised, and given the fact that there is very little of the amount of funding that is being given to the community museums, \$49,000 out of \$600,000, I am a little bit concerned about what kind of co-ordination this individual will do. So, Mr. Chairman, with those remarks from yesterday and today, and with that question, that finishes my particular -- I would expect now -- unless the response I get leads to any kind of supplementary.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sure the record will show that my colleague, Mr. McCallum, is representing the interests of his constituents.

Museums Adviser To Be Hired

With respect to his question, we are currently going through the process of classification and preparing a job description, and we will be shortly advertising to hire a museums adviser to assist in community museums development. I would add that I regretfully recognize the limited amount of revenue that we are making available for community museums this fiscal year. I would indicate to my colleague that when this museums adviser is on staff, there is a lot that the individual can do to assist in putting together exhibits and programs to provide existing community museums with information, exhibits, and so forth, which they will hopefully find useful. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for bringing attention to the fact that I undoubtedly am referring to constituency problems, no question.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder that, if in fact, there were not sufficient requests for the total of the amounts of money being made available to community museums, if those requests -- if there are not enough to deplete that particular funding, will the funding then -- or will the Minister or the director, if you like, of this particular area, would he or they be open to additional requests from already beleaguered museums, not the least of which would be the Northern Life Museum?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Proposals For Funds Remaining

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am advised that we have done so in the past. However, with the limited amount that has been allocated in grants and contributions and the significant proportion which is going to the Northern Life Museum, I would expect that we are going to be faced with a situation this year where we are going to be short. Should it appear we have remaining grants and contributions available under this program, I would certainly be very interested in seeing additional proposals from all over the Northwest Territories for the remaining funds in this program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am interested in pursuing, I guess, Mr. MacQuarrie's question in the House concerning the resignation of the archivist at the museum, and in particular, the recent announcement that the archives would be closed down. First of all, I wonder if the Minister could give me an indication whether I have my facts straight. Is it true that the archivist has resigned, and is it also true that the archives have been closed down, meaning that there is no public access to them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Access To Archives

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is correct. The archivist resigned and the archives are closed. We have made some exceptions to provide access to the archives. This includes providing access by researchers who began a specific project prior to the closing on January 15th, by donors of material, by registered Northwest Territories museum and historical societies and access by certain other museum and historical associations whose activities or holdings add to and complement the cultural record of the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Minister, obviously this is a very important decision that the government has had to make with respect to the archives and the museum program as a whole. Could the Minister indicate to me why the government was forced into this situation? Did it have more to do with the lack of funding or was it you could not find an archivist? Could you elaborate on that for me please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Resignation Of Archivist Due To Inadequate Number Of Staff

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I regret that the present archivist resigned. He was an excellent official who had a great interest in the Northwest Territories, our culture, our history and our people. By and large, I can attribute his resignation to the absence of an adequate number of staff within this particular program of our museums and heritage section.

I anticipate that your next question could be "Well, why was there not enough staff?" I can answer this by saying that in terms of last years fiscal restraint and allocation of resources, it was not possible to hire the required staff. This year, while we are preparing to go out and hire another archivist, we are still going to be faced with a similar problem. I do not have any solutions at this point except to indicate, Mr. Chairman, to my colleague that I have brought this matter to the attention of our Executive and the financial management board. I indicated that we have to come to some conclusion as to operating a program and just how effectively it is going to operate. So I do not have any answers at this point on that aspect.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mrs. Sorensen.

Priority For Archival And Archeological Programs

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether there might be opportunity to approach the federal government through this B level funding with specific emphasis on the whole area of archival access and, as well, I understand that we have a similar situation with our whole archeological program. It seems to me that in the face of major developments and exploration going ahead, that both these areas are a priority. They have got to be a priority for this government.

I even go back to your remark yesterday where you indicate -- I believe you were speaking to Mr. Sibbeston at the time -- you were indicating about the excellent work that the Metis Association had done with respect to archival information and photos and that if that information is not available to people of the public, then what good is it really just sitting there and rotting. So would the Minister agree that this area should be a priority for this government? Can he indicate that at least he himself will promote within the Executive Committee any possibility for finding more money as soon as possible?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

B Level Submissions For Extra Revenue

With respect to our archeological recovery program, that is an item that we are working on with the federal government in our B level submission for extra revenue. With respect to the archival program, we do collect a lot of historical

material from individuals and organizations who donate it. We are also responsible for government documents, some of which have historical significance. We are also going to be given a rather large collection of government documents dating back to the days when "Northern Affairs and Natural Resources" ran the colony up here. So it is an internal item and I suspect we may have a difficult time through the B level mechanism in obtaining the revenue.

With respect to the comment on shutting the whole place down and having everything just sit there, that is not necessarily true. If we are successful in obtaining an archivist, we can keep this individual busy doing quite a bit of work. However, some of his functions would be cut back. For example, the archives would cease temporarily as a public repository and research facility and we would have to reduce our role in the care and control of territorial and federal northern branch records. There are still many other functions that the archivist could perform.

Resources Required For Full And Complete Archival Programs

I will be attempting in the near future to see what kind of mechanism can be used to obtain the additional resources required to operate a full and complete archival program. I have been getting, over the last couple of weeks, numerous requests to reopen the facility and also questions as to why it is closed, from front groups that are interested in doing some very serious and significant research. So the demand is there and I can assure the Member, Mr. Chairman, that I will do my utmost to ensure that we can in the beginning of the fiscal year, when our new archivist comes onstream, operate as full and as complete a program as is possible. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Page 9.08 in the amount of \$597,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: In the capital for museums and historical programs, the item called "historic markers for \$75,000", could someone explain what that is?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): What page is that on, Ms Cournoyea?

MS COURNOYEA: Page 9.15 but it relates to 9.08.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to briefly run down for my colleague the manner in which capital dollars are going to be expended. In fiscal year 1981-82, we had allocated \$75,000 for the purchase of historic markers from the South. For artifacts, \$5000 has been allocated. For furnishings and equipment, \$16,000 has been allocated; community museum construction, \$100,000 has been allocated. For some work in the archives reading and reference rooms, \$10,000 has been allocated. This is detail of the capital that is being allocated.

Museums/Heritage Division, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Agreed then, \$597,000, total O and M?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed.

---Agreed

Library Services, Total O And M

Page 9.09, library services in the amount of \$412,000. Agreed? Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: I was wondering whether the Minister would consider doing something for people who do not know how to read English, as in the case of the Dene people who would never use the library services. It just seems to me that something ought to be done for people who otherwise would not ever be able to use the services of a library. As it is, most of the library, most of the money in a sense goes to people who can read English. What about those people who do not read English? Should not government do something? You know, set up a new program of reporting or having things recorded in Slavey for instance on tape, or else, on videotape so that people could somehow hear things or else see things. In this way, some of the money would go to people who do not presently use the services. Has the government, has the Minister ever considered such a thing? If not, would he begin thinking in these terms instead of just thinking of buying books and putting them in the present libraries where, as I said, a lot of people do not ever use them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Collection Of Tapes At Museum

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am aware that at the museum there is quite an extensive collection of tapes that were prepared during the last couple of summers by a young Dene summer student. I would have to check further into the distribution of these tapes with community radio stations or CBC in order to come to an understanding of the level of distribution. However, I know that Dr. Janes and other officials at the museum were very pleased with the work done by this summer student. I am not quite sure whether it is intended to hire this student again or someone similar again this summer to collect the stories and legends of the older people and to make any plans for a wider distribution. I would be pleased to get that information and to provide it to the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, I guess I have to voice a feeling that part of the reason why a lot of my constituents do not really accept this government -- they just see it basically as a white government, a bunch of white people running it -- is because in many ways they are not able to take part in the government and they do not benefit from a lot of the programs that are there for all people in the North. It just stands to reason. Why should you be in favour of something if you do not benefit or get anything out of it? It is just basic philosophy or thinking.

Tapes For Dene People Within Library Service

I will bet you this government has never thought of doing anything in respect of a library service or, you know, you can say this with just about all the programs the government has. The government never thinks of doing something differently than the present way that things are done. You know, it results in people not being provided with services that other people are provided with. As I said, in the area of library services, no money really goes to the Dene people as such, that do not read English.

