



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): The orders of the day for February the 4th, replies to the Commissioner's Address.

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Sibbeston.

Mr. Sibbeston's Reply And Motion Of Appreciation Seconded

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to second the motion of appreciation made earlier by my colleague on the other side, Mr. McCallum, on the first day of the session.

I have a number of concerns regarding my constituency and then a number of other matters dealing with this House here as it exists today, but the single biggest concern has to do with Fort Liard and the RCMP. Now, the RCMP in the North have a good history. They are here to help. They have been with us in the North for quite a number of years and have helped people. I think for the most part they did not even come North to keep peace. There was not any need for the police to keep the peace until the last few decades; only in the last few decades, as native people -- these are people in the smaller communities -- moved off the land and gathered into communities and this government promoted liquor by having liquor stores and bars open that the trouble began happening, so that the police duty now, for the most part includes keeping the peace. For the most part the police up to very recently, I think, have used a common-sense approach. If you did not drink, if you did not get into any trouble in any way with the police, the police did not bother you. In a small community police were hardly evident. When you saw them, they were usually involved in community-type activities -- recreation or shooting dogs for you, or if there was a disaster, usually the police would be there to help.

Now, in Fort Liard in the past year there has been a very noticeable change in the way RCMP police a community and I do not know if it is the personnel that happen to be in Liard or simply that the RCMP are now taking a different, a tougher law and order type of approach. I can say, Mr. Speaker, that, at the moment, in Fort Liard it is like a police state. The relations between the leaders of the community and the police has deteriorated and it is a very tense

situation. I was in Liard last week and I could sense that, and I feel that if the RCMP authorities here in Yellowknife do not get the two officers out of Fort Liard in the next while there may be some unfortunate trouble. The community leaders have asked that I ask Mr. John Parker, the Commissioner, to come to Liard in the next few days, perhaps in the next week or 10 days, to have a public meeting to deal with a very large community concern regarding the police.

RCMP Showing Favoritism In Fort Liard

Now, the present tense situation really began last winter. There were a number of incidents where the police, I believe, showed favoritism toward white people in Fort Liard. For a while it seems the RCMP and the Hudson's Bay Company persons there seemed to be helping one another, to the detriment of other people in town. There was an instance where the RCMP vehicle was continuously used to help the Hudson's Bay officials. Instead of the Hudson's Bay Company, a big corporation as it is, getting its own vehicle, here we had them using the RCMP -- two police officers and the police vehicle to load Hudson's Bay goods off planes. This went on for quite a number of days and weeks, despite the fact that there is a local contracting company, Beaver Enterprises Limited, which is a native-owned company, which could have done the work.

It seems too that during this time, since last spring, the RCMP began scrutinizing very closely the business activities of Beaver Enterprises Limited and also the local Dene band council. It seemed as if Beaver Enterprises Limited got charged for a number of petty matters, things like not having proper plates or not having proper operating authority. This really made the local people there angry, because they noticed that there were hundreds of trucks from the South coming into the North hauling materials and they are greatly suspicious that these companies, these trucks operating in the North, did not have licences and operating authority and yet, you know, the police did not do anything about that and seemed to be picking on the Beaver Enterprises business.

Housing Project Investigated

Throughout the spring and the summer relations continued to deteriorate and in late August it seemed as if the full force of the RCMP was brought into action against the community leaders in Fort Liard. One day in late July there was a plane load of RCMP officers from Yellowknife here who landed without any notice to the community in Liard, got off the plane and arrived with search warrants and -- I was going to say raided -- but searched the band office, the Beaver Enterprises office, Harry Deneron and John McKee. The issue at this time was that the police had alleged that the band council and other community leaders had defrauded some of the local people of money in respect of a housing project that the band council had undertaken. Basically, what had happened there is that the band council got some money from the Housing Corporation and with the money built quite a number of houses -- more than they were supposed to with the money. Also, when they were finished, they had run into extra costs in supplying a lot of extra things that are not normally provided. The band council decided to charge the people \$500 each before they could enter a house and this money was to be used for, as I said, the extra costs and some of the maintenance costs that were due to arise in the future. I guess because of this the police thought that the people had been involved in some criminal activity and so had come in full force to deal with the alleged criminals in Liard.

I became involved, the Dene Nation became involved, because we were called and we went to Fort Liard just after the searches and we had a meeting with the people. In our investigation of the facts I and another lawyer could not see where any of the activities or conduct of the band council was of a criminal nature. So, it was a complete shock to the people as to why the RCMP did as they did, in coming to Liard in the force that they did. If you can imagine seven or eight police officers suddenly converging onto a small little community of 300 or 400 people and just acting as if they were dealing with a gang of underworld operators or crooks.

When we reviewed the facts and details that the people, local leaders, in Liard had done regarding housing they should have been commended for building those houses, doing it in the way they did, and then suggesting or wanting people to contribute something toward their house. Our understanding was that the police thought that this way of doing things was illegal, that somehow or another, despite the fact that all government agencies involved in this were aware, that somehow the people were doing criminal things. So, as a result of this the acts of the police virtually paralysed or brought things to a standstill for the people in Liard with regard to Beaver Enterprises, their company. There was a loss of confidence in, actually, both governments because up until then both governments had co-operated quite well with the people of Liard. In fact, Liard up to that point had been made out to be an example of the sort of thing that is possible if the Dene co-operate with the government. Up to that point the people were doing well, but after this happened the local leaders in Liard have kind of lost confidence in the government.

Reaction Of Defiance To RCMP

The local leaders have always said, our offices are open to anyone to look at. If the police wanted to they could have come into our office, asked for what information they had, and they would have gladly given it to the police, but instead, they acted as they did. So, some of the local people did become defiant to the RCMP and shortly after this fly-in and kind of swooping in of the police and doing all those searches, one night the police boat suddenly sank. To this date, of course, nobody knows who did it. Then another night somebody threw a large rock like this through the police office window and, again, nobody ever knows who did that, but it appears somebody in the community was reacting and using whatever means they could to show their defiance to the police authority.

The outcome of all of this investigation is that very recently all of the documents have been returned to the people. The band council and Beaver Enterprises took legal action and went to court and forced the police to return all their documents to them. I spoke just a couple of days ago to the lawyer representing the company, Beaver Enterprises, and other people in Liard and apparently the police are not going to lay any criminal charges against them. So I ask, all of this for what? What was accomplished? It seems to me it was more an act of intimidation against native people. Maybe some of the police officers saw that native people in Liard were getting too well off and they have nice houses and going on the occasional trip and so that maybe did not sit too well with the local police officer. He thought maybe the native people are getting too economically powerful in the community, so they had to be put in their place. That is what some of the people in Liard think.

Morale In Fort Liard Devastated

The effect is that it is devastating to the morale of the people in Liard. They have lost confidence in the government, because they had co-operated well with government over the past few years and this is what happens to people. In fact, instead of the RCMP keeping peace in the community, it seems the police have torn apart the community. The RCMP in the last while have also been trying to get some of the local white people to become inside informers for the police against Beaver Enterprises and some of the local leaders. When I was in Liard last week I spoke to a white person who is making his home in Liard, who said the RCMP approached him and wanted him to be a paid informer, to be an insider watching the activities of Beaver Enterprises, Harry Deneron, William Betthale, and the local leaders. Fortunately, the person said no and went directly to Harry Deneron and the local leaders and told them about the activities of the police. I am aware that there were two other white persons -- in fact, employees of Beaver Enterprises -- who have been asked to be informers by the police.

So, as you can appreciate, this really tears at the fabric of a community. People say they are afraid to visit one another. There is suspiciousness. Who is the informer? Who is on whose side? It is a serious situation which I think ought to be dealt with as quickly as possible and so I am asking Mr. Parker, the Commissioner, and perhaps Mr. Braden, who is responsible for Public Services, to come to Liard in the next week or ten days to have a public meeting and have the matter sorted out.

In the last few days and weeks the RCMP from Yellowknife have been sending public relations police officers into the communities, trying to resolve things, but this is having no effect at all. It seems that the answer is to simply rid the community of these two officers and also get police officers in the future who have a much better view, much better attitude, toward the people in the community.

