

# 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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#### HAY RIVER, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

# WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1981

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

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

#### ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

#### Introduction Of Hon. John Munro

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): We have the pleasure today to have with us the Hon. John Munro, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

#### ---Applause

He has consented to sit in the committee of the whole to answer some questions from the Assembly. On this basis, I wish to seek unanimous consent to stand down routine proceedings, Items 2 to 12 on the order paper, until 5:00 p.m., in order to go to Item 13, consideration in committee of the whole now, with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Do I have the unanimous consent? Are there any nays? The Chair recognizes unanimous consent.

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

I call on Mr. Noah, to take over consideration in the committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters. Federal government proposals and planning related to the Northwest Territories, and the uranium exploration and mining, with Mr. Noah in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Federal Government Proposals and Planning Related to the Northwest Territories; Uranium Mining and Exploration, with Mr. Noah in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS AND PLANNING RELATED TO THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; URANIUM MINING AND EXPLORATION

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) We are going to start the committee of the whole. Could the Sergeant-at-Arms bring the Minister in? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like agreement from the committee that Mr. Munro be accompanied by the regional director of Indian and Northern Affairs, Mr. Bob Hornal.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) I am going to be speaking in Inuktitut, so I just want to let the witnesses know, and warn them that they may need receivers to listen to the interpreters.

First, I would like to welcome Mr. Munro, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, with Bob Hornal. I would like to welcome them as witnesses and while they are in Hay River. There are five things that we are going to talk about. I think it is going to take about an hour and a half to deal with these five topics, and George Braden will open the topics for us. George Braden.

# Constitutional And Political Development

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members will recall that one of the major subject areas which we identified for discussion is called constitutional and political development, and under that heading there are a number of topics. The Minister and his staff have received this note, I understand. My purpose here today, Mr. Chairman, is to just briefly introduce the subject, perhaps to give a bit of background to the Minister and the public, and then, as I understand it, the floor will be opened up for a response from the Minister, and questions, answers and a dialogue.

So, with that in mind, Mr. Chairman, I will indicate at the outset that the government made a decision not to deal with the subject of constitutional and political development here at Hay River. This point was made by the Commissioner in his opening remarks. I am not going to go into the reasons why we decided not to consider it here, but nevertheless I think, Mr. Chairman, I can speak for the whole Assembly in saying that it is not an issue which we have put on hold or on the back burner. We are all very concerned about it, and we are all doing a certain amount of work in the area.

Mr. Chairman, next I will briefly review, as I understand it, what it is that has been taking place over the last few months. Originally, we had anticipated to have deliberated the subject at this session, and we hoped to be able to provide some input to the federal government. As I understood it, there is a rough timetable for consideration of this issue in Ottawa, and that our input early this summer, or early in the fall, would have been very timely. Well, unfortunately, we are not going to be able to meet that time frame.

#### Work Done In Three Areas Of Constitutional Development

With respect to what the Government of the Northwest Territories has been doing over the last few months, we have prepared some preliminary or draft position papers, which were to have been put on the table, or put before Members at this session. So we have done some work in the constitutional area. The work focusses on, I guess I could call them, three general areas, and that is constitutional development at the national level and our role in participating with other governments in redrafting the Canadian constitution. The second area concerns constitutional development in the North, and I think that can best be described as North-South, in that there are a lot of powers still in the South, and we in the North are seeking them. It is just a matter of how to divide these powers up when we get them into the Northwest Territories. Third, we have done some work in the area of local and regional institutions of government in the Northwest Territories. I hope, Mr. Chairman, that at some point during the summer the Executive Committee will have finalized these draft papers, and they will be forwarded to MLA's for their consideration and discussion before we meet again in the fall.

Now, with respect to the Legislative Assembly's impact committee, and constitutional development committee, I regret to say that these two committees have not been able to fulfil their mandate, in large part because they have no money. Now, I think Members are aware, Mr. Chairman, that we have been seeking additional revenue from the federal government for the general purpose of consitutional development work, and I was informed this morning that the revenue required by the impact committee, which is the committee to study further the whole aspect of division, and the constitutional development committee, that the money was included in that submission. So I do not want to speak for the chairmen of these two committees. Perhaps they could address the issue from their point of view later on.

Generally speaking, Mr. Chairman, I believe that, while we may not have dealt specifically with the issue of constitutional and political development here on the floor of this House, and that there still remains a lot of work to be done, I think we have made some progress over the last year and a half, and I mentioned this, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister the last time he met with us in Yellowknife.

### Changes In Attitudes And Practice

I believe that constitutional development not only involves changes in law or regulation, but it also involves changes in attitudes and practice, and, speaking for our government, I can say, Mr. Chairman, that we are in a process of establishing direct contacts with other federal ministers and departments on issues affecting the North. My colleague, Mr. Nerysoo, is going to an environment meeting in the West next week. Mr. McCallum will be going to a housing meeting in Ottawa in the near future. So we as a government, Mr. Chairman, are making our presence felt through direct contact with other federal ministers and other federal agencies, and I am pleased to report that there is a good, positive attitude toward working directly with our government.

We have also done a lot of work in the area of the representation and participation of the Government of the Northwest Territories, and some of our native organizations here, at the national level, in constitutional talks which affect the whole nation. I found officials in Ottawa to be very, very sympathetic to our aspirations. I also found them to, at times, be fairly blunt as to just how far we could really go as a territory in participating with other provincial governments and the federal government at the national level. So I think we have made some progress there as well.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I believe that, in terms of attitude and perception, we are making great strides with provincial governments. We are striving to improve the knowledge which provincial governments have of our Territories and our concerns, and that is taking place constantly through our officials and through meetings of the government, and, indeed, this Legislative Assembly, with representatives of other provincial governments.

So, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, while there still is a lot of work to be done, I think if we look at the issue from another perspective, there has been some progress. I regret, Mr. Chairman, that we will not be able to provide input to the federal decision-making process on the timetable that we had anticipated earlier on, but I think we can all look back to a report by this fellow, Drury, who indicated that the federal government should recognize that it is necessary to wait a bit, and that when the people of the North are ready, they will come to Ottawa with the desires and demands that they feel are just. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I will conclude my remarks on constitutional development. I would just say that if there are other Members who wish to complement or add to what I have said, they should feel free to. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Braden. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, does he have comments on that topic?

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and Members. I understand that this is somewhat historic inasmuch as this is the first time a Minister has appeared before your committee, and I just want to indicate that I do appreciate the invitation to do so and I welcome the opportunity to participate with you in some of these very important questions.

I think perhaps it would be better, rather than respond to Mr. Braden's comments. He indicated, I think, that maybe some other Members would like to complement his remarks, and I would appreciate hearing any complementary remarks before I do respond, if indeed that is the case. Could I ask through you whether there are other Members who wish to respond to Mr. Braden's suggestion?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. There are Members who will be willing to ask a question and they may ask one question and a supplementary. Do Members have any questions? It is open now. Mr. Wah-Shee.

 $\mbox{HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE:}\ \mbox{I would like to ask the Minister a question regarding the constitutional development of the Northwest Territories.}$ 

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Mr. Wah-Shee, can you please speak closer to your microphone?

# Postponement Of Federal Government Decision

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you. My question is regarding the constitutional development for the Northwest Territories. I understand that the federal government is developing a major paper on constitutional development for the Northwest Territories which is expected to be presented to the federal cabinet this summer. Also I understand that the federal government has invited the Northwest Territories to participate in the development of that particular paper. However, we have delayed discussion on constitutional development until our fall session. Could I have some assurance from the Minister that no major decision will be made regarding the constitutional paper which will go before the federal cabinet until the Legislature and the Government of the Northwest Territories has had the opportunity to make presentations to the federal government?

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

HON. JOHN MUNRO: When you indicate that, I take it what you are saying is that you would prefer that we did not go forward, or I did not go forward with the paper until after you meet here in the fall?

MR. CURLEY: He already did.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Is that what you are saying? I just want to be quite clear that I understand the question now. It certainly is the devil to answer it, but is that what you are suggesting, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. My question is that I understand that the paper on constitutional development is to be presented to the cabinet this summer, and since we will be addressing the constitutional question in our fall session, I just want to ask you whether -- until we had the opportunity to make presentations to the federal government can I be assured that we will have the opportunity to make presentations before major decisions are being made regarding the presentation to the federal cabinet regarding the constitutional development?

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

# Adjustments Could Be Made After Fall Session

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Through you, yes, I would very much welcome the input from the Northwest Territories. We have had a considerable amount already in terms of views expressed by the Government of the Northwest Territories, as well as honourable Members know, many other organizations and individuals in the Territories already. So we would be more than happy to receive more and that is an open invitation.

I would suggest too that Mr. Parker is coming down to have extensive discussions in Ottawa at the end of this month, with many of my officials who have been working on this paper. It is not in final form and will not be in final form until a day or two before it is actually submitted. So, at that opportunity, we will be able to reveal where we are going to Mr. Parker, who will have that information in terms of sensitizing the Executive Committee and this Assembly with some of the general directions, perhaps, subject to the limitations about cabinet secrecy and so on that I will not bore the Members with.

I would still like to, if possible, go forward with our position paper during the course of the summer, and I probably could work it out with this committee and with the Executive Committee how we might be assured that some adjustment could be made later in the context of the deliberations of your Assembly, but I would like to go forward, if I can, in terms of the time frames and constraints that we have in Ottawa, with reference to cabinet deliberations and so on this summer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Wah-Shee, have you one more question?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister whether the Government of the Northwest Territories will have access to the paper prior to its submission to the federal cabinet?

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

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would advise the Minister that he would have that type of assurance. Could I just hold on for a moment? I wish to speak to Mr. Hornal for a second.

The only situation that has to be worked out is the question of the manner in which this is done and there would be draft papers, not the actual cabinet submission, I would hope to be able to make available to the Executive Committee, so that they would have an idea of where I am going, and I could take their interpretation, the way others feel, around the Assembly, and have that type of very necessary political input.

I would have to discuss the ground rules which is always the case with the Executive Committee with respect to confidentiality so that naturally the entire cabinet is not locked into a position that is set out beforehand by a particular minister, but I do not want to get into the specifics of the thing today. I am sure the Executive Committee is aware of these procedures and we can figure a way around it so that they can be aware of what we are doing.

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

# Willingness To Listen To Northerners

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Munro, you mentioned earlier that this was an historical event and it seems that we have set two. Number one, the sitting of the Legislative Assembly in full session in Hay River and, of course, as you have said, having the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development appear before the Legislature as a witness.

I think it speaks of your willingness, Mr. Munro, to allow elected representatives of the Northwest Territories not only the chance to consult with you in private as we have in caucus several times now, but also for purposes of the public record to inform you of our concerns as Members have already done so on behalf of the people of the North.

I think, Mr. Munro, notwithstanding our concerns about the future of the North and just where the federal government is taking us with respect to federal decisions which will be made, you are to be commended for taking the time to hear first-hand, as you have the last four or five days, from the people of the North, and as I understand it, for also giving a commitment to come back to the North later on this summer, perhaps early fall, to talk about the decisions first-hand again with the people of the North. We so often hear about the decisions via the media and not from our Minister, himself. Now that I guess I have been a good Liberal, I will go on to say...

HON. JOHN MUNRO: A bad Liberal now.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...I will go on to say that I, as Mr. Braden, cannot emphasize how important the B level submission that you have received is to this Legislature and the people of the North, in particular the \$1.9 million that has been identified for our own constitutional development initiatives.

Mr. Braden said that it has been said that when northerners were ready to discuss constitutional development, the federal government would know. I think that that time has arrived, that northerners are ready and that has been expressed through that B level submission. The reason that it is in a B level submission is that the \$300 million that we now have in our budget is very thin in terms of what we have left for new initiatives. The money that we now receive from the federal government and the money that we raised as a result of our own undertakings goes to offset our costs for the services that this government provides to the people of the North. I can assure you, Mr. Minister, contrary to what your officials may be saying or what rumours you may have heard about our finances, is that we are not fat. The emphasis and the political will to go ahead with the planning for constitutional development is here now, and I think that if the money is not forthcoming from the federal government, we will have to take drastic measures within our own budget to find the money, which means that some areas of our budget are going to have to suffer.

The problem is what priorities do we allow to go by the wayside? That of course, will be our dilemma, but we are determined. There is the political will to do, over the next couple of years, our so-called constitutional thing, and I would impress upon you the urgent need for your support in the B level submission.

#### Status Of Western Development Fund

Now, with respect to my question, it is my understanding that there may be some hope for us yet in finding another pot of money, perhaps not within your department or within the Social Development envelope, but it is my understanding that there is four billion dollars that might be made available some time soon in the so-called western development fund. I have two questions with respect to that. What is the status of the western development fund? Are you accepting applications as a government for that four billion dollars? Number two, for the purposes of receiving money from the fund, will the Northwest Territories fall within the criteria? That is, for purposes of your western development fund, are we western Canada? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. We are talking about the budget in our territorial government. If you want to ask questions, please ask questions one at a time and if you wish to make a supplementary, please make a supplementary at a later time. Would the Minister like to reply to that question?