So should not government then take some money and try to do something to somehow provide services to these people? Run around the country with tape recorders taping people. Set up a system where people can have access to these tapes so people in Nahanni Butte, Fort Liard or Wrigley can hear.

Slavey is not readily written. You cannot write it like you do the Inuit language or English language. So one way, though, is to tape what people say, set up a library system of tapes in native languages so people can hear people from other parts of the North, or other communities, talk. In this way, if maybe even \$50,000 this year is spent toward something like that, people would get something from the library service. At the moment, there is \$434,000 going to library services for books, shelves, and paying people, but not one cent of this goes to the Dene and people who do not understand English.

You know, I think it must be pointed out, and I think this government must do something about that. You cannot have this government continuously insisting, "Well, you want to use our services. Learn English or else come to Yellowknife to see the museum." They want people to come and see the museum, and there is something for people here to see. Well, let us have the government pay people's way to Yellowknife. Show them the museum, but let us do something, for heaven's sake. Let us not have the situation where nothing is done, and next year I say again and raise the same matter. Let us do something in this area for a change. You want to get rid of some of that antagonism and ill feeling that a lot of people that I represent feel.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Responsibility For Preservation Of Dene Languages

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will give my colleague's remarks serious consideration. I am aware that we have cassette decks in all of the member libraries of the system, and I will raise the issue of distributing our tape collection with Dr. Janes and officials in the library services. I might point out, Mr. Chairman, that the Government of the Northwest Territories has recognized that in terms of the Dene languages, we have a lot of work to do. We commissioned a study that was done by Mr. James Ross and completed very recently. It was tabled in this House for the information of Members. In that study, which is an excellent report, Mr. Ross recommended that the Government of the Northwest Territories had a responsibility to dedicate resources to the preservation of Dene languages as well as to their further development and implementation.

Level Of Service Will Be Considered

I have not had time to consider the report with my colleagues, nor to make decisions concerning the allocation of revenue toward the goals and objectives which Mr. Ross outlined in his report; goals and objectives which I think we all can support. I hope that next year in the consideration of the main estimates for the Government of the Northwest Territories that our government will be able to show to the public that we are taking our responsibility toward Dene, Inuit and Metis residents seriously, and that we are going to improve the level of use of native languages in the programs and services that we offer. It is also to be hoped that we are going to be providing translated information either in a written form or an oral form through various media to people. In one area, we would obviously have to look at our library services to see how we can improve the level of service to people who do not speak English and maybe who do not read English as well as to people who perhaps do not have a language that is in a written form. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Just one more comment. I appreciate what the Minister has said. I have some confidence that he will, but obviously the task will not be an easy one because it has never been done. You are dealing with an establishment that perhaps does not know how to do it, so you have to be very determined, as it were, to make sure that something is done in this area.

People Would Be More Receptive To Government

While the Minister is looking at this matter in respect of library, he could perhaps serve a useful role in looking at almost every aspect of government and ask himself in what ways are the people who do not understand English benefiting from the government program. I think he would be surprised to know that there are just many areas that people who do not know how to speak English or read English amongst the Dene people are presently not benefiting. If this were done, and something done about it, then I think that you would find people, my constituents anyway, a little bit more receptive toward this government.

As it stands, I guess there is a basic feeling in people that why there is a basic hope about the Dene Nation is that eventually when the Dene Nation happens, when there is a government in place run by the Dene or where the Dene have a great influence or part to play in the government, that something will be done for the people, for the people who are from the land, who speak their own language, something will be done so that these people can somehow benefit and take part in the government.

At the moment, if you do not know English you are just shit out of luck and it is very unfair and an unfortunate situation. This is why I become angry sometimes. This is why people in the communities at oftentimes are very dislikeful of this government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a brief comment in response to those remarks from Mr. Sibbeston. The government recognized at the outset that there were some immediate steps that had to be taken because of the lack of services in Dene languages. We fully understand that with respect to the further preservation, development and implementation of services in Dene languages, it is going to take a long time. I think that Mr. Ross's report and recommendations, which we believe we can act on immediately, recognizes that it is going to be a long haul to preserve and develop the languages, and that we will want to participate in a constructive way with other organizations and individuals to see that we can start achieving this long-term goal in the life of our government. Thank you.

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

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a brief comment on the library services. I do see that the library services are very important to places like Yellowknife. I think the service is probably very good here in Yellowknife and I see that there are no complaints at all from Members from Yellowknife MLA's, so it has to be good. So, we have a library service in the Northwest Territories, but my concern is this service seems to be in such an odd place. Why is it being run by the Department of Justice and Public Services?

Library Service Should Foster Cultural Aspirations

You know, to me, library services should be one that, as well as all information necessary to society, should also contribute to the educational needs of the young people. It seems to be in such an odd place. I wonder, I really wonder

whether or not the director of Justice and Public Services has any interest in it at all. I believe this service, library services, can contribute a great deal, in my mind, to fostering the cultural aspirations of the people, the population of the Territories, which I think is very interesting. It may not be interesting to people in Yellowknife Centre, or South, or North, but I say that this service could provide a very interesting contribution to the society we live in, rather than just photocopying the southern system and serve the larger centres like Yellowknife, Fort Smith, Hay River and Pine Point.

I see that, and I will probably have to recommend somewhere along the road, that this service should be put into another department where there is more respect for the cultural aspirations of the people and population of the Territories, because I really do not believe the Minister of Justice has real priorities in establishing this. I would want him to correct me if I am wrong on that.

Films To Contribute To Economic And Technological Understanding

I believe, like Nick Sibbeston just suggested, not many native people probably take advantage of the service provided by the library in the community, because their tradition is not based on reading and helping themselves with information that is in the library, but I believe we can meet their needs just as effectively through films of interest to the North. The North has such an interesting development happening. We have a resource development and I believe some Members would agree that it contributes a great deal to the northern society. So, I think it would be important for a library service to those who cannot read, to provide that service, so that they do have some understanding of what the northern economy and technology is all about. The library can probably provide that service.

The other kinds of concern that I have is if the Minister were to treat this as one of his priorities, he could do a great deal to contribute to recording the historical events of the Territories. The library services should maybe have that role, because we do not have a department of culture, but we do have a library service which says in essence, that cultural and recreational needs be served through the territorial library service.

History Of North Not Documented

So, in my mind, it would be only good to take a little bit of thought into contributing, of giving grants to writers who would be interested in writing about the northern historical development, because I think we are possibly the most unique territory or an area in Canada which has that vast untapped historical resource that has never been documented. If I was running that, I certainly would want some guidelines or policy to be developed so that people interested in writing about the northern history or events that have taken place in shaping this present territorial government or the way it is now -- I think it would be darned good if that division could be given that responsibility.

So, I am not going to attempt to move any guidelines or motions right now, but I would only like to get some indications from the Minister whether he agrees with my views, that this service could possibly do more for the majority of the people in the Arctic who are not taking advantage of the old fashioned status quo library service. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not quite sure why the library services is contained within the Department of Justice and Public Services. As I recall, it was part of the old Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs before our reorganization took place just prior to the election in October, 1979. I suppose it is considered as a public service and, along with the Northwest Territories Liquor Control System and everything else, it is lumped in under Public Services.

With respect to the Member's comments on recording history, I will give the Member my assurances that I will see whether we can continue the kind of program that is currently being managed by the museum division, in terms of hiring students and recording the legends and history, as told by the old people and, hopefully, to make these tapes available to community radio stations or whatever. Mr. Chairman, I will give my colleague the assurance that I will look into this. I will write to him and also to Mr. Sibbeston prior to the summer to see if it is possible to make any progress in this area.

Library Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Any further questions on page 9.09, library services, total O and M in the amount of \$412,000? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legal Services Board, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Page 9.10, Legal Services Board, total O and M in the amount of \$1,003,000. Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might have the permission of the committee to ask Rev. James Ormiston, who is the chairman of the Legal Services Board, and Mr. Alan McChesney, who is also with the legal services program, to be present within the ropes so that I can be advised on answers to questions or that they may answer questions themselves.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is it agreed that the Minister have the witnesses in? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Sergeant-at-Arms, could you see the witnesses in? We have Mr. McChesney and Rev. Ormiston who have joined the Minister at the witness table. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: I must state that I have a conflict of interest in this matter as I derive some funds from the Legal Services Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): You are not sleeping with anybody, are you? Very well, Mr. Sibbeston. Any further questions? Mr. Curley.