Dene Communities Progressing Toward Self-Government

Now, another matter I want to raise is in respect of local government. When Mr. Parker was making his opening Address, he was talking about how certain communities had become hamlets, and supposedly working their way up to being more responsible. I did notice that none of the Dene communities that have really grown in the past few years have been mentioned. It seems as if government recognizes and commends and pays due respect to communities who become hamlets who more or less follow the traditional territorial government line of self-government.

What about the Dene communities down the Mackenzie Valley, who in the course of the past few years have really gotten on their feet, not by adopting a settlement council approach, or hamlet approach, but by adopting the band council and the more fundamental Dene traditional style of operating a local government?

I was understanding, in talking to the chief of Fort McPherson in the last week or so, when the constitutional conference was here, that there is great pressure from the territorial government to have Fort McPherson become a hamlet council, but the community, apparently, is resisting this, and are seriously looking into the approach that Fort Good Hope has taken. So I think there ought to be some recognition paid to band councils and native people down the Mackenzie Valley who have decided and taken a stand that they wish to go the band council approach of governing themselves. Fort Good Hope, of course, has taken the lead in this, and I think they ought to be commended, because I would say it takes more energy to challenge a system and adopt your own system rather than just simply adopt this territorial government's approach.

I am aware, in my area, that Fort Providence is seriously considering the band council approach also, to its local government. They have been operating with the band council and settlement council, and recently they have had one serious meeting about combining the two. More recently, in the last couple of days, in talking to the band council I heard they are interested in now having the band councils take over all municipal functions. So I think this government ought to recognize that Dene people are making great strides in local government, in taking things on their own and doing it in a style that is more suitable to them than adopting the government approach.

Appropriate Dress For Members

Now, I want to deal with a matter that was dealt with, or that was referred to, yesterday in this House by Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, made some comment about a rule that says, in effect, that you ought to wear a tie and a suit and maybe traditional dress. Anyway, the rule that he referred to simply states that "Members shall be attired in a manner appropriate to the dignity of this Assembly."

Mr. Speaker and I, yesterday, during the course of the afternoon, exchanged notes. He initially asked me if I had forgotten my tie, because yesterday I did not wear a tie. I answered, saying "I do not intend to ever wear a tie in this Assembly again." And I said, "If you take off your black cloak, I will consider putting my tie on." So my feeling on this tie and dress -- suits -- matter is that I have a right as a person to sit in this Assembly to represent my constituents, and I can dress as I feel is appropriate. Not whether you like it, or anybody in here likes it, but whether my constituents like it. Whether it would be in a manner that is to the dignity and acceptance of my constituents. That is the test that I intend to make, and I do not intend to have anybody in here -- Commissioner, or the Speaker, or anybody -- tell me that I have to wear a tie and a suit.

My constituents do not wear ties and suits in their daily lives, nor do they wear one when they dress up for any formal occasion. They wear ordinary shirts and jackets. Some of them have nice leather jackets. Some of them have embroidered and nice bead-work type of jacket and dress when they really dress up for an occasion. That is the approach, or that is the way, that I intend to dress in this House. As I have said, and I want to say again, I am here not because of any one of you. You did not vote for me. The people have voted for me. That is why I am here, and I am accountable only to them.

I appreciate that we have to dress respectfully. We have to recognize that we are in public and people see us, and we have to dress in a manner that is respectable. I am prepared to do that. I appreciate that some of you do represent different people than I do. In the case of Yellowknife, I recognize that many of the residents here are white people. They are used to suits and ties. I can understand Mr. Braden dressing like that, because his constituents go to work and wear nice suits and ties, and that is acceptable. I think, however, in turn, you have to accept that where I come from it is different and I should then follow what they think and do rather than what anybody else here thinks.

Pressure To Comply With Government Methods

Now this government, during the past decade and the past few years, has made some progress in many ways. They have increasingly got a higher number of native people to work for this government, and on this Assembly there is a majority of native people. However, despite this, I feel that there has been tremendous pressure on native people to comply with the government way of doing things. The government says, "Get educated and you will get a job with this government." You will get a job. The thing, however, that they do not tell you is that you have to do it "exactly as we tell you". You are given a job, and you have to do it this way. This is a government policy. "This is the way we have always done things. Traditionally we have always done it this way", and you have to fit within that slot. Otherwise you are not accepted. You are seen as a radical. You are seen as an enemy, or dangerous, or something to be suspicious of.

I notice that a number of times reference has been made by various people -- I heard Mr. Butters the other day, when we had the constitutional conference, when we were talking about changes. He said, "Well, look at the fantastic progress we have been making. Look, we have Dene people in charge of departments." You know, more or less saying, "What are you guys talking about this nonsense for? The status quo of this government is working well." Also, I heard Mr. McCallum, I believe, the other day, saying that in Fort Smith the town council had Dene people on there, and so forth.

What I want to say is that just the fact that native people are in positions, just the fact that native people are here, just the fact that native people are on town councils, does not mean that much at this stage. Just the fact that

native people occupy a job in government -- just because Mr. Wah-Shee works and is head of Local Government -- thus far has not made very much difference in changing society. There is tremendous pressure on native people to comply. "Do exactly as we tell you. Do the job and follow the policy. Dress like us."

Dene Way Not Expressed In This Government

We have been around here for four years, but the finance committee, who has closely scrutinized the budget, says, "Really the budget does not reflect this Assembly", and we have been here almost two years.

So my point is that, just because native people are in positions, there is tremendous pressure on people to comply, do things a certain way. As a result of this, native people have been stymied. There has not been a good, free expression of native people thus far. I suppose this is why you have native organizations. Many of the best thinkers, the most ambitious, the people with ideas and so forth, do not work for this government. There are a few, but most of them, I would say, work for the native organizations, who rest their hopes not on this government, but the government of the future, as something that they hope will come about in the next few years.

So I feel, in many ways, that the Dene way -- I should speak for my area and I cannot speak for the Inuit, of course -- the Dene way of doing things, the Dene language, Dene ideas and experiences, have not been expressed in this government. All the Dene-ness has not been able to even grow, to flourish, in this government. Things have been stymied for very long. You have brown people trying to do things in the white way.

Even in dress, I think Dene have been pressured to comply. There is nothing said. There is no government rule or law that says you have to wear a certain type of wear but there is pressure on you. It is just felt. It does not have to be said. So there is a feeling that when you work for government, you must do things a certain way. You also must dress in a certain way.

Mr. Speaker, I feel, with the constitutional development committee's conference on constitutional matters earlier this month, that there has been a serious beginning on creating a new government in the western part of the North for all people, white, Dene and Metis. This time around, I hope it will be a better government than now, and more reflective of the people of the North, in respect of the civil service, approaches, language and so forth. I think, as native people, Dene people, it is important to be strong, in terms of your culture, your language, free expression of ideas, and also in dress. I think if Dene are to be one of the founding nations of this new government of the future, Dene must be strong. So today, I wish to take my tie and suit off, and wear instead something that reflects the Dene custom and culture and way of dressing. I am going to be taking my jacket off.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Do not stop there!

---Laughter

MR. SIBBESTON: ...and my tie. I will put this back on, here.

---Applause

MR. SIBBESTON: I do it in a symbol of throwing off -- I was going to say "shackles", but chains of colonialism, chains of cultural domination by non-native people. I hope it will lead to freer expression of the Dene and Metis culture,

and I hope my Dene and Metis colleagues over there will do similarly, if not today, sometime in the near future when they feel more comfortable about doing so. I say you should not have to wear three-piece suits and oxfords to work for this government, or to be on the Executive.

Legislative Assembly Should Be Reflective Of The North

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am also concerned about the dress and decor of this House, particularly you as the Speaker, representing, I suppose, all of us here. I referred this morning back to a motion that was made in Baker Lake, I believe, in 1980. There was a motion passed to this effect: that the Members' Services Board review all rules, decor, dress and practices of this Assembly, with a view to making such rules, decor, dress and practices more reflective of the land and costumes, and traditions of the people of the North, and report their findings and recommendations to the next Assembly.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not know if this Members' Services Board ever did report back to this Assembly. I do not recall anything, and I am very concerned about having a Legislative Assembly that is really reflective of the North, the land and the people. I am concerned as things stand with all of the rigmaroles, all the trappings that we have seen in the last few days, that we are not making very much progress. I did notice the Pages had nice little vests, and I think they ought to be commended for that, but I feel we ought to go further. I feel that you as a Speaker ought to dress in a manner that is more reflective of the North. As it is, you are dressing as if you were in England. You are dressing as if you were a judge. You are dressed as if you were a lawyer. I think it is more a British system than actually a northern -- Dene, Inuit or northern white -- dress.

