



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

6th Session

9th Assembly

HANSARD
Official Report

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1981

Pages 30 to 92

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1981

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Before I start on the orders of the day, I would like to introduce some new staff of the Assembly: Mr. Peter Fuglsang, our new Law Clerk.

---Applause

David Williamson, Sergeant-at-Arms.

---Applause

And Sylvie Charles, records clerk.

---Applause

Welcome aboard.

Item 2, replies to Commissioner's Address.

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Mr. MacQuarrie's Reply And Motion Of Appreciation

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to have this, my first opportunity to move a motion of appreciation to the Commissioner for his Address to this Assembly and I would certainly like to take the opportunity to compliment the Commissioner for his work with this Assembly and with the people of the Northwest Territories. My assessment is that he is certainly a man for this season in the Northwest Territories who in very complex and difficult times is unquestionably a friend of responsible government.

I was particularly pleased to see in his Address yesterday as a first item the concern expressed, which was also expressed by all Members of this Assembly yesterday, that the special status of native people, who form the majority population in this political jurisdiction, should be recorded in our national constitution.

With respect to the concerns that were expressed in our emergency debate yesterday, that is, with respect to the neglect of aboriginal rights in the federal constitution and the roadblocks that stand in the way of political and constitutional development in the Northwest Territories, I am not extremely hopeful that the resolution that we passed will be answered in a way that is acceptable to us. In other words, I am afraid that we may not be granted a hearing with the Prime Minister of Canada. We were asked in the debate yesterday by Mr. Curley to pursue with conviction what we have begun. We were asked by Ms Cournoyea to match our actions to our words. I understand from a radio report today that the president of the Dene Nation, Mr. Erasmus and the president of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, Mr. John Amagoalik, have urged us to meet in Ottawa as a way of showing even more dramatically than perhaps we showed yesterday, our concern for these matters.

I would like to say right now that I, for one, am willing, if our request is unheeded, to support the convening of a special committee of the Members of this Assembly in the open air if necessary, in the square in front of the parliament buildings in Ottawa, as people who are ignored and dispossessed, to meet and discuss our concerns and, if necessary, to carry placards in front of the building and to lobby whatever MPs we can, so that at least if the Prime Minister will not listen, perhaps the people of Canada will.

Member's Concerns About Constitution

I said in my remarks yesterday that I have concerns about the constitution over and above those that were being dealt with yesterday. One of them, a deep concern that I have, is what I consider an insensitive violation of an agreement between Quebec and the Government of Canada that was made at the time of confederation. I have that concern. I will not go into it right at this moment.

I also have a deep concern about the entrenchment of a charter of rights in the federal constitution which, if it is effected, will fundamentally alter the nature of this country and it will greatly impact on every one of us in the Northwest Territories, as well as Canadians right across the country. I believe that if that entrenchment is to be stopped it has to be done now. There is not a great deal of time, but I recognize, unfortunately, that my view on that matter is not the popular view; that the majority of Canadians believe it to be a good thing. Mr. Trudeau has assured them that it is a good thing, but Mr. Trudeau has been known to be wrong before, and I say that he is wrong in this as well.

Entrenchment Of Charter Of Rights Undesirable

It might seem surprising, perhaps, to some that I should take that approach. I know that Canadians generally treasure democracy, freedom and justice, but I would say that none treasure them more than I, but I can assure Members and other Canadians that despite superficial appearances to the contrary, the entrenchment -- and that is what bothers me most of all, not the charter itself, but the fact that it will be entrenched in the constitution -- the entrenchment of the charter of rights is not the golden road to justice and freedom for all. As a matter of fact, I believe it to be an abomination -- something that is absolutely undesirable for the country.

Only those who can truly appreciate the potential of democracy, who recognize that black letter law is not desirable in its own right but is merely a necessary evil, and who understand that we take a regressive step when we entrench written law where precedent, convention and principle have served admirably, if not perfectly, in the past, will understand why I call the entrenchment of a charter of rights an abomination. Only those who have the vision to foresee the creation of a hidebound society where black letter law supersedes principle, where litigation becomes a first rather than a last resort, where a naive and legalistic approach to human rights strangles the very spirit of freedom and perverts the quest for justice into a niggling argument about

law will understand why I call the entrenchment of a charter of rights an abomination. Only those who can comprehend that our present conception of human rights is flawed and still well down the scale of evolution will understand why I strongly oppose the entrenchment of a so-called charter of rights. Only those who recognize the immensely significant shift in power that is going to take place, or that will take place, from the people and their elected representatives, who must renew their mandate from time to time and who are directly answerable to the people -- a shift from that situation to law books and their static words, to courts of law and lawyers will understand why I feel that I must resist the entrenchment of a so-called charter of rights with all the resources at my disposal, and that is why I refer to it in this forum.

I urge all Members to try to appreciate the immense and undesirable impact that the entrenchment -- and, again, I say that it is the entrenchment that bothers me most -- the entrenchment of a charter of rights will have on this country and then appreciating and understanding that impact I would ask Members to join in the fight against it.

Power Politics Predominate Constitution Process

As my last word on the federal constitution, I must say that the legacy of a constitution and an entrenched charter of rights that result from a process of crass politicking mean to me that Pierre Elliot Trudeau is not the great champion of democracy and freedom that he pretends to be and he should not be recorded in history as such.

My view is that he is a selfish and determined politician who has been attempting to use national power to achieve personal goals, unfortunately at the expense of the well-being of this nation. He should resign and let us begin the process of constitutional renewal once again, the right way this time, with parties of interest being properly heard from in a forum where they can negotiate with one another in order to address all of their concerns in the most equitable manner possible.

If I have spent time on the process, expressing my concern about the process that has been used to create the federal constitution, it is only because I deeply believe that all of us in the Northwest Territories have a lesson to learn from the mistakes that are being made in that process. We must not allow power politics to predominate in our constitution building efforts.

No Single Group Should Effect Constitutional Change

Ours is an area, just as Canada is in total -- ours is an area of great variation in race, language and life style, and no single group, because it has leverage through power, should attempt to ram through political and constitutional development on its own terms at the expense of anyone else. The Ninth Assembly, the Assembly to which we belong, as one of its first acts repudiated that kind of approach to constitution building. The Eighth Assembly had prepared a position on political and constitutional development which though thorough and well-meaning, in some respects I feel was not acceptable because it attempted to bring about constitutional change in the Northwest Territories without the consent of significant groups of people. I challenged that when it was being done. I included that challenge in my election platform and when I was elected to this Assembly I was very happy to be part of the process which stopped that approach from continuing any further.

I know that Mr. Erasmus, the president of the Dene Nation, has expressed a concern that this Assembly should not be the single forum for effecting constitutional change in the Northwest Territories. I absolutely agree with him, but I say that he need not have that fear, because this Assembly has already indicated that it does not believe that it has the sole right to effect constitutional change in the Territories.

I do have a concern on the other side now. I would say that while Members of this Assembly and the Assembly as a whole have learned that lesson, I am not yet satisfied that all of the native associations have learned that lesson; that to build constitutions effectively you must have all parties of interest involved at every step of the way. I am encouraged by the recent efforts of the Dene Nation to make constitution building a public process. They intend to hold public meetings and I will be happy to take part in them. They recommend a certain style of government, which in some respects interests me very much, but the crucial question is not at this moment what kind of government will we finally have but, rather, that it be negotiated -- yes -- that there be no imposition -- yes -- but negotiated at what table and with who sitting around it? Those are the crucial questions.

I would say that a forum established by no single group will be an effective and satisfactory forum for constitution building in the Northwest Territories -- not the forum of the Legislative Assembly, but not either the forum of aboriginal rights discussions between the Dene Nation and the federal government. What we need is an independent forum that has broadly based representation, that includes representatives from every party of interest who will be affected and which, whatever conclusions that forum might come to, would be made the subject of ratification by the people who would have to live under the terms of that constitution.

Constitutional Development Committee Inactive

As an impetus to the kind of constitution building that I see, I would recommend very strongly that the constitutional development committee of this Assembly become active. I am a Member of it. I have on several occasions urged the chairman, Mr. Sibbeston, to convene meetings and to begin our part in the process and I have not yet been successful, but I have not yet given up either. Our committee must become active and play a significant role.

If there is a reluctance on the part of native associations to have a more broadly based representation in constitutional talks, I must point them to a letter which I will table a little later this afternoon, which I received from the Hon. John Munro, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, in response to a letter I sent to him concerning this matter. The reply was three and a half months in coming. I can only believe that that was not just apathy on the part...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The postal strike.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...the postal strike or apathy on the part of officials. I have very good reason to believe that it was a carefully considered reply and the reply says that when we talk about political and constitutional development, toward a government or governments that will have jurisdiction over all people, then all people must be represented at those discussions. What it will perhaps mean is that through prior discussions between this Assembly, the Executive Committee, our Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, the constitution committee on the one hand, through discussions between those and on the other hand the various native associations who have legitimate concerns in this matter, that we may be able to agree on the establishment of some kind of independent forum. Perhaps the election of a constituent assembly which would have as its purpose the creation of a constitution or constitutions, if we are to have more than one territory.

I think that if the process embarked upon were measured, not hasty as the federal government process has been, but measured enough to take account of the very great difficulties that have to be resolved in that kind of process, if the process is broadly based and absolutely ensures the participation of all people who have legitimate interests, if it is based on principles of democracy and justice, then I have no doubt that within a reasonably short time, to the advantage of all people in the Northwest Territories in their dealings with the

federal government, I have no doubt that in a reasonably short period of time we could have a government or governments that reflect the aspirations of native people, that take into account the principles of devolution and regional government, that may very well be clothed in a new forum, that may have a new style of dealing with issues and dealing with the people they represent, and for which native languages are accorded rightfully a special status. I hope that when we later discuss the contents of the aboriginal rights paper that that is the kind of process that Members will agree to embark upon.

Organized And Independent Strategy Lacking

I feel in many respects, turning slightly to another topic, that our government has been lacking an organized and independent strategy in dealing with the federal government generally. I believe that that is no more evident than in the matter of Bill C-48. Our approach to that issue certainly was not acceptable, because it was not effective, or has not proved to be yet, anyway. We have to generate a strategy that properly takes account of the relative strengths and weaknesses of the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories and that learns how to most effectively use the strengths that we do have.

Bill C-48 dealt with what are called "Canada lands" and with the production of oil and gas in those lands and that raises a matter that is of serious concern to me. I am not at all persuaded that there will be an adequate environmental review process for the extraction of oil and gas from the Arctic Ocean. There have been indications in the past that the process is not adequate. Just one or two months ago -- I cannot recall -- it was reported that there had been a spill of one or two barrels of oil near Tuktoyaktuk and upon investigation by government inspectors it turned out to be 80 or 100 barrels. A small matter, but an indication to me that if there are not stringent and careful environmental controls on the extraction process in an environment that is very delicate, that we are courting disaster. There have to be more serious penalties for breaches of regulations and we have to ensure that the whole process of extraction is not rushed so that environmental concerns cannot be looked after adequately.

I know that the country as a whole has a need for oil particularly and that the government is hoping through its national energy policy to make this country self-sufficient, but it could be that it is relying too heavily and needlessly on the development of oil in that frontier region.

Recently, reading through an address that was given by J.G. Livingston, who is the president of Imperial Oil Limited, he indicated that there are still important untapped potentials in southern Canada, undiscovered conventional oil, the potential of enhanced recovery in existing fields, as we see being done in respect to the Norman Wells operation -- that type of thing could be done more widely in the South -- and, of course, the development of oil sands, and all of these potentials are there. Mr. Livingston said that it was risky as a policy to rely on early production from frontier oil because of the technical problems that are involved. Well, I say in addition that it is potentially very damaging environmentally, and so my position is not to oppose that development, but simply for all of us to make sure that when it occurs that it is in accordance with regulations that are stringent and that are applied effectively.

We are not in any great rush economically, the people of the Northwest Territories, for that oil. We do have a lot of smaller projects, mining developments, that are going on at the present time. They are smaller in their impact and more controllable and my position is that we do need certain types of economic development and that is more the type that we should be looking at, at the present time.

Housing Shortage In Yellowknife

I mentioned briefly, or referred briefly to mines and there is no doubt that a resurgence in mining in the Northwest Territories, among other things, has tended to lift Yellowknife out of a little economic slump that it was in for a couple of years; but this resurgence, among other things, has placed an immense pressure on housing, on accommodation generally in Yellowknife. We have seen soaring rents recently and for some people a lack of accommodation. I find that this matter, particularly the lack of accommodation, is a great concern among my constituents.

I believe that the Government of the Northwest Territories, as a very large employer in Yellowknife and as an authority in housing, must intervene in some way in order to help alleviate the problem. I believe they have in some ways, and a little later I will be asking the question of the Leader of the Elected Executive, to determine more precisely just what measures have been taken; but certainly some of those measures should include attempting to assess the real situation that does exist, because it is well-known that there is a problem but I am not sure that it is well-known just exactly what the extent of that problem is. Perhaps it should intervene in a way so as to help make the most of any accommodation that is available in the city, because there are certainly some vacant units, and our government maybe ought to be getting together with others who are concerned and try to make sure that the most is made of whatever accommodation is available.

I feel that it can also intervene in some way -- although I have never been sold on the policy that in the Northwest Territories we should be encouraging the building of detached dwellings -- but at any rate, at this time in the nation when we are faced by such terribly high interest rates, I believe our government might also intervene in the sense to help critical cases. It might intervene in such a way so as to encourage and assist in the construction of rental accommodations. I note in the federal budget that there is some help in that direction, \$7500 a unit I think it is, for 15,000 units across the country; but that is not a great deal, and Yellowknife -- if we take as a measure the way in which Ottawa pays attention to the needs of the North in other matters -- Yellowknife might not see any of that assistance at all.

So I would like to see our government become involved in assisting that and I think it might do it in one of two ways. Perhaps the preferred way is to give some guarantees of occupancy, if there are entrepreneurs who are willing to put up rental accommodation. I will come to the business, in a moment, about delaying the implementation of our policy, but that would seem to call for that measure, a delay. That is one way where they might be able to help. If it seems impossible because of the high interest rates -- I know that many entrepreneurs are not interested in taking the risk at the present time. If they cannot be interested then I will pursue the matter of trying to ensure that the Housing Corporation becomes involved in resolving this problem; because the Housing Corporation has built public accommodation in the North where it acts in the capacity of being a last resort -- the accommodation is not going to get built any other way, so the Housing Corporation builds it. Well, I would suggest that we face a situation in Yellowknife, at the present time, where we might be looking at a last resort, and if necessary I would want to see them do that.

Morale In The Public Service

Talking about housing leads me to another problem which, when I was travelling throughout my constituency this past summer, talking with many constituents, leads me to the concern of morale in the public service of the Northwest Territories. I talked with many people who, in my judgment, are not chronic complainers, not the kind of people who are always bitching about something or other, but in many cases public employees who have been dedicated over the years, hard working, effective, and are not generally given to complaint; and yet I found, among a number, at least enough to make me take notice that there is a problem of morale.