Motion That Executive Committee Provide Funding To Attract Lawyer To Frobisher Bay

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not want to waste any of the Members' time here so I am going to proceed with a motion immediately. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Executive Committee be urged to provide the Legal Services Board with sufficient funds so that the Legal Services Board can work with Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik to offer sufficient financial guarantees to attract a resident lawyer to Frobisher Bay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I think everybody has a copy of the motion. To the motion.

MS COURNOYEA: Agreed.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Nice try.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Did you say question?

MR. MacQUARRIE: No, I did not, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley, it is your motion. You can speak to it first. Thank you.

Letter From Legal Services Representative In Frobisher Bay

MR. CURLEY: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am passing a letter around from the legal services representative which I would like to read. I would just like to give some of the experience that these kinds of organizations go through, so I am going to proceed in reading the letter. It is addressed to Legislative Assembly, care of Dennis Patterson, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. It reads:

"Dear Sir, I would like you to be aware of the problems we are encountering in this office as well as in the Baffin region since the resignation of Dennis Patterson as the lawyer for Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik.

"The most important area that has been neglected, of course, is our legal aid clients. It is the general feeling of the residents of Frobisher Bay that it has taken this organization five years to take a step right back to the start called the "fly-in lawyers". Fly-in lawyers are not aware of the ongoing increasing social problems in the community.

"I would like to ask how you would feel, if charged with a crime, you only had the chance to speak to the lawyer for five minutes prior to your case being heard in court. I am sure many of you would feel cheated and perhaps if you had more time to talk to the lawyer, and explain the circumstances surrounding what you did, you might not have gotten such a severe sentence.

"Our paralegals are not allowed to give legal opinions. This is not to say that they do not assist the clients, but rather that they are limited to the assistance they can give to an individual in trouble with the law.

"Of course this brings us to the training of the paralegal which has just about come to a standstill. If these staff members are not receiving ongoing training of the law, they definitely will stagnate and perhaps they will resign. How useful will they be a year from now?

"Then there is the general public that are not in need of legal aid but do require a lawyer. Do they have to hire a lawyer from Montreal or Yellowknife and pay all expenses to bring them to Baffin? Perhaps as director of legal aid, this should not be my concern but as a citizen of Frobisher Bay, I am concerned.

Recommendations In Information Package

"In June of 1977, an information package on legal aid in the Northwest Territories was presented to Mr. Stuart M. Hodgson. This package contained information on all the programs in progress in the Northwest Territories; also on recommendations on how to improve these programs and ideas on implementing new ones. I am wondering if this material has been used to collect dust, as it seems obvious that the recommendations have never been considered.

"The following are some recommendations that were proposed for Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik:

- (1) The basic delivery vehicle for required legal aid services as defined for the Baffin region shall be Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik with an authorized full time staff of one lawyer, two paralegals and a secretary/translator.
- (2) Attempts shall be made to encourage a private practitioner to locate in Frobisher Bay on a full time basis to assist in the provision of legal aid services in the Baffin region, particularly in traditional, criminal and civil matters.
- (3) The present system of flying legal aid in with the court circuits should be curtailed except in specified areas.
- (4) The recommendations for delivery of services by a lawyer on staff should eliminate the need to add defence counsel to the court circuits on a regular basis.

"Of course, I could go on and on but hopefully this will give you the incentive to pick up the manual and read it.

"There was also a recommendation made concerning the remuneration of a lawyer in private practice. You must, of course, remember that this recommendation was made in 1977 and the amount suggested was a guaranteed \$25,000 annually, payable in instalments. Of course with the rate of inflation and the cost of living in the Baffin being much higher than that in Yellowknife or the South, the guaranteed amount in hiring a new lawyer must be increased. I believe that by suggesting a figure of \$40,000 annually, I have not overestimated the figure needed to secure a competent lawyer.

"In closing, I would like to quote an Inuit board member of our organization who said 'Maybe others can wait for a lawyer but I feel like crying.' Don't we all. Yours truly, signed Terry Dmytar, director."

Mr. Chairman, this letter expresses the sense of frustration with the government that should really be representing the interests of all the people. I would hope that the Department of Public Services will react favourably to their requests, and I realize they may have some reservations about it.

Quotes From Telegram Re Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik

I would just like to quote also from a telegram sent to this Legislative Assembly in care of Dennis Patterson, Yellowknife, on March 2nd, 1981. Because it is such a long document, I think I am going to ask that this be copied and distributed, but I would just like to quote one of the paragraphs.

"Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik aspires to serving the community in the interpretation of the law, the provision of legal representation, acculturation of Canadian law, discrimination of legal information..." This should probably be distributed. It reads "discrimination" but I am not sure whether that is a correct word. "...of legal information and counselling vis-à-vis Canadian law. Our resources, as you are aware, to do this are two paraworkers, one who is untrained, one administrator and clerical staff. In acknowledging the...", this is a French word, "...raison d'etre, we, as an organization attain only superficiality of potential and unquestionably provide but a token service to their community. Effectiveness, I think you will agree, is relative to resources.

"It perplexes us somewhat in our responsibilities to guide and encourage the service to know how to provide legal aid without legal aid. We respect and utilize the aid available in Yellowknife but the distinct limitations of 'phone a lawyer' leaves us in a position somewhat similar to a crisis line for self-surgery. It is wrong, very wrong, to expect a community to understand a service exists when the fulcrum of the resources is alien. A lawyer 1500 miles

away is but water from a top of statements that denies clients trusts, understanding, inclusion, comprehension. It mocks the use of the relationship of representation in court and denies a learning process for a community. This is relevant frequently to issue in contract law, divorce law, property law: primarily those laws affecting persons taking legal issues with a personal problem.

Defence Is An Apologetic Prosecution

"To place before you our thoughts and feelings at being 'lawyerless' is to identify the results of such a state. It would surprise us if lawyers are taught that a five minute conversation provides information for grounds for defence in criminal court.

"We doubt that the word defence could be used at all. The defence and representation that our neighbours and friends receive is often of the nature of an apologetic prosecution. Such is the inevitability of the flying lawyers. We could not expect a flying lawyer with 20 or more clients to defend in 16 hours court time to offer more than an acknowledgment of the idea of defence. Those people in our communities who are in a position to have their private 'fly-in lawyer' demonstrate poignantly to us that there are more effective alternatives to apologetic prosecution." I am going to read one more paragraph here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley, your 10 minutes are up. Is it agreed that he continue? Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Okay.

MR. CURLEY: "We have known better times. We know of potential, we know of greater effectiveness, we know that legal honesty can exist." Let me say so, Mr. Chairman, it should exist.

"We once had a lawyer who was able, on a part time basis, to offer resources, teaching and interpretation. Having knowledge relieves confusion, calms concerns, promotes improvement, increases responsibility, invites inclusion, allows the existence of human rights and provides opportunity to learn. It is those qualities that we wish to address in our communities. The increasing crime, the increase in trading, the increase in modern acculturation necessitates that we are not deprived of that knowledge. We are and primarily respond to Inuit. The laws and ways of Qallunaaq are not easy to understand. They are complex and based on hundreds of years of evolution. To expect us to psychically incorporate that evolution, is to ask for failure. We would prefer to learn but we need the resource."

Resources For Effective Legal Service

Mr. Chairman, there are about three or four more paragraphs down, but I will not continue but will ask the Clerk to make a copy of this and distribute it to Members. You know, it demonstrates that an organization such as Maliiganik really does aspire to provide a decent legal service to the community. We are in a complex society and I only hope that the Minister will respond favourably and not delay the necessary resources needed to assist the government and his department in carrying out effective legal service programs in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I ask the Minister what money is already available for this sort of thing? Also, am I correct in understanding that this Assembly already offers \$120,000 a year to enable Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik to undertake its work? Is there sufficient work in Frobisher Bay for a lawyer? I listen to the representations of Mr. Curley with interest, but I would have to say that in my own case, I have been lawyerless most of my life.

MR. CURLEY: You did well, eh?