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The western development fund I believe is primarily applicable to the four western provinces. I am on that cabinet subcommittee with reference to that fund. The present status of it is precisely this; we are meeting. We are talking about where we are going and would like to go with that fund, but to be quite frank about it, there is no money in the fund yet, in the sense that no agreement with Alberta has been reached. It was through the application and National Energy Program and agreements such as that that would lock in the moneys that, in terms of the take of the federal government, that we would offset, by a refund back, to meet some urgent needs in the West. That was the rationale behind the fund.

I understand Mr. Chairman, the honourable Member was being a very good Liberal for the first part of her remarks. In any event, I might say as far as the latter part, she is really free to make representations, as is the entire Executive Committee, to see if the parameters of that fund could be expanded to entertain applications from the Northwest Territories on the basis that so much was oriented more to the western part of Canada. I am assuming that would be the basis of the argument in favour of it. I will undertake to the honourable Member now -- she can be of assistance if she wishes, but I will certainly take the suggestion to the committee, to the western committee, and indicate that if that is the will of the Assembly and the Executive Committee, that this be argued strenuously to see if that could be obtained. Now, I will certainly talk to Mr. Axworthy, the chairman of that committee and see if we cannot deal with it and get a definitive answer, but just to be quite clear, I do not think it is applicable at the moment, unless there is a change.

# Necessity For Supplementary Funding

If I could, Mr. Chairman, refer to the other comments. The B level submission is going to be discussed again by the Commissioner and one or two -- certainly I know one of your Ministers who will be down there with Mr. Parker toward the end of May. The situation, I think it should be stated quite openly, as I indeed told the Members in caucus this morning, how we are treating the necessity for supplementary funding during the current fiscal year at the federal level, because it may impact on your timetable and decision making as indeed it does on mine and all the other departments at the federal level. It is precisely this, that the budgets for this department are locked in, as indeed all the other budgets are locked in for this fiscal year already and there is a limited amount of money that has been flagged, called a reserve, or it is known as a ceiling that is put on an amount of money that is in the pot. This department is part of the social cabinet envelope, of which there are many other departments, who are principally in terms of the "big spenders" and I put that in quotes, because that is how they are identified by this department, Health and Welfare, Secretary of State, Manpower, Employment, just to mention -- DREE, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. So, you can see the type of departments that are part of this particular envelope and each and every one of them is going after that reserve for what they consider absolutely essential priorities in their own mind, as indeed I am going forward with priorities that reflect, I think to a major degree, your priorities, northern priorities.

#### Federal Reserve Money Auctions

There will be two auctions -- what they call auctions, which will determine the ones we think are the fundamental priorities for this year, out of the reserve at the end of this month and then what is left of the reserve will be auctioned off at the end of June. That will be it. There will be no more for this fiscal year. So, those are the deadlines that we are staring at.

Now, as a result of these discussions in Ottawa, it is my hope that the territorial government and myself, my officials, will be able to come to some type of agreement as to just what it is I take in there for the auction in June.

There is no question about it, that many of the submissions I am thinking of putting in, many of which are already in this auction, if I won them all, if I got them all, it would more than eat up the entire reserve for northern development. Just northern development almost alone, let alone the Indian side of the department, would almost eat up the reserve.

So, it is a tight situation in that sense. We are under the same compression that the territorial government is in this day of inflation and the determination of the government to try to retire its deficit, that the squeeze is on in all departments to a degree. I cannot recall in the last decade that I have been a Minister -- but if we can come to some type of agreement, it may involve some re-priorizing on our part to try to do something. It may involve some re-priorizing on your own part. In other words, things that you want desperately to do, as indeed I want desperately to do, we just put off for a year or two so we can go ahead with other matters, new initiatives, as the honourable Member indicated. That is the type of exercise, I take it, that Mr. Parker, Mr. Butters and others will be going through with us at the end of the month and I can only hope it turns out well so that we can have some degree of unanimity as to what it is I am going to try to get out of that reserve at the end of June.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. A supplementary question, Mrs. Sorensen, on constitutional and political development. Mr. Curley.

#### No Action Has Been Taken

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask the Minister some questions about the constitutional and political development of the Territories. I think the public today deserves to be given justification from the Minister as to why he had to delay his decision about the political and constitutional matters of the Territories, when he said he was going to do that during this session. It is not good enough for me to accept that the Commissioner and maybe some of the Members of the Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories or you, as a Minister, decided that the matter could be better dealt with sometime in the fall. I have not been convinced that this is the best argument.

You see, this Assembly has done strong work. It went on to make some recommendations, as the political institution presently of the Territories, to the Government of Canada and to the people of the Northwest Territories last November in Frobisher Bay, and that this Assembly did make a recommendation and by selecting a number of Members to appear before you to present the recommendations further. Now, since then there has been absolutely no action, either on the part of the Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories, of this government, and you. So, I have to be convinced today. Justification has to be made now, today, as to why you are dragging your feet, because there were specific mandates given to the government, this government, to proceed. I believe there are still a number of things that can happen, because I think this Assembly should not be party to the federal cabinet only. We do not have to do just what the federal cabinet is going to say, because this government has a mandate to represent the people of the Northwest Territories, not on the basis of what the federal cabinet is going to say. Otherwise, we will be abusing our responsibilities, certainly my responsibilities.

I think the best thing that I have done so far since I have been elected to this Assembly is choosing seven of those Executive Members. Other than that, the issues that I have brought up have been stalled and now they are saying to you, do not make any decisions until you consult with us. I would not want you to abide by them, because the Assembly has already told them, let us proceed with the issue of division. We will worry about the nature of the political status of the two territories once a decision has been made. So, I want some assurance from you whether or not you are in fact going to decide this spring. What assurance do I have at this time from you that you are not going to drag your feet further, beyond 1981? Thank you.

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

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, I can only tell you that certainly I and my officials have been treating this with priority. It is a horrendous subject matter. It has tremendous impact upon a huge part of the North of our country and tremendous impact on the Territories. It is not something that you rush into without weighing just exactly what you are going to do and do the research necessary to have an adequate, proper cabinet submission that takes into account everybody's views. So, I frankly think, without trying to be offensive, Mr. Chairman, that when we are faced with a matter of this kind, so comprehensive in terms of its implications well into the future, to say that we should run into cabinet within months of anybody taking a decision, be it the Government of the Northwest Territories or anybody else, without giving it thorough consideration over a period of a few months is, I think, a little unreasonable. The fact of the matter is we are treating it with priority.

# Studies And Consultation Process Must End

I have already stated, in answer to a question from a previous Member, that I would hope to go forward this summer and not wait until the fall and if I can, at least get some decisions out. I am getting pressures on both sides from people. I do get lectures about have we not had enough consultation? Yes, we have had enough consultation and we are just sick and tired of consultation and studies and reports and so on. It has been going on in the Territories for over a decade. On the other hand, there have been suggestions that perhaps we should delay a little further, until we get further indications of what people think on the question, further studies of impacts and whatnot, that are essential, I agree, to study, but you know, at some point the process has to be ended.

In terms of political responsibility, it is no imposition. It depends on how people wish to involve themselves in the political process, but I certainly have come to the conclusion that it is totally no win. If you do proceed to decision making, then you are accused of not consulting. If you do not, then you are accused of being evasive and delaying and refusing to cope with the political responsibility you have, and I am getting both all the time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister, could you move your microphone a little closer, so the translators can hear you?

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will. So, I have tried to keep to the original schedule. There has been slippage of a month or two in terms of when I go to cabinet when I said this summer, but I do not consider it drastic specifically to reconsider the subject matter at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Yes. Supplementary. Mr. Curley.

#### Impact Occurs After Development

MR. CURLEY: Yes, supplementary, Mr. Chairman. I realized that there was quite a lot of research required to the possible impact of the division and, possibly, the nature of the political structure that -- division should be, in the Territories, to both East and West. What bothers me is that I really have a difficult time understanding as to what amount of research is required to make a decision whether or not we should divide the Territories, because when the federal government or the Northwest Territories government decided to do things, and establish policies with respect to developments, for instance, which has a lot more implication and impact on the lives of the people in the Territories, normally you do that without going through the extensive research into the kind of impact it should have, because impact normally occurs after certain development has taken place.

Now, okay, what are we going to study? What is the nature of the impact that we are going to consider, that is going to form the basis of the federal cabinet decision? What is a real problem? The problem that I see is this. To those people who are the supporters of the status quo -- I know some of the Members of the Executive Committee are -- it is better for them not to press the case. It is advantageous for them, and possibly to the federal cabinet ministers who want to see the status quo remain as it is, the best thing that is going for them is to drag their feet, and not make a decision. To the people in the Western Arctic, maybe to the Dene Nation, it is probably also better that the Northwest Territories government and the cabinet not make a decision at all on the division, because it would weaken their clout in this Assembly.

# Eastern Arctic Becoming Victim Of Both Governments

So the people in the Eastern Arctic are becoming the victims of both levels of government dragging their feet. So I want you to, again, take the matter seriously, that someone has to represent the East, and the people are saying, in the East: "Let us make a decision now. We will worry about the impact and all those things later on." I do not think the financial problem today should be hindering us from making a decision. Otherwise, this would be absolutely nonsense, having an Assembly which tries to make a decision, and introduce policy guidelines for the government, when they are not going to be carried out. I feel I would be wasting my time in this Assembly if I am just going to have to wait until the situation looks good before I can make a decision. So I want you to assure me further that you will make a decision, not only on the basis of the concerns of the people of the Western Arctic and the present Executive Committee, but taking into account the people of the East. Thank you.

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

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, I can only answer the honourable Member this way -- and I do take his perceptions of the motivations of various people very seriously, but I can only say, in terms of my own, because I heard comments of that kind, that I felt considerable pressure to get on with a decision on this matter from the Executive Committee. They have not been encouraging any type of delay, as far as I am concerned, that I have noticed at all.

#### Matter Of High Priority

I would also protest very strongly to the honourable Member, Mr. Chairman, that we are treating this as a very high priority, we are giving it an awful lot of attention, and that we do want to get on with it. It is not an easy matter, but we do want to get on to it and we are treating it most definitely as a matter of priority to try to get a decision out of the cabinet system. We have been heavily taxed in our department on many fronts since I became a Minister, to try to be responsive to demands and some of them in the most controversial areas, perhaps, in the department's entire history, all of which centre around concerns to a very significant degree in the context of controversy here in the North. The land claims, for one thing, come immediately to mind and many other areas where decisions are required here in the Territories such as energy, which I understand we are going to try to deal with in the fall, the whole question of land use planning, and a whole list of critical areas, many of which were addressed in the five points that the honourable Member is well aware of, that was given to me about 10 or 11 months ago. So, we have to move on all these, and try to do it in a fairly compressed time frame, because of the interrelationship between them all, because, as we know, the political development impacts upon all the other documents, as indeed does land claims.

Now, within those constraints, I just can reassure, Mr. Chairman, the honourable Member that I am treating it with priority. My officials are treating it with priority, and my objective is still to get it in the cabinet for a decision in the summer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would just like to make the reminder that we have other business to discuss, and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs will have to leave this afternoon. Mr. Curley, do you have any more questions? Mr. Patterson is next.

# Possibility Of Releasing A White Paper On Constitutional Development

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would just like to briefly confirm to the Minister my view as an eastern Member, particularly that this commitment the Assembly made in Frobisher Bay on the principle of division really is our -- as I see it -- our first major decision on political and constitutional development, and we are very much looking forward to an early commitment from the federal cabinet that the Government of Canada is open to division of the Northwest Territories, and I personally believe that that commitment must come before the plebiscite takes place, to consult or to confirm that view with the people of the Northwest Territories. Now, that plebiscite could begin as early as this fall, and therefore I certainly would hope that the cabinet can at least make a decision on the division issue before that time, because peoply must know that they are voting for something which is a real possibility before that plebiscite takes place.

As to consultation, I think there were good discussions with the Executive Committee about even better lines of communication with this government through the Commissioner, and you may wish to consider, possibly, releasing a white paper on constitutional development to sample public opinion before the cabinet makes its final decision. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to that question?

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just thinking, Mr. Patterson, about your suggestion for a white paper. I hope you are around when the bricks are thrown, if I ever came out with the suggestion for another white paper for discussion on this and to share some of the abuse with me. I do not know whether you really want another white paper or not, but you have made the suggestion, and inasmuch as I know how deeply you feel about it, I will give it consideration, but it does not have any great initial appeal, I must say.

On the question, I have told the people of the North that certainly when I go into cabinet it is going to be all out in the paper, all the events that led up to the conclusion of this Assembly to adopt a position of approval in principle, and that that will have to be taken into consideration -- the question of division will be taken into serious consideration by the cabinet when they come to their decision, and I feel that the honourable Member got some solace from that assurance, and I can repeat it, that it most certainly will be taken into very serious consideration, the question of division, when the cabinet deals with the question, and again, hopefully this summer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are running out of time now, so I will move on to the next speaker, Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Two Kinds Of Federal Position Papers

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is evident that it must be a little confusing for you, when you hear on the one hand that you should hurry up, and on the other that you should slow down, but I think that is explainable because I can see that there could be two kinds of federal position papers. On the one hand, the kind of paper that outlined federal policies in pursuit of the national interest, in which it laid down parameters for political development in the Northwest Territories from the federal point of view, and

with respect to that kind of policy position paper, we would want to have input, but I do not think we necessarily have a fundamental and inalienable right to input, other than as Canadian citizens generally.