So I must say that I am hoping that in the next few months and years that we will work toward having an Assembly that is really more reflective of the North. It seems to me in the last while we have been slowly creeping back to the old status quo. You know, in the opening here, we had the RCMP dressed in red, marching in here with flags. We had people shouting "Order", and everybody, just like animals, up and down at the call of someone. We have had a couple of people sitting in here. I noticed there are other people in the crowd. There are people from the Dene Nation, the Metis Association, other people, who maybe could have sat in there, if you want to honor someone. You did not, however. You honored the judge and the mayor of Yellowknife, which is, I suppose, good for Mr. Braden and Mrs. Sorensen, but what about our own leaders? Ought not they to be given the same recognition as yours?

Dene Language Facilities Requested

Now lastly, Mr. Speaker, I was very disappointed yesterday when the budget was tabled, when the estimates were given, particularly about the fact that we had made such a fuss, we had made such an issue of the fact that Dene languages ought to be a top priority of government. It seems that this desire has not been translated to anything thus far in the budget.

In wondering what could be done, or in wondering what could I do, in order to do my part to make people realize the seriousness of this, of the native languages being encouraged, supported, I have decided that I will speak in Slavey from now on, as much as possible in this Assembly. I am aware that there is not one Dene translator or person on staff with this government. Maybe by my insisting on speaking the Dene language, that it will force, somehow, in a small way, this government to begin to be serious about the Dene languages.

(Speaks in Slavey)

I say, if anybody does not like it, they can learn the language, or else get an interpreter.

MR. SPEAKER: Excuse me, Mr. Sibbeston. A point of order. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would request that this Assembly provide an interpreter, so that we may understand what the honourable Member, Mr. Sibbeston, is saying.

MR. SPEAKER: Unfortunately, this House is not equipped at this time to be able to provide that request of the honourable Member. There are two languages in this House that are being recognized and being taken care of at this time. There are procedures that could be taken to probably get what the honourable Member wishes, but as of the moment it is impossible to comply with your request. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in many of the communities we do not have sophisticated translation systems, and an interpreter is supplied standing next to the speaker and interpreting after he concludes each statement or each phrase.

MR. SPEAKER: I am aware of the normal transactions in the various settlements. However, this House has not recognized any of the other languages except the two, and until such a time as it does, I, the Speaker, am not in a position to rule that any other languages are acceptable within the ropes.

If Mr. Sibbeston wishes to continue to speak, it is, actually, probably against one of our rules in the matter of wasting time, in that we cannot understand him. We do not have the facilities to understand him. Mr. Sibbeston, however, is also fully aware that a request could be made to include the Slavey language and having a ruling provided. However, as Speaker, I do not have that authority.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, can I just obtain from you clearly what your decision is? I would like to continue talking in Slavey, if possible. Is your ruling that it is not acceptable for me to talk Slavey, or Dene language, in this House at this time?

MR. SPEAKER: I have made no ruling at this time, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Can I continue, then, in Slavey?

MR. SPEAKER: How much longer do you intend to continue, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, maybe six, seven -- maybe a few days, until we get an interpreter.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will stand recessed for 15 minutes for a meeting in caucus.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: I call the House back to order. A compromise has been reached with Mr. Sibbeston. He has graciously consented to speak in English until such time as we can get a Slavey interpreter, which the House will try to obtain in the very immediate future to accommodate him. Mr. Sibbeston, you have the floor.

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Members here for taking my concern to have a Dene interpreter available in the next few days. I look forward to that being done and I look forward to the first interpreter being hired and hope there will be many more once one has been hired.

Now, with regard to the Dene language, with regard to education, other aspects of government, I look forward to dealing with the budget and then once again will be making my case on behalf of my constituents to see if more money than is presently in the budget now can be put aside for Dene languages. By this I mean that there has been some very small beginnings in respect of education in the Dene languages. As I mentioned yesterday, in Providence they have started a program where they have a Dene person working in the school with some of the staff there who are teaching the students in the Dene language. They are putting out some materials for use by the Dene teachers. It is a very small and humble beginning and I really feel that if we are serious about promoting and encouraging the Dene language, then we must at least, I think, triple the budget for the Fort Providence native language program. So, I look forward to seeking funds for that.

Now, in Simpson and throughout all the schools that are Dene, the language program there is, again, a very small amount of Dene language, Slavey, being taught in the school. Again I see this being doubled or tripled this coming year, so that moneys for native languages have obviously got to be at least tripled everywhere that there are, presently, moneys set aside for the Dene languages.

Now, as far as the government being able to communicate with people in the Dene languages, there is not one cent of government funds going toward Dene interpreters and I think that it is incredible, it is not acceptable, and the government must now take the whole matter of hiring Dene interpreters much more seriously than they have. I always refer to the Inuit people. They have approximately one million dollars that is going to Inuit interpreters and not one cent to the Dene and I would hope that the Inuit people would support the Dene in their quest to get some funds or else give us half the funds that are going to Inuit interpreters.

Communication With Dene People A Must

Now, as far as recognition of the Dene language, there was a motion that the Dene language become one of the official languages of government and, again, it sounds good and so forth, but if nothing is done to bring it into reality then we are being fooled, the public is being fooled, and it is really of no consequence. So, I believe it is important for government to begin thinking seriously about finding ways in which they can communicate with the Dene people. If I can explain again -- maybe Members have heard this before -- the Dene language is basically a language that is written. It is written in syllabics, but very few people know how to write syllabics. Now, in the last few years we have had people developing ways of writing the Dene language with English letters and there has been, again, some humble beginnings in that area, but the government must find a way to communicate with the Dene people.

The Inuit, again, are lucky, because the Inuit language can be spoken and then written, too, but with the Dene it cannot be written so that it is widely understood. So the government has to use its imagination, find ways to communicate with the Dene people and even if it means setting up -- for instance, whenever press releases are made in English, at the same time that is done maybe cassette tapes can be made in the Dene language and these sent out to all the communities. Even if the government has to buy a tape recorder for every Dene in the North, that ought to be done. Somehow or another a way has to be found for the government to communicate and provide information to the Dene people.

The only way, if it cannot be written, obviously is to hear it or else to see it, or else get a TV production centre here set up in Yellowknife and have Dene people that go on and produce films and, again, buy every Dene in the North a TV if you have to, so they can see these cassettes and see these programs that are made. We just simply cannot stay at this stage where just because it cannot be written nothing is done. It is not something I have just said in the last few months or so. I have been saying that for a long, long time. I have been saying that. I think I have given government ample opportunity to do something about it and they just have not moved one bit. So, you know, whatever drastic action that has to be done -- I guess I am prepared to go a certain extent to make government realize that we are serious about this.

So, Mr. Speaker, I have agreed to wait a few days for government to hire an interpreter and set up a system so I can speak in my native language, my original language. I can speak in English too, but I would rather speak in the Dene language and I think I have the right to and fortunately people have agreed and that is why that is being done. So I look forward to taking part in the budget and again will be making strong attempts to have more funds and programs available for the Dene people. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston.

Item 2, replies to Commissioner's Address.

Item 3, on the orders of the day, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Noah.

Question 1-82(1): Air Service To Churchill

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the press release I heard the Manitoba government in Churchill, Manitoba mentioned that in December, the Churchill government has asked the federal government to stop the airline company of airline passenger carriers to service northern Churchill and the Keewatin. We have Northwest Territorial Air. It does not land in Churchill, Manitoba. Churchill people are not happy with that. I would like to know if the Commissioner has done anything about this. I would like a reply from Mr. Commissioner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have agreement of the House in bringing in the Commissioner?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Commissioner, did you hear the question?

Return To Question 1-82(1): Air Service To Churchill

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Noah is making reference to the appeal that has been made by Calm Air and supported by the town of Churchill against the service that is being offered by Northwest Territorial from Rankin Inlet flying direct to Winnipeg and from Winnipeg direct to Rankin Inlet.