MR. MacQUARRIE: With due respect to our colleagues in the chamber, I have not felt myself particularly deprived because of that. At any rate, could I have answers to those questions, please, Mr. Minister?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

Allotment Will Maintain Only Present Level Of Service

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the first question, which was how much is being allocated for Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik for the next fiscal year, the amount is \$120,000. In the estimation of the board, this is sufficient only to maintain the present level of service, although I would suggest that there are some people in Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik that have some arguments against that. With respect to the question as to whether or not there is sufficient volume of work in Frobisher Bay to justify a full time lawyer, I think what I will do is turn this over to Mr. McChesney so he can give you a few figures. Perhaps the MLA for Frobisher Bay may also have some comment on it. I will turn this over to Mr. McChesney.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McChesney.

MR. McCHESNEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the first part of the question, Mr. MacQuarrie, I would like Rev. Ormiston, chairman of the Legal Services Board of the Northwest Territories, to address the question as to whether \$120,000 is sufficient. I take it there is also an implied question as to whether a lawyer could be hired with that amount of funds. Subsequently, I will address the question as to the volume of cases or the number of people served by the clinic. If I may then turn the microphone over to Rev. Ormiston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Point of order, Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Yes, yes, order and clarification. I think we are going to get away from the subject. I believe Mr. Curley has said that the guidelines have been set to work within \$25,000, and this is what is being questioned, are the guidelines, and how much can be allocated within that budget to the legal professional person. I think that is what we should be addressing, not the total budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We have a motion on the floor. I think it refers to the motion, the questions that were asked refer to the motion and the letter that Mr. Curley read out. I think it is only fair that the Member wants to find out. To the motion. Rev. Ormiston, have you got a comment to make on that?

REV. ORMISTON: Mr. Chairman, not specifically to the point being raised now. If I had a comment, it would be in regard to the adequacy of the budget as cast to maintain services in Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik in view of increased rental figures and other such, but I do not think that is relevant, if I understand what is being asked now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. To the motion.

Responsibility To Other Communities

MR. MacQUARRIE: One other question. Mr. Minister, are you aware of any other possibility? In other words, this community could very well have the makings of a legitimate claim. Would there be other claimants? Would we get into the business of providing lawyers in the communities? Good question, eh, Mr. Curley?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I have had the opportunity to meet with the Legal Services Board, and to discuss briefly the problems in communities of the Northwest Territories. With respect to the Member's question, Mr. Chairman, I have been made aware in great detail of the problems that are going to be faced in these other communities, such as Tuktoyaktuk, Cambridge Bay, Mackenzie Valley, because of the budget that we are voting for the Legal Services Board.

As I understand it, perhaps it is not always necessary in a community or region to have a resident lawyer. There may be a situation where having paralegal staff on hand to work with the fly-in lawyers is sufficient. However, as has been raised by Mr. Curley in respect to Frobisher Bay, it is felt very much that a full time lawyer is necessary although that may not necessarily be the case in other communities or regions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Mr. Patterson, to the motion.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am a little bit close to this matter, since I have just been working as a lawyer in Frobisher Bay, but I will try and shed some light on the subject. The legal services centre in Baffin was originated in 1975, following quite a study and quite a lobby from Inuit Tapirisat of Canada who determined that native people, particularly, did not understand the law and were not receiving as good a quality of service as they could, when they had to appear, even in local justice of the peace courts in places like Frobisher Bay, due to the inherent limits of the fly-in system.

Frobisher Bay Centre Funded As Pilot Project

Originally, the plan which led to the establishment of the pilot centre in Frobisher Bay called for establishment of similar regional centres, each staffed by a lawyer, in the Keewatin, in the Central Arctic, and in the Western Arctic, to meet the particular problems of remoteness. However, due to fiscal restraint, the federal Department of Justice decided to fund the Frobisher Bay project as a pilot project, as it were, because it was felt that the problems of remoteness were perhaps greatest in Frobisher Bay and Baffin region, being so far away from the legal population in the Territories in Yellowknife, and an area where there were considerable numbers of people in conflict with the law. Indeed, a lawyer was funded on a full time basis in the early years of the centre, but last year, due to the desire to serve private fee-paying clients, an arrangement was entered into between the Legal Services Board and myself whereby a contract was offered as an inducement to my continuing to remain in Frobisher Bay and provide part time services to the centre. That contract amounted to \$15,000 per year.

In addition, I was able to do legal aid work on a per case basis. It is true, as Mr. MacQuarrie says, that there is \$120,000 allocated for the operation of the centre. However, while that adequately provides for the paralegal staff who can speak and receive calls in Inuktitut, provide information in Inuktitut, as well as English, and covers office space and rent and telephone and this sort

of thing, it is felt that if that office is left without good access to a lawyer to advise them with problems and assist them with their public information projects on a fairly handy basis, the office will wither, and perhaps die.

Demoralizing To Be Without Access To A Lawyer

I think in the letters that I received, which Mr. Curley has read, really the underlying concern there is that without better access to a lawyer than the phone and mail can provide, that staff and that office will become demoralized, and eventually the office will have to close, which would take us back to the situation which led to the establishment of the office in 1975.

The motion, I think, simply says: Will the Executive Committee consider improving the guarantees that are the financial incentives so that it will be more attractive for a lawyer to locate there? I believe that if one were to look at the costs of sending lawyers back and forth on a monthly basis with the territorial court, and three or sometimes four times a year with the supreme court, housing them, paying the per diem that lawyers are automatically allowed for being away from their offices, the costs that would be laid out for those travel expenses and those fees could approach the figure that was mentioned in the letter in the vicinity of \$40,000. Perhaps my estimate is a little high, but the point is that there is not much difference between the cost of providing fly-in lawyers, and inducements which could be given to a lawyer to locate in the community.

Motion Seeks Guaranteed Financial Ceiling

What is suggested is that there should be a guaranteed ceiling. My personal knowledge of this matter, in trying to encourage some of my colleagues whom I knew would be interested in locating in Frobisher Bay to do so, is that there is a natural concern about income, and a guarantee might solve that particular problem, and this is what the motion seeks to do. I recognize that it may have implications for other parts of the Northwest Territories, but I would say Ms Cournoyea would not be concerned about those implications. This may be the direction that we will have to move, however costly it is, because either we provide a remote service for legal aid in the Territories based on resident lawyers who understand their clients, or we deliver services from Yellowknife. We seem to have moved, at least in Baffin, in the direction of trying to encourage resident service, and we either have to determine whether that direction is going to be pursued or stopped. That is really the main issue in this motion, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Okay, a question. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Curley, I will let you speak after.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Did you want to break first, then?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We will have a 15 minute coffee break, and then the two more speakers.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): This committee will come to order. To the motion.
Mr. MacQuarrie.

Amendment To Motion That Executive Committee Provide Funding To Attract Lawyer
To Frobisher Bay

MR. MacQUARRIE: I will move an amendment, Mr. Chairman, that in the first line after the word "to" put the word "consider" and change the next word to "providing", so that it will read: "I move that the Executive Committee be urged to consider providing the legal services for...". If I may speak to that Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the amendment. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is simply that I recognize that there are many communities in the Northwest Territories that do not have lawyers; that there are a number of communities that do not even have access to the kind of paralegal services that are already provided in Frobisher Bay. So that I see that by voting for the motion, as it stands, that there are widespread implications, much larger implications than just the words of the motion and I am not necessarily opposed to extending as much as possible, within the resources of the government, legal services to communities. But I would want the Executive Committee to think very seriously about the implications of that kind of move.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Curley.

Eastern Arctic Implications

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will not support the amendment because the government, when it was established 12 years ago, was created to consider all aspects of the public services required in the Territories. What they need today is to provide a service where people can get a decent and just justice. This Assembly creates laws that implicate people. There is no such implication providing a service where it is needed and where it is justifiably expressed by the people. The only implication that I see is people like Mr. MacQuarrie who would rather protect his clients, his constituents, which are mostly lawyers. They might lose some of their activities in the Eastern Arctic and that is an implication to the people in the Eastern Arctic.

When we can fund in the constituency of Yellowknife -- it was called a duck pond yesterday but it is a dog pound -- in the amount of \$50,000, enough to pay for one lawyer, you know, in the Yellowknife South constituency, we did not consider whether there were going to be other implications that hunters in the Eastern Arctic might want to apply for funding. We did not consider the implications so we should not have to worry about implications for the services that are lagging behind and the people who have so eloquently expressed. So I am voting against the amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the amendment. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I cannot for the life of me see what the difference is between urging the Executive Committee to provide and urging the Executive Committee to consider providing. I think if they are going to be asked to provide they are going to have to consider providing and I just do not know what on earth we are doing dealing with amendments like this. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the amendment.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Amendment To Motion That Executive Committee Provide Funding To Attract Lawyer To Frobisher Bay, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): A question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? Abstained? The amendment is defeated.