One of the contributors, certainly, is the general housing situation, the fact that the government is getting out of the staff housing business at what seems to be the worst possible time, and with a shortage of housing some are calling for very clear criteria as to who should get housing and why. Some are calling for some sort of appeal -- usually this matter of allocation has been left in the hands of one housing officer. I certainly do not want any of what I say to reflect on the housing officer -- I know if there is one job in the world I do not want, ever, it is to be a housing officer, somebody who has to allocate housing -- but because of that very difficult position that he is in, and because of the situation that exists in the city, some would like to see some form of an appeal to ensure that those that need the housing most of all are those who get it.

Something else that of course contributes to the morale problem is the upward pressure on rents and some have faced two rental increases in less than the past year, and are being informed about another one to come as well. Because of some of these types of problems, I had already written to the Executive Committee earlier, to ask for a delay in the implementation of their staff housing policy. The answer was that they must proceed. Well, during this session I will try to interest other Members -- I know that there are a few others already interested -- in bringing a motion and asking in that way that the Executive Committee delay its implementation, that it change the date from November of next year.

With respect to housing there is one little side issue that came up. I also asked the question as to why deputy ministers were going to be provided with accommodation, when the government was getting out of providing accommodation for all other employees. It seemed to me to be terribly unfair since deputy ministers are already privileged in the salaries that they receive, and should be treated in every other way like other employees. The response that I received was that it is being done because from now on in the Northwest Territories, deputy ministers will serve at pleasure, presumably meaning that so long as the Ministers are satisfied with their performance they will remain. If they are not satisfied with their performance or if, indeed, they choose to have somebody else in the position for whatever reason, that the deputy minister would not be subject to the same sort of protection that public servants ordinarily are. Now, I can accept that as a reason for providing them with housing, if indeed that is going to happen, and I will be asking to ensure that if that is a policy, it be written somewhere so that all of us know in fact that it is a policy, and that is the only basis on which I could accept the continued providing of accommodation to deputy ministers.

Erosion Of Economic Position Of Public Servants

Another thing that seems to be contributing to the morale problem among public servants is the erosion of their economic position over the years. I know that salaries in the Northwest Territories traditionally have been higher than they have been in the South, in order to compensate for the higher cost of living, but there has unquestionably been a decline in that differential over the years. With increases in costs for accommodation, enormous increases in energy -- and I guess, from the looks of the budget, we can anticipate even higher increases in the cost of energy -- there has been that erosion.

Then of course, there is the imminent threat that whatever benefits employees may have had will be subject to taxation; and again I know that in the federal budget last night it was announced that the moratorium will continue for one more year, and one more year alone. Many of my constituents will be pleased to hear that, but I would like to make it clear, also, that many of my constituents do not see the reception of special benefits and the non-taxing of those, as a proper long-term solution for themselves or other northerners. They, and certainly I, myself, see that at best as a short-term solution, that we do not help anybody by taking away from someone when they already have benefits, but rather we must work together during this coming year in order to receive that special consideration in salary, to meet higher costs of living, to see that it is expanded to include every person in the Northwest Territories.

Last April, I think it was, the Hon. Mr. Butters tabled a paper in this House, a position, a Government of the Northwest Territories position, calling or recommending that there be a deduction from income to arrive at "net" as the best way of ensuring that people who live in the Northwest Territories are treated equally and have additional income to meet additional costs. I read the paper thoroughly, I find it a very good one, I think that is the right approach to take; but I think that maybe we have not taken it strenuously enough and that many parties of interest must come together and agree on a single approach and work hard to bring it into effect before the next calendar year is passed.

Unfair Discrimination Against Public Servants

But the morale problem is not entirely a problem of economics, of housing and erosion of economic position; it extends further. Other matters that I have heard from my constituents that contribute to the problem tend to be that sometimes public servants, through indiscriminate remarks of Members of this Assembly or others, feel that they have been tarred with too wide a brush, and I at times have felt that that has been the case as well, because we do have many competent, hard-working and unselfish public servants on our staff and it is unfortunate that they should be made to feel that way by indiscriminate comments.

I know also that for some it has been the difficulty with the financial information system over the past two years that has undermined morale for some, and I know -- well, that matter came up most recently at my constituency meeting just less than a week ago. Also, for some it is a feeling of estrangement or a lack of communication with the Assembly and with the Executive Committee, and I recognize that certainly part of that must be, and must reflect, the uncertainty of the difficult situation in the North that exists at the present time, and to the extent that the morale problem reflects that, I cannot be sympathetic. It is a difficult situation for all when we are trying to resolve certain fundamental and very serious concerns. To the extent that it exists over and above that, that is, to the extent that it is a lack of communication because of insensitivity or for whatever reason, then I implore Members and the government to be sensitive employers. If the decisions that we reach are important, then their implementation is important; and we rely on many people to implement them for us. If we want the implementation to be successful, then we do have to be more sensitive and respectful of the people who are called on to implement them.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward very much to the remainder of this session. It deals with a number of the kinds of things that I particularly like to deal with. I look forward very much to reading the interim report of the special committee on education which, while I understand it will not make specific recommendations, will discuss what committee Members believe to be the pertinent issues and will discuss them in such a way that we may be able to understand the kinds of principles that will underlie the recommendations when they are made. So I look forward to that. I look forward to discussion of the Report on the Impact of Division of the Northwest Territories and above all, to the discussion of the Hon. James Wah-Shee's paper on political and constitutional development.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my pleasure to move a motion of appreciation to the Commissioner for his Address to this Assembly.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. The Hon. James Wah-Shee.

Hon. James Wah-Shee's Reply

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, honourable Members, ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to have this opportunity to respond to the Commissioner's Address on behalf of the Executive Committee. This session will indeed be an important one for there is an opportunity to set in place, a mechanism for reaching a true northern consensus on the future political and constitutional development of the Northwest Territories.

As you are no doubt aware, my colleagues on the Executive Committee and I have recently released a discussion paper entitled, "Our Land Our Future", which we hope will be the beginning of a serious discussion on the internal restructuring of these vast Territories. We are looking forward to receiving comments and suggestions on the paper which I will be tabling. The paper briefly touches on a process to effect political and constitutional change. Work is already well under way to develop such a process. We have met to discuss a process, with representatives of the major native claimant groups; as well as a briefing meeting this past Wednesday with the Hon. John Munro, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.

The process developed thus far is a four-phase process of consensus building: negotiations, ratification and referendum, and final agreement and implementation. A broadening of aboriginal claims negotiations is being sought to include discussions on political and constitutional change in the Northwest Territories. In recognition of this, the process as developed to date, would use the forum of the various aboriginal claims negotiations as an integral part of the process. More will be said concerning this process during the debate on the political and constitutional development.

Changes Proposed For NWT Government

Our discussion paper also encourages the development of proposals for change in the style and form of the government of these Territories. There are three such major proposals for change currently before us. The Nunavut proposal is one which has been around for some time and was the subject of lengthy debate during the October 1980 session of this Assembly. Indeed, most of the activity relating to the restructuring of the Northwest Territories to date has centered around the Eastern Arctic and the Nunavut proposal. The plebiscite is planned and the federal government has indicated it will make a decision on the matter after the results are in.

The development of the Western Arctic regional municipality is also a proposal for change which has been around for some time. Unfortunately, little progress has been made over the past year on this proposal. However, it is an issue that must continue to be taken seriously and dealt with accordingly.

The Dene Nation and the Metis Association have been advocating a western Northwest Territories government for some time now, and has recently released a proposal called "Public Government for the People of the North". The paper proposes the development toward provincial-like public government for the western Northwest Territories, called Denendeh. As noted in our discussion paper, this is a proposal that must be treated with the same seriousness as the Nunavut proposal. Although it is basically an outline with many details still required to be worked out, and clarification necessary in some areas, it is a proposal that appears to be realistic and workable. My colleagues and I look forward to further discussion on these and any other proposal, during the course of the session, with a view of bringing us closer to a consensus on the political and constitutional future of the Northwest Territories.

It is ironic that we in the North are finally coming to terms with our internal differences and starting on a course of co-operation and consensus, when we are at the national level being squeezed completely out of the picture. The signing of the constitutional accord in Ottawa by the Prime Minister and the nine provincial premiers constitutes an alarming setback for the future political and constitutional aspirations of the two Territories. As discussed yesterday in the committee of the whole, there are two main concerns with this latest version of the proposed patriation package. First is the removal of the constitutional guarantee of aboriginal rights from the patriation package. With the exception of the Saskatchewan government, this Legislative Assembly now stands as virtually the only legislative body in Canada that supports the guarantee of aboriginal rights in the constitution. Nevertheless you can be assured that we will do all that is within our power to lend support to the cause of aboriginal groups, to reinstate the guarantee of their rights in the patriation package.

Provincial Input Into Future Of Two Territories

The second concern is with the subsection 9(e) and 9(f) of the amending formula. It is with great shock and alarm that we read that by these two subsections the various provinces and the federal government can agree to extend the boundaries of provinces into the Northwest Territories or the Yukon Territory, and to create new provinces out of the existing Territories. The latter, as discussed yesterday, was formerly the exclusive power of the federal government, but now it seems the provinces will have direct input into the political and constitutional future of the two Territories, while we in the North will have no constitutional guarantee of being involved.

It is difficult now, dealing as we are with the federal government in the advancement of political and constitutional future. It will now be 10 times more difficult, to say the least. Indeed, as noted by the honourable Members yesterday, provinces could in fact have veto power over any proposal, to create a new province out of the existing Territories. The foregoing clearly illustrates the need for this government to be full participants at the first ministerial conferences...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: ...especially when constitutional reform is being discussed. To this end the Executive Committee is currently developing a position on our territorial participation in conferences of first ministers. We do not agree that our presence at such conferences should be at the discretion of the Prime Minister in Ottawa. We feel that any subject that is discussed by the 10 premiers and the Prime Minister will affect the North and we must ensure that our views are heard and heeded.

The population of the Northwest Territories is just over 40,000. This has been used as an argument by the provinces and the federal government to block our aspirations for greater political and economic autonomy. The argument goes that such a small group of people should not be given political and economic responsibility and authority as have the provinces or control the vast, yet untapped resources that lie north of the 60th parallel. However, it is our view that the right to political and economic self-determination should not be predicated on having a large population. Within the next decade or so the Territories will grow in terms of population and resource revenue generation. To meet the challenges of the future, we must begin now to govern ourselves and to benefit from the exploitation of our resources, as well as to participate as equals in decision making that affects all of Canada and its various regions.

With respect to the resources that lie beneath this northland, as well as beneath the waters surrounding the Territories, we recognize that there is a national interest. We want to ensure, however, that the development and exploitation of these resources are in harmony with the needs, desires and aspirations of the northern people and are to their benefit, as well as to the benefit of the nation as a whole.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Bill C-48, if given assent as is, will effectively put complete ownership and control of the land and resources on Canada lands -- most of the Northwest Territories is Canada lands as defined in the bill -- beyond the territorial government for some time to come, or future governments of our present territory. It is still our position that at the very least Bill C-48 requires amendment, for it further perpetuates the Territories financial and economic dependency on the federal government.

Progress In Aboriginal Claims Negotiations

I would now like to say a little on our involvement in the ongoing aboriginal claims negotiations. The guidelines, as approved in the June 1980 session of this Assembly, still forms the basis of our participation in these negotiations.

I am happy to report notable progress in this complex area of responsibility. Our participation as part of the federal negotiating team is now viewed as appropriate and important to the process by the various claimant groups.

With regard to the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada claim, good progress has been made and has culminated in the recent signing of the tentative agreement in principle on the wildlife provision of the claim. I will be submitting this document to the Executive Committee of this government for their approval. We are happy that we have been able to contribute concretely and substantially to the development of this document. However, as the agreement has not been formally approved by the Executive Committee, ITC or the federal government, I will not be able to discuss it at this time.

Preliminary meetings have been held in Yellowknife and in Ottawa between the federal government, the Dene Nation and the Metis Association to explore ways and means of expanding the federal negotiators' mandate to include political and constitutional development. We support this initiative and agree that the chief federal negotiators' mandate should be expanded to include this very important matter. Discussions this week in Ottawa on this issue between the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Hon. John Munro, representatives of the various native claimant groups and myself were fruitful and I anticipate that negotiations between the Dene Nation, the Metis Association and the federal government will be under way in the very near future. The Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement claim has remained inactive since the break-off of negotiations last year, in response to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, John Munro's letter of the 24th of December, 1980. We are still hopeful that negotiations will resume in the near future and that we can contribute in a positive and meaningful way to reach a fair and just final agreement.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to stress the need to promote and maintain a unified and solid front in dealing with the federal government on the major issues that confront the Territories today: the patriation package, aboriginal claims negotiations and process to affect political and constitutional change in the Northwest Territories. In stating these I must agree with my colleague, the Hon. Dennis Patterson, that unless we are successful in pursuing our position on the patriation package, our effort to reach a consensus on the internal restructuring of the present Northwest Territories will be futile. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-shee. Item 2, orders of the day, replies to Commissioner's Address. There does not appear to be any other speakers today. We will go on then to Item 3 in the orders of the day, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Curley.

Question 1-81(3): Boycotting Of Schools In Eastern Arctic

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the present constitutional crisis with respect to the native people of Canada, I have received information that in the Eastern Arctic children are being used to boycott the constitutional clause as far as the aboriginal rights are concerned. I would like to ask the Minister of Education whether or not he shares my view that children should not be the victims of the constitutional questions. Will the Minister indicate to this House whether or not he has discussed the problem with the native leaders in the Eastern Arctic in an attempt to try and resolve the school kids boycotting the classes in the Eastern Arctic?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 1-81(3): Boycotting Of Schools In Eastern Arctic

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very definitely in agreement with the concern of the honourable Member for Keewatin South that school children in the Northwest Territories should not be made the innocent victims of a problem which has not been caused by the Department of Education. I also feel that if children are told not to go to school, that it is a very bad tactic because the children will not understand or appreciate the reason for these instructions and may conclude that education is not important. In fact, when I attended the annual meeting of ITC in May, the president, the past president and other leaders of regional associations spoke very strongly about the importance of education. I have spoken today with the president of ITC, John Amagoalik, and he assures me that ITC is not responsible for this boycott of schools; that it was not done on instructions from the president or from the organization; that it is an initiative taken by communities themselves out of frustration and not at their direction. He assured me that he is very concerned about the situation and has instructed his staff to encourage people not to take this action and I am happy to report that the situation in Baffin is now back to normal and that it is only the school in Rankin Inlet where children are, in a large proportion, out of school. I encourage my colleague for Keewatin South to use his influence to correct that situation and I urge all Members to recognize that this is a very poor way of demonstrating our concern about these constitutional problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question 2-81(3): Present Position On Constitutional Matters

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the Commissioner could come, I would like to ask the Commissioner -- that if he is not here that he be able to be asked -- the Inuit that cannot speak English -- I do not know who I could ask, but I am concerned about the constitution and I would like to know what is going on and what the latest thing they have heard about the constitution is. I would like to hear further about the constitution, after what we have talked about yesterday.