With respect to that kind of paper, I would say that that is a hurry-up situation. If the federal government is going to have parameters that it lays down for the Northwest Territories, then we would like to know as soon as possible what they are and specifically, would you answer the questions, and if you say there are no answers yet, then would you undertake to see that the federal government provides answers as soon as possible? Is the federal government open to the division of the Northwest Territories into two or more territories? Is the federal government open to the establishment of what might be called ethnic states, such as the type suggested by the Dene Nation?

Now, I believe that there is a hurry for the federal government to state its position in those kinds of areas very clearly. It does not mean that we will accept them as the final word, as something that can never be changed, but we would like to know very soon what the federal government thinks about those.

On the other hand, there can be a second kind of position paper, in which the federal government concerns itself with how the process of political development will unfold in the Northwest Territories. If that is the kind of paper that is soon to be presented to cabinet, I cannot see why there has to be a big hurry in respect of that, because I would say that that kind of constitutional and political development is the most important development in the history of northern peoples, and in that area we do have a fundamental and inalienable right to be consulted and to negotiate our conditions of existence within the state of Canada. Therefore I would find it intolerable to think that the federal government would prepare that kind of detailed paper on the advice of departmental officials who may have read the Drury paper, and so on, but without actually sitting down with people in the Northwest Territories who are concerned about it.

If, Mr. Minister, that is the kind of paper that is being prepared, I ask you why it is not a secret federal cabinet document until it is finalized and in the hands of cabinet, recommendations to cabinet. If there is a draft paper, why can you not come with some of your senior officials to the Northwest Territories in the summertime or in the early fall, and sit with us and say, "Here are some ideas that have been presented to us by some of our departmental officials. What do you people think about these ideas?" Let us sit down for three or four days, the Government of the Northwest Territories and other people interested in political development, and hash out something that would be acceptable to people here, and then finally, a position can be prepared that is taken to the federal government and becomes that kind of document. Why is that not possible?

#### Federal Government Open To Division

So the two questions, then, is the federal government open to division, to the establishment of ethnic states? If there is no answer yet, will the Minister undertake to provide answers reasonably soon? Finally, if it is the second kind of paper, why can...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. MacQuarrie, I am sorry, just one question. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are open to consideration of the division of the Territories. If I could deal then with the second question, I think, Mr. Chairman, I have already.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Supplementary, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Part of that one, is the federal government open to the establishment of what might be called "ethnic states"?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: I would doubt it very much in view of the history of Canada and what we have been going through in terms of referendums in Quebec and so on. If you are talking about ethnic states in that context of separation, obviously not.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. Last question, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The very final brief one. If it is the second kind of paper, why can we not sit down together and go through it and argue about it and talk about it before it becomes a federal cabinet paper? I just feel that the people in the Northwest Territories have that right.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Well, Mr. MacQuarrie, I wonder if you could agree with me to reserve the position on that, because I have already indicated to the Executive Committee that we would be discussing the paper I take in to cabinet with them in a draft type of proposal, and we can flag situations of that kind. If it not only deals with the question of division, but then starts to make some suggestions with respect to responsible government and the type of that government that would exist for the future in the Northwest Territories, then we can discuss the procedure by which I obtain the opinion of the cabinet, and make my recommendations to the cabinet with the Executive Committee at the time. I would come forward with the document which I think you would have to agree is a fairly open way to proceed. I am amenable, certainly, to suggestions of the kind you are making. I just got the feeling that it is trying to figure this whole thing out in terms of how we should do it because of the urgent desire for decisions to be made in the Territories.

#### Decisions Must Be Faced

It seems to be evolving in my mind -- and I would appreciate any feedback to this -- it seems to be evolving in my mind that people are really saying, would somebody please start making some decisions, and then that would polarize the opinion and we will have to face up to whether we are prepared to back those decisions or not. If that is the message I am getting, I think what we should do is try to satisfy both those very serious requests of the people up in the Northwest Territories. That is, let us make some decisions and then if the federal government will make them, then at least we know they are made and then if we do not like them, we will sure let you know, but please make them.

Now, that process of "we will sure let you know after you make them" will have to be assessed pretty thoroughly by us, and then regarded very substantially, I think, with some further input into the process. So I think we are going to get a comment on your second question. We are going to get it after, and I think we will try to figure out a way to get as much of it before.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. This morning at caucus we agreed to go through these items. It seems that we are talking about other things now. Now Mr. Nerysoo will give some opening remarks on his topic.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Now, Mr. Nerysoo will be making his presentation of 15 minutes. Mr. Nerysoo.

# Mr. Nerysoo's Presentation

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has been, I guess, quite clear to Members of the House and to you, Mr. Minister, that we have been quite concerned about some of the issues regarding oil and gas development in the Northwest Territories. We have certainly indicated some major concerns. Firstly, about a year ago, on the issue of the Norman Wells pipeline, we received support from this House to press the federal government to resolve five issues; those five issues being the area of revenue sharing, the issue on energy supply, the establishment of an authoritative body to deal with that development, the major issue of overall development and planning for the North, and certainly we expected to have some major progress in the issue of negotiations on aboriginal rights.

During that presentation, we also presented the option of and sought a delay in construction of approximately two years. Now, to date we have worked on a number of those issues internally, and have made major presentations to yourself and to your colleague, Mr. Lalonde, on those issues.

I think, certainly, there is a further requirement since the presentation and the public knowledge of Bill C-48, our efforts to try to resolve again those five major issues, and to encourage you, as Minister for Indian Affairs, and Mr. Lalonde, to resolve some of the outstanding issues, especially the five points that I mentioned, but including that the issue on protection of northern labour, northern business. There seem to be some major concerns with regard to the consultation process again, our ability to become involved with the establishment of some federal legislation and especially the legislation that affects, directly, people in the Northwest Territories.

# Issues Still Unresolved

We have obviously over the last year resolved some problems with regard to the consultation process, but still not to the extent that I think we have wished it to be. We are still somewhat concerned that the issues, the five points that we brought to your attention approximately a year ago, plus the additional concerns that have been expressed in Bill C-48, have not been adequately addressed, and we would hope that some resolution to those issues would be forthcoming.

Now, more recently, the issue on the PetroCan leases was a major concern to people in the valley in which the Dene Nation was quite vocal about their concern regarding the approval for those leases without foreseeing their knowledge of the negotiations going on. Certainly one of the major concerns that I would have to express at this moment would be that the moratorium that had been placed on that area at the time of Mr. Faulkner, your former colleague, was withdrawn without public knowledge or without certainly people of this Assembly knowing that that withdrawal had taken place. Again, there is the issue of the concerns that the negotiations would include some major responsibilities that this government had and that being the socio-economic conditions that were included within the negotiations that resulted on approval for those leases. Now we, as a government, really never had any direct input into what those conditions might be, and I am somewhat concerned that they were not as protective as I thought they might be. That seems to be basically in a nutshell some of the major concerns we had with regard to resource development, and certainly in the area of oil and gas.

There are probably other major concerns that Members in this House would express to you and elaborate on, but I think I would certainly like to have you elaborate your intentions regarding the resolution to some of the questions and the issues that we have expressed over the last year and a half because I think it is of a major concern at this time. Certainly at present these seem

to have played a major role as to what may happen with regard to negotiations in the area of aboriginal rights and certainly the issue that was discussed just previously in that constitutional issue.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to Mr. Nerysoo's topic about Bill C-48, Petro-Canada and Norman Wells?

# Power Of Department Not Diluted

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Well, in that order then, Mr. Chairman, Bill C-48, I am going to have Mr. Hornal -- unless the Minister already has it, and he may have it. Mr. Chairman, the whole extensive series of amendments that Mr. Lalonde went before the standing committee last Thursday with, with respect to Bill C-48, it is quite possible, unless you tell me otherwise, that the Executive Committee and other Members have not had a chance to study the implications of all those amendments, because they are very extensive. One stands out particularly and that is that the leverages and the power, if you want to put it in that way, of the Department of Northern Affairs, and that has been raised many times, has not been diluted at all with respect to Bill C-48 -- not at all. All the references to the Minister and what the Minister can and cannot do where it comes to the exercise of those powers refers, North of 60, to the Minister of Northern Affairs, whoever occupies that position, is attributed to that particular Minister. So, I am just dealing with that concern.

The other one was a question of, it may impact on land claims, and the Minister came forward with a particular wording of an amendment, saying that nothing in the Bill C-48 was in any way to affect any aboriginal rights that the aboriginal may have North of 60 or anywhere else in Canada for that matter.

The Minister also indicated when he went before the standing committee that while the deliberations were on he was looking at other suggestions for amendments prior to the conclusion of the deliberations of the standing committee. So, my feeling is that there has already been a rather extensive renovation of that bill and there may be further changes in an honest endeavour to be responsive on the part of the Minister of Energy.

# Bill Has Given Opportunity To Express Unhappiness

The situation about what those powers are and how extensive they are in the bill with reference to all of Canada and, of course, where you are more particularly concerned, North of 60, is that I think to a very large extent, having read many of the briefs, that the power is very, very significant now. Under the status quo arrangement it is pretty well absolute in terms of what we can and cannot do on the present identification of lands North of 60 as federal crown lands. That is all Canada lands are and that is what they have been for decades and are until the final settlement on land claims changes that situation. So that Bill C-48 might have been the catalyst to bring out the unhappiness in the minds of some with respect to the powers the federal government has always had and this gave them an opportunity to express that unhappiness, but let me just say that it does not materially change the status quo when taken in the context of many of these amendments. So, I would appreciate having your views after you have had an opportunity to examine all of these amendments and your views with respect to any further changes that it needs before leaving the standing committee.

# <u>Preferences Given To Petro-Canada In 1976</u>

Now, on your second question about Petro-Canada, these preferences given to Petro-Canada were given back in 1976. I have had an opportunity to do some research on the matter and those preferences were not a matter of any secrecy, either in Canada or in the Territories and I am advised there is a good deal of press comment in the North with respect to them, so that they were certainly well known at the time.  $\checkmark$  I think probably what has happened is that because

there have been so many years and so many other troublesome controversial issues intervening, I guess the tendency was for people to forget about them. They were certainly well known at that time.

Five have been granted, if my memory serves me right. I do not have my notes with me, but five were granted, three in the Eastern Arctic and two in Mackenzie Valley, and now I have before me, not approved, the further 10, of which seven affect the Mackenzie Valley. The acreage involved has been given over to the leadership of the Dene and the precise land descriptions will be given to them if they have not got them already. The maps have been given over to the Dene for them to look at and examine and they are doing that now. I did that myself last Friday. I have endeavoured during the time I have been here to ensure the Dene, who are expressing a particular concern -- I know others are too -- that this is not going to affect the land claims situation in the context of subsurface rights that may or may not be negotiated during the negotiation process.

Dealing with the five points that you raised, just about every one of those -- in fact, I would suggest every one, unless I have missed one, is being addressed in terms of decisions by the federal cabinet, over the next three or four months, most hopefully, within the next two to three months. One big one is the energy task force, the energy paper. Surveying that whole situation in terms of coming up with parameters that hopefully northerners can live with is slated for the fall, because the energy task force, which we discussed at caucus this morning, will not be in my hands until the summer. I just flagged that one for that reason, that that is a pretty integral one of all these papers. We have already discussed the political constitutional paper and I have made passing reference while I have been here in the Territories to all the other papers. I am sure you have made note of those. So, when you bring them all together, they address pretty well the five points.

# Five Points Will Be Addressed

Now, that is not to suggest that even when that decision making is completed at the federal level on these papers that they are going to deal with the five points in their entirety. They may eat very significantly into all of them, but to settle them completely in every solitary respect we would literally be setting the pattern on every major problem confronting the Territories for the next generation of northerners. So, it is a pretty tall order, but if you are asking me do you think we will substantially deal with the five points in the next few months, yes. The answer is most definitely yes.