On behalf of the territorial government I lodged an official intervention with the Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin on December 21st, 1981 and in that intervention I indicated that the people of Rankin Inlet had been led to believe that there was to have been a direct air service offered by PWA with jet aircraft whenever the airstrip at Rankin Inlet was capable of handling a Boeing 737. The airport was judged to be capable of handling that aircraft in October of 1981, but Pacific Western did

not proceed to provide that service, but rather, Northwest Territorial made application and received approval by the Air Transport Committee to provide the direct service using an Electra aircraft. On that basis, that is the basis of a commitment of an earlier carrier to provide that direct service, and because the direct service was supported by the people of Rankin Inlet, by the chamber of commerce in that area, the territorial government supported the people of that area and felt that the decision which had been made earlier by the Air Transport Committee was the proper decision and, therefore, we have, as I said, advised the Minister to whom Calm Air and the community of Churchill had appealed -- we have advised that we do not support Calm Air's appeal, but we support the continuation of the service as per the Air Transport Committee's decision.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 2-82(1): Dr. Winston Mair's Review Of Operations Of Economic Development

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the question would be directed to the Commissioner. Would the Commissioner clarify if the reference in his Address that Dr. Winston Mair of Victoria, to carry out a review of the capability and capacity of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, is the answer to the motion placed by this House for a public inquiry into Inuvik regional Economic Development operation?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

Return To Question 2-82(1): Dr. Winston Mair's Review Of Operations Of Economic Development

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, the action that I have taken with the full support of the Hon. Tom Butters in appointing Dr. Mair to review the operations of Economic Development both in headquarters and in the Delta and Western Arctic -- this action was taken as a result of the desires of this Legislature for action of this nature to be carried out, and as a result of our own desire to examine the capability and capacity of the department to handle the task at hand. I must underline, Mr. Speaker, it is not a public inquiry, but, rather, a review by an independent consultant.

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

Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. We have heard that soon there will be a hike in the cost of housing in the not too distant future, and it is getting very hard to deal with the cost. I think that the hike is going to be quite drastic. I think that we, as the MLAs -- I would like some information -- if we have ever dealt with that problem.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Partial Return To Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether the Member is referring to the high cost of operating a home, that is, paying for the power and utilities, or whether the Member is referring to the high cost of building homes. I am not sure whether I caught the essence of the question, and whether -- I think part of it dealt with whether we as a Legislature have discussed this.

Certainly it has been raised; that is, in terms of the high cost of constructing homes in the Northwest Territories. I think I mentioned in my remarks on Tuesday that we have to seriously look at the cost of this government going into indebtedness to provide housing. If the Member would just elaborate a little bit on the question, I would be more than pleased to attempt an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Foxe Basin, was your question with regard to the rent?

Supplementary To Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question had to do with the cost of rent. Is the cost of rent going up in the future? That was my question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, the cost to the individual to rent -- to pay some part of the cost of providing social housing to people in the Territories will undoubtedly continue to rise as the cost of maintaining those homes continues to rise. At the present time it is the board of directors of the Housing Corporation who establish and set the rate of rental fees for homes. I think the last increase went up two dollars. That is a minimum and I think the minimum rental now is \$30 to \$45. So there is no question, Mr. Speaker, that the rental cost will increase, as are the costs of providing fuel and power. People will be expected to pay more toward the cost of looking after homes, whether they are social housing or rental housing, no matter where in the Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary? The honourable Member for Foxe Basin.

Further Supplementary To Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary question. Did you ever consider that if we were to drop our corporation, if we went into another area, I think the whole topic would slow down a little bit?

MR. SPEAKER: I think, Mr. Evaluarjuk, that they are having problems with that question. Could you restate your question, please?

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just asking the Minister if he had ever considered that if they would drop the corporation and let the government look after their own housing, I think that way the costs would not go higher as fast as they are right now.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question 3-82(1): Rise In Cost Of Rental Housing

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I think the Member has made a comment as to the possible reduction in the cost. Whether we have a housing corporation or a ministry of housing, or whether we have housing associations or housing authorities anywhere across the Territories, the price of constructing homes and the increased costs of utilities, especially in power and fuels, they will not drastically reduce, regardless. We are not, as a government, getting very much return on the kinds of costs that we are putting in for the provision of housing and the paying of utilities across the Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 4-82(1): Public Meeting About RCMP In Fort Liard

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for both Mr. Parker and Mr. Braden, whether they would be able, in the next few days, to go to Fort Liard to have a public meeting about RCMP in Fort Liard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Partial Return To Question 4-82(1): Public Meeting About RCMP In Fort Liard

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the Member's question, the Commissioner and I have discussed the issue of the relationship between the RCMP and residents in Fort Liard with senior members of the force here in Yellowknife, and, while I cannot give a date in the next few days -- I will have to check my schedule -- but I believe that the Commissioner and I would be more than willing to travel to Liard sometime, at least during the next month or so, to discuss this important issue with his constituents. It is just a matter of -- as I say -- finding an appropriate time when we can give thorough consideration to the issue with his constituents.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary? The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Supplementary To Question 4-82(1): Public Meeting About RCMP In Fort Liard

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, sir, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was hoping that the visit by Mr. Parker and Mr. Braden would be sooner than within the next month. Heavens, everybody will be locked up, seized or under arrest by that time. It is like a little Poland over there. It is something that requires immediate action in the next few days, I feel, and I would like, if possible, for them to reconsider their position and see if they can go to Liard earlier than simply putting it off to the next month.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Minister.

Further Return To Question 4-82(1): Public Meeting About RCMP In Fort Liard

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will give Mr. Sibbeston's recommendation very serious consideration, and at the soonest possible time we will arrange to travel to his constituency. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions.

Item 4 in the orders of the day, questions and returns. Written questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. Noah.

Question 5-82(1): Flooring Of Portable School, Repulse Bay

MR. NOAH: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) I will be asking in English. I think it is a little difficult in Inuktitut. (Translation ends) Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education. In the portable school in Repulse Bay, the floor has become so weakened that the water tank must be kept only partially filled in order to reduce the likelihood of the floor collapsing. Will the Minister advise this House what steps he is taking to correct this matter?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, the honourable Member for Keewatin North. Written questions. Mr. Noah.

Question 6-82(1): Additional Teacher, Repulse Bay

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My other question is for the Minister of Education. Repulse Bay requests the addition of one more teacher. At present, the teacher-student ratio is five teachers to 128 students with the result that classrooms are too overcrowded. Will the Minister please advise this House what steps he plans to take to rectify this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Written questions. Are there any returns for the day?

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the document I have in my hands here, Tabled Document 1-82(1), 1981 Annual Report of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 2-82(1), Executive Summary, Inuvik Bilingual Education Conference, the results of a bilingual education conference which was recently held in Inuvik, including delegates' recommendations and evaluation, and an Executive summary, which I hope, at least, could be translated. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 3-82(1), Position Paper on the Issue of the Taxation of Northern and Isolated Post Benefits and Allowances, prepared by the Department of Finance, Government of the Northwest Territories. There is also a summary to accompany the original report, and we are seeking to have that summary translated as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Minister.

Notice Of Motion 2-82(1): Position Paper On The Issue Of The Taxation Of Northern And Isolated Post Benefits And Allowances

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that I will be requesting unanimous consent to move Tabled Document 3-82(1), Position Paper on the Issue of the Taxation of Northern and Isolated Post Benefits and Allowances, today, into committee of the whole, for discussion in committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Mr. Pudluk.

Notice Of Motion 3-82(1): Eastern Arctic Air Carrier Policies, Prices And Services

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Monday, February 3, 1982, I will move, seconded by the Member for Foxe Basin, that: I move that this Legislative Assembly resolve into committee of the whole during the current session, at a time to be set by Mr. Speaker, to consider the matter of Eastern Arctic air carrier policies, prices and services; that representatives of Nordair Limited and the Canadian Transport Commission be invited to appear, at their expense, before the committee of the whole as witnesses when this matter is being considered.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, the honourable Member for the High Arctic. We are still on notices of motion.

Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, may I seek unanimous consent to move the motion I gave notice of earlier?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Mr. Minister.