I was saying before that, before this is solved I did not want to be in session until it is solved. I was wondering who can answer that.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Would you like to ask for unanimous consent to have the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner seated during the question period?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. EVALUARJUK: I certainly will.

MR. SPEAKER: Do we have the unanimous consent to have the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner present during the oral question period? Any disagreements?

MR. CURLEY: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Will the Sergeant-at-Arms please escort the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to the table? With respect to the question, Mr. Braden, the honourable Minister, do you have a reply?

Return To Question 2-81(3): Present Position On Constitutional Matters

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that yesterday a number of native leaders met with John Munro, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, to see if section 34 could be put back into the Canadian constitution. Mr. Munro discussed the proposal with his cabinet colleagues, including the Prime Minister, and the answer that he brought back to the native leaders was that they had to go out and convince the provincial governments that it was a good thing to put aboriginal rights back into the Canadian constitution. He also said that the federal government would not take any unilateral action or action all by itself to put aboriginal rights back into the Canadian constitution at this time. So, Mr. Speaker, that is a bit more information which my colleague may not have received.

With respect to the ongoing discussion of the constitutional issue in this House, I understand that it is still on the order paper today for our discussion in committee of the whole and I would assume that if Members wish to pursue the issue further at that time they could do so under Item 13 of the orders of the day.

That is all I have to report at this point in time, Mr. Speaker, other than to say that I understand that your office is looking after forwarding the motion as passed to the Prime Minister, the premiers and others mentioned. Right here I have a draft document that the government will be sending. It will also reflect the discussion and the motion which was passed in this House yesterday. So, Mr. Speaker, that is all I can say at this point in time to my colleague, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Yes, our office has sent the wire that was requested yesterday to those persons. Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 3-81(3): Travel Costs For Municipal Leaders

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a further question to the Minister of Aboriginal Rights. In view of the fact that the Executive Committee agrees that it is a poor way to demonstrate our dissatisfaction with the premiers and the Prime Minister of Canada by boycotting classes by school kids, could the Minister indicate to the House, since native people of Canada have been blackmailed by the provinces and the federal government, will he assure this House that he will provide some travel funds to the municipalities and municipal leaders to travel to Ottawa so that they can present their case directly to the Prime Minister and Members of Parliament? Can he indicate whether he is prepared to pay for travel costs of some of these people who have no other resources other than their own municipal budget?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister. Quite probably, Mr. Curley, that should have been a written question, but if the Minister can answer it -- Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: If the honourable Member will give me the opportunity to give him a written reply tomorrow.

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes. A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The Minister just indicated that he is very anxious to get the constitutional position of this Assembly to Ottawa. He just made some remarks a few minutes ago and I am just asking, is he prepared to consider providing travel assistance to the municipal leaders? I think it is a very simple one. I think that in view of his previous statement that he is prepared to take the case of this Assembly to Ottawa -- and I think that municipalities surely are part of this government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley, your first question, as I understood it -- "would he". If you put in the word "consideration", you have changed the question considerably. Mr. Minister, you could possibly answer that now.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Well, I am afraid the honourable Member has caught me off guard here. Regarding the assistance, I had assumed that it was the Members of the Legislative Assembly that were going to be travelling down to Ottawa if it could be arranged with the Prime Minister to meet, and I was not assuming that all the municipalities in the Territories would be included in the meeting with the Prime Minister, but I would like to take that under consideration and give a reply definitely to the honourable Member at a later date, next week.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 4-81(3): Air Charter Contract, Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister responsible for Government Services, Mr. Tologanak. A number of days ago I had sent a telex concerning a matter in Fort Simpson dealing with the two local charter companies. Apparently a contract has been given to one of the air charter companies here in Yellowknife and one of the small companies in Simpson thought that it had not been given a chance to bid on the contract and I had written and sent a telex to Mr. Tologanak regarding the matter. Can Mr. Tologanak indicate what his response is to that telex enquiry?

MR. SPEAKER: For your information, it appears that channel four is now dead. Channel five is operational. Mr. Tologanak.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reply is being prepared at this moment, after I have considered the telex and the telephone call that I received from the honourable Member and I hope to have a reply to him today in written form.

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

Question 5-81(3): Public Housing Rent Increases

MR. CURLEY: Yes, I have a question to the chairman of the Housing Corporation. I have heard rumours that the Housing Corporation has now set a new policy to increase the public housing rents in the Eastern Arctic or possibly throughout the whole Territories. Could he indicate to this House whether in fact this is true and if so, is he prepared to table the recent policy change?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley, again, that would appear to me to be a written question; however, if the Minister can reply, Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 5-81(3): Public Housing Rent Increases

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the board of directors of the Housing Corporation have been meeting in relation to increasing the minimum rent that will be levied against tenants and there is, in fact, a directive, if you like, from the board of directors to increase the minimum rent to, I think, the sum of \$40 a month.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to you. When is an oral question an oral question and a written question a written question?

MR. SPEAKER: Basically, according to the rules an oral question is information that under normal circumstances a Minister should have available and at hand in a full manner to satisfy the full question, and previously it generally dealt with more of an emergency nature. We have dropped that section, although the rules still state that it should be of an emergency nature, but we have dropped that for all intents and purposes, but it is just that a full answer should be available and if the Minister can answer them, well, I have no objections.

Oral questions, Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 6-81(3): Community Consultation Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister responsible for Local Government or Information and it concerns the document that has been produced by Mr. Wah-Shee, "Our Land Our Future", in respect of constitutional matters. One of the things that I have heard said about the document is that the language in which it is written is very difficult to understand by people who do not read or know English very well. My question is, what is this government doing to inform the Dene people who do not read or know English so that they can learn what is in the paper and, perhaps, be able to respond to all the good things that are in there?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Partial Return To Question 6-81(3): Community Consultation Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it the document has been or is being translated into the various Dene languages on cassette tapes, which would be made available to the band councils and all the Mackenzie Valley communities.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Minister, this type of reply seems to be one that is commonly given by government Ministers that something is being done, it is being interpreted, but as I understand it, this government does not have one Dene interpreter on staff. It does not have any network or means of getting information out to people. I am not aware of the government supplying cassette tape recorders to band councils, to community councils, so how is this government going to communicate with the Dene people, and particularly those in the remote centres of the North?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Further Return To Question 6-81(3): Community Consultation Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I realize that we within the Government of the Northwest Territories are not doing much in the area of Dene languages. I have been assured by the Dene Nation when I had a meeting with them to discuss our discussion paper, that they were going to be doing their independent complete consultation with the communities. I feel that at the present time our government is not providing adequate communication opportunities for the Dene languages because the Dene language to a large degree is not put down in a written form. I hope Mr. Speaker, that our government will support developing the Dene languages in the written form. Regarding this particular document, I have been assured by Dene Nation that they will be doing their own independent consultation and I think that, along with that, the only thing that we could do at the present time is utilize the cassette tapes. That is the reason why we are using that method at the present time. Hopefully, in the future we will not rely totally on this particular method of communicating with the Dene communities.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Supplementary To Question 6-81(3): Community Consultation Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

MR. SIBBESTON: One last supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I am aware that the Dene Nation, in respect of their proposal for constitutional changes, have begun a community tour, and I am aware that the Dene Nation was in Fort Simpson a number of days ago, and I understand they have plans to go throughout the Northwest Territories to have their paper discussed.

Now, I am wondering, is this government proposing any community tour by government officials so that the government paper, "Our Land Our Future", can be discussed and dealt with by the community people?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Further Return To Question 6-81(3): Community Consultation Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, we intend to co-ordinate travels into the various communities and regions with the various native groups, and also the non-native groups, to ensure that we have a public forum in place. If you look into the discussion paper, that is what we intend to do, to hold meetings in the various communities and regions. I would hope that we can co-ordinate this exercise with all the various groups in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. We will go on then to Item 4, written questions and returns. Written questions.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. Noah.

Question 7-81(3): Night Watchman At Akaitcho Hall

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Could the Minister inform this House whether or not Akaitcho Hall has a night watchman? If not, could the Minister find or hire someone to work as a night watchman?

Some communities are concerned that when some students are being bothered they usually get homesick and decide to quit high school in Yellowknife.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. We are having trouble here with the translation. That came through on number six. I wonder if maybe the booth could make sure the English translation comes through on four and five. Written questions. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, was that an oral question directed to me from Mr. Noah?

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Was that a written question Mr. Noah asked?

MR. SPEAKER: Written question.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Fine.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 8-81(3): Accommodation Situation In Yellowknife

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is to the Leader of the Elected Executive. In view of the serious shortage of accommodation in Yellowknife, will the Minister indicate to this House what measures the Government of the Northwest Territories has taken, and intends to take, to address this problem?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Written questions. Mr. Noah.

Question 9-81(3): Appointment Of Keewatin Resident To Housing Corporation

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Could the Minister look into the appointment of someone from the Keewatin housing federation board to become a Northwest Territories Housing Corporation board of directors member?

The housing federation of the Keewatin region would like to get involved more with the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation board members.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Part of that translation did not get through. However, it is a written question that will be turned in and a written answer given. Is the House satisfied to forego having it reread?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

---Agreed

Written questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 10-81(3): Communications With Communities Regarding "Our Land Our Future"

MR. SIBBESTON: This is a question for either the Minister of Local Government or the Minister responsible for Information and it is: Can they provide details and all methods available to the government to have the document "Our Land Our Future" distributed, translated, discussed and responded to by all Dene communities in the Northwest Territories, providing all means and methods of communications intended to be used and the costs involved in such communications undertaken?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Written questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 11-81(3): Departure Of Regional Superintendent Of Economic Development In Inuvik

MS COURNOYEA: I have a question to the Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Butters. What are the circumstances of the recent departure of the superintendent of the Inuvik region for Economic Development?

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 12-81(3): Parcel Post Service Termination

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister responsible for Justice and Public Services. As the Minister responsible for consumer affairs, could you advise this House if your department is aware that the parcel post service of Canada Post may be terminated? As this is an important service to remote Northwest Territories communities, could the Minister assure that people in his department will check with the new post office corporation to make sure that this service is not cut off to people in the Northwest Territories?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Wait until Mrs. Sorensen comes back.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Are there any returns for today? The hour being 2:30, we will recess for 15 minutes for a coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: We are still on questions and returns. Are there any questions? Are there any returns?

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With your permission I will deal with a matter which we were going to deal with yesterday, but because of the emergency debate we did not. Members may recall that there were three young canoeists in the gallery yesterday. The group is called, "The Spirit of Adventure Canoeists" and they are going to be canoeing around the tip of South America and planting a flag of Canada and of the Northwest Territories at the tip. The entire expedition has been financed by the young men themselves, but all of the money that they raise by virtue of the expedition they are going to give to the Northwest Territories Council for the Disabled and the young men were Gerry Lachapelle, Jack Schauerte and Roland Yarjau and the young man who was arranging their administrative details, Kevin Brezinski. I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that Mrs. Sorensen raised this matter in the September caucus, and at that time Members who admired The Spirit of Adventure and who certainly support the cause of the Northwest Territories Council for the Disabled had agreed to donate, each Member, one days indemnity for the Northwest Territories Council for the Disabled. We were going to have a little ceremony yesterday, but as I say, it did not work out, but we did speak with the boys and I wanted to put it into the record today, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 2-81(3), Letter from Mr. Bob MacQuarrie to Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Hon. John Munro, July 22nd, 1981, and Tabled Document 3-81(3), Letter from Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to Mr. Bob MacQuarrie, October 28th, 1981.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. The honourable Minister, Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 39 of the Interpretation Ordinance, I wish to table Tabled Document 4-81(3), Consolidated Regulations of the Northwest Territories: Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Volume II of Part I of the Northwest Territories Gazette; Numbers 2, 3 and 4 of Volume II of Part II of the Northwest Territories Gazette; and Number 2 of Volume II of Part III of the Northwest Territories Gazette; and Indices of the Regulations of the Northwest Territories, Statutory Instruments and Appointments Pursuant to the Ordinances of the Northwest Territories that have been made between the 21st of May, 1981, and the 30th of October, 1981. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any other documents? Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the occasion to table Tabled Document 5-81(3), the discussion paper entitled, "Our Land Our Future". I would like to request that the discussion paper be discussed in the committee of the whole next Monday, November the 16th.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. A request has been made -- normally it would be by way of a motion -- but is that agreed that it go on the order paper for Monday? Any dissent? Mr. Clerk, you will see that then is put on the order paper for Monday. Are there any other documents?

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

ITEM NO. 7: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mr. Fraser.

Report Of Special Committee On The Impact Of Division

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The report was tabled yesterday, November the 12th, and I would like to report briefly on the impact of division of the Northwest Territories. The committee was established by the adoption by the Legislative Assembly on November the 5th, 1980, of the recommendation number seven, as amended, of the report of the special committee on unity. This committee was instructed to prepare an objective study of the impact of division upon the Territories as a whole and upon its several parts and their peoples and to disseminate the information resulting from this study as widely as seems to be necessary, well in advance of any public decision making.

The committee discussed extensively the most suitable means to ensure the greatest possible public access and the understanding of the consultant's report. To assist in doing this, copies of the committee's report were released simultaneously, yesterday, as the report was tabled, at all regional headquarters in the Northwest Territories and in Ottawa. This distribution will include the Prime Minister, the Minister of Indian Affairs, the Minister of State, the presidents of native organizations and the news media. Each regional director has been asked to arrange distribution within the communities in his region as soon after release as possible. Because of the size and complexity of the report, the committee concluded that any attempt to depend on radio and television programming as the sole means of telling the public what it contains would be unsuccessful.

Mr. Speaker, I have some recommendations. If you wish I will read out the recommendations.

Recommendations Of Special Committee On The Impact Of Division

The committee therefore recommends:

- a) That CBC and other media be encouraged to assemble information packages concerning the content of the consultant's report;
- b) That CBC television be encouraged to develop a one hour program regarding the impacts of division as reflected in the consultant's report;
- c) That a special committee of the Legislative Assembly consisting of three MLAs who are members of the special committee on the impact of division be appointed to travel to communities in the Territories to present and explain the contents of the consultant's report at public meetings and to special interest groups and concerned individuals;
- d) That if the plebiscite is held on January the 11th, 1982, the proposed special committee visit all regional headquarters;
- e) That if the plebiscite is held on April 14th, 1982, the proposed special committee will visit all regional headquarters and all communities with a population of 500 or more; and
- f) That full use be made of newspaper, radio and television advertising to inform the public of the proposed special committee's itinerary and meeting schedule.

In making these recommendations, the committee also felt that although its mandate included the dissemination of information resulting from this study, because of the financial implications they should be approved by the Assembly. The committee also most emphatically stresses that the sole and exclusive purpose of the proposed special committee would be to inform the public about the content of the consultant's report and to explain the report. It would not be receiving views concerning the proposal to divide the Territories.