---Defeated

To the motion

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion That Executive Committee Provide Funding To Attract Lawyer To Frobisher Bay, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): A question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? Abstained? The motion is carried.

---Carried

On page 9.10, Legal Services Board, \$1,003,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Just further to the provision for legal services such as the one in Frobisher Bay, I realize that Mr. Stewart has asked the question for me previously in regards to the Western Arctic. I realize also that the general answer was there were no funds available. I supported the last motion because I think good services and a good service that is successful and adequately funded would set a precedent where we can get it in other areas. Since you have already said there is not any funding, would the department, if we were able to negotiate with the Department of Justice, support our activities in securing funds from a federal agency to set up a legal centre in the Western Arctic?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

Proposed Tuktoyaktuk Legal Services Centre

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Justice would of course support an initiative taken on the part of Western Arctic residents to seek resources required to put in place a Tuktoyaktuk legal services centre. I suspect that if the people approach the federal Department of Justice, they would be told it is a cost shared program which would come back to the issue of territorial government financial assistance and the cost sharing of a program up there. I would indicate to the Member that the Legal Services Board was given a target and in developing the manner in which they would distribute revenue to various programs, they determined that rather than nickel and dime some programs to death, they would fund some to a certain level so that they could operate and provide a good service. In some areas such as the Tuk legal services centre, they just felt that they could not provide anything to the project.

I would just conclude by saying, Mr. Chairman, that I have raised this as an issue with the Executive Committee and the financial management board and I will be using that mechanism to see if there is any possible way of securing additional revenue for the Legal Services Board to consider additional projects such as the Tuk legal services centre.

There are also concerns about the pilot program at Cambridge Bay. We have also heard about the problems with Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik. There are concerns about the legal aid rate increases to lawyers. There is also a problem in that no evaluation has been done for five years and, in some cases six or as long as 10 years. In order to assess whether a program is operating properly, we have to do an evaluation, but I understand some of the intellectuals in the evaluation section of the federal Department of Justice have had a problem in putting together a methodology.

So, Mr. Chairman, that gives the Member an idea of the scope of problems which have been raised because of the target that was provided to the Legal Services Board. I am going to try and see if I can get Executive approval to provide additional resources. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just before we leave the legal services division, I regret that we did not hear in the Minister's words, the "scope of problems" with respect to legal aid, prior to voting on the last motion because that is precisely the kind of thing that I am concerned about and feel that priorities should be met before extending services elsewhere. If a lawyer is unable to determine the difference between urging to provide and urging to consider providing, then one wonders whether the money will be well spent anyway, Mr. Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Tologanak.

Pilot Project In Cambridge Bay

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the Minister has made some comments concerning the pilot project in Cambridge Bay. This has been worked on by the people in the Central Arctic for quite some time, not only by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association in developing it to the stage where it finally got to the pilot project position, but also with the federal Department of Justice. I think the blame really rests on the government, who have done really nothing since 1977 in forecasting the kinds of needs the people were requesting in this regard.

My question is very simple, Mr. Chairman. Is the pilot project going to die then in Central Arctic if the funds are not provided for Cambridge Bay, or are you going to answer the question: If the Executive provides funds for such as Cambridge Bay? Is Cambridge Bay included in what you are thinking along with a Tuk centre? Also, Mr. Chairman, I would be interested, as we heard through the telexes from Frobisher Bay, from Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, hearing from the Northwest Territories Native Court Workers' Association, and I think the executive director is present, Miss Gail Cyr. Perhaps a direction from the House would be: Come in. I know we did that for Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation yesterday.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I will have Rev. Ormiston provide the details concerning the Cambridge Bay pilot project.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Reverend.

REV. ORMISTON: Mr. Chairman -- is he waiting for me? Okay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Proceed, please. I could not pronounce your name, so I am sorry.

Details Of Cambridge Bay Pilot Project

REV. ORMISTON: The Cambridge Bay project has already been budgeted for at the cost of doing away with some supervisory help in the court workers program. It would appear that, in view of the very strong representation from Cambridge Bay from various people, this is a priority that the legal services board is prepared to acknowledge, provided that funds through the court workers program can be found. Now, the Northwest Territories Native Court Workers' Association, under the direction of Gail Cyr, has undertaken -- indeed, has gone so far as to proceed with arrangements that a full time court worker appointment should be made to Cambridge Bay, but the money at present will have to be drawn off from other segments of the court worker program. It has to be done at the expense of staff who, at this time, generally are employed at the level of clerk secretaries, and who need an increase in salary. It would appear that if the full budget, as indicated for Cambridge Bay, is to be picked up out of the Court Workers' Association allotment that it will subtract from the staffing a supervisor, and the possibility of raising the salaries appropriately, even modestly -- roughly 10 per cent -- of the present staff.

It is my view that this project will survive, but it is going to be very difficult to do, and it is my hope that the Assembly will see its way clear -- in order that we do not penalize other communities, such as Fort McPherson and Fort Providence -- that we are given an adequate replacement of at least a portion of the 10 per cent that was deducted from the budget submitted in which Cambridge Bay figured on the first round. So that I would give assurances -- we have to the Minister -- that it is a priority, however, not without very substantial sacrifice of other aspects of the program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Rev. Ormiston. Next, Mr. Tologanak.

Sacrifices Of The Project

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Just a supplementary to that, Mr. Chairman. Talking about the sacrifices, are these sacrifices going to be rectified in the near future, then?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier on, I have notified Members of the Executive Committee and the financial management board of the seriousness of budget cuts to this and other programs, and I would suggest that Mr. Tologanak, in his capacity as an Executive Member of the financial management board will be considering a proposal from myself, as the Minister of Justice, on the issue of Cambridge Bay and a number of others which I mentioned a few minutes ago.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I do not have a question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Fraser.

Suggestion To Have Member Of Native Court Workers' Association As Witness

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we get off the budget on page 9.10, Legal Services Board, I notice that there is some funds in here for the Native Court Workers' Association. I think the Northwest Territories Native Court

Workers' Association is struggling now to help native people who are in trouble with the law. I think we should be looking to them, give them a little more consideration than we have been. In a lot of cases we do not even know if they are around. Although they are in the settlements doing their work, we never hear too much of them when it comes to budget or government funds and grants.

I just wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister could invite a court worker, Miss Gail Cyr, in to maybe make a brief presentation of her work and how she finds her work, how she finds that everything is progressing. We had them in before, and according to the Members that they were doing a good job, but I wonder if it is possible, Mr. Chairman, if we could call in Gail Cyr just for a brief presentation on the work she is doing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I do not know why Mr. Fraser does not know the work of the court workers and of Miss Cyr. We all know that, and the Minister has adequately represented the case, and certainly, we all respect the work that has been done in this avenue. We have been told that they are stretched for funding. We realize that. Surely we do not have to belabour it. We have a court worker working in some of our area, and it is very difficult for her, and we know all this and we heard about it, and I do not think the story is any different.

Legal Services Board, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed? Nobody agrees. Legal Services Board, total 0 and M, \$1,003,000. Agreed?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Agreed.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

---Agreed

Workers' Compensation Board, Information Item, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): On page 9.12, Workers' Compensation Board, information item, total 0 and M, \$1,502,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 9.01, total 0 and M, \$14,468,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): I would like to thank the Minister and the witnesses.

---Applause

Department Of Government Services

We will now go on to Government Services. Mr. Tologanak.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: I would like permission from the committee to bring my Deputy Minister in to join me at the witness table.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Nay.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Go home. Go home.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): General comments.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

MR. CURLEY: Agreed.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Tologanak, do you have any opening remarks?

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. Mr. Chairman, I have the honour of presenting the first budget for the Department of Government Services. The department was established as a result of the Commissioner's task force on administration. Two divisions from the Department of Finance form the basis of the Department of Government Services, which under reorganization was formed into five divisions. The five divisions are the directorate, of course, the office services, supply services, petroleum products, systems and computer services. They represent a total operations and maintenance budget of \$8,725,000, which is approximately 10 per cent more than last year, and also two additional man years from when the two original divisions were a part of the Department of Finance.