The energy task force report that we want to predicate the paper we are working on, or if not predicate on, certainly take very seriously, it seems it may be open for some beefing up in terms of resources as a result of the discussion this morning, and my officials are going to be talking with Mr. Parker and the Executive Committee about whether it is their feeling that there should be some of that beefing up and the nature that would be required in terms of resources.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. We will now recess for a short break. If there are any more questions -- Mr. McLaughlin has a question.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I hope you do not take offence to my question, because I sincerely believe that you are sympathetic to the aspirations of the people of the Northwest Territories to obtain some level of government up here that would put the people that live here on an equal status with the people that live in the provinces and that we would like some form of government or governments developed up here to put us in that place. The key to us getting to that position is to have an access to funds in a revenue sharing basis in the resource development in the . Territories. My question is, are you sympathetic enough with us to actually try to put in place as soon as possible some form of revenue sharing of the

funds which accrue from resource development in the Territories? To put it in place so that this government and the subsequent governments that may be formed up here can have this money to operate with so that we do not have to go cap in hand to you anymore?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

#### Area Of Revenue Sharing

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think -- and I have said this many times, Mr. McLaughlin -- I do not believe you can seriously talk about political constitutional development in the Territories and talk about the whole energy area that we are all committed to addressing in terms of decisions over the course of the next few months, energy we have put off to the fall for reasons we have just discussed, without coming to grips and most certainly facing into the question of sharing of benefits and the resources in the sense of revenue sharing. So, I can assure you that has to be addressed. It is an integral part of the considerations we have been talking about this afternoon. If that is what you are getting at, we will have to face into it and get into what we would hope would be some type of equity in the perception of northerners, that they are getting a share from their own resources.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Just a brief supplementary, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just cannot get over what I see as a mentality of a lot of southern people that they think that we cannot run our own government up here. There are not enough people in the Northwest Territories. I think there were only 15,000 or 16,000 people when Manitoba became a province and they were given all of their resources in order to operate with. I just cannot see us ever developing as a government when we have to go cap in hand and with the communications we have now and the transportation we have now, the Northwest Territories would look like a postage stamp compared to Manitoba in those days, when you had cart and buggies. I just cannot help but think that you and other people just look at the Territories and say, well, there are only 50,000 people here. That is not enough. I cannot accept that and I just want to know, what do you really think about that as a person, because you are the Minister that is going to have to take the initiative for us if we are going to get anywhere. I like to hope that you are the Minister for us, not the Minister of us.

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

#### Inability To Govern Ourselves Not An Issue

HON. JOHN MUNRO: I regard myself as the Minister for the North and that is what I do. I know I have heard this repeated a million times, but I have not noticed -- the fact that I am not born here is not my fault, but the fact of the matter is that I have not noticed any overwhelming sentiment in the South, since I am being identified as a southern Canadian, of everybody running around saying the people up North cannot govern themselves, but that perception in some of the -- in your mentality, perhaps, is so imbedded that there is no sense in my trying to convince you otherwise. I have not run into any of that type of situation, where people in the South are terribly patronizing to northerners in the context of their lack of ability to govern themselves. So, I do not think it is an issue. It is really a question of, you know, which we all address.

Is it reasonable to expect that the limited population North of 60 should establish complete ownership of all their resources and then at the same time open up a broad fund in negotiations with their own federal government with respect to probably literally billions of dollars? Not hundreds of millions, but billions of dollars that they are going to require and are requiring right now, not only with respect to land claim settlements and everything else.

Now, that is just a hard, practical thing that we all have to look at. It has nothing to do with patronization or feelings that northerners cannot govern themselves. It is the hard economics of the situation and I am suggesting that we would look at that in the context of the revenue sharing that we are doing and in the energy paper we are bringing in, plus the political development paper, but again, I can only reassure you or try to reassure you that that is my attitude and by piggybacking on others who live here and getting their views, I endeavour to represent the North for the North in the cabinet to the best of my ability.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. (Translation) The Minister has to leave by 3:00 o'clock and he will be leaving. If you have any more questions to the Minister, please make them brief. Mr. Pudluk has got a question.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to talk about the Arctic Islands. I would like to thank Mr. Minister, that he was able to come and meet with us today. This is talking about the green paper and I would like to say a few words about it. I would like to thank him. The communities in northern Baffin were working very well together and the people did a very good job. They had a meeting in Resolute Bay and they will be meeting in Ottawa, talking about the green paper.

# Summertime Environmental Research

In many of the studies that were done about last month or so, the conclusion that they came to was that they still had to do a lot of studies about the environment. The Water Board does studies, oceanographic studies. The oceanographic studies researchers are coming only in the summertime and the residents are living up North all the time and the residents live 12 months out of the year in that environment. The people who live up there all the time are always watching the environment. When you get your researchers or scientists to come and study our area for three months out of the year, I do not think you will be coming to any conclusions at all about how the environment is. Our people have never written any studies because there was no form of writing. Not that they do not have knowledge, but their knowledge has not been believed or not taken seriously.

The Lancaster Sound area is to be used for tankers and I think you will have to study again how tankers will affect that area. Perhaps in 1985, there will be a lot of exploration in that area, and there are too many people coming and wanting to do exploration. I would like to oppose that and have another green paper studied and make it up-to-date. Also they should make sure that they include the views of the local people in the paper. Petro-Canada has mentioned when they were in Resolute Bay that they wanted to get a permit to drill offshore in 1982. It is too soon to have oil exploration by 1982. I know the residents who live in that area. A lot of young explorers in the North would like to see the exploration done well and go on in a better organized manner.

# Request For Better Green Paper On Lancaster Sound

The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, I would like him to agree that before 1982 he will review the Lancaster Sound area and a second green paper be assigned to this area for a later time which would produce a better one than the one we have already. Also, it is quite certain that the environmentalists and others will have to do some more studies. That is something that I wanted to make an agreement with you on.

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

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HON}}$  .  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{JOHN}}$  Mould you give me a minute or two? I want to check out a few details here, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) The Minister of Northern Affairs has to leave at 3:00 o'clock. Three people have raised their hands to speak. It is now a quarter to three and some of the questions are getting too long and we are running out of time right now.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Mr. Chairman, may I now answer the honourable Member? My understanding is that the discussions on the draft of the green paper are just about concluded. We will then be finalizing it into the green paper, in that respect a final green paper, and then we intend to open that up for a further process of consultation. In other words, all the consultations that have taken place with respect to the first one will be hopefully incorporating a lot of the concerns in the final one and then opening up a further consultation process with respect to the final one, which you will have further involvement in, obviously.

# Timing Of Petro-Canada Application For Drilling Permit

I have been told that Petro-Canada can apply for a drilling permit. I am just discussing the matter now. If they do, I would strongly say to you right now that it is most unlikely that the government or I would ever agree to an exploration permit while all these discussions were going on. We have not even got the final green paper out. We have not even started the second round of consultations with respect to the final one. So I think it would be unlikely, in my view, that Petro-Canada would apply during that process, but if they did, they must be doing it in full awareness that most unlikely it would be dealt with until that second round of consultations takes place. When we look at where we are now, and we take into account how long it takes to get these final green papers out and how long it takes to get a second series of consultations going, then I would not be a bit surprised that if you are asking for some type of moratorium to 1983 that not much is going to happen in any way until 1983, because as I say, we could not possibly entertain, hypothetically, a submission by Petro-Canada while consultations were on, and that is going to take a considerable amount of time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. Any more questions? Did you have a supplementary, Mr. Pudluk? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it is a very short question, mainly because some of the answers that the Minister gave sort of confuse me. In regard to the Petro-Canada lease, when a company does decide to proceed with the actual work, will the standard land use regulations process be still in place?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Mr. Chairman, the answer to that is yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sibbeston.

# Permission To Take Legal Action

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, since the National Energy Board decision regarding Norman Wells has come down in late April, I am aware that the Executive Committee has been considering whether it ought to legally challenge the NEB decision. Now at first blush the Minister may find this idea revolting, but when one considers that this government has been before the National Energy Board pressing its point regarding the five points, I am just wondering in the event that authority is necessary in the sense that you instruct the Commissioner to do things, if it is deemed that authority is necessary from you to the Commissioner for this government to take legal action, would you be prepared to give such authority so that this government can in effect challenge the National Energy Board decision on some, I think, very valid points?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: I will have to examine that situation, Mr. Chairman. I am under the impression that if the Northwest Territories government wants to start legal action, then go ahead and start it if they want. So you do not have to ask me whether you want to start legal action or not, but your question seems to imply that you need my permission. I had better check it, but I am certainly not under the impression that you need my permission to do it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Do you have a supplementary, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, I ask this because there have been some Executive Members who I think have been of the view that they necessarily have to have your permission to challenge the NEB decision.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. As I say, I will check it, but that is certainly the impression I have been under so far. Now if I get a legal opinion to the contrary, obviously, I am wrong.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): One last one, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to state something to the Minister regarding the Norman Wells pipeline. I must firstly thank the Minister for coming to this part of the North which I hope some day will be called Denendeh. Also I appreciate having the Minister stay a day or so longer than he had originally intended to so that he could meet with the Dene Nation to try to come to some agreement on the Norman Wells pipeline.

I must say that I am very impressed with your efforts to reach agreement with the Dene Nation. I am aware that meetings occurred all day yesterday to reach agreement. However, there has not been any final conclusions to the issue and I think both parties were going to try to resolve this in the next few weeks and months.

#### Timing An Important Aspect Of Pipeline

I want to address one aspect of the Norman Wells project which is very important and that is timing. I think the project, if it is agreed upon by parties, should not be in until 1983. There are a number of, I feel, good reasons, some of them being technical reasons. In the National Energy Board decision, the board pointed out some areas of concerns, some technical areas that they thought ought to be worked over or dealt with before they could finally recommend the go-ahead of the pipeline. There is, I think, moreover a more important point, that of timing and having time for native people down in the valley to get ready to take part in the pipeline development.

I can tell you that the situation with respect to the native people down in the Mackenzie Valley, particularly in their present state, as to whether they can take part in the business aspects is that in many places, the local communities are not organized, businesswise, and it would take quite a number of months and perhaps even a year or a year and a half for them to become organized and get to the point where they can take part in the business opportunities that may occur with the pipeline development. With all of this in view, I would ask you, if possible, to consider delaying decision on, or having the Norman Wells pipeline only begin in 1983. I am wondering whether that is something you can comment on and give your views upon.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, Mr. Sibbeston, I just want to assure you that what you are saying is being considered by me. That is not to say that I am not considering other things too and which I think you are aware, having been a participant at many of the discussions I have been having of an intensive kind, not only in Fort Simpson, but down in the Mackenzie

Valley, and I appreciate the fact that the honourable Member has seen fit to accompany me and assist in that process, as well as meetings with the Dene and Metis which were fairly extensive yesterday and Friday. I am talking in terms of the political leadership as opposed to, you know, up and down the valley, in the communities. So, knowing full well that you are aware of the parameters of those discussions, I am sure you are aware of various options that can be considered; the one you are talking about plus others.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister for Indian and Northern Affairs that he was able to meet with us. We will now recess for a 10 minute coffee break. Thank you.

HON. JOHN MUNRO: Thank you.

# ---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) I think we have a quorum now. Do we have unanimous consent to deal with uranium exploration and mining?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

# Uranium Exploration And Mining

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Dr. Woollard will be sitting at the witness table. Sergeant-at-Arms, can you escort the witness to the table? Dr. Woollard, you can sit at the witness table now. You have an hour to make your presentation. After your presentation, everybody will be able to ask questions. You may start now, Dr. Woollard.

# Presentation By Dr. Robert Woollard

DR. WOOLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, honourable Members. Is this an appropriate distance from the microphone?

I would like to, first of all, express my appreciation for the honour of being asked to come and address you. My name is Robert Woollard. I am a physician in general practice in Clearwater, British Columbia, but I am here primarily in my capacity as chairman of the environmental health committee of the British Columbia Medical Association. The British Columbia Medical Association has taken a rather strong stand on the issue of uranium mining and related environmental issues, and, since physicians are not noted for becoming embroiled in controversies such as this, perhaps a brief historical resumé may be of interest to this Assembly.

In the fall of 1977, the Government of British Columbia planned to allow the first uranium mine to begin operations in British Columbia. The British Columbia Medical Association was concerned about the level of preparedness for this type of activity, an activity which had caused significant health problems in other jurisdictions, most particularly in the United States and the province of Ontario. Cursory inspection at that time showed that, in spite of the strong, and we believe, sincere, reassurances of the government and the Atomic Energy Control Board, the regulatory structure in British Columbia was indeed ill-prepared.

The British Columbia Medical Association carried these concerns to the appropriate regulatory hearings, and called for a full public inquiry to assess the preparedness of the regulatory structure, and the potential health consequences should uranium mining be introduced into the province. I was asked by the then president, Dr. Bill Tysoe, and the executive director of the BCMA, Dr. Norman Rigby, to be spokesman for the BCMA on this issue. Subsequently, I was asked to assume the chairmanship of the environmental health committee from the previous chairman, Dr. Bob Heffelfinger.

## Uranium Mining And 2-4D Chosen As Examples

The environmental health committee was then restructured to become the focus of BCMA policy making in the area of environmental health, and it was a policy decision taken at that time to use the specific examples of uranium mining and the use of 2-4D in the environment, to assess the adequacy of environmental regulation within the province. These to were chosen because uranium mining did not exist in British Columbia, and it gave us the unique opportunity to work toward the development of, if you will, an ideal regulatory structure in the absence of a pre-existing industry and pre-existing regulations, and 2-4D was chosen, primarily, because of its very extensive use in agriculture in an existing regulatory climate, to see the special problems that may be associated with its use.

I will concentrate my remarks on the question of uranium mining. We recognized very early, as I am sure that this Assembly has already, that environmental decision making is not simply a technical nor a scientific exercise. There is, in any decision in the environmental field, a technical component of varying complexity, and to some extent varying importance, and there is a value judgment which rests on assumptions about democracy, assumptions about social values, and so on, that may come up during the course of discussion.