Motion To Refer Report Of Special Committee On Impact To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the special committee on impact be referred to committee of the whole for consideration at a time to be set by the Speaker, but not earlier than November the 23rd. This, Mr. Speaker, will provide MLAs with an opportunity to examine the report. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Fraser. I have a motion on the floor. Do I have a seconder? Mr. McLaughlin. Discussion. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 1-81(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1981-82

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 1-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1981-1982 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Bill 2-81(3), Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 2-81(3): All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 2-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Bill 3-81(3), Archives Ordinance. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 3-81(3): Archives Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 3-81(3), An Ordinance Regarding the Northwest Territories Archives, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Bill 4-81(3), Education Ordinance. Mr. Patterson.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 4-81(3): Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 4-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 5-81(3), Fair Practices Ordinance amendment. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 5-81(3): Fair Practices Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 5-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Fair Practices Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 6-81(3), Infants Ordinance. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 6-81(3): Infants Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 6-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Infants Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 7-81(3), Interpretation Ordinance. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 7-81(3): Interpretation Ordinance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 7-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 8-81(3), Mr. Wah-Shee.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-81(3): Judicature Ordinance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 8-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 9-81(3), Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 9-81(3): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 9-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 10-81(3), the Psychologists Ordinance. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 10-81(3): Psychologists Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 10-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Psychologists, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 11-81(3).

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 11-81(3): Northwest Territories
Public Service Association Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 11-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 12-81(3), Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 12-81(3): Territorial Parks
Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 12-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Territorial Parks Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 13-81(3), Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 13-81(3): Travel And Outdoor
Recreation Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 13-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Travel and Outdoor Recreation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 14-81(3), Mr. Tologanak. Does any other Minister wish to read this in? Bill 14-81(3), Workers' Compensation Ordinance. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 14-81(3): Workers' Compensation
Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 14-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Workers' Compensation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 15-81(3), Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1981. Mr. Braden.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 15-81(3): Ordinance Amendment
Ordinance, 1981

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 15-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend Certain Ordinances, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 16-81(3), Police Ordinance. Mr. Braden.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 16-81(3): Police Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 16-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Police Services in the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 17-81(3), Elections Ordinance, 1978. Mr. Nerysoo.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 17-81(3): Elections Ordinance, 1978

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 17-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Elections Ordinance, 1978, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 18-81(3), Council Retiring Allowances Ordinance. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, we will not be moving that today.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 19-81(3), Wildlife Ordinance. Mr. Nerysoo.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 19-81(3): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, November 17th, 1981, I shall move that Bill 19-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further bills? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, might I request unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 1-81(3), Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for first reading of Bill 1-81(3). Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed. Any dissension? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

---Agreed

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 1...

MR. SPEAKER: Pardon me, Mr. Butters. We have unanimous consent, but we are out of position on our orders of the day, so we shall catch up to you in just a few moments for the first reading.

Item 9, notices of motion. No notices of motion.

Item 10. There are no motions.

Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

ITEM NO. 11: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS FOR FIRST READING

Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 1-81(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1981-82

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I beg your pardon, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. I move that Bill 1-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1981-1982 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Discussion? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion carried.

---Carried

Introduction of bills for first reading. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that I get unanimous consent -- may I proceed, sir?

MR. SPEAKER: I think it works better. Maybe everybody should try dropping it. Proceed, Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that I get unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 2-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for first reading of Bill 2-81(3).

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Do we have unanimous consent?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? Proceed, Mr. Minister.

---Agreed

First Reading Of Bill 2-81(3): All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, sir. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 2-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Introduction of bills for first reading. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 3-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: A request for unanimous consent has been asked for Bill 3-81(3). Are we agreed?

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Any negative?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 3-81(3): Archives Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 3-81(3), An Ordinance Regarding the Northwest Territories Archives, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Wah-Shee. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bills for first reading. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to move first reading of Bill 4-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for Bill 4-81(3). Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Any dissension?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Patterson.

First Reading Of Bill 4-81(3): Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you. I move that Bill 4-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Nerysoo. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bills for first reading. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, may I have the unanimous consent of this House to proceed with first reading of Bill 5-81(3)?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for Bill 5-81(3).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? Any opposition?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 5-81(3): Fair Practices Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 5-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Fair Practices Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bills for first reading. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would request unanimous consent to move first reading of Bill 6-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for Bill 6-81(3). Do I have agreement?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Any negative?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 6-81(3): Infants Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 6-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Infants Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bills for first reading. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 7-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for Bill 7-81(3). Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any negatives?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 7-81(3): Interpretation Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 7-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Nerysoo. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bills for first reading. Mr. Braden. I wonder whether the government would consider the total list and see if we could make an agreement here, rather than having to go through this unanimous consent for each one. The danger, of course, is that there may be one in there that they may not like.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I was going to propose something similar. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if I could ask for unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 8-81(3), Bill 9-81(3), Bill 10-81(3), Bill 11-81(3), Bill 12-81(3), Bill 13-81(3), Bill 14-81(3), Bill 15-81(3), Bill 16-81(3), Bill 17-81(3) and Bill 19-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent has been requested for the bills as just mentioned. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any negatives?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 8-81(3): Judicature Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you very much, sir. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 8-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Kilabuk. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Bills then for first reading. The next bill would be Bill 9-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 9-81(3): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 9-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 10-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 10-81(3): Psychologists Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 10-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Psychologists, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 11-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 11-81(3): Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 11-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Fraser. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 11-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I just read Bill 11-81(3).

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. Bill 12-81(3). Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 12-81(3): Territorial Parks Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 12-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Territorial Parks Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 14-81(3). Mr. Tologanak.

First Reading Of Bill 14-81(3): Workers' Compensation Ordinance

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 14-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Workers' Compensation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Nerysoo. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I am sorry. I evidently skipped one. I called one twice and then skipped one. That is a fairly good batting average. Bill 13-81(3). Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 13-81(3): Travel And Outdoor Recreation Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 13-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Travel and Outdoor Recreation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I will try to get back on track. Bill 15-81(3). Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 15-81(3): Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1981

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 15-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend Certain Ordinances, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 16-81(3). Mr. Braden.

First Reading Of Bill 16-81(3): Police Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 16-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Police Services in the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Nerysoo. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 17-81(3). Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 17-81(3): Elections Ordinance, 1978

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 17-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Elections Ordinance, 1978, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Kilabuk. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 19-81(3). Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 19-81(3): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 19-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Fraser. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Are there any other bills for first reading?

Item 12, second reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 12: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, the government would like to get consent from the House to proceed with second reading of the bills.

MR. SPEAKER: Actually, under the rules if we have more than two dissenters, the second reading cannot occur. Are there two people that do not wish to proceed with second reading today? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to hold over Bill 1-81(3), the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, until I am sure that the standing committee on finance has had an opportunity to examine it before I refer it so I will not be putting Bill 1-81(3) forward today.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Then that would leave Bills 2-81(3), 3-81(3), 4-81(3), 5-81(3), 6-81(3), 7-81(3), 8-81(3), 9-81(3), 10-81(3), 11-81(3), 12-81(3), 13-81(3), 14-81(3), 15-81(3), 16-81(3), 17-81(3) and 19-81(3) for second reading today. Are there any objections? No objections. Would you proceed then with Bill 2-81(3), Mr. Braden? Second reading.

Second Reading Of Bill 2-81(3): All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 2-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the All-terrain Vehicles Ordinance to provide that persons over 60 years of age pay no more than one dollar for an all-terrain vehicle licence or registration permit.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Discussion? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 2-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 3-81(3). Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 3-81(3): Archives Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 3-81(3), An Ordinance Regarding the Northwest Territories Archives, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for the appointment of a territorial archivist and for the establishment of a Northwest Territories archives.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Nerysoo. Discussion in principle of the bill? Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I take it at this stage the basic principle of the bill is up for discussion. I was hoping that in considering the matter on very short notice that perhaps the Minister responsible would go into some detail as

to the need for an archivist and the present status of the whole museum system, whether this government intends to continue to call it the Prince of Wales Museum or whatever it is named. I was hoping to get into that kind of discussion rather than just have him read the purpose stated here.

MR. SPEAKER: This of course would be quite properly debated in third reading, Mr. Sibbeston. Generally it is handled in this manner. Bill 3-81(3). Are you ready for the question? Second reading. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 4-81(3), the Education Ordinance. Mr. Patterson.

Second Reading Of Bill 4-81(3): Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 4-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Education Ordinance to allow the Executive Member to enter into a new agreement with the Rae-Edzo school society and to allow a local education authority input over the length of a school day. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Discussion in principle? Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 4-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 5-81(3). Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 5-81(3): Fair Practices Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 5-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Fair Practices Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Fair Practices Ordinance to include a) handicap, b) age, c) family, and d) conviction for which a pardon has been granted as prohibited grounds of discrimination in employment, accommodation and publication.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Kilabuk. I think before I call a vote on this I have an indication from the Clerk that Bills 5-81(3), 6-81(3) and 8-81(3) have not been translated yet. Is there any objection to having second reading prior to translation? They certainly will not be dealt with in third reading until translation. Does anyone have any objections? Then I will call Bill 5-81(3). All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 5-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 6-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

Second Reading Of Bill 6-81(3): Infants Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 6-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Infants Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Infants Ordinance to allow a court to dispense with the consent of a parent to medical treatment for an infant, where withholding treatment would endanger the life or seriously impair the health of the infant.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Discussion in principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 6-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 7-81(3), the Interpretation Ordinance. Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 7-81(3): Interpretation Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 7-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Interpretation Ordinance to include definitions of "department head" and "peace officer" and to give to the person who has the power to appoint a public officer, the additional implied power to appoint a deputy.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Fraser. Discussion in principle? Bill 7-81(3), question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 7-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 8-81(3). Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 8-81(3): Judicature Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 8-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Judicature Ordinance: a) to allow for the appointment to the court of appeal for the Northwest Territories of a judge of the court of appeal of Saskatchewan; b) to allow the Commissioner to recover legal costs in appropriate situations; c) to allow for a claim for a prejudgment interest; and d) to allow the court to fix a rate for calculating post-judgment interests.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder to Bill 8-81(3)? Mr. McCallum. Discussion in principle.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 8-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 9-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

Second Reading Of Bill 9-81(3): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 9-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Ordinance by: a) changing the title "managing director" to "president" in appropriate situations; b) increasing the number of members on the board of directors from nine to 10; c) replacing the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories with the Executive Member in certain specified sections; d) repealing the provisions of the ordinance that impose a fiscal year equal to the calendar year; and e) changing the time within which the annual report of the corporation must be laid before Council.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Wah-Shee. Discussion in principle? Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 9-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 10-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

Second Reading Of Bill 10-81(3): Psychologists Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 10-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Psychologists, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for the registration and licensing of psychologists, for the registration of intern psychologists, and related matters.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 10-81(3), do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. To the principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 10-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 11-81(3). Mr. McCallum.

Second Reading Of Bill 11-81(3): Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 11-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Northwest Territories Public Service Association Ordinance to include medical practitioners in the list of persons ineligible for membership in the Northwest Territories Public Service Association.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Discussion in principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried, Bill 11-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 12-81(3). Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 12-81(3): Territorial Parks Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 12-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Territorial Parks Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Territorial Parks Ordinance to allow the Commissioner to enter into agreements with the Government of Canada or the government of a province for the development, operation and maintenance of parks in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder for Bill 12-81(3)? Mr. Tologanak. Discussion in principle? All those in favour of Bill 12-81(3)? Opposed, if any? Bill 12-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 13-81(3). Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 13-81(3): Travel And Outdoor Recreation Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 13-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Travel and Outdoor Recreation Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Travel and Outdoor

Recreation Ordinance to allow the Commissioner to enter into agreements with the Government of Canada or the government of a province for the development, operation and maintenance of travel development areas and travel restricted areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Arlooktoo. Discussion in principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 13-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 14-81(3). Mr. Tologanak.

Second Reading Of Bill 14-81(3): Workers' Compensation Ordinance

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 14-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Workers' Compensation Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Workers' Compensation Ordinance by increasing the "years maximum assessable remuneration" from \$20,400 to \$23,200.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Discussion in principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 14-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 15-81(3). Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 15-81(3): Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1981

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 15-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend Certain Ordinances, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to correct certain anomalies, inconsistencies, archaisms, errors and other matters of a non-controversial nature in the Revised Ordinances of the Northwest Territories, 1974, and other ordinances subsequent to 1974.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Discussion in principle? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 16-81(3): Police Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 16-81(3), An Ordinance Respecting Police Services in the Northwest Territories, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories with authority to enter into agreements respecting police services and to establish a police advisory committee in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Discussion in principle, Bill 16-81(3)? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 16-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Now, I believe that Bill 17-81(3) is not in the books.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I was not going to proceed with second reading on that.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 19-81(3), I do not have in my book. Does everybody else have it? My Bill 19-81(3) is present. I will accept second reading on Bill 19-81(3). Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 19-81(3): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 19-81(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Wildlife Ordinance to include band council chiefs and presidents of hunters' and trappers' associations as "ex officio" wildlife officers.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Discussion in principle, Bill 19-81(3)? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 19-81(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Are there any further bills for second reading?

I have been advised that we have Mr. Bobby Kadlun, the president of KIA, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, from Cambridge Bay with us in the gallery.

---Applause

We are now rapidly running out of business.

Item 13, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters and the only thing we have on that is matters relating to the constitution of Canada. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not able to attend -- I would like to talk about what happened yesterday. Yesterday, before 6:00, we talked about some item and I was in favour of that, but in the letter I see today it does not say that as reported. I would like it mentioned in the paper that I supported that by letter. I was not able to make it known that I was in support of that piece of paper. I misunderstood. I am sorry.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. The records then will indicate that that vote then yesterday was unanimous for those present. Is that not correct, Mr. Clerk? Let the records show.

We are rapidly running out of work to do. Does anybody wish to go back into the committee of the whole on matters relating to the constitution of Canada today? This then concludes the orders of the day. Inasmuch as we have a few moments and there is a comment that Mr. MacQuarrie would like to make, I think probably this might be an appropriate time, just before closing today. Mr. MacQuarrie, you have the floor. Yes, Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Is there not to be an item on the order paper for notices of motion?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it was called, but if you wish to go back to it after I have recognized Mr. MacQuarrie, with consent we will go back to it, but I did call it.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is just that in the Commissioner's Address yesterday he did call attention to the deaths of a number of very prominent people in the Northwest Territories over the past year. Certainly I was negligent in failing to note the passing of Tom Doornbos, a citizen of Yellowknife for many, many years, who was 89 years of age when he passed away just a little more than a week ago. He was certainly well-known to all of my constituents and to all people in Yellowknife.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. I have a request to go back to notices of motion. Do I have unanimous consent to go back to Item 9, notices of motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? Any opposition?

---Agreed

ITEM NO. 9: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Patterson, you have the floor.

Notice Of Motion 1-81(3): Witnesses To Appear Before Assembly

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on Monday, November 16, I will move, seconded by the Member for High Arctic, that John Amagoalik, president of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, Simon Awa, president of the Baffin Region Inuit Association, and François Bregha of Canadian Arctic Resources Committee and a consultant to ITC and BRIA be invited to appear as witnesses during this sixth session of the Ninth Assembly at our expense to present briefings on the Arctic Pilot Project, the dates to be arranged by the Speaker of this Assembly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Any further notices of motion while I am here? Mr. Curley, I understood you were indicating that you wish to speak. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I thought I understood yesterday that we are going to keep to the constitutional issue in committee of the whole. I was wondering whether you have overlooked that or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley, I called that as Item 13, matters relating to the constitution of Canada, to see whether or not you wanted to go into it today and there was no indication from the floor that you did. It is still on the order paper, but I had no indication that you wanted to go there today. Do you wish to ask to proceed with that item?