Of this proposed budget, \$4,263,000 is for non-discretionary telecommunications and transportation causes. The proposed capital budget was four million dollars, which is 24 per cent less than last year. Now, I will not go into too much detail of the divisions, but if there are questions on department divisions, I would go into them further.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order. Is there a quorum, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): There is a quorum in the House.

Department Plans For 1981-82

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: I am here, Mr. Chairman. Do not forget to count me. The department's main thrust for 1981-82 is to implement a northern purchasing preference, which will be reviewed by the Executive Committee this Friday and to introduce a new purchasing tool called systems contracting. Such a purchasing vehicle could lead to the privatization of the government's storage and revolving fund. The department is also looking at the possibility of privatizing the POL operation. The department plans to implement a charge back to departments for the use of government's computer facilities. That is just my very brief opening statement on that, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): General questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like to welcome the new Minister to his baptism of fire, I guess you would call it. Two things, Mr. Minister. I notice under the general comments, Department of Government Services, the final line says: "The department will also be developing a strategy to assume all responsibilities that are services to government." Now, I have heard some vague rumours, I guess you could say, that that might include all contract services being handled by your department. Am I right on that? Is that likely to happen? Also, what other specific services would be brought under the wing of the Government Services, Mr. Minister?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

Contract Services

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have not, as part of the Executive, talked to the other Ministers of the Executive concerning the handling of all contracts and such at this time. What was the other point of the question? I did not get it. I am sorry, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The other part was, well, what would be included? What other services are thought of in this strategy? What other services might the department assume?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Well, Mr. Chairman, like I said, I have not had the opportunity to talk to the other Ministers, as to what other services our department can handle on behalf of the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Okay. Thank you. I will be watching that with a great deal of interest. I have been looking into contracts myself and I think, perhaps, that is an area where it might be considered. At any rate, I will move along from that. You did mention also, you are considering putting the POL operation into private hands. Could you just expand on that a little bit? What is the aim? How far along are you, that sort of thing? Is it just think tank kind of thinking right at the moment or are there some more definite plans?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

Turning Petroleum Products Division Over To The Private Sector

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Chairman, yes, we have been talking about considering the POL operation to be turned over to the private sector. We have been talking to Petro Canada and we also talked to Shell Oil, and at this time we are only at the fielding stages and Petro Canada's proposal will be coming to us very shortly. I understand it is in the mail to us.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Any more general comments or questions? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My concern is really with respect to the supply services in the Territories. Supply, I think, is one of the biggest events in the summer months in the Eastern Arctic and I will want some assurances when we get to the supply services, particularly with respect to sealift, and

further assurances from the government that they will try to take advantage of the local labour when at all possible, because that has not been the practice so far in the Eastern Arctic. When we dealt with the Northern Transportation Co. Ltd. last year, I asked the Commissioner then to try and ensure that local employment was considered seriously. The experience showed this past summer that the employment opportunities available with respect to sealift were still a problem. Manpower, local people, were still not being properly hired and taken advantage of, because of the government's contract or agreement with respect to NTCL. So, I will want some assurance from the Minister when we get to those areas that he will try to maximize the employment during the summer months, when the sealift is in operation.

Utilization Of Local Supply Outlets

The further concern that I have is that I believe this department should establish a policy to try and make use of the local supply outlets in the Territories and pursue it aggressively.

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

MR. CURLEY: There has not been enough consideration given to them. Government tends to buy supplies and deal directly themselves with the southern outlets, rather than dealing with the local agents that can carry out the expertise and, therefore, ensure that the northern economy is sustained and supported by the government. So, I will be seeking direct assurances from the Minister. I may want to introduce a motion to that effect, that this department establish a policy to support the northern outlets with respect to supplies the government buys from. So, these are the two general concerns that I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In respect to the first question, I will have my Deputy Minister answer it. For the second question, concerning purchasing of local materials and that, part of our problem -- and that is why we have developed a northern purchasing policy which, as I mentioned, will be before the Executive Committee this Friday -- is we do not have too many local markets in the Territories, especially in the Eastern Arctic. Hopefully, with this northern preference policy, when it gets through the Executive, it will be able to provide and to open up more markets, so that we will be able to purchase locally in the Territories. As to the other concern of Mr. Curley's, Mr. Chairman, I would like Mr. Quirke to answer that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With relationship to NTCL, I know this past summer, we tried to influence NTCL to employ as many northerners as possible. It is my understanding it was not very successful...

MRS. SORENSEN: Shame, shame!

MR. QUIRKE: ...but I will assure the Member that we will try to put more pressure on NTCL to hire as many local people as possible.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear!

MR. CURLEY: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): General comments. General comments. Mr. Patterson.

Northern Purchasing Preference Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just briefly, I would like to say that I agree with Mr. Curley, and I am looking forward to working on developing the northern purchasing preference policy. I was quite sympathetic with one of my constituents in Frobisher Bay who happens to run a private business selling snowmobiles, to discover that -- not last year, but in a previous year -- that business saw the Department of Renewable Resources purchase snowmobiles, of the very same model that were offered for sale in Frobisher Bay, from the South. To add insult to injury, when the snowmobiles broke down, the Department of Renewable Resources came to the Frobisher Bay dealer for repairs and parts.

This is the kind of situation that I think we have to correct, because even if it does cost a little bit more to purchase something in the Northwest Territories than say, from Montreal or Winnipeg, the overall economic benefit to the Northwest Territories is sufficiently great in that the money stays in the Northwest Territories. As a government, looking at our overall economy, we probably benefit more from paying a little more to a northern business than from paying a little less to a southern business and seeing the money flow out of the Territories, and not create jobs, etc. So I just mention in passing that I support Mr. Curley's remarks, and I am happy to see that the department has developed a purchasing policy and I will look forward to ensuring that it is implemented as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Page 10.01 capital, four million dollars. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 10.02, directorate, total O and M, \$294,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Office Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 10.03, office services, total O and M, \$300,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed.

---Agreed

Systems And Computer Services, Total O And M, Agreed

On page 10.04, systems and computer services, total O and M, \$1,592,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MRS. SORENSEN: It hurts.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: What?

MR. MacQUARRIE: It hurts, but -- I closed my eyes when I said it.

---Agreed

Systems Development, Information Item, Total Operating Expenses, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 10.05, systems development, information item, \$715,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed.

---Agreed

Petroleum Products

Page 10.06, petroleum products.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: No.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, related to the area talking about using local entrepreneurs and getting supplies off northerners, in the area of petroleum products, the finance committee has discussed this, and I will not lead up to the motion with anything. This is a committee motion, and Members can find it on page seven of the finance committee's report if they want to look it up. It is a short motion and straightforward.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A15-81 Of Ninth Report Of Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

The motion is that this department and any other related departments develop a program and procedure for assistance to local entrepreneurs willing to contract bulk fuel delivery and storage in the communities. Procedures, helpful advice and small business loan information would help facilitate this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. McLaughlin, is that a motion?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, it is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: The committee talked in some detail when the committee went over the budget in the first place and we were concerned about the looseness of the petroleum control in some cases and also thought that if we had a private entrepreneur involved, maybe even to the extent of storing the initial bulk and delivering it after that, that it would be a lot better system and provide local jobs and might also be facilitated with a good control over the thing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed?
The motion is carried.

---Carried

Petroleum Products, Information Item, Total Operating Expenses, Agreed

Page 10.07, petroleum products, information item, \$5,320,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Supply Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 10.08, supply services, total O and M, \$2,276,000.
Agreed?

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister indicated that he would be pleased to table -- you know, he indicated that the Executive Committee has been preparing the supply services policy. I am wondering -- a policy of some sort. Could the Minister assure this House that he will, in fact, table this during this session, regarding supply from the northern agencies or outlets in the Territories? Could he assure me that he will actually table it during this session? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Yes, I give that assurance to the honourable Member, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyca.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A12-81 Of Ninth Report Of Standing Committee
On Finance, Carried

MS COURNOYEA: I hope I am not unseating Mr. Curley's motion. The finance committee discussed a number of concerns that we had in the Northwest Territories, as well as the kind of force that we put toward industry and other companies operating in the North to support northern businesses and northern suppliers and found perhaps that we were lacking somewhat in our own Northwest Territories government in following a policy that we required others or politically pushed others to do. So, I have a committee motion here, that in future, tenders for materials and supply be placed only in the Northwest Territories, unless there is no service industry available to supply the product or service required.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe that we talked a lot about the obligation of industry and the federal government obligation to the Northwest Territories. This motion is just to show that we are practising what we are preaching within our own departments and, as well, to support the industries we might have within the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. Agreed.