Motion 2-82(1): Position Paper On The Issue Of The Taxation Of Northern And Isolated Post Benefits And Allowances, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker:

I MOVE that Tabled Document 3-82(1), Position Paper on the Issue of the Taxation of Northern and Isolated Post Benefits and Allowances, prepared by the Department of Finance, Government of the Northwest Territories, plus the covering summary be moved into committee of the whole for consideration by Members and that consideration occur when the translation of the summary is available.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Are there any further motions?

Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

Item 12, second reading of bills.

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

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

Bill 1-82(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1982-83, with the honourable Member for High Arctic, Mr. Pudluk, in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Bill 1-82(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1982-83; 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, with Mr. Pudluk, in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-82(1) APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1982-83; 13TH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Renewable Resources, Total O And M, Wildlife Service

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now, will this committee come to order. We are on Renewable Resources, wildlife service, on page 12.03, O and M, \$6,741,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. Could I get the permission of the Members to bring in a witness?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. At the witness table are Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. Bowyer. We are on page 12.03, O and M, \$6,741,000. Any questions? Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have very many questions, but I have a comment on this matter. We are at page 12.03 or 12.01?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) We are on page 12.03.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you. In that area, I have some comments concerning -- I thought it was different. I am on 12.04. I am sorry.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Noah. Any comments? Any questions? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, could the Minister indicate where the polar bear studies are going to take place in this coming year? What areas would the polar bear studies be taking place in?

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

Studies Of Migratory Birds, Polar Bears, Caribou And Musk-Ox

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I was going to respond to a question that was asked by the honourable Member yesterday and with regard to studies being carried out in the Beaufort Sea. As mentioned yesterday by the deputy minister, we are carrying out a literature review of studies that have been previously undertaken. Studies that are listed do not include studies that are planned or under way by the Department of Fisheries, environmental studies by the proponents or studies by the Department of the Environment on migratory birds.

With regard to polar bears, we are beginning two new studies:

- 1) The long-range movements of polar bears, particularly in relation to proposed shipping routes. This study is to be done with the assistance of satellite radio tracking.
- 2) The study for the impact of onshore islands on polar bear ecology. This proposal is being jointly funded by Dome Petroleum and the Northwest Territories wildlife service.

In addition, two other long-term polar bear studies related directly to the potential Beaufort problems:

- 1) Polar bear deterrent and detection research. This is directed at reducing man-bear conflicts around industrial sites. This is an ongoing study with funding support from industry and other government agencies.
- 2) We will be doing a final analysis of the compilation of the baseline data on polar bears in the Beaufort region and a subsequent review of the regional quotas.

With regard to caribou:

- 1) Ongoing monitoring of the Blue Nose caribou herd to determine its abundance, productivity and the changing impacts of human activity on the herd.
- 2) In 1982-83 we will be doing a study of the abundance and distribution of the Peary caribou on the south half of Banks Island.

With regard to musk-ox:

- 1) We will be doing a study to examine the relationship between caribou and musk-ox on south Banks Island.
- 2) We will be studying the abundance, distribution and productivity of musk-ox on both Banks Island and the mainland portions of the Beaufort Sea impact zone.

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

Population Of Gyrfalcons

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr. Minister, I said yesterday that when this area came up I would have a couple of questions and that one of them would be with respect to the harvest of gyrfalcons. I mentioned yesterday that that was not my only concern, that my concern was broader -- the concern for wise management with respect to caribou and musk-ox and polar bear as well, but I did have a concern specifically with gyrfalcons and I will express that now.

You mentioned that when the issue came up last summer there was a reaction in the South and apparently that was because the species seemed to be endangered and yet there was little knowledge of the size of the population on the Arctic coast. Now, I am certainly not a sentimentalist in these matters at all and I say that if there is an opportunity for a harvest, and by that I mean a market available and the numbers of the population warrant a harvest, then I say, by all means do so, but the first question that has to be asked, really, is whether the numbers do warrant it. So, can you say what specifically has been done, Mr. Minister, by your department to try to determine precisely what the population is and the rate of harvest that would enable, you know, a continued flourishing population of gyrfalcons in the area? Is that kind of knowledge available to the department already and, further, has the department decided that there will not be a harvest until that knowledge is available or just what is the situation with respect to that, please?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I would ask the deputy minister to respond to the question on whether or not we have done any studies and I will respond to whether or not we have made a decision this year as to whether or not we will be carrying that out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Bowyer.

MR. BOWYER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have done some preliminary work in several regions. We are planning considerably more work in the forthcoming year. We have submitted a revised plan to the Minister for his consideration on how we might approach this subject of gyrfalcons and their capture and resale in the future. Our recommendations are still before the Executive Committee for their consideration. We should be able, however, I think, before the end of the session to report to you what their decision is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Bowyer. Any questions? Any more questions? Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Nerysoo has still to respond to part of that and then I do have another question.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. With regard to whether or not we will be continuing that project, that decision has not been made to date. As you know, the idea of the project last year was experimental. I think, from our own experience, that a very serious review as to whether or not that project will continue or other projects would continue is taking place right now and, in fact, I have a document which I will be making some suggestions -- I guess, decisions to the Executive Committee. Certainly, there seems to be the possibility that any capture of the nature that we suggested would not occur at least until the studies were complete.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you. Okay, it is encouraging to hear that last statement, particularly, and what I understand in connection with that, that there is money in this budget specifically to conduct the studies, and that if the Executive Committee approves, that this will be done?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. With regard to the question, yes, there is funding allocated in this budget for this purpose.

Just one further comment with regard to gyrfalcon and the numbers. I think that -- certainly from past experiences in the department itself, it has been noted that we in the North do have a surplus, in the sense of the ability to capture gyrfalcons. The question has been the numbers, and I think that has been recognized throughout Canada by other biologists as well, other than those in my department. Certainly the Canadian Wildlife Service has noted that there is a possibility and certainly a surplus. As to whether or not, as I said, regionally, the number we talked about last year was possible, well, that is another question. Certainly, we hope that the dollars allocated will determine that.

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

Change In Polar Bear Quotas In Eskimo Point

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. One other matter, Mr. Chairman, and it is a matter that I had intended to raise last session, and then, in the flurry of constitutional activity that took place, I lost track of it and did not pursue it, but it was a matter that I seem to recall hearing about in the media, or reading about last summer. That was with respect to a change in polar bear quotas in Eskimo Point, and it seemed to me that the manner of changing it -- and this is what I wanted to clarify with you -- is not the way in which it should be carried out, as far as I understand it, anyway. Could you tell me what was the extent of the increase in the quota, and what were the conditions under which the increase was granted? Was it the usual type of conditions that govern increases in quotas?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Unusual, in that, I think, some of the concerns that were being expressed by the community of Eskimo Point through the Keewatin wildlife federation during our meeting in Coral Harbour were that they had seen more bears, that, in their own opinion, there were more, in fact -- that the population had increased. The decision was made by myself on an experimental basis. It is for a period of two years, at which time a decision will be made as to whether or not there will be a continuation of that quota. Now, I think that fairly extensive discussion took place with regard to that red tag quota -- experimental quota -- being given. As you will note, beginning in 1983 we will be conducting, with the Canadian Wildlife Service and the province of Quebec, studies in the total area of Hudson Bay, and at that time, I think, we will get a fairly extensive count of the numbers, and we can reassess the numbers that will be distributed throughout the region.

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

Quotas Must Be Monitored Carefully

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. I cannot recollect exactly, but it seemed to me that the quota increase was somewhere in the neighbourhood of 25 per cent. Not 25 bears, but 25 per cent of what the quota had been -- which is a very significant increase for unusual circumstances. I know yesterday yourself, at first, and certainly the media, assumed that my total concern with respect to the management of resources was just the gyrfalcon question, but it is not. It is things like this, as well..

I recognize that you are under a great deal of pressure, and I would not envy your job, that is for sure. You are under a great deal of pressure when you go to

communities to satisfy what are perceived to be immediate needs in communities. This is, however, the type of thing where I say I, personally, do not think that it is wise just to accede until there has been further study, and in this particular case -- you do say that it is for two years on an experimental basis, but, certainly, once quotas like that are put in place, it is very difficult ever to reverse the trend. In the case of polar bears, I think we have signed an international agreement which calls for, generally, the protection, but polar bears being taken under certain circumstances, and I believe explicitly the agreement states something about any time that bears are taken, that it will be done in accordance with the best scientific evidence available. Those are the terms of an international agreement that Canada has signed.