MR. CURLEY: Yes, I would like to. I have one concern with respect to that issue and I would like to ask some questions of the Minister in the committee of the whole for a short time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. It is certainly on the orders of the day. We will adjourn for coffee for 15 minutes and return in committee of the whole, Item 13, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters, with Mr. Fraser in the chair, to discuss the matters relating to the constitution of Canada.

---SHORT RECESS

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

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Matters Relating to the Constitution of Canada, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Item 13, consideration in committee of the whole of matters relating to the constitution of Canada. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to say something about constitutional development. We do not have to talk like this, but we should all know what we are going to be doing. We are not answered by Prime Minister Trudeau. Are we going to sit here and wait for his reply? If we do this, we would not be recognized. We have to realize what the Ministers, how they feel about this matter. Toward the constitution, section 34 was taken off -- toward the Inuit and Metis, it is being used by the people, the Inuit. Pierre Trudeau said he would be turning it over and the ITC, if they are given that -- I will be saying this in English. (Translation ends)

Mr. Chairman, I feel that it is urgent and important that we conclude the day today by having some clear understanding exactly where and how we are going to move from here in terms of the constitutional debate. I do not believe it is good enough to have sent a telegram and pass a resolution and wait and see how Trudeau is going to respond to it because I think for too long that is the way we have been operating. We sent him a nice, cute little -- a nicely worded legal document, a message, and we sit and wait until he replies. Provincial leaders, provincial premiers get what they want because they twist and they shout and they play in the back room deals and they make that kind of a deal, but we need to get aggressive that way. So I want to ask the Executive Committee representative, particularly the Leader of the Elected representatives of the Executive Committee what is going to happen in case Trudeau refuses to meet with the Assembly and will not accept our request to meet with him? What are we going to do from here? I think the Assembly should be giving some impressions of that and the possible scenarios that we can take if, for some reason Trudeau and his cabinet could not agree to meet with this Assembly.

A Definite Position Must Be Developed

The other thing is that I think this Assembly should have a position other than just asking to meet with the Prime Minister. I think we should propose something. I think Trudeau has been open to the possibility of including section 34 as originally agreed to by the Senate and House of Commons committee for North of 60. I would propose that we adopt that position and try to at least get the federal government to recognize the rights of the native people in this area. We are speaking, I believe, for the Northwest Territories or do you expect me to speak for all the native people of the country? I could not do that. They have their own spokesmen. I think this Assembly should go and develop a position that it can try to at least get the federal government who has complete responsibility for this part of the area to deal with something that it has jurisdiction with and they certainly have jurisdiction for the Government of the Northwest Territories and for the native people of this area, since this part of the country is federal land. So I would like to ask George Braden, "What would you do if, for some reason, Trudeau could not meet with us?" If we are going to develop a position, we are going to have to introduce it very early next week. If we cannot agree to anything tonight, I think we should at least understand how we are going to move from here. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Any further discussion? Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to Mr. Curley's first question, I would suggest that if a meeting with the Prime Minister is not possible, there are a number of other federal ministers who could come in his place: Mr. Chretien, the Minister of Justice, and the Minister who has done a lot of work for the Prime Minister on the constitution; Senator Austin who has, as I understand it, been given some responsibility for aboriginal people and the constitution as well as political development in the Northwest Territories. He would be another option and he is coming to Yellowknife, I understand, at some point during our session. A third possibility is a fellow named Serge Joyal; he is the Minister of State and I understand he was working with native leaders over the last few days on this issue. Then finally last but not least we could ask John Munro to come here. That gives you Mr. Chairman, a list of other leaders or other Ministers to whom we could speak about the concerns raised in yesterday's discussion.

I believe that the cabinets and the Prime Minister have made it clear that they have no intention of unilaterally changing the agreement that was reached last week. I suspect that the Prime Minister would be very reluctant to change anything and probably even more reluctant to go back and sit down with the 10 provincial premiers. So, Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Curley's suggestion is a useful one for us to pursue in terms of developing at least one proposal, among others, that we could discuss amongst ourselves and present to the Prime Minister or any of these other fellows, if we can get them to come up here in the place of the Prime Minister.

As I understand it, this was a proposal that was put forward to native leaders from the Territories in particular this week but I understand it was rejected by some who felt that it would be better for the representatives of native people from across Canada to stay together. Now, I am not all that knowledgeable about what went on except from what I read in the newspapers. I guess I would find that a proposal that we should pursue, and I wonder if it would be possible for me to ask other Members in this House, who have close contact with Northwest Territories native organizations, if they feel that they could proceed at this point in time with entrenching aboriginal rights through some legal mechanisms North of the 60th parallel. Would other Members think that the ITC and their affiliates and Dene Nation and Metis Association would support something like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Any further discussion?
Mr. Sibbeston.

Follow-Up Approach Necessary

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, in the last few minutes while we were having coffee, I did speak to Mr. Braden to see whether anyone in this government has followed up on the telegram that has been sent to the Prime Minister and the premiers in the provinces. Apparently he was not aware of anyone in the government that had followed up the telegram or is in touch with the Prime Minister's office, and I must say frankly that I am a bit surprised that nothing is being done. My hope or my view of the way things should be done, of course, is that immediately that telegram is to be sent then I think this should be followed up by telephone calls down to Ottawa to the Prime Minister's office to see if, firstly, the telegram had been received and just how the telegram would be handled by the Prime Minister's office officials. I would have liked to see a number of phone calls made throughout the day, more or less in constant communication with the office to see what is being done, when might the Prime Minister see the telegram, and when might he make a decision in the matter. I guess the responsibility is given to persons like Mr. Braden. On the one hand I think this is largely an aboriginal people's matter and in this case we have left it to a non-aboriginal person to look after our interest, but maybe it is something that ought to be dealt with by a native person. I know that sometimes

messages can be sent and if the receiver does not realize the importance or the emotion or the height of interest with which it is sent, then it is likely to just be left or perhaps filed away. So the way that a message is sent and the way that it is followed up says a lot or can do a lot to get the message to the people receiving it, the enthusiasm, the intensity with which people feel about it.

So I would have liked to see a much more vigorous follow-up approach than has been taken. Now, what do we do in the event the Prime Minister does not even respond or does not show any interest in the telegram sent to him? My understanding of the position of the federal government in regard to bringing back section 34 in the constitution is that they are sympathetic and are interested in doing so, but have been telling the native groups that are there in Ottawa pressuring the government to go see the premiers in the provinces and see if they can be convinced to agree with aboriginal rights being placed back in the constitution. I suspect that this is what the Prime Minister will also be telling us: "I am game. I am prepared to do it but I cannot do it unilaterally in that the provinces must agree." So he will, in a sense, send us in the direction of the premiers and if that happens do we then decide to go to all the provinces and see if we can convince the various premiers to have aboriginal rights placed in the constitution? That is I guess the one thing that could be done.

Now, as to the issue of whether we should try to have the aboriginal rights provisions apply only to native people in the Northwest Territories, if that approach was going to ensure that aboriginal people in the North were going to be recognized, then I would prefer or I would be open to that approach being used or that being done. I understand that the Dene Nation is in Ottawa with all the other native groups in Canada and I take it they have taken the position that they want the aboriginal rights provision to apply to all of Canada, but if that is not attainable then we ought to seek the practical approach and try to get it entrenched at least for the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Are you finished?
Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: In regard to this matter, I had assumed that this Northwest Territories government had a section which has a budget dedicated to a department of aboriginal rights and constitutional development. What have they been doing about it? It seems to me that we are paying people good money and obviously I would think that what should have happened -- that these people should have been put to work on the telephone. I know with the Inuit Committee on National Issues that they have an emergency centre set up in Ottawa whereby you can call in and there is a person manning that phone, giving messages out, keeping an update in a lot of communities in the Northwest Territories with key people in regard to Inuit issues.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Ms Cournoyea, could you slow down just a bit? You are a little too fast for the interpreters. Thank you.

MS COURNOYEA: It surprises me that our government has not done likewise. I did not think to question it because I would assume that that was put in place since we have such an urgent concern about what is happening here. Further, if we are going to promote the North of 60 condition on section 34, has there been any indication from the Yukon government that they will do likewise and support a similar position?

Native Leaders Lobbying Provincial Premiers

In regard to the Minister telling the native people to go to the premiers, was that in fact in regard to the provinces and not necessarily in relation to the territorial position? Was the direction from the Minister to go back to the province given because the issue was that the Dene Nation did not want to support the North of 60 purpose and, therefore, before we could have anything

North of 60 they would have to go to the premiers to get that changed? Does it really relate to us? On what basis is the Minister saying to go to the premiers? It seems to me that the provinces are not responsible or have jurisdiction in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon and the related offshore areas, so why would the Minister be telling the native people that they should be going to the premiers to gain their support for putting section 34 back? Was there any indication exactly why that statement that was made, why it was made? Can somebody give clarity on that?

In regard to the Yukon, has there been any indication from them that they would support a North of 60 clause? Other than the telegram being sent out, was there any forward motion put through by the Executive or the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development section on exactly what the Minister is willing to offer and on what condition? Are there any answers to those questions or have we just sent the telegram and am I not aware of any other motion that is taking place while we are waiting for an answer from the Prime Minister? I would like some more clarity on those items I have just raised.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the first question on the Yukon position, we do not have any information at this point.

With respect to the second question about native leaders lobbying provincial premiers, that is what the Prime Minister would require in terms of provincial support to put back section 34 in the accord that has been reached so far, and that would apply all across Canada, not just to the Northwest Territories.

With respect to further correspondence from the Executive, as I indicated earlier this afternoon, I have a draft of a letter to go to the premiers and the Prime Minister. It was drafted earlier on this week and we held back until the discussion yesterday to ensure that whatever the Executive sent to the premiers and the Prime Minister would reflect the views of the Assembly.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am willing to pursue the item further. Yesterday the motion was a Legislative Assembly motion. I see this discussion as useful in terms of defining some options that we could pursue to develop proposals to put to federal ministers or provincial ministers or the Prime Minister. That did not come out yesterday.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Braden, you really did not answer the question in regard to the provincial support. What I would like to know is if you have found out that the provincial support is required to get section 34 for the Northwest Territories or North of 60.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, it is not.

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

Lack Of Action And Concern

MR. SIBBESTON: I did not quite get Mr. Braden's answer, but I just think that on the whole there just seems to be a lack of action or lack of concern on the part of the Executive Committee. I just think that they would have thought that this is a matter that is of urgent concern to the Members here and, of course, all of the people of the North. I am just surprised that nothing has been done except to sent a little telex and then just wait for an answer that may never come. I am frankly disappointed at the fact that there appear to

be no answers. There is no communication at all with the Yukon, there is no communication with John Munro. John Munro is supposed to represent us in Ottawa and in Canada and has anybody been in touch with him to see what his views are or what is happening in the cabinet? As Nellie Cournoyea mentioned, there is a whole aboriginal rights secretariat in existence. These people should be fighting for their lives. If there are no more aboriginal rights, there will be no purpose for their existence, you would think.

Let us have a little life; let us have a little concern; let us have a little bit of action, because if you are dead here, if you appear dead to us, you are going to appear that more dead to people in Ottawa and the Prime Minister. Let us have somebody fly down to see the Prime Minister at his residence this weekend. Let us deluge him with another telegram from this Assembly saying, "Goodness, it has been 24 hours. Can we not have a response?" Let us show a little enthusiasm about the subject. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I do believe that we should consider very seriously the possibility of the federal government acting unilaterally within its parliamentary responsibility and present jurisdiction to commit itself to implementing section 34 in lands under its jurisdiction. While I recognize that this section would not benefit the Inuit in Labrador and Quebec, for example, who are represented by ITC and would not benefit aboriginal peoples in other parts of Canada, I would think that such action on the part of the federal government with relation to lands under its jurisdiction would show that it does feel a responsibility for its constitutional obligations to the native people within its jurisdiction and could be seen and should be seen as a precedent for all aboriginal peoples in Canada. I tend to have a very pragmatic view of this, that we should take for the Northwest Territories and the Yukon what might be offered and run with it.

Now, I do know a little bit about the position of other native associations and other groups in Canada and I think all that can be said for certain is that there are divisions and splits and it may mean that the interests of native peoples as they are being represented even by national organizations are being weakened and fragmented. Therefore, the onus may be on this Assembly to come forward to the Prime Minister with a clear position and give him a reasonable proposal for our constituents.

Immediate Action Must Be Taken

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to echo the concern of other Members that we are running out of time. I do not think the Executive Committee is unaware of this. Our motion yesterday asked for action from the Prime Minister before any further step was taken on the constitution and I understand that while today and the early part of next week will be devoted to the budget debate, the latest information I was able to receive on this was that as early as Wednesday of next week the constitution may be brought to parliament and my own view would be that if we have not received the promise of a meeting with the Prime Minister by Monday, that we should start packing.

---Applause

I think if we are refused a meeting or if we do not receive a reply we should go en masse and, if necessary, picket the House of Commons or the Prime Minister's office until we get the audience that we have never had on this provincial accord. We have never had a hearing and I think we should take drastic steps to ensure that we get a hearing from the Prime Minister. I believe all Members would agree, some for different reasons. Some feel more concerned about the fact that our constitutional and political development for all peoples is imperilled by this provision. Others feel particularly strongly about the aboriginal rights provisions, but we all, no matter where we come from or which constituencies we represent, we all have a common, profound concern. So, I would suggest that we be ready to move quickly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, during the coffee break when I was talking to some of my Inuit colleagues, you know -- the atmosphere here today is not a very pleasant one. It seems like we are mourning for someone who has just died or something and as a result of that, I think it is really irrelevant for us to try and remain here and play a wait and see game and see what Ottawa is going to do when they are, in fact, going to introduce a Canadian Constitution Act next week. Here we sit and we are going to wait until the Prime Minister responds or the Minister of Justice responds.

If I was the leader of this government, I would say let us adjourn for a week to allow Members of the Assembly and the Executive Committee Members to lobby Ottawa, because if you are going to be effective you are going to have to have national coverage, national attention. The media is going to have to play a part. We do not get it here. We do not have national coverage. We cannot get it unless we are in Ottawa, and they will not dare recognize us here unless you get down to Ottawa. Native people are smartening up. They know how to get attention, but we do not.

Motion To Travel To Ottawa To Urge Government To Reinstate Section 34 Of Proposed Charter Of Rights

So, Mr. Chairman, I have a motion I am going to move. I move that this Assembly adjourn for a week to allow Members of the Assembly and the Executive Committee Members to travel to Ottawa in an effort to gain constitutional status for the Government of the Northwest Territories; furthermore, that this Assembly strongly urge the federal government to act unilaterally to reinstate section 34 of the proposed charter of rights and Canadian Constitution Act for native people North of 60.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Can we get a copy of that and then we will see if it is in order? Thank you, Mr. Curley. The motion is in order. Mr. Curley. To the motion.