MRS. SORENSEN: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed?
The motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder, talking across the floor, if Lynda Sorensen could give this next motion from the finance committee, A13-81?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on finance, as Ms Cournoyea, the deputy chairman of the finance committee, stated, was concerned and is concerned about the development of a strong supply and service industry in the Northwest Territories. The basis of that concern arrives from the fact that we really have no choice as a government but to assist in every way possible the development of that industry, simply because we do not have viable secondary industry in the North. By secondary industry, I am talking about factories, smelters to any great extent which traditionally is a big employer of people. So with respect to employment then, the North must look toward the supply and service industries. Now, with this in mind, we devised motion A13-81 which is found on page six of the standing committee on finance's report and I shall move it now.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A13-81 Of Ninth Report Of Standing Committee
On Finance

On behalf of the standing committee on finance, I move that the Government Services devise a list of materials and supplies categories where there are no northern suppliers and make this available to the public. I wish to speak to it, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: Just very briefly, Mr. Chairman, we felt that not only should we have a northern preference policy but we should also have information available to local entrepreneurs or to people who are interested in getting into the whole area of the supply and service industry, and information particularly with respect to what kinds of supply and materials categories was the government interested and going to tender on -- well, particularly going to tender on. We felt that this information should be available so local entrepreneurs could perhaps see it and say "Well, now I could get into that business. I could go after the northern franchise for it or I could perhaps do a combination of several things that the government is looking for materials and supplies on." So we felt that it was purely an information thing and that if it was kept on an ongoing basis and provided to the public, then we may be able to initiate businesses where currently no businesses exist because people are not aware that the government needs suppliers of services in those areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CURLEY: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that with respect to the motion that is presently on the floor, we have already gone into this kind of work and we are going to be advertising throughout the Territories to find out exactly what businesses or what markets are available in the Territories, this advertisement will probably appear by the end of this month. So we are endeavouring to find out exactly who supplies what in the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen. To the motion.

Advertising Supplies And Services The Government Requires

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, in respect to that, I commend the department and certainly the Minister for doing that. However, what we are specifically talking about here is advertising what supplies and services government needs as opposed to what the Minister, at least as I understand it, is talking about and that is what already exists in the private sector.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I too would like to support the motion. I wonder if it is possible for the Minister to provide this House with a list of contractors that they are in contact with for services and supplies and how many of those people are from the North.

The reason I mention this, Mr. Chairman, is just a year ago I think the Esso Resources appeared before the House and they said that they would hire people in the Territories as much as possible. I have a list of 54 contractors that Esso has working for them and out of the 54 there are only six of them outside the Territories. The rest are all residents of the Territories. I am just wondering if the government services had that good a contact with northern businessmen. I think that is what this motion deals with. I wonder if they have such a list of contractors. Maybe some of them they do not know about. They should know about them but maybe there are some that they do not know about. Maybe I could give them a copy of this list. I wonder if the Minister...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MR. FRASER: ...could supply us with a list.

MR. CURLEY: To the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MR. FRASER: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation A13-81 Of Ninth Report Of Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): A question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Supply services, \$2,276,000.

MR. CURLEY: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Just to confirm on motion A12-81, in the supply -- the tenders to be placed only in the Northwest Territories -- just a matter of point, Mr. Chairman, and to the Minister, that does include the crown corporations operating in the Northwest Territories as well.

MR. CURLEY: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I have a question, Mr. Chairman, with respect to the maximum amount for local purchases without tender. I wonder if the Minister could provide me with what that maximum amount is now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Chairman, to that question it is \$500.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister could tell me whether there is any move within the department to raise that amount to a somewhat higher amount -- I do not have any suggestion as to what it should be -- I have forgotten the word I want to use -- but to take into consideration inflation and northern higher prices.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It is unfortunate that we have not been able to get through the northern purchasing policy, but once it is approved, it will address these kinds of problems and the amount of purchases without going to tender addresses that exact question you are asking.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: The standing committee on finance did have a motion with respect to that but since the Minister has indicated, Mr. Chairman, that he is considering that in the northern preference policy, we will wait until we see that policy. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Supply services, \$2,276,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

Central Warehouse For Storage Of Goods And Materials

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see in supply services here that the warehouse section provides a central warehouse for storage of goods and materials. Where do they buy their materials and the goods that are stored? Do they buy them from outside, or do they use a local businessman to purchase their goods, or do they go directly outside their supplier or is it tendered? Mr. Chairman, could I get an answer from the Minister?

MR. CURLEY: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: In the warehouses most of the goods are bought from down south and are brought in by sealift.

MR. FRASER: I do not think my question was answered, Mr. Chairman.

MS COURNOYEA: Sure it was.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Could you repeat your question? I do not think...

MR. FRASER: I asked the question if they used the businesses in the Territories to purchase goods or do they go directly outside to the businessmen.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Yes, I thought I had answered the question, Mr. Chairman, but just to repeat my answer, most of the goods that are in the warehouses are bought from down south and are brought in by sealift.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Supply services, \$2,276,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Curley.

Persuading NTCL To Hire Local Labour

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to ask the Minister again: Will he give assurance to this House that he will, as a matter of fact, maximize employment during the sealift this summer in my area and that this information or whatever information -- that his initiatives will as a matter of fact be known by the communities and that the Minister will actually communicate with Northern Transportation Co. Ltd. to try and get some assurances from them that they will hire locals whenever possible? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned earlier by the Deputy Minister, we will do our damndest to talk to NTCL to try and hire as much local labour as possible. We can only give assurances that we will try with NTCL and we will provide the necessary information back to the Member for Keewatin South.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Curley.

Private Freight Shippers Wish To Compete In Sealift

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have only one more. On the last question, the Commissioner indicated to me last year when we were dealing with that subject, that he would attempt to change the agreement with NTCL and the federal government to try and have the private freight shippers able to compete in sealift. Could the Minister indicate to the House whether or not the Commissioner has been able to succeed in his assurances that he will change the terms of the agreement to allow the northern shipping freighter owners opportunity to deliver freight during the summer months? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: We have difficulty in that regard. NTCL is a crown corporation founded by the legislation of the federal government in this regard.

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes. I realize that. I believe the Deputy Commissioner is also the board member. There is some board member from the government anyway. Maybe the Commissioner can explain to this House what actions he has taken so far because he assured me that he would attempt to try and at least change the agreement, that he would do this thing because there are private freight shippers in my area that are deeply involved now with the sealift. Could he tell this House whether or not he has made any progress? If not, what problems are involved? Maybe this Assembly might be able to assist him in improving the situation. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Parker.

Government Freighting Arrangements With NTCL

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am afraid that I cannot report a great deal of advance in this area. I certainly do recall making the commitment and the commitment still stands. I will, together with the Deputy Commissioner, continue to try and make some changes in the freighting arrangements in the Hudson Bay. I think this has perhaps become a bit more urgent now because there is at least one operator and possibly another operator who is becoming better equipped to handle some freight. As I have said before though, it has to be borne in mind that there is a relatively small amount of freight to be handled and the capacity available with the tug and barge system of NTCL has not yet reached its full capacity, the capacity that is available, that is.

It is true that the Deputy Commissioner has been selected on the advice of the federal Minister to be a member of the board of directors of NTCL. In his reports to me, that is on discussions of the activities of the board, I am really confident that he will be able to make some headway in this area. He has only been a board member for a relatively short period of time. I do believe it has involved only one meeting thus far so he has not really had an opportunity to have many chances to try and change things.

As the Minister has pointed out, NTCL was charged with the responsibility for freighting in the Keewatin and given a certain mandate to charge rates that would result in them recovering their costs, but they have thus far not been permitted to make any profit and it is their view, and at the moment I believe it is the federal government's view, that any serious division of the amount of goods to be hauled would simply result in an even greater loss of money to the federal government. At the present time the federal government does supply a fairly considerable subsidy to NTCL to operate the system. In conclusion, I would just like to say that Mr. Pilot and I will most assuredly continue in the efforts to make more freight available for local carriers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Curley.