So, when unilateral changes are made in quotas like that, I feel that it is a dangerous thing, Mr. Minister; that, in fact, in the long run, we could damage our own position -- once again, as I said yesterday -- because there are certain outside groups which, whether we respect them or not, seem obviously to have an impact. It is just possible that if we do not carefully manage and monitor quotas like this, that a decision could be made by other people elsewhere that would effectively prevent the sale of hides or something equally damaging.

So, to me it is a serious matter, and I would just urge you to continue responding sensitively, but to me "responding" means right away saying, "I hear what your concern is and we will try to do the best possible thing about that", and take the steps to get the best answer. As I said yesterday, however -- and to reiterate -- the best answer is not necessarily just doing what is asked. Would you care to comment on that, Mr. Minister?

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

Quota Increases Must Be Warranted

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Well, I think, with regard to whether or not my decision to increase the total number of bears by 25 per cent -- let me remind you that the actual decision in Coral Harbour, by myself, was an increase of five experimental bears, and that is not 25 per cent of the total take of Keewatin.

As to whether or not we did -- I do believe we increased in a couple of areas. There were other quota increases that occurred -- grizzly bear in the Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet area -- but I think that if you review some of the comments that have been made by the members of the Keewatin wildlife federation during their meetings, you will find them quite responsive and quite concerned about the numbers, and the way in which the surveys have been taken as well.

The other thing is that you must realize that some of the best kinds of surveys that are conducted with regard to polar bear are done by the NWT wildlife service, throughout the world, and, I have to commend some of the people that are involved in the wildlife service for providing that kind of an ability, or that professional service.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I am sorry. Maybe I misunderstood that last point. Are you saying that the NWT survey by our wildlife biologists indicated that an increase was warranted? Is that what you are saying?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I am not saying that that is necessarily what was warranted but, like I said, it is an experimental red tag quota which was given for a period of two years, and I think that, as I said, you will note that a fairly extensive discussion took place with regard to that quota increase to Eskimo Point in particular, between the other members of the Keewatin wildlife federation. Rather than having a situation where all five went to that one community, there was discussion of distributing them to other communities as well. So I think that they

have been quite responsive in the way, the manner, in which that distribution took place.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes. Just a final comment, if I may, then. The best information that I can get is that the populations in a lot of areas and in the Keewatin particularly are marginal, and that it is important to be sure that when there are quota increases they are warranted. I guess my general concern is either we have a good method of setting quotas or we do not, and if we do have, then I sincerely believe that you as the Minister should uphold that all the time. If we do not have, then you as the Minister should change the method for setting the quotas, but not arbitrarily make changes in specific areas at specific times.

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

Radios For Outpost Camps

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I just arrived this morning, so I am having a hard time keeping track of the discussions that are going on today. I have a question here concerning outpost camps being supplied with radios. Fort Good Hope, Inuvik, Frobisher Bay will be given radios this year for their outpost camps. I would like a clarification on that. Right now on Baffin Island, outpost camps are short of radios. I would like to know why only those three communities are being mentioned.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Could we give you an answer in a minute, here? Some of the radios are on a regional basis, I think, except for Frobisher Bay, and I would like to check as to why it is defined clearly for Frobisher Bay. It may be in total for the Baffin region.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I would like to ask another question. There were some radios sent to Sanikiluaq. Two had been broken by a snow blower or snow truck on arrival. The radios that had been sent to Sanikiluaq may not have been insured. I would like to know if they had not been insured when they were sent to Sanikiluaq. We know that they were actually broken by the snow blower. I would like to know if the communities -- when they receive radios, do they insure them, or does the government have them insured before they are sent to the communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. Bowyer.

MR. BOWYER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In response to the two questions, there is money in the budget for radios for Sanikiluaq. It is included under Frobisher. It should really say Baffin there. We have suggested, with regard to his second question, that they reapply through Special ARDA to replace the radios that they lost in that accident last year. Our department does not insure the radios.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Bowyer. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Compensation For Returning Ear Tags Of Animals

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question concerning surveys and the surveys that have been completed about harvesting. When they catch polar bear and caribou that have been put to sleep through a study -- I think that when hunters catch animals that have been surveyed they are tagged. When you are getting the tags after a kill, do the hunters get paid for adding the information to your surveys by returning the tags? Do you pay them any compensation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSO: Mr. Chairman, could I have consent to bring in another witness who could provide a detailed response to that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister, could you introduce your new witness?

HON. RICHARD NERYSO: Yes. Mr. Hugh Monaghan, who is the chief of the wildlife service. Could I have Mr. Evaluarjuk repeat the question again?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Mr. Evaluarjuk, would you repeat your question?

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) I was asking, if I were to catch a polar bear or a caribou that had been surveyed and tagged would I be compensated or paid for catching that? If I were to catch a polar bear that was ear-tagged or even a caribou that was tagged would I be paid?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. Monaghan.

MR. MONAGHAN: Under normal circumstances we do pay for specimens. In the polar bear studies that are going on the animals are ear-tagged, so we pay for the ear tags when a hunter kills one of those animals and we also pay for the other parts of the animals that we ask for, such as jawbones.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Monaghan. Next time when you speak would you speak a little slower so Mr. Evaluarjuk could understand? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Compensation For Damaged Polar Bear Skins

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am asking because the polar bear skin trapping price is low. If some hunter were to catch a polar bear that had been put to sleep and had been through tests, I would like to see them paid some compensation. I do not know how much they get paid for catching a polar bear on a survey or a tagged polar bear. I would prefer that hunters were paid more money if they caught a polar bear that was under survey, because the polar bear skins are dropping in prices. That is why I was asking you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Qujannamiik, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. Monaghan.

MR. MONAGHAN: If in the process of a study we damage a hide which is subsequently taken by a hunter, and this occasionally happens when we collar a polar bear -- for example if we put a radio collar on it -- then we will compensate the hunter for the damage we have done to the hide. In the case where we mark the hides with paint, we always talk to the hunters' and trappers' association to indicate our intention to do this and we usually only do it after they have already filled their quota for that year, so there will be no loss of revenue to the hunters. So, just to reiterate, if we do cause any damage to the hide which would cost the hunter some lost money due to the quality we do compensate him.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Monaghan. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Damaged Polar Bear Meat

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understood your point. What if the fur was damaged? This has been brought up before. Hunters do not hunt the polar bear for the skin only. They look for the healthiest polar bears so they can enjoy the meat. Hunters do not hunt polar bears only for the skin so

that they can kill it. They also hope that the meat of the polar bear is not damaged through this study process. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. Monaghan, do you want to respond to that?

MR. MONAGHAN: With the drugs we use to immobilize polar bear, it is our understanding that the drug is consumed and released within the tissue of a bear -- I forget the exact number of hours, but certainly within a day and we have no reason to believe that that drug would in any way harm a person who would subsequently eat that animal. The drugs we use have in many cases been used for a number of years on domestic animals in the South, for example, where people normally handle animals and then subsequently consume them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Monaghan. You know what? Let us take 10 minutes for a coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Chair recognizes a quorum. We are still on page 12.03, 0 and M, \$6,741,000. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are caribou drugged in the same way as polar bears?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Do you get the question?

MR. MONAGHAN: I understand the concern is that we also drug caribou. In general, although we mark caribou in certain locations, and we are currently doing it in south Baffin -- we have since 1972 or 1973 -- we are not drugging the animals. We simply catch them at water crossings, from boats, and put ear tags in them. So, generally, the technique is different with caribou, and it is much more simple and usually does not involve drugs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Yes. I understand. To clarify this point, last week, on January 25, I got a caribou which was tagged and I gave that tag to the wildlife officer. He did not bother asking any questions about where I got that caribou. They were going to give me some money for the return of the tag and that is all that he mentioned. He did not ask me where I got that caribou or what kind it was. There were no questions. I would like to know if you ask us specific questions when somebody returns a tag. I would like to know what the procedure is. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Monaghan.

MR. MONAGHAN: Yes, under normal circumstances, when we get a tag back, we ask for the date and location of the kill by the hunter and also other pertinent information. If this was not asked in this case, that is unusual, and perhaps I could speak to the Member about that separately, to get some more details and find out about that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Yes, okay. I will do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Any more questions? Ms Cournoyeva.