#### Structure Of Committee

The committee of the association was structured in such a way as to try and bring in these, if you will, non-technical values, and create a balance within the committee that might be reflective of a useful way to make a decision. For that reason it was structured, and is structured, of a broad group of physicians and non-physicians. We have, in the present structure, practising physicians and two public health officials, one appointed directly by the BCMA, one appointed indirectly by the Health Officers Council, an association of public health physicians within the province. We have an invited appointee of the Employers Council of British Columbia. We have a representative from the trade union movement. We have, in terms of expertise available, a biostatistician of international note, an epidemiologist, who is the chief epidemiologist of the Cancer Control Agency of British Columbia, an expert on health monitoring systems. I will at a later stage in my remarks comment on the importance of this person. This is an expert in a somewhat esoteric field that is perhaps better developed in British Columbia than almost anywhere else in the world. We also had on our committee, until he resigned to assume the chairmanship of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Uranium Mining, Dr. David Bates, the former dean of medicine at the University of British Columbia.

This committee, then, has been responsible for carrying policies forward to the general assembly and the board of directors of the British Columbia Medical Association, and with your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, I would like to read into the record the contents of a letter which I would like to read, primarily, because questions have been raised as to the authority with which one speaks on behalf of the Medical Association.

# Letter From BCMA To Eldorado Nuclear

This is a letter written by Mr. Jim Gilmore, who is the director of communications for the British Columbia Medical Association, and the executive member responsible for communications with the environmental health committee, and it is written to Mr. Dave Smith, the director of information for Eldorado Nuclear.

"Dear Mr. Smith: In response to your telephone query of April 14th, 1981, to Dr. Alec Mandeville, president of the British Columbia Medical Association, concerning the status of Drs. Robert Woollard and Eric Young, Dr. Mandeville has asked me to reply to you on his behalf. Dr. Woollard is chairman of the BCMA's environmental health committee; Dr. Young is a member of that committee

and represented the BCMA at the Bates Commission on uranium mining. The environmental health committee reports regularly to the BCMA's board of directors, and annually to the membership of the BCMA's annual meetings."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Dr. Woollard, could you slow down, please, because the translators cannot keep up with you?

DR. WOOLLARD: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. I get carried away when I am reading. "All publications associated with their names are official publications of the BCMA. Most of these were prepared in connection with our participation in the proceedings of Dr. Bates' inquiry. There should be no doubt in your mind that Drs. Woollard and Young, in representing the BCMA on environmental subjects, speak for the members of the medical profession in British Columbia. I trust the foregoing is the clarification that you require." Signed, Jim Gilmore.

Through the years that the committee has been active, we have, in relation to these two particular issues, sought a two-pronged approach. On the one hand, we have taken part in government hearings, regulatory hearings, public inquiries, and testified to, in an attempt to work toward better regulations, better environmental regulations, not only specifically in the area of uranium mining, but in a more general sense. The second prong of our approach has been to facilitate, in any small way that we can, public involvement in the decision making process.

## Mastery Of The Basic Elements Of Technical Problem

To this end, we have published a number of materials which I would like, at the Assembly's discretion, to leave with you, including annotated bibliographies and various summary material, whose main function is to take away some of the mystique associated with the technical component of environmental decision making, so that society as a whole will become less reticent, less reluctant, to become involved in decision making, when they recognize that they can master the basic elements of the technical problem, and then can proceed from there to argue to particular values that are demonstrated with a choice in this area.

To reiterate all that we have learned in the course of our deliberations, even directly related to uranium mining, would not be fruitful, and, as I had the privilege of attending the last session in Yellowknife, I know that much of the detailed technical matter was reviewed from two significant biases at that time. I would certainly be prepared, during the question period, to shed what light I can from my own bias on the technical subjects, but I thought that it might be perhaps most useful if I could outline our concerns within the framework established by Dr. Atherley. Dr. Atherley, as you may recall, spoke before you at that time, and outlined, I felt in a very succinct fashion, some of the principles that needed to be embodied in any legislative decision to proceed.

With respect, I would attempt to give our assessment of how well uranium mining and its regulation live up to the conditions that he felt essential in order to support a legislative decision to proceed with uranium mining. My remarks, I hope, will be reasonably brief, and I hope that brevity will not be misconstrued, and I would be delighted to answer any question during the appropriate question period.

I would like to read the appropriate section from Hansard of that meeting and then outline our response to that. As you will recall, Dr. Atherley said at that time: "I am a voter and I have been an elected representative. As a voter... I wish, with great respect, to suggest the conditions which I would be prepared to support as a voter if any legislature was to decide to go ahead with uranium mining. I should, first of all, want to be assured that there existed a rigorous and careful policy of regulation, a rigorous and careful policy of monitoring and control of all aspects of all the activities involved in exploration, extraction, refining, storage, transportation and waste disposal connected with uranium mining."

### Policy Was Not Met In British Columbia

For clarity's sake, I would like to divide the various stages of uranium mining and to give a brief example of why we feel that this policy was not met in British Columbia and perhaps you can compare that to the situation, as you know better than I, in the Northwest Territories.

As regards to the control of exploration, in the province of British Columbia there was very grave concern about the inadequacy of regulation on the part of the Atomic Energy Control Board for the exploratory phase. There was an unfortunate incident of exploration within the watershed supply for a small town and after a court case surrounding civil disobedience which citizens took to stop that, the judgment in that case stated in no uncertain terms that AECB regulation of uranium exploration in the province at that time was inadequate to the point of non-existence. At about that time the Atomic Energy Control Board exempted from consideration on their behalf any uranium exploration and removal of ore up to 10 kilograms of ore, so that the earlier stages, including I might add, significant disruptive stages of exploration, are essentially administratively beyond the control or interest of the AECB. I might also add, as came up in testimony at the public inquiry, that the decision to take a stand of 10 kilograms of ore as opposed to 20 or 40 or five was not based on any consideration whatsoever of health effects, but was strictly an administrative decision.

#### Rudimentary Regulations

As regards extraction of the ore, at the time of which we are speaking, the province of British Columbia had not developed any but the most rudimentary, that is the simplest regulations and the Atomic Energy Control Board on which the provincial agencies were relying for expertise was requiring little more than a one page licence for the establishment of the mine. This licence essentially invoked provincial statutes which were extant in Saskatchewan and Ontario, but not in British Columbia. It also asked that the ore go into the inventory for the national reconnaissance program and also requested that the mining operator establish reasonable rights as a proprietor for the mine.

The AECB, to its credit, has since that time, approximately four years ago, sought to become much more actively involved in the regulation of uranium mining, but as Mr. J. H. Jennekens, the president of the board has stated, it was at a rudimentary form two years ago and with the budgetary restrictions, we have no reason to believe in British Columbia that AECB control of the extraction process is yet to the stage where we could reasonably feel that it was effective.

As regards refining, the concern that one has here is the lamentable misuse of waste at Port Hope, which led to significant contamination of living areas by waste products containing radiation. This was investigated, among others, by the Porter Commission, a royal commission into electric power planning for the province of Ontario and in their interim report in 1978 they note the problem that existed at Port Hope and comment specifically, and this is referenced in our book, that it was public pressure and not any inherent structure or concern on the part of the Atomic Energy Control Board that led to the identification and the attempts at resolution of that problem.

# Ongoing Aggressive Concern For Human Health

I think it is very important if, as legislators, you are relying on the expertise of a board such as this that one has a good grasp of the historical development of concern to determine whether there is built into the board an ongoing aggressive concern for human health, as opposed to a reactive concern, which does not acquit anybody with any distinction. It is far better if one can see a history of an organization that has consistently gone out of its way to be the leader in regulation, and rather than one that is now struggling to come to grips with long-term inadequately regulated uranium mining, and I stress

this in relation to uranium mining. I am not passing comment on the Atomic Energy Control Board's activities in the area of radiation control of nuclear power plants, etc., at this time.

To again refer back to our search for rigorous and careful policy of regulation in the area of storage and waste disposal, the condition of the Serpent River system in Ontario is testament to the failure of regulatory control in the past. I am sure that has been outlined to you sufficiently to cause some concern about the level of damage that may result from inadequate regulation.

The assurance is that that is a thing of the past and that far more stringent regulatory control exists at the present time and that a decision on your part to proceed would be followed by a much more reinvigorated agency. I have significant doubts about that in the long term. The Cluff Lake mine proposal in Saskatchewan might be felt to be one of the most modern designs for uranium mining and one of the most recent examples of regulatory effectiveness and control. I will not discuss this in great detail, except to express my concern that the waste management proposal for the Cluff Lake mine is to take in this case highly radioactive tailings -- they are more radioactive than, I think, most of the deposits you are looking at in the Northwest Territories, because of the nature of the ore -- the response is to take these tailings and to bury them in concrete cannisters. The concrete cannisters have a life expectancy of approximately a century, after which they can no longer be relied upon to contain in the same way the tailings so stored. The AECB has seen fit to proceed with a licence on this basis, in spite of the fact that there is no regulatory, legislative or financial program set up to replace those cannisters at the end of 100 years. So in effect, we are sophisticated enough to protect ourselves and our generation, but we have not become sufficiently institutionally sophisticated to look at the long-term problems and I leave that with you in our discussion.

## Legislative Control

The second area that Dr. Atherley raised is: "I should like to see a rigorous and careful legislative control over the policy; a control by the Legislature so as to ensure that once begun, if begun, enthusiasm for the control of the uranium risk never gave way to boredom or to apathy, and that bureaucracy never tied up the constant fight against the hazards."

The area of uranium mining and the entire question of nuclear energy has had a special, I might say unique, relationship to legislative assemblies, both at the federal and the provincial level. I will not reiterate that in detail here, but to point out that because the legislatures had abrogated their responsibilities in this area, feeling that it was so complex, so strategically significant that they could not effectively regulate it, the Government of British Columbia made a decision to accept holus-bolus what they referred to in the legislature as Atomic Energy Control Board guidelines.

The point that was made, finally effectively, by those that were concerned about it was that by thus abrogating the legislative responsibility the province essentially left itself uncovered, because they had not concomitantly ensured that the provincial regulatory apparatus, which is an absolutely integral and essential part of effective regulation, they did not ensure that that was being developed at the same time.

To go on to the third point, Dr. Atherley states: "I should like to see the government accept that people have the right to understand, the right to have explanations, the right to knowledge." Again, severe problems exist in this area; as witnessed, the area's administerial discretion attached to the Atomic Energy Control Act and the very grave difficulty that even a select committee of the Ontario legislature had in subpoenaing related documents for their deliberation.

I refer also to our summary argument for the Bates Commission where we outline Professor Bruce Stern's criticism of the secretive way in which the Atomic Energy Control Board has generally functioned up to and including recent history.

The fourth issue: "Next I should like to make sure, for myself, by what I saw and read that the legislators, the decision makers, were in control of all this. I could not support the idea of control being given to the companies that do the mining or the exploration. History shows all too clearly that the health and safety of people cannot be safely left in the hands of those who gain profit from these activities."

The Atomic Energy Control Board has very limited resources considering the magnitude of the task they have before them. When I was in Ottawa discussing this matter with the uranium mining branch of the board they had, at that time, four staff members particularly dedicated to this activity and were hoping for a fifth. At that time, they had less than 200 people to cover all of their areas of responsibility, including medical uses of radiation, power generation, waste disposal, etc. At that time, perhaps out of a sense of frustration, they seriously suggested, both to myself in Ottawa and before the royal commission in Vancouver, that self-regulation of the uranium mining industry was a desirable goal toward which they were working.

I would submit that this is unacceptable if this Assembly wishes to abrogate its control to the guideline of the Atomic Energy Control Board, and that board, though well meaning, being underfunded, feels that the best that it can do is through self-regulation, I would submit with respect that this Assembly cannot escape its responsibilities in that regard. Mr. Chairman, I must apologize. I did not look at my watch when I started and I am unclear if I have used up my time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Dr. Woollard, you still have 20 minutes.

DR. WOOLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The fifth suggestion, and one of my favourites, "I should not like to see the control being left in the hands of the scientists and my own profession, the physicians, because history shows that they are incapable of the political decision making which separate out their own self-interests from the broader public interests."

#### Electricity From Hydrocarbons Versus Nuclear Means

I think that I had a somewhat of a sense of foreboding in this regard when I listened to the testimony of Dr. Zgola from the Atomic Energy Control Board in Yellowknife earlier this year. I felt that in response to a question regarding the dangers of hydrocarbon fuels for the production of electricity, Dr. Zgola painted a very bleak picture of the environmental degradation that may be associated with that particular activity, and as a corollary, a very rosy picture of the future that would be arrived at by generating electricity by nuclear means. I certainly feel that he is entitled to his particular biases, but in recognizing that he, as a scientist, represented the regulatory arm of the nuclear industry, while I applaud his frankness in demonstrating his biases, I would submit that it would be very dangerous for this Assembly to assume that a board that is so imbued with the dangers of an alternate method and so impressed with the desirability of their own method might be less than rigorous in their regulatory function.