MR. CURLEY: To the motion, Mr. Speaker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you.

MR. CURLEY: You know this Assembly certainly had an opportunity throughout the whole year to deal with the matters that the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories and the leaders of the Executive Committee have put before us. We can deal with them. They are not urgent matters of national interest. Territorially they are not crucial. We can deal with them maybe after a week or when the matter of the constitutional issue has settled down. I believe we can go on and deal with the usual business that we have to carry on through this Assembly, but to try and sit here and play a "wait and see" attitude and see whether or not the federal government is going to respond to our nice polite letters, I am not sure whether we are going to get anywhere.

You Executive Committee Members are going to have to be down there and if we cannot play a part in supporting you as you travel to Ottawa, I know that the Inuit Members of the national committee and ITC would surely like to see me down there to try and put a little bit of clout into lobbying the various ministers and Members of the House of Commons because the federal government has a responsibility presently under the Canadian constitution, the existing one for the Northwest Territories and we are about to lose that now. We are going to let it go. We are going to be subject to the provincial consent before we can ever change our constitution in the Territories so it is not good enough. I think we can afford to take a week off and allow the Commissioner and the Executive Committee Members to plan strategy as we have guided the Executive Committee Members through the resolution we passed yesterday. So I hope that you will support this motion intelligently. Thank you.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think one week is enough. As long as we do not get an answer I think we should keep on meeting. I am going to support the motion. Do you understand?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Yes. Mr. Butters. To the motion.

Time Needed For Executive Committee To Develop A Strategy

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, to the motion. I was not present yesterday, which I regret, but I did read the Debates of that date and I had occasion during the previous coffee break to raise with the mover of the motion that there was a major element missing from it and he will confirm that discussion did take place. The major element missing from the motion was direction to the Executive Committee to take certain actions. Now, there has been criticism levelled at Members of the Executive Committee during this past hour which I think is totally unjustified. Mr. Braden, to his credit, has been acting without direction from the House but has been acting to achieve the objectives and the initiatives that have been discussed here and presented here as desirable by all Members. So I would suggest that the Executive Committee is responding as quickly as it can.

I think that a motion to adjourn at this time is premature. I think that the House might so state, and it would appear to be so stating that it would wish initiatives mounted by the Executive Committee, under Mr. Braden's leadership, that could go ahead. In fact, I think it is important enough that the Executive Committee could meet on the weekend, develop a strategy and present this to the Members on Monday, but to expect from the Executive Committee action and direction when it has not been requested of that group I think is excessive or is improper. So I would suggest to the mover of the motion that fine, I think the Executive Committee could provide a direction, could provide this initiative, but we would require more time than the motion of adjournment placed before us right now. I think that one should hear what we put before you on Monday.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I will just say that I do not intend to take that nonsense from Mr. Butters because he says the Executive does not have direction, which is a bunch of nonsense. Mr. Butters is up to his old tricks -- if he does not agree with it, he will use any technical reason, any reason that he can conjure up to delay, to put impediments to the thing.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Point of privilege. Point of privilege.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Point of privilege. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That statement is totally uncalled for and unnecessary and I ask the Member to withdraw it.

MR. SIBBESTON: Never.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Otherwise I will use unparliamentary language and I will be sorry for it.

MR. SIBBESTON: What is unparliamentary -- "nonsense"? I could have said b.s.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Order!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The statement I made is exactly correct. There is no direction in the motion that was passed yesterday.

MR. CURLEY: You were not here.

MR. SIBBESTON: That is right. You should have stayed in bed.

MR. CURLEY: You said you have not read it.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I just read it.

MR. CURLEY: A few minutes ago.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is right.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Order! We have a motion on the floor. Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Delays Are Not Needed

MR. SIBBESTON: Right. I was just saying that I do not agree with what Mr. Butters says. He is trying to delay us. He is saying that the Executive Committee does not have any direction. Well, what better direction can you have from this Assembly than to say -- you know, the fact that a telegram is sent to the Prime Minister indicates how urgent Members feel about the matter. In one case Mr. Braden says "Well, I have a letter here which I am thinking of sending to the Prime Minister but I was waiting." I mean that again is a matter that he need not wait on. He should realize or figure out what the feelings of the Legislative Assembly are. Yesterday he found out what the feelings were. That letter that he talks about should have been sent immediately also. So I just simply do not agree with Mr. Butters. I think he is trying to delay this Assembly.

As we heard, the House of Commons is going to be dealing with the constitution on Wednesday. If we continuously wait for a reply, be it Monday or Wednesday, it is going to be too late to go to Ottawa. I agree that we should adjourn now and I think we should immediately head to Ottawa. Those people like Mr. Butters that do not agree with us can stay behind, stay in bed if they want, but I am prepared to go to Ottawa on behalf of the Dene people that I represent and I am prepared to go to Ottawa; as Mr. Patterson said, picket the House of Commons, throw eggs at the Prime Minister in the House of Commons, do anything to make the point that the native people in the North are very concerned about aboriginal rights.

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

Committee Of The Whole Should Adjourn To Ottawa

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned, I think that we are on the verge of a time when we must take action but I must say I really am concerned about the motion as it stands, not because I do not support the principle of going to Ottawa to have our case heard lest we never get a hearing in all of history, but Mr. Curley is suggesting that we adjourn the Assembly for a week. Well, to my mind, we have power and we have an opportunity for national attention as the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. If we disband this afternoon and make our way to Ottawa separately or together, Members will be on their own in Ottawa, we will be disorganized, we will be wandering around. I would suggest that if we are anxious to make an impact in Ottawa, what we should be doing -- and I believe this is legally possible -- is adjourning the committee of the whole to Ottawa and we can sit in committee of the whole, but to adjourn the Assembly for a week and then leave this large gap of time in which we have no opportunity to do what we are doing this afternoon is...

MR. CURLEY: What are we doing this afternoon? Nothing.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, we are planning our future, collectively, and if the Assembly adjourns today, there is no more Assembly. There are Mr. Curley and Mr. Sibbeston and Executive Committee Members passing each other on the street in Ottawa, but I think to adjourn the Assembly and make our collective presence an absence for a week is very, very unwise.

So I would urge Mr. Curley to reconsider what he is doing. I support the notion of taking action in Ottawa but I do not think we should adjourn for a week. I think if we are going to adjourn at all, we should adjourn this committee to a time and place certain in Ottawa and invite the press to hear our debates there. I also do feel that -- and I do not want to be accused of obstructing -- but I do feel that the Prime Minister should have some opportunity to reply, and personally I would be willing to wait until Monday at noon or so at least and see if we have an answer. If we do not, I think there will still be time to leave, but I would ask Mr. Curley to consider that it would be more effective if we adjourn the Assembly to Ottawa and meet in committee of the whole rather than simply disband the Assembly and go our separate ways.

I think the press and the native leaders I have talked to have been very excited about the prospect of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories moving to Ottawa and meeting there in public to show our concern. I think our motion, Mr. Curley, would deprive us of the opportunity to meet as an Assembly in Ottawa. That, to my mind, is precisely what we want to do and hopefully we will be able to meet the Prime Minister at the witness table as this committee of the whole. So I would ask Members to reconsider this motion and perhaps we should hear from other Members, but I am entertaining moving an amendment to that effect. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Kilabuk. To the motion. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the motion. I would like to say a few things. I support that. I support it because this is the way I feel about it. When we were running for election we were the legislation makers to help the Inuit and the people of the Northwest Territories and protect them. When it comes to section 34, they have made us non-existent by releasing that section. It is now going to be worthless. I do not know how things are going to turn out. I think this section now has been deleted. I do not know where I belong now and what I am doing here. We do not have a future today even if we go on with this meeting here. We do not seem to be serving a purpose right now because of that section being deleted. Prime Minister Trudeau will eventually give us -- I think we can get support from ITC persons and the Metis Association and the Dene Nation. I think we should get the native organizations. Today we are talking about section 34. I think it has been deleted. I personally do not have much use as a Legislature Member. Further to the motion, I am in support of it. Thank you very much.

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

Executive Committee To Pursue Response Immediately

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say, or to confirm first of all, that Mr. Butters did approach me at coffee time and indicate that he thought we had erred by not including in the motion some specific direction to the Executive to pursue the matter and I therefore feel that Mr. Sibbeston's remarks were not called for, particularly too because I believe that taking sufficient time, not more than necessary, but sufficient time to do things in the right way is not a question of delaying. Perhaps the motion is not premature but it does not make allowances for certain possibilities. The fact is that immediately after we adjourned we could get some response that was satisfactory to us. So I would like to ask the mover whether he would consider amending it along these lines, that we specifically ask the Executive to pursue

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Subsequent to Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask then, how could we move this Assembly to a location outside the Territories? Is there a means within the rules that we could have some of the trappings of this government and still meet outside the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I will ask the Law Clerk again if he will answer that.

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): It would appear...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Address the Chair.

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): Mr. Chairman, it would appear that there is a possibility of meeting as a special committee and waiving the limitation of numbers as the rules provide for wherein you appoint every Member of this House to a special committee on the question to meet in Ottawa. I think that would be possible, but you could not meet as a session of the Assembly outside the jurisdiction. You could meet as a special committee sent by this House to Ottawa and that committee could, by waiving the rules pertaining to numbers in a committee, include everyone in it, every Member of this House. Does that help you?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Does that answer your question, Mr. Patterson?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and it would appear that in order for it to be in order, Mr. Curley's motion should be amended to establish a special committee such as the Law Clerk recommended to replace the reference to the Legislative Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Patterson, we cannot find anything wrong with the motion. The motion is in order. If he wants to amend the motion to go along with your recommendations, that is up to somebody else to amend that motion. If you want to amend it, that is fine. We will wait for Mr. Patterson. Mr. Stewart.

HON. DON STEWART: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think, basically, this whole Assembly in the last 24 hours has indicated that this matter has top priority and should be looked at. Now, I endeavoured...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Did you have a question there, Mr. Stewart?

Unanimity Must Be Reached

HON. DON STEWART: My problem is that the -- I hoped Mr. Curley would give me the courtesy to listen, so that we can get our thinking straight and let us get together instead of causing a Donnybrook at this time.

What I am trying to say is I think we all want to do and accomplish what he is suggesting. Now, having said that, what is the best way to do it in a manner that befits a Legislature, that can accomplish what you want to do? I think we should stop for a while and think about this thing, even if we adjourn for an hour, and get thought put together on what type of a resolution should be presented to accomplish what we want, rather than under the heat of argument right now putting together some document on adjournment or something of this nature that is not going to be satisfactory to some Members so that we are going to divide ourselves. Now, I think we all want the same thing.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. DON STEWART: So, let us try and pull together on this instead of pulling apart, which we are starting to do. We had unanimity here yesterday -- I cannot even say the word, because we do not use it here very often -- but anyway, we did get together yesterday. Now, let us not break that down today. Let us stop and think about this thing. I tried five times -- that motion yesterday, in all due respect, was really not the responsibility of the Executive. My office must take full responsibility. That wire or that motion was for us to do something. We did as we were instructed immediately. I tried five times personally to get through to Ottawa. Three times I could not even get Ottawa. Last night was budget night. You could not even get a line into the place and I did get through twice, but there was nobody there but the office boy. Everybody was busy and if you recall in caucus I brought up that point about timing. It is not our fault that the budget came in last night, but when it is budget night in Ottawa, and the following day is a madhouse, to try and get...

MR. CURLEY: To the motion.

A Plan Must Be Devised

HON. DON STEWART: Well, I am dealing with the motion. It is a madhouse to try and get contact with anybody. Now, I think we should keep our heads, get through to Ottawa, get an answer, and meet tomorrow if you like -- tomorrow is Saturday. We could still do that, we could meet tomorrow and make a decision on what action we are going to take, but if we take an action here today in the heat of argument, the way it is going right now, we are going to split the House. We are not going to get what we all want and all we are asking for is to let us get organized so we know what we are doing. The moment that motion is passed, as my colleague, Mr. Patterson has pointed out, there is no longer a House to function. We cannot do anything as a body.

Now, surely you have to have a plan of what you are going to do when you get there. You have to have at least some assurance, if you want to go down and sit as a committee of the whole, that we have a place to sit. We have to have some organization. We have to get this thing organized. If that is what you want to do, I am all for supporting it and do our damndest to do exactly what you want, but just to take a motion arbitrarily like, we are going to adjourn and we are going to go to Ottawa -- well, my goodness, you know, that is okay to get worked up, I understand that, but surely we must have a plan of what you are going to do and if you adjourn this House there is no way you can formulate a plan. Now, surely this thing is that important that we must have a plan. We just cannot go running hither and yon as individuals, because that is really what you have broken into when you adjourn the House -- we are just individuals -- and if there is any way that Ottawa would like to see us come, it is as individuals, but if we keep this unit together as a committee of the whole, then we can do what you want to do, but you cannot do it by adjourning the thing. Not right now. You could adjourn it tomorrow or maybe at midnight tonight, but if you pass this motion now, without deciding what you are going to do, then you are doing a disservice to what you really want to accomplish, Mr. Curley, because you are splitting the House and you do not have a plan to work with.

MR. CURLEY: We are already split. It just does not show through skin.

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

Approach Must Be Unified

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to agree with the Member for Mackenzie Liard, that my intent was to delay and give some sober second thought to this motion of immediate adjournment. I think the Speaker has very well summed up the situation. If we are to approach Ottawa and approach the Prime Minister we must approach them as a unified, respected organization attempting to achieve something which is of utmost importance to the northern residents.

If the Executive Committee appearing on Monday is too far into the future to reflect the urgency of the matter, then why not sit tomorrow and the Executive Committee can meet in the morning -- and I have not spoken with my fellow Members -- and examine various options? Strategy is what is required. You cannot go down there and expect somebody to listen to you if you do not know what you are going to say and what you are going to do.

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I am quite intrigued with all the strong concerns that the Members on the other side, all of a sudden have, regarding this issue. They let the item go without a whimper until they finally got around to realizing that, look, we do not have a strategy to deal with this national emergency problem. You could have just let it go and now you say, "Look, we need all the time in the world." This is in fact what you guys were doing. You could sleep on it and stay in bed the whole weekend -- nothing would have bothered you. You would have had a good time and get your per diem expenses allowance paid, and that is good, but you had an opportunity to come up with a plan, not just now and between tomorrow. You had all that time since the constitutional crisis and the provincial premiers have got together to put up that proposal.

The best we could do at least is to lobby in Ottawa, whether we are doing it alone, certain Members coming and going and associating with the native groups that are down there fighting. They are going to be down there a full week. Here we say, "Look, we have to have a decent kind of a motherhood statement and a plan that will really look professional." We are too polite not to take a little bit of a hard core and strait jacket type of approach.