MS COURNOYEA: Would the Minister be able to advise us on the long-range movements of polar bear? Have there been other studies done before, where were they conducted, and how much do you know about the long-range movements of polar bears?

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

Information On Long-Range Movements Of Polar Bears

MR. MONAGHAN: In the past, we have looked at polar bear movements by the technique spoken about earlier of putting ear tags in them, so we know where the animal is first contacted. Then if we see it incidentally from the air, we get periodic information on where it is sighted again, then ultimately, where the hunter kills it. This gives us pretty spotty information on polar bear movements.

The reference that was made earlier by our Minister to long-term tracking of movements -- we are able to do this more thoroughly now by putting radio collars on the animals. We track them through satellite reception of the transmitters, and we get very, very detailed information on the movements of that bear for a period of two years, which is usually the life of the collar. So that gives us very much more detailed information, which we can then use to more accurately assess the likely impact of shipping, as an example, in the High Arctic on polar bears.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Perhaps Mr. Monaghan could continue to relate his experience to the movements of the polar bear, or what he feels has concluded -- the remark by his department that the polar bear in the northern part of Banks Island and to the northern section of Victoria Island are the same group of polar bears, or the same population. Could he indicate what studies gave him that data to base that opinion on?

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

MR. MONAGHAN: The data that we have on polar bear in that area was provided by Dr. Ian Stirling's study. He is with the Canadian Wildlife Service. They have covered off that geographical area while we have focussed in the Central Arctic and the Eastern Arctic. The data he has from ear tag returns does suggest that those are two different polar bear populations and, based on that, we have left the Melville Island quota as separate from the Victoria and Banks Island quota, because we believe those to be different subpopulations.

The radio tracking that is proposed in the Beaufort will give us very much more detailed information on polar bear movements and from that we will be able to reassess whether, in fact, those are two separate populations or not.

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

Polar Bear Quota In Glenelg Bay Area

MS COURNOYEA: Would that then conclude that your decision is not final on not increasing the quota for Glenelg area? Is that because you do not really know, and you are then proposing to make further checks on that? Is there still a possibility, if you find it is two different populations, that you would increase the polar bear quota for that area?

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

MR. MONAGHAN: Yes. As indicated by our Minister earlier, when we have this new base line data in, we will reassess those quotas.

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

MS COURNOYEA: In your studies, then, are you assigning a study to the Glenelg Bay area on polar bear this year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Monaghan.

MR. MONAGHAN: Not specifically Glenelg Bay, but we will be tagging animals in the Beaufort, and I would assume some of those animals would be over toward the Banks side, which would give us a better idea of their movements in that area. It is not specifically designed, however, to attack the question that you have raised.

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

MS COURNOYEA: I believe your department has assured the people who were requesting that increase that, as soon as possible, additional studies will be done in order for you to make a determination, and since you have made that commitment, would you possibly indicate if you are willing to stretch your Beaufort Sea studies to take into consideration your commitment?

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

MR. MONAGHAN: We will proceed with the work in the Beaufort Sea. The information will be very valuable for delineating subpopulations of bear. If this causes us to change our interpretation of the data we have, we will certainly respond to

those two hunters' and trappers' associations at that time. The HTA of Sachs Harbour has been involved in these studies in the past, and I assume they will be in the future as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Is there any further questioning?
Ms Cournoyea.

Wildlife Service In Pine Point

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have the Minister of Renewable Resources give the rationale and reasoning of opening up a warehouse and office in Pine Point.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Minister, or Mr. Bowyer.
Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: The question being raised is a question that was raised prior to this discussion by Ms Cournoyea, in that: "During 1979 the Fort Smith region moved its wildlife service staff and others from Fort Resolution to Pine Point in response to a demand for better service to the community with the larger population. The wildlife officer travels from Fort Resolution frequently to provide assistance and service to their trappers and others. As no garage or warehouse facilities are available to the wildlife officer in Pine Point, funding has been requested to move the metal warehouse from Fort Resolution. The mobile equipment is for patrol use in the area of Pine Point, Fort Resolution, Slave River Delta and Rocher River."

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the question was, really, why would you have a wildlife officer position in Pine Point? Pine Point may have a larger population, but certainly the people there are not necessarily requiring the service of a wildlife officer. Why would you set up a wildlife officer away from the particular people that he serves? Why would you not build a garage in Fort Resolution, where the people are in need of that service? Pine Point is far from -- the indication in the make-up of the community is not a hunting and trapping community. It is far away from water. Surely the people who are involved with wildlife service should live with the people that they are serving and have a closer relationship. I see no reason why you would put a person in Pine Point, and the answer that you gave me seems to indicate that you are accommodating the wildlife officer, not wildlife, and not the people who are to be served.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. With response to the comment, the decision in 1979 was not my decision. You must also be aware that I have had some discussions with people from Fort Resolution with regard to hiring either an assistant wildlife officer or a wildlife guardian with increased responsibilities. Those discussions are continuing, and I hope to be going to Fort Resolution to determine a final solution of some sort to the question that you brought to my attention previously, but the people in Fort Resolution have also done the same. In fact, some of the issues were that they were a bit concerned about the inability to utilize some of the wildlife service equipment that had been located either in Resolution or in Pine Point. The other thing is that about a year ago, the community requested that the department turn over the buildings that were previously used by the wildlife service so that they could utilize them for a community development training program, and, in fact, that is what we did. So I think that in a way we have tried to respond as quickly and as helpfully as possible to that community.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Are you saying, then, that you are considering perhaps changing your mind on the location of that particular facility?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I think that what I am saying is that the actual facility is required because of the equipment we have already in Pine Point. We have been into discussion in the past with Fort Resolution, Snowdrift, and Fort Smith to determine their participation in enforcement of regulations, and we are just in a discussion right now with them. I hope to resolve that in the near future.

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

Facility In Fort Resolution Being Used

MR. SAYINE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Just to respond to the question Ms Cournoyea was asking the Minister. About five years back, the people of Fort Resolution were consulted when the game office was moved to Fort Resolution. As a matter of fact, I think it came from the people that the game office should be moved to Pine Point, because the game officer was spending more time in Pine Point, because there was too much trapping and hunting being done by people at Pine Point. So the people of Fort Resolution requested that maybe a game officer should be moved to Pine Point if another position could not be found. What Mr. Nerysoo was saying now, I would like to perhaps make a suggestion that -- five years ago is a long time, now. I think that the department should go back to the people of Fort Resolution now and try to see if there is any change, if maybe the people do want a game officer back in Fort Resolution. So, you know, it catches me by surprise that the garage and warehouse should be moved out of Fort Resolution, because even though the game office is still in Pine Point, the facility is still being used in Fort Resolution.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Sayine. Is that the motion or just discussion? Okay. Thank you. Wildlife service, on page 12.03, \$6,741,000. Mr. Minister.

Native Staff In Wildlife Service

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. I have a number of responses I was asked for yesterday that I would like to give now. One was a question asked by Mr. Sibbeston with regard to the number of native employees we have. Out of a staff of 100, 31 are native people. At the headquarters 18 per cent of the staff are native people, while 38 per cent of the regional staff are native people. In 1981 13 native people were hired by the wildlife service, 11 in the regions and two at headquarters. Just further information, most of the non-native staff have been in the North for more than five years, some having spent all or most of their lives here. You must realize that the Metis are considered in count as non-native in the sense of Indian, Inuit or Dene and so it causes a bit of confusion as to the numbers. We have 27 out of 34 of the non-native field staff that have been in the North for more than five years. Of the 25 non-native headquarters staff, 14 have been in the North for more than five years.

Keewatin Caribou Herds

With regard to the question asked by Ms Cournoyea on the potential of herding the reindeer to the Keewatin, the reply is that neither headquarters nor regional staff have been approached with this proposal. Our efforts presently are directed toward maintaining and restoring the various caribou herds in the Keewatin. We are now working closely with the Keewatin wildlife federation and its caribou subcommittee to manage stable populations in the Keewatin. We are also active participants with the native users on the Beverly/Kaminuriak caribou management board to effect the recovery of the herds mentioned.