Sixthly, Dr. Atherley states: "I should like to be assured, Mr. Chairman, that the legislators whom I have elected were taking the responsibility for what happened to me and my children. Mr. Chairman, I should like to see proper participation on a day-to-day action level in matters likely to affect the working environment where the day-to-day participation involved the employers, the government, and the workers' representatives."

### Cluff Lake Waste Disposal

Mr. Chairman, as regards accepting responsibility for ourselves and our children I would simply reiterate the Cluff Lake example of waste disposal. I am sorry, I must go back slightly here because I can almost hear the Atomic Energy Control Board representative saying that is not disposal, it is management because a final decision as to disposition has not been made. I had an opportunity to discuss this with Mr. Justice Bayda, the chairman of the Cluff Lake board of inquiry, and he informed me that no statutory provision had been made for any kind of follow-up to ensure the integrity of these tailing management areas. Therefore, I think that it is a bit of a fiction and a bit of a misuse of words to state that it is not disposal, but we could perhaps for the moment call it management. Whatever you call it, it would seem that we, as a society, are at least capable of giving inadequate consideration to our children in the sense that we are willing to expose them to hazards that we find unacceptable to ourselves.

Further in this same regard of a functional committee of government workers and management, it is certainly no small task to establish a functional system of specific interactions, but it is certainly essential -- and I would submit that this should be a very important part of your deliberations -- it is essential that such a management approach be an integral part of a direct act, if you will, of this Legislative Assembly, to direct that such a thing should take place.

#### Local Regulatory Committee

This is true for a number of reasons. One being that it will not arise spontaneously; the other being that if we learned anything in our deliberations in British Columbia, it is that the hazards associated with a particular mine may be very specific to that mine. They may relate not only to the grade of the ore, they may relate to the nature, to the chemistry, to the acidity, to the surrounding territory, to the wind patterns, etc. I would submit that a committee structured of people in the local environment representing the biases of management, of labour, and of government, which one would hope would represent the interests of the uninvolved citizens in the area, that such a committee would offer the best hope for long-term specific assurances that adequate regulatory action is taken.

Seventh, I should like to see an effective and adequately resourced department of government fully accountable to the Legislature, to the decision makers, to ensure that the legislation was enforced effectively, fairly, efficiently, and with enthusiasm. I should not like to think that with a whim, or with a downturn in financial fortune, that the enforcement could be made to suffer. Historically, and I again refer you to our summary to the Bates Commission, there have been times when the regulation of uranium mining in the United States has suffered very severely because of concerns about the viability of the industry, and because of down-turns in the market. Some method must be established, I would submit, to ensure that these variations, these vicissitudes, these happenstances, do not compromise regulation in the future.

#### Concept Of A Health Science Auditor

With respect, we have set out in our submission the concept of a health science auditor. I will not go into the details at this time, except to refer you to the document and to be prepared to answer any questions in the question period. It is important that such an agency be open to the public and that this agency encourage public involvement.

With respect then, this Legislature must decide whether it has at its disposal the information and the executive capacity to effectively regulate uranium mining. There is in this an element of faith. Faith that decisions taken today will not haunt future generations; faith that the technologies and agencies, not yet developed, will be in place in time to prevent hazards to future generations.

It is rather like jumping a chasm with no sure knowledge of the other side. If one is going to jump a chasm that no one else has jumped, one had better seek to know what special abilities one has that might encourage hope for success, and it is in this sense that I hope that comparison with our experience in British Columbia may be of some interest and perhaps value to this Assembly. That concludes my remarks, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand that I have a brief summation at the end as well after the question period?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): We will recess for  $15\ \text{minutes}$  for a coffee break, and we will come back to one hour of question period.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can we come to order now, please? I recognize a quorum. We will now have a question period where Dr. Woollard will be available for questions from the Members. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, could I make an attempt at a summation of your position and have you comment on it? It seems that what you are saying is that uranium exploration, mining and milling would be acceptable if it were carried out under the conditions that Dr. Atherley has suggested, but that you feel that those conditions may not be as easily realized as it would appear to be on the surface.

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

DR. WOOLLARD: Mr. Chairman, I think that that is a good summary. I admire the honourable Member's ability to say in a few words what I took an hour to say and I thank him for that. I think that that, in summary, was the position of the medical association. Of course, it is a bit of a tautology, a philosophical point, that if it can be done safely, it can be done safely and our concern is that in our experience we felt we were groping toward some suggestions of ways in which we could begin to do it safely.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Dr. Woollard. Mr. MacQuarrie, a supplementary.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I appreciate, Dr. Woollard, what I consider the reasonable and methodical approach that you have taken to the problem and thank you for raising what are obviously some very real concerns about regulation and for my own part, I would have to say finally that I certainly agree that we would have to have a rigorous regulatory process and that if we could not manage to pay for an adequate process out of whatever proceeds might come from the industry, that it probably would not make much sense to go ahead with that kind of development.

# Concern For Health Of All People

I also recognize that your principal concern is for the health of myself and other people as well. I certainly do not take any cynical view of what you are attempting to do, but I do have to notice that it appears to me that not all of your colleagues agree with the extent of your concern or indeed, perhaps a majority do not agree with the extent of your concern.

You said that, I believe it was Dr. Young who is also on your committee, had the opportunity to present the committee's views to the Bates inquiry in British Columbia. Dr. Bates himself is a medical doctor and professor of medicine and physiology at the University of British Columbia and a former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and in the foreword to the Bates report he indicates: "At the present time, if the resolution to do so existed..." and he underlines that, and certainly I recognize that it is a serious problem, "...the work force could be so well protected, in our opinion, that the additional risks of uranium mining compared to other types of mining would be minimal." And then, as you well know, they went on to say that, "We see no reason to prohibit uranium exploration from the point of view of environmental protection or protection of health", and indeed they recommended that the moratorium on exploration be removed.

Then further on this point, I am aware that you did bring a resolution to the Canadian Medical Association. I believe this was the text of the resolution. "The Canadian Medical Association considers it irresponsible for the Government of Canada to allow further development of uranium mining and reactor construction until a safe, proven, permanent disposal technology is developed for the wastes that have already been generated."

I have a letter from -- not to me, but a copy of a letter that was sent by D.A. Geekie, who is the director of communications for the Canadian Medical Association -- a letter that he wrote to the editor of Homemakers' Magazine, in which an article had appeared that said that that resolution had been passed and he says: "This resolution was in fact referred to the association council on community health for further study. That study resulted in the passing of the following resolution at the 1979 CMA annual meeting; that the CMA recommends to the appropriate agencies that further studies into methods of permanent nuclear waste disposal and management be undertaken with all possible dispatch." He ends his letter with this paragraph: "We believe it is important to point out that contrary to your statement the Canadian Medical Association has not called for a halt to further development of uranium mining and reactor construction."

So, with those sorts of developments you have a concern. You have expressed it to colleagues in various contexts and yet they seem to have said finally that the concern -- at least this is the way I read it -- the concern is not as great as what you have said it is. Would you comment, please, on that, the response of the Medical Association and why you feel the Bates inquiry finally recommended as it did?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Dr. Woollard, do you wish to reply?

## Moratorium On Uranium Exploration In BC Should Be Lifted

DR. WOOLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will perhaps deal with the two questions separately, the one related to the Bates Commission first of all. The Bates Commission as you are aware if you have looked at the document, deals with the preface and prefatorial remarks and so on and goes on, on page one, Roman numeral, small subscript one, two and three to specific recommendations which are in the context of the report felt necessary with the ante-Baydian introduction of uranium mining into the province and I refer specifically to recommendation 14: "We recommend that provided that a licensing procedure for uranium exploration is instituted in British Columbia, the moratorium on uranium exploration should be lifted."

I do not think that the policy of British Columbia and many of our personal standards are at all compromised. In fact, it is completely in line with our concern that an effective regulatory structure be enhanced. We certainly have not taken a priority, an initial assumption, that this must not be allowed at all costs or else we would not have bothered wasting an incredible amount of work in working toward effective regulatory change. With respect, I would state that our concerns are reflected very strongly in Dr. Bates' report.

Now, at the time the resolution was passed and I think the same thing applies right now, we have stated and we have read, as I recall the resolution accurately, that incidentally was passed by a wide margin of the British Columbia Medical Association, so that is in fact British Columbia Medical Association policy -- so that we have the agreement of colleagues there -- that was in the context of stating we are not at this time ready. I think that my reading of the Bates report is that it substantially indicates that view.

We have, perhaps, a couple of quibbles, if the Assembly is interested in them, as regards to recommendation 27. The Bates Commission envisions a much more active role in regulation for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources than we would envision in our submission and we felt that because that was the proponent ministry, in essence, that it would be more effective or at least would seem to be more reasonable that that be transposed out of that ministry into the Ministry of Health. That is the kind of quibble, if you will, that we have.

Recommendation five relates to our call for an investigation into the standard setting for radiation hazards in Canada, which we call for very strongly in our summary report and which Dr. Bates agrees is a necessary part of that.

### Canadian Medical Association Involvement

That would carry us to the question of the Canadian Medical Association involvement. I would point out that the resolutions that came in the year subsequent to this, the resolution that was put forward in the initial year was not defeated. What happened was that the assembly felt in its wisdom, that it did not have sufficient information on which to make such a call and it referred this to a committee, which begat a subcommittee, as these things are wont to do, on which I am a representative and that is still under the process of consideration, if you will.

Now, I trust that the Assembly can appreciate that there is in the area of nuclear related environmental problems significant room for debate on technique, if you will, and the call for a moratorium is essentially one form of ensuring that something is done. It is open to debate whether it is a useful and effective form. The fact that an association such as the Canadian Medical Association, which is an understandably conservative body, would not want to proceed along those lines, in my view does not dispense with the concerns that were raised. In fact, in the year subsequent to that, that Mr. Geekie refers to in his letter, a series of resolutions were passed by the CMA which related -- and I cannot, I am sorry, remember them verbatim, but I would undertake to supply them to you -- related to increasing medical representation on the Atomic Energy Control Board -- increasing the availability of information on the -- and had to do with ways of changing the AECB into a more effective and responsive body.

So, in summary, I feel that whereas I would certainly never claim unanimity even within the British Columbia Medical Association or for that matter even within my committee, we certainly have, I think, demonstrated the majority of opinion within the British Columbia Medical Association and think that the concerns we have expressed have not been seriously quibbled with. What has been quibbled with I suppose, if you will, is technique and the moratorium, the concept of the moratorium is a rather slippery fish. You know, do you say you have a moratorium when you say let us suspend the moratorium but not allow any mining until a reasonable regulatory structure is in place? Is that a moratorium or is it not? Unfortunately, I think the press releases related to the Bates Commission emphasized that aspect of it to, I think, the general detriment of an excellent report. It is a rather long-winded answer. I am sorry, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Dr. Woollard. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Last question.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Dr. Woollard, I guess I just sense a difference in tone or approach between the substance of the resolution that was introduced in 1979, and the approach that you are taking today, and certainly the approach that you are taking today I do approve of, and perhaps that was the approach all along, so I am not challenging that.

With respect to the Canadian Medical Association not having passed the resolution because it did not have sufficient information, I can only feel that if the doubtful circumstances surrounding the issue indicated reason for alarm, that the medical association would have acted promptly in the interests of erring on the side of safety, and the fact that they did not pass it, perhaps, indicated that that alarm was not there. You may wish to comment on that in a moment.

One specific question: Could you tell me, as a medical doctor, what you see as the additional hazard of uranium exploration to a general population?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Dr. Woollard.

#### Hazards Of Uranium Exploration

DR. WOOLLARD: The medical problems -- and I first of all want to state I am not an expert in this precise area. Within the committee there are people who have knowledge in the area, and we have made our submission and submitted it to the royal commission for their consideration. The hazards associated with exploration, from a medical point of view, are probably, in general, minimal in most circumstances, depending on the nature of the exploration.

Now, there are circumstances and we have an example in our own town where I practise, where this presented a significant potential hazard, as outlined by Dr. Bates in his interim report for the inquiry. This was an exploratory shaft which had been drilled into an ore body. It was an adit, and -- I am sorry, I am being technical -- it was an adit that went into the side of the hill into the ore body. The radon content in the exploratory adit was significantly higher than the surrounding ambient air, and, in fact, was 1.6 working level months, if my memory serves me, it is given in detail in the interim report and in our summary argument. This is a significant hazard to anybody who is going to be coming into that adit, and it was not adequately posted or protected.

As a response to the concerns raised during the hearings, the company was called upon by the Ministry of Mines to close the shaft, the adit, and they did that with waste rock that had been taken out, and Dr. Bates, in his inspection of the site, using a scintillometer, noted that the gamma radiation from that was, in fact, a thousand times the background area there, and, in fact, would present, in his estimation, a significant hazard to anybody who spent more than a couple of days in that area, and it was his specific recommendation, in the interim report, that this be posted as a potential health hazard.

We identified some concern, and it was difficult to get precise data on this, that would relate to the pincushioning of an ore body, where you drill multiple holes into an ore body, and the concern was to whether or not that would increase the radium content and the radon content. The radon content in the air coming out of the holes; the radium content in the aquifers, the water flowing through there.