A National Emergency Problem

This is a national emergency problem. Some of you may not be able to move that fast. I can understand why, but some of us are prepared to travel and move and I do not think finding an office down there or a meeting room is a problem. If you want me to organize that, Mr. Speaker, I will volunteer to help you, because you may need that. If you assure me that you will actually come up with a plan by a certain hour tomorrow, sure, I am prepared to withdraw the motion, but I am not just going to let my motion go, just so that you again trick me into withdrawing it by trying to appear that you are really serious and that you are going to come up with something, because I am convinced this issue would have just gone away, never to be brought up again until about the same hour next Monday if I had not picked it up. It is one that we could not treat lightly. If you want to treat it lightly, then do so. I do not think you guys really have not got a stake here, but people in the Eastern Arctic have got a lot more of a case than they have in this constitutional crisis and we have to treat it as it is. So, for that, if the Executive Committee Members are prepared to offer a schedule as to when they are going to come up with that neat plan that they want to present to us, I am prepared to listen before 6:00 o'clock. Thank you.

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

HON. DON STEWART: Well, Mr. Curley, I am glad to see that you are prepared to co-operate in this manner and I am quite prepared to support a motion that we sit at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon or whatever time is suitable to the Members of this House. We can get into committees and we can get the thing organized so that we know what we want to do and how we are going to go and do it.

MR. CURLEY: I know what I want to do.

Members Must Work Together

HON. DON STEWART: I know what the end result is that you want to do, but I do not know exactly how you are going to be able to do it unless we all go down there and are number one, unified when we go and have some strength. That is all my concern is. What are we going to do? Who are we going to see? And proceed. Now, if we cannot get through on the telephone -- I was tied up all afternoon, I take that responsibility, but I have been trying since that wire has been sent to contact Ottawa to try and get some information.

MR. CURLEY: That is not good enough.

HON. DON STEWART: Well, I do not know what I am supposed to do. I am sorry, I am not a seagull. I have got no bloody wings that I can fly down there. The only thing that is available to me is the telephone and I tried and I do not know what more you can expect, but it was my Office, the Office of the Speaker, that was responsible for the direction given by this House and we did not take the motion lightly. We have done everything we could possibly do to try and get you an answer and if that is not good enough, I do not know what else we could do. If you are going to tell me what we should have done, I will certainly listen to your advice, but let us get together and let us get this thing ironed out, because it is not going to fly very well the way it is right now. We are going to be split.

In adjourning the House you have taken the authority of the House away. We have nothing left even to work with. I am prepared to sit tonight, I am prepared to sit tomorrow, I am prepared to sit on Sunday, I am prepared to do anything that this House wants, but let us get together on the thing and work it out in detail so that it is satisfactory, so that everybody can work together. This anger and determination of one or two people, no matter how well intended, instead of coming out on the winning end could well lose the case because of not having it properly planned. I agree with you that it is one of the most important things that this House has had to deal with. Now, let us stay together and let us go out and do the thing together. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Extend Sitting Hours

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, because Rule 4 calls for us to automatically adjourn at 6:00 o'clock, I think it is in order at this time for any Member to move under Rule 44(2)(a) that this Assembly continue sitting beyond the hour of 6:00 o'clock and I make this motion in order to be sure that Mr. Curley's motion is not cut off at 6:00 o'clock and that debate on this particular topic continues until we at least resolve it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. We have a motion on the floor, Mr. McLaughlin. We have not dealt with the motion that we have on the floor yet.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, a motion to adjourn is not debatable and also is my motion to continue and it supersedes the motion on the floor. We could get around it if Mr. Curley would adjourn his motion momentarily so I could get this motion on the floor.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The motion is that we extend the sitting hours. Just one moment. We will check it out here. I am sorry, Mr. McLaughlin. I have to let the Clerk explain that to us. I think there is something in the rules that says we cannot deal with another motion while one is...

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. If Mr. Curley withdraws his motion momentarily, would my motion then be in order?

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I understand the procedure. When we are dealing with an issue in the committee of the whole, any Member can stand up and say "Look, we wish to stand and debate the issue beyond 6:00 o'clock." All you need is unanimous agreement.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): If there is unanimous consent, I am informed that we can continue on with the motion. Do I hear a "nay"? Carry on. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, yesterday was a very good day in my mind because of the unanimity and the progress...

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Point of order.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...that we made.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McLaughlin. Point of order.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: The difficulty is that we want to continue not just with the motion but with this topic because we do not want everything to be cut off as soon as we pass this motion. So my object is to keep the House going even after Mr. Curley's motion is dealt with if Members want to continue doing that.

MR. CURLEY: Emergency.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McLaughlin, on your point of order, I am informed that if this motion is passed, we have completed Item 13, matters relating to the constitution of Canada, once the motion is passed. I have Mr. Patterson next. To the motion.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I was just saying that we seem to be very close to an agreement on what we should do. I think there is a consensus first of all that we need planning. We need to set up a special committee. We need to give it a proper name. We need to plan exactly when we are going to make this trip and I believe that we are not going to be able to do it in the next few minutes. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that it is generally agreed that while we do not have an awful lot of time, we probably have until at least tomorrow to come to some agreement.

Now, the ad hoc committee that was established yesterday which produced a motion to the Prime Minister could be reconstituted if Members agree or I would imagine that the Executive Committee would be willing to do some planning prior to our next meeting. So I would suggest that either the Executive Committee or the ad hoc committee that prepared the motion yesterday be given some time to meet and myself, I would like to get a meal and perhaps even some rest. I would suggest we can wait until 1:00 o'clock tomorrow to meet as committee of the whole which would give the Executive or this ad hoc committee or both an opportunity to come up with a good solid plan that has the support of all Members and very quickly then we could move to execute the plan once we meet. So I personally would suggest that Members consider reporting progress now and reconvening at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow to await advice from the Executive and the planning committee. Thank you.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. A point of order. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Rule 7(a) clearly states that a motion to continue sitting is in order and the motion must relate to the business then being considered. My motion I was making was that the House continue sitting beyond 6:00 o'clock to consider Mr. Curley's motion and the business to which it related. So I would like to do that because I was going to be cut off in three minutes and we are not going to resolve anything here. So I want a clear answer from the Chair whether this House is going to continue sitting beyond 6:00 o'clock or not.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Point of order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The fact that Mr. Curley's motion was not on the floor when we entered committee of the whole to discuss this topic indicates that we do have the right to go past 6:00 o'clock on the general topic. It was not just to discuss that one thing. The topic is constitutional development and I believe that should be taken into account in the ruling.

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: Do not filibuster, Mr. Speaker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well, if we can get these rule guys together here, we will continue. I do not know what is going on.

MR. CURLEY: Come on, Mr. Clerk. You tell them. You know enough about the rules. No sense of imagination.

Motion To Extend Sitting Hours, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McLaughlin's motion is in order. We will accept it.

---Carried

We will continue on with the motion. To the motion. We still have the motion on the floor that we have to deal with. Unless you want to withdraw the motion, we can continue on with the constitution of Canada.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: May I ask you, please, have we got consent to go on past 6:00 o'clock? Have you dealt with that matter so we can continue after 6:00 o'clock?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): You are right. You have consent.

MS COURNOYEA: Okay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McLaughlin's motion is in order. You are next on the floor. To the motion. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to Mr. Curley's motion that is on the floor, I would not like to see that motion withdrawn until such time as we can still have assurances from the Executive Committee to know exactly whether they intend to take charge of this urgent matter. It seems that in trying to deal with getting the Northwest Territories recognized in regard to section 34, there has been a complacency that maybe one telex will do the job and we all know

that is not true. But we do have a person in Ottawa. Mr. Speaker has said "Well gee, I have tried on the telephone four or five times." Well, we have a Ms Claire Barnabe -- I think that is her name -- who is supposed to be dealing with those matters. Was she not used? We have an aboriginal rights and constitutional department. What were they doing? So until such time as we can have assurances that this matter is going to be dealt with, I urge Mr. Curley not to withdraw his motion.

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

MR. CURLEY: Question.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I support the motion that this Assembly should adjourn. Some Members brought up matters as to how things would be in Ottawa, whether we would be scattered all over the place, whether we would be legally constituted down there and so forth. I think that these points are irrelevant. The important thing in all of this is that this House adjourn for the purpose of going to Ottawa and to see, of course, the Prime Minister. Of course if this motion carries, what I see happening is that immediately the matter is concluded here tonight, arrangements would be made for all of the Members that want to go to Ottawa to begin their trip, be it by sched or by charter, and when in Ottawa we would arrange amongst ourselves to meet some place. We do not have to have a Mace or the Speaker or his chair there. We will all agree to meet there and that is the important thing, that we are all down there. After we are down there we can, as I said, meet; we can then plan our strategy down there, not here in Yellowknife. So I support the motion and I think we should act on it as soon as possible so plans can be made to go to Ottawa.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Well, Ms Cournoyea asked whether the Executive would be willing to take charge and presumably if they were, she could agree to asking the mover to withdraw the motion and that certainly would satisfy me as well. So can we have a response from the Leader of the Elected Executive, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In response to Ms Cournoyea's questions, I would request that the Executive and other interested MLAs be given the evening and part of tomorrow morning to consider some options and then we can convene as soon as possible, around midday, to consider whether we should adjourn the House or whether we should debate further some of the proposals or options. I would request that we be given this evening and part of tomorrow morning to work and that we convene as soon as possible around midday to make decisions on action.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mr. Stewart I have next.

Importance Of A Properly Constituted Document

HON. DON STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the problems that I have -- I agree with the intent of Mr. Curley's motion. That is not the point of argument with me but the proper -- if you word that motion in such a manner, why are we adjourning, what is the purpose, because we are acting now as a Legislature. That then becomes a document of this House, but just a flat "We are going to adjourn and go to Ottawa" really does not say anything.

MR. CURLEY: Come on. The motion does not say that.

MR. SIBBESTON: You know why.

HON. DON STEWART: Well, yes, but the point is it is still a legal document and it should be done properly and it does not take very long to do it. If the Executive can be of assistance -- you are not going to see anybody of any import in Ottawa until Monday anyway, so we can get out of here Sunday. You are going to be in Ottawa in time to do your business that you want to do and be prepared, at least -- even if you say it does not make any difference, you would satisfy me. I would be able then to go and do my best to support and work with you, but it is not to delay anything. You are going to be there in time to do your work. This is all we are asking for, so we can put the package together and know where we are going and what we are going to do and do it in a manner that becomes a Legislature. This would be a properly written motion that we agree to, why we have adjourned and what our purpose of adjourning is and so on and so forth and it will just be a proper document. But to just say "We are going to adjourn and go to Ottawa" well, we know why we are going to Ottawa but if you present that document to anybody -- you want the press, you want all of these people on your side and you will have them there if you can present proper documents that were passed in a properly constituted Legislature. You cannot do that after you have adjourned.

So let us get the work done properly in sequence and let us get together and let us do it. Now, surely Monday morning, if we can be in Ottawa Monday morning, that has got to be as good a time as any to get there and we can do it by waiting until sometime tomorrow. I do not care whether it is 9:00 o'clock, 10:00 o'clock, 11:00 o'clock tomorrow or 1:00 o'clock, but to go with a plan so we know what we are doing and properly constituted documents that are registered and passed by this House duly constituted and in position of authority. Once you adjourn we have no authority left. So surely you can wait that long to get that kind of work that is so essential to a national thing that we are getting involved in. Surely you could go that far to at least have the paper work right when we get there.

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

Request To Prime Minister Clear Enough

MR. CURLEY: I do not know where Mr. Speaker has been since yesterday. We passed a resolution yesterday that says that the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories urgently requests that the Prime Minister meet as soon as possible with Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories to discuss their constitutional concern either in Yellowknife or at a place convenient to the Prime Minister and further earnestly requests that the Prime Minister of Canada take no further step to put the recent constitutional agreement into effect until a meeting with the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories has taken place. So it says "urgently", and now you say "Well, we can wait a while, until Monday." Until we get this nice big document, I do not know -- there might be a miracle worker around here who is finally going to come up with this -- maybe John Parker knows somebody who can come up with this document because they have had since November 5 to do something, when the constitutional rights of the Assembly were finally given to the provinces.

My motion says that this Assembly adjourn for a week to allow Members of the Assembly and the Ministers to travel to Ottawa in an effort to gain constitutional status for the Government of the Northwest Territories. So that is really saying "Let us forget about all this time to draw up and hire consultants -- and all these bureaucrats over there to draw up a proposal that we would consider in the House." We are not going to have time to do that because the constitution of Canada -- you know, we are not going to have an opportunity to appeal before the Senate committee or the House of Commons committee. It is going right into the House of Commons. You want to draw up a plan. How big a plan do you want to draw up? I think the simple resolution we passed is strong enough and an urgent enough case that we try and at least get these two areas: first, the amending formula which is not acceptable I think for all of us, which gives the

rights, you know, constitutional responsibility of this present Legislature back to the provinces and we want them to give it back to us; and we want the Prime Minister to act unilaterally to reinstate the original section 34 of the Canada Constitution Act. Clear enough.

If you cannot figure it out, you may want to read the whole document before you finally get around to understanding what we are trying to do here. We are dealing with an urgent national issue. We do not have time to hire somebody to come up with a massive document. You know, if we had any imagination, we would have done that long ago but we do not have such people on this Assembly with -- you know, I should think all of us -- an acceptable imagination for the people in the Northwest Territories. We at least might as well go independently, if we have to, to Ottawa to try and influence the native groups that are down there and join them because I am just not sure whether we are actually going to come up with a proposal. If we cannot come up with one, we can work all night to try and come up with one. Let us not get out of here until we know again exactly what our strategy is going to be. Many of our people are not prepared to sit around from the Eastern Arctic until somebody comes up with a grand plan because I am not sure whether we could do it. I do not think we have time to deal with that because Canadian parliament does not have time to deal with it. Thank you.

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

HON. DON STEWART: Well, Mr. Curley suggested that possibly Mr. Parker could throw some light on this and if Mr. Parker would like to make a statement, I would certainly like to hear from him at this stage of the debate. I know it is an awkward position for him and I do not want to embarrass him but I think that this thing is so critical that we should get all of the advice and all of the opinions that are possible. I would ask the House to allow Mr. Parker to say a few words in regard to what we are talking about, whether we should take off right immediately or get something jammed together, whatever he chooses to say. It was actually Mr. Curley that suggested possibly Mr. Parker had the answer so I would like to hear from Mr. Parker, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Mr. Parker, do you care to comment?

Commissioner's Remarks Re Trip To Ottawa

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I would comment or speak only on the process that is being discussed and not on the substance. I think it must be borne in mind that yesterday there was a vote held with unanimous support of the Members present to petition the Prime Minister on the matter of establishing aboriginal rights in the constitution, that is to put the clause back in which although it had not become law had still raised a very important expectation among the people of the Northwest Territories and the native people throughout Canada. I think that time is undoubtedly short. As an observer of the process and from what I have heard from news broadcasts today, it is the intention of the Government of Canada to proceed in the latter part of this coming week to a debate in the House and I believe that they have now said they would not hold it for only two days because the substance of the bill which has been prepared to replace the original bill is a major rewriting and therefore the debate will probably take more than two days. In any event, there is no doubt there is a question of urgency if the Members of this Legislature wish to have their feelings made known and understood.

I would suggest to you that your power remains much enhanced, much greater if you act as a Legislature and not as individuals. That is not to say that individuals will not have some important effect because individuals can at times be very effective, but I think you have the opportunity to act and continue to act in a unified fashion.