NTCL Unable To Organize Freight Priorities

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I welcome the Commissioner's remarks that he will again assure this House that he will attempt to improve the service provided by the NTCL in respect of the Keewatin area. You know, this is the major problem that we have, that NTCL never seems to organize what freight is a priority into these communities in the Keewatin region. Therefore, supplies

shipped into the communities are normally the crucial ones. For instance, the building supplies are normally in the settlement in many places as late as November when the ground is solid and so on. I really wonder whether or not the Minister of supply services or the Commissioner should not think about appointing somebody from the region who knows about that, because the Deputy Commissioner has no interest in freight supplies and sealift in that area. He has never lived there. He does not know. He does not know the priorities and concerns of the businessmen, the contractors, who must have their supplies, who must have their building supplies and the large shipments in so that they can build the foundations and put up the buildings before the snow and the winter comes around.

The Commissioner does not take these as a priority. He lives in an area where there is a decent supply. There is road transportation the whole winter long and this sort of thing. I would ask the Commissioner seriously whether or not he would reconsider the appointment of the Deputy Commissioner, if it is really fair or not, to sit on the board. I would urge him to recommend to the Minister of Indian Affairs to appoint somebody from the Keewatin region, a businessman from that area, so that they can be represented.

Private Freight Owners More Capable Than NTCL

I know that the federal government's way of operating a crown corporation, is very expensive, but I know also that the private freight owners in that area are able to do a lot more efficient job than NTCL. NTCL has no obligation to rush and ship supplies. They only ship supplies according to their own timetable, not even taking anything as urgent. Maybe when the Commissioner does have communications with them, maybe sometimes they do, but most of the time the small businessmen, private entrepreneurs, consumer, is not at all represented. Particularly, I am speaking about the contractors who must have their building supplies in, are not properly taken into account when NTCL is loading the barges in that area.

For instance, in Baker Lake, the building supplies did not get into Baker until the first week in October. I know that for fact. Why was that allowed? Does the Commissioner normally indicate to the Deputy Commissioner that he should try and get all the urgently needed equipment and supplies as quickly as possible, at the first opportunity, before the winter comes in? Could the Commissioner tell me whether or not he will consider those and report to me or to the region before the sealift comes around? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Commissioner.

Majority Of NTCL Business Is In Western Arctic

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, first dealing with the membership of the Deputy Commissioner on the board, the government is asked for only one nominee, so we just have the option of one member on the board. I would ask Mr. Curley to bear in mind that about, perhaps, three-quarters to seven-eighths of the business that NTCL does in the Northwest Territories is done through the Mackenzie system and into the Western Arctic. I do not mean to indicate that the business that is done in the Keewatin is any the less important. It is just as important, but the Western Arctic business constitutes the majority of the business that is done.

The Deputy Commissioner, as the Executive member for the regions and for Public Works, is in an excellent position to know of and be well informed of the requirements of all of the settlements and the requirements of all of the government programs, as well as the requirements of the private sector. I would like to assure the Member that he is able to serve that function very, very well. In addition to that, he has served in a number of small communities in the East and as a regional director, so he has a lot of first hand knowledge in that area.

Now, dealing with the delivery of goods to the different ports in the Keewatin, I cannot today indicate whether the delivery time, which seems to be a late delivery time, was the fault of the carrier, or the fault of the shipper, or the fault of the organization ordering the goods, but I would like to have the opportunity to follow this up and put a report before the Legislature which would indicate dates when goods were ordered, dates when they arrived in Churchill and then dates when they were placed on board the barges and delivered to their destination. If I could be permitted to present such a report within the next couple of months, I think that would give us the basis for making a judgment as to where the slowdown seemed to lie. I would be very pleased to get that information together.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Curley.

Keewatin Region Not Content With Sealift Services

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, although I might be taking the time of the Members here, this problem of sealift has been an ongoing problem. I appreciate the Commissioner's concern that Keewatin is probably only one-quarter or one-eighth of the total operation of NTCL, but when we look at the route of the NTCL, the Keewatin region operates on its own. It is not at all tied in with the Mackenzie route. The people in Mackenzie have no difficulty with sealift and supplies. Otherwise, we would have heard about them. They are content with the service, but in Keewatin we are not content at all. The businessmen, the communities are not at all content. There have been many attempts by the private owners of the longliners to get into the business. The government continues to discourage them and no support in terms of financing. They have difficulty.

I appreciate the Commissioner's indication to me that Mr. Pilot is well aware and I believe as a representative he should be well informed, he darn well should be, but I am not sure whether he is well informed of the problems faced by the people in that region, the communities. When annual sealift comes around, they have quite major difficulties, I believe. If I was in this government, if I was a minister responsible for supplies, I think I would set up an inquiry into the transportation, so that the business community and the communities could be given a chance to air their problems, and that the ways and means to improve the service, the shipping and the ordering, would be properly established so that we do not have to go through the unnecessary problem of experiencing, why it was so late in shipping construction material, for instance. Then the construction contractors normally go through a heavy overrun because of the delay and the problems created beyond their control.

Study Of Transportation Facilities And Procedures In The Keewatin

I would like to ask the Commissioner whether or not he would welcome such an inquiry into the transportation system, with regard to freight and supply, from this Assembly or not? Does he feel there should be one or is he satisfied that the Deputy Commissioner is going to be able to solve all these problems

and satisfy the businessmen and the consumers expectations with respect to annual sealift? Can I have him respond to those, please? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the Member is absolutely right that the problems of sealift occur annually and continuously. I would want to consult with the Minister on the subject of a review of transportation systems. I take it from Mr. Curley's remarks that he is speaking specifically of a study of transportation facilities and procedures into the Keewatin. I am rather confident that Mr. Tologanak would agree that a review, at least, would be in order and, perhaps, if Mr. Curley would leave that with us, we could take it on as a project, to determine what sort of level of review should be carried out and report back.

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

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding this subject, we have already started working on a sealift operation last month, but to this date we do not have a schedule for NTCL into Keewatin. I agree with Mr. Commissioner's statements that we will assure the Member that we will review this whole process of transportation and present some kind of a report to the Legislature.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Supply Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supply services, total 0 and M, \$2,276,000, page 10.08. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Telecommunications, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Telecommunications, total 0 and M, \$1,303,000, page 10.09. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Transportation, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Transportation, \$2,960,000, page 10.10. Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Back to 10.01. On page 10.01, \$8,725,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): I would like to thank the Minister and his assistant.

---Applause

Have a good evening. Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, we would like to proceed with going through the budget of Education, since there are certain commitments that the Deputy Minister has made that we have to allow for.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Progress.

MS COURNOYEA: Progress, progress.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I move a motion that we report progress.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is debatable.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): The motion is not debatable or questionable. To the motion. All those in favour? The motion is carried.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Would you mind asking how many against?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Noah.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Are there any announcements from the floor? Mrs. Sorensen.

Happy Birthday Ms Cournoyea

MRS. SORENSEN: I have received a telegram, Mr. Speaker, from Aberdeen, Scotland...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hurray.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...and I shall read the content of the telegram. It is as follows: "Please pass on birthday wishes to Nellie Cournoyea for March 4th. We are in Scotland and England until March 14th. Susie and Rene."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of Yellowknife South, I would like to wish the Member for the Western Arctic a very happy birthday, and the drinks are on her tonight.

---Laughter

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further announcements?

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I was asked how old I was and I am one of the few people probably in this world that is not afraid to say how old I am. I am 41 today. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. FRASER: Question.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further announcements from the floor? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): There will be a caucus meeting at 9:00 a.m., tomorrow morning in Katimavik A to meet with officials of Petro Canada, and the caucus chairman advises that, time permitting, the caucus will then continue with regular caucus business.

ITEM NO. 13: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, 1:00 p.m., Thursday, March 5, 1981.

1. Prayer
2. Oral Questions
3. Questions and Returns
4. Petitions
5. Tabling of Documents
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motion
8. Motions
9. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
10. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
11. Second Reading of Bills
12. 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; Report of the Special Committee on Education Respecting Student Aid
13. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: The hour being 6:00 p.m., this House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., March 5, 1981, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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