We were unable to obtain any good data on how much of an added hazard this presented. Now obviously one of the ways that you search for uranium is to measure its presence in water that is flowing through ore bodies, and we have no hard data to say that that would, under what circumstances, present a clear hazard to the public health. In addition to that, as I alluded to earlier, there was the court case related to the exploration in the watershed of China Creek.

The question of how acceptable these hazards are, and I think they are there, and I think they are real, the question of how acceptable they are in return is really not a medical decision, but those are the circumstances wherein we have seen demonstrated there is some hazard.

Now, that has to be put in the context of the hazards associated with the chap who is flying the helicopter, who is using the radiometer to look for uranium. How does his hazard compare to the hazard of somebody drinking that water? I think, if I had to give an overall impression and this is strictly a non-expert impression, the hazards in particular circumstances may be significant. The overall effect is very minor, compared to the potential hazards associated with the mining itself. I hope that that dealt with your question in a useful way.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I would like to thank Dr. Woollard for being here, and, Dr. Woollard, the question period will continue on tomorrow. Now we are going to go back to the formal session, and I wish to report progress.

SPEAKER (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS AND PLANNING RELATED TO THE NWT; URANIUM MINING AND EXPLORATION

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering federal government proposals and planning related to the Northwest Territories. This matter is concluded. Also, Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering uranium exploration and mining, and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. The Speaker has announced that we will go into the orders of the day.

Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address. Are there any replies? I should remind Members that the item, replies to the Commissioner's Address, will appear in the orders of the day for the last time tomorrow, in accordance with the rules of the House.

Item 3, oral questions.

### ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I did not know I was invisible, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy. Mr. Nerysoo, on the CBC news this morning, I learned that there were...

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order. Mr. Curley.

 $\mbox{MR. CURLEY:}\mbox{ Mr. Speaker, a point of privilege.}\mbox{ I do not think Mr. MacQuarrie should be smoking at this time.}$ 

---Applause

MR. MacQUARRIE: I should not be smoking at any time.

MRS. SORENSEN: And your coat?

MR. MacQUARRIE: My humble apologies.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Sorensen. Oral questions.

#### Question 33-81(2): Vacant Federal Government Engineering Positions

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying, my question is for the Minister of Energy, and concerns a CBC news item this morning, with respect to the fact that there were no engineers left in the federal government department in Yellowknife which deals with the monitoring of oil and gas exploration companies. In view of the fact that the time for drilling to begin in the Beaufort Sea is fast approaching, and in view of the fact that this government is concerned about the lack of federal action in filling those vacant positions, I wonder if the Minister would be prepared to seek a meeting with federal officials as soon as possible, to try to resolve this very serious situation.

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

# Return To Question 33-81(2): Vacant Federal Government Engineering Positions

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I have any problems with trying to find a solution to the issue as soon as possible, and certainly to try and have a meeting, if possible, with the concerned Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 34-81(2): Investigation Re Employment Of Senior Mining Inspector

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice and Public Services. In the interests of open government, and particularly because we are just going to take over responsibility for mines safety inspection, the cloud hanging over the employment of a senior mining inspector is of great importance to many Members. Will the Minister give us an update on the investigation...

 $\mbox{MR. SPEAKER:} \mbox{ Mr. MacQuarrie, you are going a little too fast for the interpreters.}$  You should know better.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Will the Minister give us an update on the investigation, and, specifically, whether any charges have been laid, and, if so, against whom? Perhaps the Minister would also answer why, when the Minister acknowledged in this House that it is personnel in his department who are under investigation, why, in the light of that, that the Deputy Minister is quoted in News/North of a week ago, and I quote, "My department is not involved." Has the Minister checked this statement with the Deputy Minister to see whether he was misquoted, or whether he had real reason for believing that his department was not involved, or, perhaps, it was an attempt to mislead the public?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Hon. Mr. Braden.

Return To Question 34-81(2): Investigation Re Employment Of Senior Mining Inspector

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I thank the honourable Member for giving me notice. As I indicated to the House on May 15th, 1981, the RCMP conducted searches in one federal government office and in the Department of Justice and Public Services about two weeks ago, and removed certain documents from these offices. The searches were conducted as part of an investigation by the RCMP into an allegation of a breach of trust in respect of an appointment of a mining engineer, on the transfer of responsibility for mine safety from the federal government to the territorial government. Since the date of the searches, the RCMP have recorded statements from certain individuals both within and without the Department of Justice and Public Services. I understand that the investigation is still continuing, and no charges to date have been laid.

The remarks of my Deputy Minister of Justice and Public Services were intended to clarify that the investigation being carried out by the RCMP pertained to an allegation against a certain individual or individuals within the Department of Justice and Public Services, and did not pertain to the department per se. The statement of the Deputy Minister was therefore, in my view, accurate, since it is my understanding there is no allegation of wrongdoing or criminal act against the department. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I have a reply to an oral question asked by Ms Cournoyea that I would like to give at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: That was an oral question, Mr. Nerysoo?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I have a response to an oral question.

MR. SPEAKER: Go ahead. Proceed with your reply.

Return To Question 10-81(2): Non-Payment Of Taxes By Hunters And Trappers

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Regarding revenue and non-payment of taxes, the federal Departments of Manpower and Immigration and Revenue Canada have both asked the Department of Renewable Resources to provide fur production and earning records to them to assist in their investigation of the earnings of the Northwest Territories trappers. The department did not provide trapper incentive grant payment records. The Department of Renewable Resources did not initiate or cause the initiation of this investigation.

We could not refuse access to our fur records as they could be seized for audit purposes under the Income Tax Act. To further clarify, section 186 of the Income Tax Act gives sweeping powers to the income tax department to search, seize and remove any documents in connection with an income tax investigation. Subsection 186(6) provides inter alia that no person shall hinder or molest or interfere with such investigation. Subsection 193(2) provides that a person who contravenes section 186 is guilty of an offence and in addition to any other penalty is liable to a fine not less than \$200 and not more than \$10,000. The Department of Renewable Resources will arrange to have copies of section 17 of the Canadian trappers manual, "Taxation and the Trapper" reprinted and distributed to all band councils and hunters' and trappers' associations in the Northwest Territories. "Taxation and the Trapper" gives a step by step procedure which trappers might follow in declaring their entire income annually for taxation purposes. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 35-81(2): Challenging National Energy Board Decision Re Norman Wells Pipeline

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, can Mr. Braden state whether the Executive Committee has reached a decision in respect of legally challenging the decision of the National Energy Board in respect of the Norman Wells pipeline?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Return To Question 35-81(2): Challenging National Energy Board Decision Re Norman Wells Pipeline

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, the Executive Committee has not yet reached a decision.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston.

Supplementary To Question 35-81(2): Challenging National Energy Board Decision Re Norman Wells Pipeline

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, does Mr. Braden intend to reach a decision in the next day or so, recognizing, that I believe tomorrow is the last day by which a decision should be made because the days within which documents can be filed are quickly drawing to a close?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Braden.

Further Return To Question 35-81(2): Challenging National Energy Board Decision Re Norman Wells Pipeline

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the Member will recognize that we did meet last night and did discuss the issue. However, not all the Executive Committee was in attendance at that meeting. I still have a couple of colleagues with whom to discuss the issue before a final decision can be made. I think the Member will also recognize, Mr. Speaker, that we simply have not had the time today to meet as a group and try to come to terms with this difficult issue. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston, supplementary.

# Question 36-81(2): Legal Action Against National Energy Board

MR. SIBBESTON: I am wondering in view of the statement which was made by Mr. Munro today that he does not seem to care either way whether this government takes the National Energy Board to court. Would this have a bearing on the decision of the Executive Committee? Would this matter then be taken up by the Executive Committee in the next day or so, and could this, perhaps, have an effect on the Executive Committee's decision?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Braden.

## Return To Question 36-81(2): Legal Action Against National Energy Board

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, Mr. Munro indicated that he really was not quite sure of the authority that he could grant to the Government of the Northwest Territories to institute legal action, and he was going to be seeking a legal opinion on it. That was my understanding of his response to Mr. Sibbeston's question this afternoon, but I assure the Member that that whole condition of the Minister's responsibility for the North and the status of the Northwest Territories in initiating legal action will be taken into consideration in our discussions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

# Supplementary To Question 36-81(2): Legal Action Against National Energy Board

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, can I just ask the Commissioner then whether he has any views regarding the subject of taking the NEB to court, and would the Commissioner not admit that despite the fact that there are presently negotiations going on between the federal government and the Dene Nation with respect to the Norman Wells pipeline that it would be a wise move to at least start legal action on the basis that these negotiations may still breakdown, although they do look reasonably optimistic for the time being?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, if I may be permitted to respond as a further answer to the one that the Hon. George Braden gave to Mr. Sibbeston's earlier question, I would appreciate the opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed.

# Further Return To Question 36-81(2): Legal Action Against National Energy Board

COMMISSIONER PARKER: The reason I would like to speak to that is because I can add just a little bit of additional information. At the coffee break immediately following the Minister's appearance before the committee of the whole, he gave further consideration to the question that had been put to him, and if I could

perhaps give a different view of the answer that he gave in committee of the whole. He did not say that he was unconcerned about the decision, but he was not certain of whether or not his permission was necessary. Well, at the coffee break, he sought members of the press because he did not want his earlier words to stand, and he said that he was sorry, but he felt that he had made a mistake, and on further reflection felt that regarding a decision to take the National Energy Board to court, he would expect that I would have to refer it to him. That was the message that he conveyed to the members of the press, but he had no opportunity to come back and alter what he had said earlier in front of the House here.

With regard to Mr. Sibbeston's questions contained in his last remarks, I do not feel that it would be proper for me at this time, while the matter is under discussion by the Executive Committee, to express a personal opinion on the correctness or the value of the tactic of going to court or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Item 3, Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Supplementary To Question 36-81(2): Legal Action Against National Energy Board

MR. SIBBESTON: One last supplementary to the Commissioner. Has Mr. Munro instructed the Commissioner whether he ought to go ahead with a legal suit? Has Mr. Munro indicated in any way to Mr. Parker his views as to whether this government ought to proceed with a legal challenge?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I am not ordinarily evasive, but in this instance I feel a duty to the Executive Committee as well as to the Minister, and I would like to have the opportunity to answer that question tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Curley.

### Question 37-81(2): Eastern Arctic Ministry

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Commissioner. He indicated to me yesterday that he would bring up the matter of the Eastern Arctic ministry to the Minister. I wonder if the Commissioner has talked to the Minister of Indian Affairs about appointing a minister responsible for Eastern Arctic, and if he did, could he tell us what kind of commitment the Minister did make today?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Commissioner.

### Return To Question 37-81(2): Eastern Arctic Ministry

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I spoke to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs on the subject of a minister for Nunavut, and rather than report further on that aspect of it, I would like to advise that the Executive Committee has given me their advice on that subject, and I would like to prevail upon you to be given again until either tomorrow or Friday to provide that reply in the House, because I would like to bring a certain amount of precision in the preparation of that reply since it is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Is that satisfactory, Mr. Curley? Item 3, oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

### Question 38-81(2): Legal Opinion On Recommendations On Student Grants And Bursaries

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Leader of the Elected Executive Committee Members regarding student bursaries recommendations for the Executive. Mr. Braden made a statement that he may have to secure legal opinion. I would like to know why at this late date this is brought to our

attention, and it appears that it is brought to our attention because of the non-action of the Executive on the recommendations of this Assembly. Why was the legal opinion not sought as a matter of course immediately since response did dictate that obvious need to have that legal opinion?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Braden. Mr. Patterson, I am sorry.

Return To Question 38-81(2): Legal Opinion On Recommendations On Student Grants And Bursaries

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I will answer that question on Mr. Braden's behalf since I am responsible for Education. Firstly, I would not say that the Executive Committee delayed in acting on the recommendations of the Assembly, finally determined at the last session in February in Yellowknife, because we were able to reach a decision that time and this session in order that there would be at least some public certainty about the situation next fall. So I would challenge that the Executive has delayed acting on the decisions. The delay came understandably because of the difficulty of resolving the issue in this Assembly.

As to why a legal opinion was deemed advisable on the specific recommendation concerning the establishment of a special Metis program in the Territories along the lines of the federal program presently available to Indians and Inuit, there has been considerable expression of concern publicly by various concerned citizens that in fact this particular recommendation might be unlawful, and there has, as the honourable Member may know, been various threats that the government would be sued to challenge that particular recommendation if it were to be implemented.

This government, of course, should not participate in any recommendation or endorse any recommendation which might be outside its powers or contrary to human rights and the Executive Committee felt that especially in view of our new Legal Questions Ordinance it would be desirable to get legal advice prior to acting on this recommendation.

Now as to why that was not done earlier, I can only say that it was not done earlier because it was not clear what the recommendation on that subject was going to be until February. Now, the other thing is that I do not anticipate that obtaining this legal advice will be a long complicated matter. I think we can expect an opinion very shortly and I will make sure that the Member and the special committee are the first to hear of our legal advice on that subject. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

#### Question 39-81(2): Transfer Of Mine Safety Division

MRS. SORENSEN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Justice and Public Services. Again it concerns a CBC news broadcast that I heard this morning. Mr. Minister, there was an item with respect to the transfer of the mining and safety division from the federal to the territorial government, and if my understanding of the news item is correct, there is serious concern among some of the federal mining inspectors that are now still with the federal government about the fact that they have not had serious job offers from the territorial government to date; that proper job descriptions have not been made with respect to the kind of job that they will be doing with the territorial government, and as well that -- and I am not sure whether I have this right -- but as well that the inspecting division is to be reduced from a total of seven to three or four mining inspectors.