Mr. Braden has suggested to you that the Executive Committee, having been charged with lending its support, which it had obviously given yesterday -- but there has been some question of follow-up, and perhaps the follow-up has not been as rapid as it should have been -- but he has suggested that the Executive Committee be given overnight to try and determine what are the responses from the Prime Minister or from his officials and to come back to the House at some time tomorrow, at a convenient time, to offer the very best possible plan for putting into effect what the Members have been asking. I think to take just overnight is not very long and I think that it could be time very well spent. It could even mean that some Members or all Members could be on their way tomorrow afternoon if that was the decision. I think the time to be spent though in dealing with this overnight and reconvening in the morning would be very wise and if you are looking for any advice from me, I would suggest to you that you may wish to hold the motion open until such time as you have taken this opportunity to work on it overnight and come back to this House tomorrow, perhaps at mid-morning but at a time of your choosing, and at that time then you would still have the opportunity to either vote on the motion or to amend the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley, you being the mover of the motion, did you hear what the Commissioner had to say?

MR. CURLEY: Well, I do not believe Mr. Parker was just merely speaking to me.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: I would just say, Mr. Chairman, that it should be evident and certainly to the mover of the motion, Mr. Curley, that within one days time it would be very likely possible to have unanimous agreement of Members and surely that is a very desirable thing and therefore I would ask Mr. Curley to consider withdrawing his motion. Since it is a motion to adjourn, it is difficult to amend in any acceptable way. Ask him to withdraw it on the undertaking that was given to us by the Leader of the Elected Executive and perhaps we could then have a motion to set a specific time tomorrow for requesting the Speaker to convene at a special time tomorrow. Would Mr. Curley consider doing that?

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

Word Of Mouth Not Good Enough

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not prepared to accept by word only, you know, that great progress will be made tomorrow. I think anyone who is attempting to assure me -- it is going to have to be by motion. Someone is going to have to introduce a motion specifying exactly what we are going to do because we have done it too many times before. I prefer to just adjourn for a week and let the Executive Committee, if they want to play around with the Canadian constitution in their own way, then they will be able to do it. They do not need my help. So I prefer to adjourn if they are not going to come up with an alternative motion which says, "Let us strike a constitutional committee, Canadian constitutional committee." If you were to introduce that motion effectively as soon as I withdraw my motion, then I am prepared to accept possibly withdrawing my motion, but at this time if it is just by word of mouth, it is not good enough. I prefer to go home, stay home and let the Executive Committee and the Speaker play around with a grand plan so that they can go to Ottawa with it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what Mr. Parker has said. However, I am just wondering if it is possible, even right now, to work out some of the details that admittedly would have to be dealt with. Mr. Braden talks of options and working things out and I am just wondering if it is possible for him or

other Members to reveal some of the ideas that they have that could be done. My feeling is that we ought to decide now, and we can sit here until midnight if need be, but work out the details today. I am concerned that if we adjourn, some of the momentum, some of the emotion, some of the enthusiasm may be lost. I might get drunk tonight or I might break a leg tonight or my wife might -- it might rain in Yellowknife or all sorts of things could "might" happen tonight which might make me lose enthusiasm. So I would rather deal with it today. I am amazed at the fact that Members on this side of the House have expressed concern -- I mean, I am wondering whether some of the Executive Committee Members share the feeling that we do. Are they interested in going to Ottawa? What are some of the options that Mr. Braden had mentioned? I just suggest that we should work out the details right now. If Members do not want to do it as openly as we have done on this side, then they can ask for a coffee break or ask for a brief adjournment so the Executive Committee can meet in secret.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Patterson.

Executive Committee Must Be Trusted

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, we all -- believe me, I am sure I speak for the Executive Committee -- we all have felt very frustrated and angry since last Thursday. I got the news when I was on a plane on Friday morning on the way to Yellowknife that section 34 had been dropped and I was sick. I only began to understand what had happened and deciphered through the agreement that had been reached -- I am a lawyer but I found it very difficult to get a grasp on it -- I only began to understand it within the last couple of days. I do not make any apologies for that. What I want to plead for is a little bit of trust in the Executive Committee. We were elected by the Assembly. The aboriginal people are represented on the Executive. I am a Member from the Eastern Arctic and I feel a profound responsibility to the people of the Eastern Arctic and to the 25,000 or more aboriginal peoples in the Northwest Territories. Their future is in our hands. Let us not become angry at each other. We are not the enemy, believe me. The Executive Committee is not trying to frustrate this process. Perhaps we need a little prodding and perhaps we could have been more aggressive today. Certainly I can assure you the subject of what to do came up at the Executive Committee this morning and perhaps we could have moved faster but I certainly, as one Member anyway, want to assure Mr. Sibbeston and Mr. Curley that I am prepared to be part of the most drastic action. We can meet on the laws of the House of Commons, but whatever we are going to do, let us collectively determine a course of action and follow it to the man...

MR. CURLEY: Let us do it now!

MR. SIBBESTON: Let us do it now!

MR. CURLEY: Let us do it now. Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...and woman.

---Applause

Now, I have been sitting here for 40 minutes. I have tried to scribble down a few motions. Every couple of minutes I think that Mr. Curley is going to move a motion that will have us in limbo for a week. I have not been able to think straight. I want a little bit of time. Okay. If you are only willing to give me a coffee break, I will try and get together with my colleagues on an empty stomach and come up with something but I tend to feel that we are angry and frustrated at the end of this angry and frustrating week because we are dealing with the situation where we feel helpless. We have the same frustrations as the people have felt who have, in desperation, pulled their children out of school. We have the same frustrations that people are feeling who are talking about sending white people south. These kinds of tactics are not going to be effective and neither is anger within our caucus going to be effective. Let us direct that energy into a constructive and carefully considered plan and myself, I would prefer some time. I think mid-morning tomorrow -- the world is not going to stop turning and I do think that will be soon enough to come up with a plan.

So I would urge Members to consider reporting progress and adjourning until 10:30 tomorrow morning and I can assure you that the Executive will immediately set to work on preparing a responsible plan including transportation arrangements and the other details that, like it or not, we have to look after. I would, as one Member anyway, ask for a little bit of trust from the Members and a little bit of patience. I am not asking to wait even until Monday but I think by tomorrow morning we will all be prepared to pursue this important task with vigour and I hope that the Members who have elected the Executive Committee would put a little bit of trust in us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. I cannot accept your recommendation to report progress. We could maybe take a 10 minute coffee break and then come back.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Point of order. Point of order. Mr. Chairman, we are debating a motion in committee of the whole which asks for us to adjourn for a week to go to Ottawa. It does not say we adjourn now. It does not say we adjourn tomorrow. It does not say we adjourn Monday. Second, it is a motion in committee of the whole and you cannot have a motion in committee of the whole to adjourn the House formally. If we are going to adjourn the House formally, it has to be done while the Speaker is in the chair.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I did not say I was going to adjourn. I said we will take a 10 minute coffee break and then we will come back.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, I would like to make a point of order before you do that so that the Members will think about this during the coffee break.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Your point of order will come when we come back from a 10 minute coffee break, okay?

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come back to order. We have a motion on the floor, still dealing with Mr. Curley's motion, I believe. Mr. Curley. To the motion.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We have a motion on the floor, we are still dealing with. Mr. Curley.

Motion To Travel To Ottawa To Urge Government To Reinstate Section 34 Of Proposed Charter Of Rights, Withdrawn

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say this in Inuktitut for the motion that I made. I do not know why we are debating about this. The Northwest Territories -- we are divided, but we do not want to be divided, toward this matter. The motion I just made I am going to withdraw. (Translation ends)

Mr. Chairman, I would like to announce that, with a little bit of help from our friends, Mr. Sibbeston and I have been able to come to an agreement with the Commissioner and his Executive Committee. So I now would like to formally withdraw my motion. I have another motion -- at this time I would like to introduce it, with your permission.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I understand you withdraw the first motion and you wish to proceed with another motion. Carry on.

Motion That Special Committee Formulate Action Plan Re Aboriginal Rights

MR. CURLEY: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. The motion reads:

Whereas this Assembly has expressed with deep concern about the current Canadian constitution, particularly in respect of aboriginal rights and future political development in the Northwest Territories;

And whereas this Assembly needs to develop an immediate action plan for addressing these issues with the Government of Canada and the provincial premiers;

Now therefore, I move that a special committee of the Legislative Assembly, consisting of Members of the Assembly and the Executive Committee, be struck to report back to this House by 1:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon on an action plan including the following:

- a) adjourning the present session and reconvening in Ottawa to extensively lobby the federal and provincial governments;
- b) seeking means available to the Assembly including lobbying with Opposition leaders to have aboriginal rights protected for the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories; and
- c) establishing a permanent constitutional committee consisting of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee, to co-ordinate the Legislative Assembly's action plan on the constitution of Canada.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Could we have a copy of that motion just to make sure it is in order? Thank you. Your motion is in order, Mr. Curley. Do you wish to speak to the motion? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes Mr. Chairman. Very briefly, I think that the motion is very

clear. I indicated that with the help of friends from the Executive Committee and Commissioner, we have been able to, I think, present to the Assembly one that can be supported by all Members. I do not want to give the impression or opinion that we were about to split here, because the only way that we could deal with this complex issue is in exercising our true feelings and I felt very strongly today after hearing that the kids were being used as the victims of this constitutional crisis, in the Eastern Arctic, that we had to come up with something better than the sort of "do as you please" kind of policy. For this reason I think we have to treat this issue as an emergency and we would like to be able to come up tomorrow with a plan that will be dealt with by the Assembly tomorrow afternoon. Thank you very much.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: A very good motion, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to mention that we need to select the Members of this special committee and if the motion passes, I would ask you to ask Members who are interested in serving on this committee to indicate -- we will name them and perhaps set a time early tomorrow morning, a time and place for meeting, and then we can all go home and think about it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since it accords precisely with what I recommended to Mr. Curley about an hour ago, I am very happy to support the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Any further discussion on the motion? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The one who made the motion, I would like to ask him -- I did not really understand -- when we would be going down to Ottawa. The Prime Minister and his colleagues will not be working tomorrow or Sunday. Where will they be found? I prefer to wait for Monday, when it is possible that we will be answered by then. Are you considering that Sunday too...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Evaluarjuk, I do not think the motion says anything about going to Ottawa. It is just a motion that we -- Mr. Curley, do you want to explain that to him?

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The motion is that we will have to be meeting in the morning. We will be meeting again in the House at 1:00 o'clock p.m. However, the Commissioner and the Executive Committee had already been informed. We will not be leaving right away for Ottawa, as there would be other problems. We would be taking consideration of that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley, I understand, for the record, your motion reads 12:00 noon. You have changed that to 1:00 p.m., is that right?

MR. CURLEY: Yes.

Motion That Special Committee Formulate Action Plan Re Aboriginal Rights,
Carried

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: A recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): A recorded vote being requested. All in favour, please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Tologanak, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Noah, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. Butters, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. MacQuarrie and Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The motion was carried unanimously, let it be for the records.

---Carried

Any further business? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I would just suggest, Mr. Chairman, that you ask the Members of this committee who would be interested in serving on the planning committee, which will meet tomorrow morning before the House hears the report. The motion gives them terms of reference and I would suggest that you ask for an indication of interest and that we establish a meeting time and place quickly, and then we can adjourn.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Patterson, I do not think it is common practice. I think it is up to the Speaker, but I will do it if the Members agree that we canvass a few of the Members and see who is wishing to serve on it. Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Anybody wishing to serve on the committee, would they please indicate by raising their hand? Mr. Patterson, Mr. Sibbeston, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Stewart. Thank you very much. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I will just move that the persons indicated be Members of that committee and that they meet tomorrow morning at 9:30.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I understand the persons that have indicated they wish to serve on the committee to meet at 9:30 tomorrow, at the...

Motion To Set Up Membership And Meeting Of Special Committee, Carried

MR. SIBBESTON: I will make a motion that those people who indicated interest in being on that committee be so, in fact, Members of that committee and that a meeting time be 9:30 tomorrow morning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): At 9:30 tomorrow morning, here, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Katimavik A?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called, motion on the floor. All in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I am just wondering if I could ask the Leader of the Elected Executive Committee if he plans to put some of his office staff on call first thing in the morning? Granted, we are meeting at 9:30, however the Ottawa time is 7:30, perhaps they can become aware that a job has to be done and possibly get Ms Barnabe working in Ottawa, saying, you know, the basic, some basic plans on perhaps where the Minister is going to be and just the simple questions that we know we are going to have to have answers for. So perhaps they can start at 7:00 o'clock in the morning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will be talking to my staff tonight and I will report to the committee first thing tomorrow morning on progress that has been made and in addition I will have my legal advisers available for the committee when we meet tomorrow morning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Braden. Any further discussion?

AN HON. MEMBER: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Report progress. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been studying in committee of the whole, matters relating to the constitution of Canada with one motion -- I will read the "now therefore clause". "I move that a special committee of the Legislative Assembly consisting of Members of the Assembly and the Executive Committee be struck to report back to this House by tomorrow on an action plan including the following: a) adjourning the present session and reconvening in Ottawa to extensively lobby the federal and provincial governments; b) seeking means available to the Assembly including lobbying with opposition leaders to have aboriginal rights protected for the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories, and c) establishing a permanent constitutional committee consisting of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee to co-ordinate the Legislative Assembly's action plan on the constitution of Canada." This motion was passed unanimously Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Fraser, and I understand for the record's sake that there was another motion presented by Mr. Sibbeston confirming the appointment of those Members that indicated that they wished to serve on that committee, and that the time that is set for that meeting is 9:30 tomorrow morning. The sitting time for tomorrow will be 1:00 o'clock. Mr. Fraser, I presume that you were just reporting progress, that the matter of constitutional development stays on the order paper, is that correct?

MR. FRASER: That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, the orders of the day for Saturday.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, 1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 14.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to 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 for First Reading of Bills
9. Notices of Motion
10. Motions
11. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
12. Second Reading of Bills
13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to be Legislature and Other Matters: Matters Relating to the Constitution of Canada; Tabled Document 5-81(3), Our Land Our Future, Discussion Paper on Political and Constitutional Development in the Northwest Territories
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. It may be somewhat confusing why all those items were put on there because it is my understanding that it is the desire of the House tomorrow to deal specifically with the matter that we have just been dealing with, and that the Items 1 to 14, or whatever they are -- we would by unanimous consent just jump straight in to committee of the whole and deal with the business. Is that the wish of the House?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed. It is simpler to do it this way because it is our usual format, but it is not the intention to deal with those matters, but to go straight into the committee of the whole. Announcements. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asked to remind Members that they were invited by the Spirit of Adventure Canoeists to a bon voyage cocktail party which started at 6:00 o'clock in the Gold Room of the Yellowknife Inn. Presumably, it is still on.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, are there any announcements?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): No, sir, no announcements.

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Saturday, November the 14th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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Yellowknife, N.W.T. at 50¢ per day, \$5.00 per session and \$12.50 per year.
Published under the Authority of the Commissioner
of the Northwest Territories