Now, I have discussed this matter with you, Mr. Minister, and your answer has satisfied me that we are moving in the right direction with respect to the transfer, but since the public is not aware of what you had to say to me, and since this was a news item, I would not want the public to be misled by that item, so I wonder if you would now inform the public about what our government is doing about that transfer now.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Mr. Braden.

# Return To Question 39-81(2): Transfer Of Mine Safety Division

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to assure the House and the public that, at the outset, the Government of the Northwest Territories attempted to professionally deal with the transfer of the mine safety function to our government, and also to do the required personnel work, in order that federal civil servants could be provided with job offers.

Now, the issue that Mr. MacQuarrie raised a little earlier on concerning an investigation by the RCMP complicated the transfer for a short period of time, but I want to assure the House and the public, Mr. Speaker, that we have, at this point in time, engaged two very senior and experienced representatives of the mine safety fraternity from southern Canada. They are going to be working for us on a short-term basis, and will provide the kind of expertise and experience that we require to complete the transfer in all its phases, and as the Member is aware Mr. Speaker, that also includes quite a bit of work with the Mining Safety Ordinance and the regulations.

I will be making a much more detailed statement on this subject early next week, Mr. Speaker, as I indicated earlier on, I was going to be making a progress report but I have not received it yet. I will be able to provide the House will full details of our progress to date, and what is left to be done, hopefully early next week. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 3, oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

## Question 40-81(2): Availability Of Funds For Organizations Re Education

MRS. SORENSEN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Education. Mr. Minister, my understanding is that the Executive Committee has agreed to make some \$120,000 available to the Dene Nation to conduct research and I believe, consult with their people up and down the valley, in preparation for the Dene Nation's presentation to the special committee on education. Now, this is a very generous offer on the part of the government, and certainly is in line with the priority for education that this Legislature set out during the last budget session.

My question however, concerns the availability of funds for other groups which might wish to do the same, and here I am thinking about groups such as school districts, boards of education, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, other groups that might similarly wish to consult and conduct research to make presentations to the special committee on education. Are those funds available, and through what mechanism can they, too, apply for such funds?

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

### Return To Question 40-81(2): Availability Of Funds For Organizations Re Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, those funds are not available. This was not a precedent for other groups to do research in connection with the work of the special committee on education. The decision was made to cover what was deemed to be the very special situtation in the Mackenzie after a rather

concerned presentation was received from the Dene Nation that assistance was needed so that the Dene could offer constructive comments for the special committee, and be made aware of the operation of the existing system and the issues which the committee wishes to address.

The special committee itself has been given a research budget to research all the principal areas of investigation, and I know, for example, that the research project manager, Mr. Loughton, has, for example, begun consultations already with the Yellowknife school boards, with a view to getting their input and experience and advice, and other research has been commissioned in other areas where co-operation will be sought from other native organizations and various other interests such as the teachers associations, etc., but this decision with regard to the Dene Nation proposal was made to meet that special need alone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Supplementary To Question 40-81(2): Availability Of Funds For Organizations Re Education

MRS. SORENSEN: Just as a supplementary to that, Mr. Speaker, I would have to ask Mr. Minister whether the special committee on education was aware of the application for funds which was made to the Executive Committee, and whether the special committee deliberated with the Executive Committee at the time that the decision was made to give the funds to the Dene Nation?

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

Further Return To Question 40-81(2): Availability Of Funds For Organizations Re Education

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HON}}.$  DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, to the first question, yes; to the second question, no. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Curley.

### Question 41-81(2): Source Of Funds For Dene Nation

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the question from Mrs. Sorensen, I would like to ask the Minister of Education as to exactly where these funds are going to be coming in from, since the Assembly's special committee has been denied the whole amount requested by the Executive Committee previously. I wonder whether or not this money would not at all reflect upon the special committee's budget.

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

# Return To Question 41-81(2): Source Of Funds For Dene Nation

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: The funds for this special project will not influence the budget of the special committee in one way or another, although the Executive had initially recommended that, subject to agreement from the committee, the grant to the Dene Nation would usefully be administered through the special committee. That decision is being reviewed, and more details will be announced later, following Executive decision on that particular recommendation at a further meeting with the special committee on education and the Dene Nation in the coming week. The Minister of Finance could probably advise you better, but the money will come from the consolidated revenue fund, as an Executive Committee grant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

## Question 42-81(2): By-Law Affecting Communities And Mortgages

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is -- the Commissioner can answer it, perhaps. I was informed that back home, apparently there has been a new by-law which may affect the communities and mortgages. Does anybody know about this by-law and what it is about?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I suspect that that comes within the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Services. I will take that question as notice and report back to the Member as soon as possible with a written reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. Evaluarjuk, is that okay if he replies back? Thank you. Item 3, oral questions. There will be no further oral questions. Our thanks to the Commissioner. Item 4, questions and returns.

#### ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. McLaughlin.

### Question 43-81(2): Consideration Of Proposed Staff Housing Policy

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Leader of the Elected Executive regarding the new staff housing policy. Will the Minister reconsider the placement of Pine Point in the level one category, as there is no private housing market? If the Executive Committee will not reconsider this, will they advise how they will provide housing for teachers if the government sells the houses they now own, and then end up with no houses for teachers after transferring staff sell their houses to non-government people? Finally, can the Executive Committee guarantee that the rental housing will only be rented to government employees in the future, if the government gets out of its present lease agreement?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Item 4, questions and returns. Item 5. Mr. McCallum. Mrs. Sorensen, I am sorry. Item 4, questions and returns.

#### Question 44-81(2): Land Use Leases/Permits

MRS. SORENSEN: I have a written question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Local Government. Realizing that this government is not entirely responsible for the granting of land use leases but also recognizing that it normally is consulted, I wonder if the Minister would have his staff prepare the following information for tabling in this House: How many land use leases/permits have been granted by the federal and territorial officials during the last five years? List the companies and individuals concerned. How many land use leases/permits have been rejected during the last five years? List the companies and individuals concerned, and reasons why rejected.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Item 4, questions and returns.

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

# ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 5-81(2), Energy Costs and Prices, Northwest Territories, 1980, prepared by Allan J. Hunt, Tran-Serv Limited, March, 1981.

Tabled Document 6-81(2), Energy Demand and Supply in the Northwest Territories, prepared by Martin Adelaar, Energy Probe, for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Minister of Energy, Government of the Northwest Territories, February, 1981.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

#### ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mrs. Sorensen.

### Notice Of Motion 7-81(2): Extension Of Replies To Commissioner's Address

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to serve notice that I will be asking for unanimous consent to move the following: Now therefore, I move that the period for replies to the Commissioner's Address be extended up to and including Friday, May 29th, and that this item appear daily in the orders of the day up to and including that date.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. The unanimous consent was requested. Do I hear any nays? Mr. Curley. Notices of motion. Item 8, Mr. Curley.

## Notice Of Motion 8-81(2): Proposed Plebiscite On Division

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, May 22, 1981, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Pine Point, that the proposed plebiscite on division of the Northwest Territories, described in recommendation five of the unity committee's recommendations, be held in all Northwest Territories communities in conjunction with the December 14th, 1981, municipal elections.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 8, notices of motion. Mr. Curley.

### Notice Of Motion 9-81(2): Plebiscite Re Division

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I give notice that on Friday, May 22, 1981, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move that the question on the first plebiscite on the division of the Northwest Territories be as follows: "Do you favour the creation of Nunavut territory?"

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 8, notices of motion. Mr. Pudluk.

## Notice Of Motion 10-81(2): Widening Of Road Between Nanisivik Mine And Arctic Bay

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Friday, May 22, 1981, I wish to move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the Member for Frobisher Bay, the Hon. Dennis Patterson, that this Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that they have the Department of Public Works take measures as soon as possible to widen the road between Nanisivik mine and the community of Arctic Bay on the curves and hills.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Item 8, notices of motion. Mr. Noah.

Notice Of Motion 11-81(2): Cancellation Of Property Taxes Implementation In Eastern Arctic

MR. NOAH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice on Friday the 22nd of May, 1981, I will move the following motion, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that it not proceed with its plans to introduce further property taxes in the Eastern Arctic until after the settlement of land claims and the establishment of Nunavut as designated in the ITC Nunavut proposal.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Item 8, notices of motion. Item 9, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

### ITEM NO. 9: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Mr. Braden.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 7-81(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1980-1981

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, May 21st, 1981, I shall move that Bill 7-81(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1980-1981 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Item 9, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-81(2): Liquor Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, May 21st, 1981, I shall move that Bill 8-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. I wonder if you could correct both of those motions to read the 22nd or the 21st -- Friday, for the record?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, for the record, it should read May 22nd.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills, Item 9. Item 10, motions.

### ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

I understand there are no motions in the book. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I wish to request unanimous consent to deal with my motion concerning the extension that applies to the Commissioner's Address, Mr. Speaker.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mrs. Sorensen, unanimous consent is requested. Any nays?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion 7-81(2): Extension Of Replies To Commissioner's Address

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS in accordance with the Rules of the Assembly, tomorrow, May 21st, is the last opportunity at this session for replies to the Commissioner's Address:

AND WHEREAS presentation of an extensive number of replies tomorrow would seriously restrict the time available for the debate on uranium mining and exploration;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the period for replies to the Commissioner's Address be extended up to and including Friday, May 29th, and that this item appear daily on the orders of the day, up to and including that date.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Did you have a seconder for that?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I will second that.

Motion 7-81(2), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Seconded by Mr. McLaughlin. Do I hear a question? All in favour? Down. Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

ITEM NO. 11: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS FOR FIRST READING

Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I would seek consent of this House to give first reading to Bill 7-81(2) and 8-81(2) today if it is possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed?

---Agreed

Proceed.

First Reading Of Bill 7-81(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1980-1981

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I would move that Bill 7-81(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for 1980-1981 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Have we a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Any further questions? All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Introduction of bills for first reading, Item 11. Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 8-81(2): Liquor Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 8-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Have we a seconder? Mr. McCallum. Do I hear a question? All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Item 12, second reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 12: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 1-81(2): Co-operative Associations Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 1-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Co-operative Associations Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for the registration in our jurisdiction of co-operative associations incorporated in other jurisdictions, and for the amalgamation of associations where one or more of the amalgamating associations was incorporated in another jurisdiction.

 $\mbox{MR. SPEAKER:}\ \mbox{Do we have a seconder?}\ \mbox{Mr. McCallum.}\ \mbox{Question being called.}$  All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 2-81(2): Extra-Territorial Custody Orders Enforcement Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 2-81(2), An Ordinance to Allow the Enforcement of Extra-Territorial Custody Orders, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to allow territorial courts to enforce, in appropriate situations, custody orders of courts of other jurisdictions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Seconder? Mr. McCallum. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

### Second Reading Of Bill 3-81(2): Fire Prevention Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 3-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Fire Prevention Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend by changing the term "inspector" to "fire safety officer" and by allowing the fire marshal, deputy fire marshal, local assistant or fire safety officer to remove evidence from the scene of a fire for the purpose of investigating the fire or for use in subsequent proceedings.

MR. SPEAKER: Seconder? Mr. McCallum. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 4-81(2): Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 4-81(2), An Ordinance to Provide for a Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for rebates of property taxes to home owners in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Seconded by Mr. McCallum. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? Second reading of bill being carried.

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

#### Second Reading Of Bill 5-81(2): Maintenance Orders Enforcement Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 5-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Maintenance Orders Enforcement Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for a continuing method of enforcing payment under maintenance orders.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Seconded by Mr. McCallum. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Thank you. You are pushing your luck a little bit there, Mr. Braden.

Item 12, second reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

# Second Reading Of Bill 6-81(2): Public Trustee Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: This is the last bill, Mr. Speaker. I thank the House for its indulgence. I move that Bill 6-81(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Trustee Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to increase the value of an estate that can be distributed without probate from \$2000 to \$5000; and to allow the public trustee to administer the estate of a person who is not mentally incompetent but who suffers from mental infirmity arising from age, disease, or other cause.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Have we a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

#### ---Carried

Thank you. Item 12, second reading of bills. Item 14, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk, announcements.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting at 7:30 this evening in room 201 of the Ptarmigan Inn of the Baffin region MLA's, concerning regional capital planning priorities. There is a meeting tomorrow at 11:45 a.m. in the caucus room of the standing committee on legislation. There is a public meeting tomorrow evening of the education committee at Pine Point at 7:00 p.m. Friday morning, 9:00 a.m., in the caucus room, the standing committee on finance.

#### ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 21.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. In line with the authority given to the Speaker to adjust tomorrows sitting hours, and with the wishes of caucus, the sitting hours will be 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The hour being 6:00 p.m., this House stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, May the 21st.

---ADJOURNMENT