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

Gasoline Subsidies For Hunters And Trappers

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question concerns the grants and contributions, Mr. Minister. When the standing committee on finance was in Holman we met with some of the local hunters and trappers and one of the biggest things that they brought forward was the increasing cost of gasoline and how it was adversely affecting their livelihood with respect to hunting and trapping. I notice that there is no increase in the amount that you have set aside for the kinds of subsidies that this government provides for the gasoline for the trappers and I am wondering if there is a reason that you did not see fit to add the typical 14 per cent inflationary increases that this government has been experiencing. What is the reason and have you had an opportunity to review that grant program at all?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. With regard to increasing the gasoline subsidy, it is not an issue that I have not brought to the attention of my colleagues. The reality is that I have made a certain number of comments that our own programs with regard to this, the gasoline subsidy and the incentive subsidy, have not increased, whether we agree with it or not, with regard to the inflationary rate. We have only increased it in the last two, three years according to the number of people that have applied. Our percentages have remained in total at about 15 per cent; the subsidy being 10 per cent and the gasoline subsidy being at five per cent. However, we have increased the dollar figures over the past two years and we are also going to discuss the issue of further increases with my colleagues over the next few months.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: I take it then that you are in the process of consultation with the hunters and trappers and that you will be bringing a paper to the Executive Committee which is going to recommend an increase in the amount of subsidy that is provided to hunters and trappers for gasoline. Is that what you said?

Grants To Hunters And Trappers

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Well, basically that is the idea, that I will recommend to my colleagues that an increase be given to that program. With regard to other grants that are given to the hunters' and trappers' associations, we are developing a policy of probably increasing the dollar figure from 2000 to an unspecified amount, mainly because when you just give a dollar figure and say that \$2000 or \$5000 should go to all HTAs -- well, there are some communities that have a population -- there are more people in a certain community than in another community. In my opinion, in the situation of Colville Lake, you do not give Colville Lake \$5000 and Fort Good Hope \$5000. The population and the numbers in those communities do not fit, you know. You may want to give the community of Good Hope \$7000 and give Colville Lake \$3000, but you have to develop, I assume, a policy to ensure that kind of distribution. We are now developing that and with regard to increases to other programs, I have made my oral comments to my colleagues about increasing the programs and now it is a matter of making further presentation to them.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Minister, some months ago I wrote you a letter concerning the thing that is listed under page 12.07, under contributions; that is what I am referring to. Maybe if you could turn to there. Under wildlife service the last line says, "Contribution to provide assistance to individual trappers in trapping and hunting". In that letter I was asking whether the money that

we provided as a government to trappers at the beginning of their trapping season was a contribution or whether it was a loan. It was my opinion that it was a loan in that we expected the hunter to pay it back with the money that he obtained from hunting and trapping at the end of the season. I did not get a response to that, so I am asking whether that grey area -- which was a grey area to me, it may not be to you -- has been cleared up and whether it is in fact a loan or some other thing? Following that I have another question about it.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, that is a loan program. We did increase that program from the amount of \$700 to \$1500 that would be allocated to each individual trapper upon application, up to \$1500.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: The question then comes to mind, is \$55,000 enough in this program? Have we turned away hunters and trappers because we have run out of money in the program and if we have turned away hunters and trappers who are eligible -- I am not talking about men and women who might not be eligible -- but have we turned away eligible hunters and trappers?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: With regard to that, we did utilize all the money this year. In fact, we had to go to supplementary appropriations to get additional dollars for the numbers of people and the dollars that were asked to run that program.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Is the policy then that everyone who is a bona fide hunter or trapper who applies and fits the criteria is able to obtain the loan? Is that this government's policy?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Monaghan.

MR. MONAGHAN: Yes, that is the case. If a trapper fits the criteria he gets a loan, but we should indicate that if a trapper in the past has not paid back his loans, that eliminates him from applying for future loans unless there are extenuating circumstances.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Wildlife service. Mr. McLaughlin.

Reasons For Retaining Wildlife Service In Pine Point

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope that the Minister, when he considers the wildlife officer situation in Pine Point, will take in the fact that things have changed there over the last several years. I was one of the people that complained that we did not have good wildlife services there. Two of the reasons were that a lot of the people in Pine Point are transient and come to the North for a short time. They get their sport hunting licences and there were some pretty rotten stories about what people were doing; for example, shooting buffalo just north of the park with bird guns and all they were doing was wounding these animals.

Secondly there are an awful lot of families over the several years that have moved from Fort Resolution, Hay River and Fort Smith into Pine Point and they are demanding this service. These people have general hunting licences and some of them whose wives work at the mine, hunt and trap for a living. They wanted to have services so that their furs could be sealed properly, so that they could be shipped out for tanning and sale and this service was not available to them. So, I think Members should be aware that that is the

situation. There has to be service in Pine Point. In fact, I think there are probably more of what you would call sports hunters there than there are elsewhere in the area. The wildlife officer who we had there previously -- I have not met the current officer -- did a good job in educating people and holding meetings and making them aware of where the various zones were and what the quotas were. So, I think it has been advantageous for Pine Point to have that service.

As far as relocating the buildings go, in a way I think that might be sort of a waste of money. Perhaps you should maybe look at using that money in the capital budget to plan a building in Pine Point, which is already being considered by the Executive Committee for next year to house the other NWT personnel in Pine Point. They do not have proper offices or garages there right now. So, maybe that money might be better spent in planning a facility that would accommodate the other departments as well, rather than moving the building out of Fort Resolution. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you for your opening address.

---Laughter

Wildlife service. Ms Cournoyea.

Trappers' Income Tax

MS COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the Minister be able to explain what is happening on the trappers' taxation, if he has been able to make any ground with Revenue Canada in protecting the people that have received notices over the periods three to four years back? What is the status of his negotiations?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I just want to comment that I am not negotiating with Revenue Canada. I have made a number of people, including the Minister of Finance in this government, aware that the concern is there and that people are not prepared at this time to file tax forms. It is kind of unusual in that we are never sure from one year to the next year who will or who will not, in fact, be filing or be asked to file their claims.

There are a couple of other issues. The issue with regard to gasoline; some receipts can and some cannot be kept. That was quite evident from the reply to the honourable Member by myself. With regard to other purchases, like additional traps and additional machinery, that kind of thing has to be looked at as well. I have tried and contacted people, but I do not think, as I said before, that I can stop them from asking people to pay income tax. That, in my opinion, is illegal. I can only suggest to them that the hunters and the trappers do not pay retroactively two or three years income tax, but I can only suggest. I cannot interfere with whether or not they wish to collect.

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

MS COURNOYEA: I guess I just want to know what you have done about it, or how much action you have put into trying to make that protection for past notices on taxation. There is a number of them that I am concerned about, because they are still getting a tax notice. I realize you have been meeting with the Minister, and you had indicated before that you felt that there was some openness from Revenue Canada to explore a way where they can get around past taxation notices where people were told they have to pay \$8000, \$9000, so I was just hoping that you would say that you were able to make some headway with that. After all, we have a lot of effort on the part of this government and moratoriums on bureaucracy benefits.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, I can. As I said, I have made that aware to certain Ministers within this government, aware of that and also with regard to the federal government. I have not been continuously in contact with Revenue Canada. I think that they are quite aware of my position with regard to the hunters and trappers and taxation, but that is basically my response to you.

Total O And M, Wildlife Service, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Wildlife service on page 12.03, O and M, \$6,741,000. Is that agreed?

---Agreed

Total O And M, Environmental Service

I shall turn the page. Page 12.04, environmental service, total O and M \$300,000. Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. It is stated about having the environment clean. Even if it is written like that, it seems as if there is hardly any use when it is written in a book. The federal government, I think, is handling this situation, handling the environmental system, and I think it would be better if the Northwest Territories government took over this responsibility for the regions that the gas companies are exploring in, around the area of Hudson Bay, sometime in the 1980s. They are probably going to be bringing up experimental things, blasting material, when they start looking for oil and gas around Hudson Bay. I think that they are going to be exploring the whole Hudson Bay area, and this is one of the major concerns in the Keewatin region, because they are on the shore of Hudson Bay. I think it is going to be dangerous, I am sure, because they are going to be using explosives. The sea mammals are going to be exploited or killed during this process. Some of the sea mammals are fixed on a quota system.

The oil explorers, and the gas explorers, when they come to the Northwest Territories, it seems that the people just let them come in and let them do their exploring without thinking about the dangerous side. The only thing they are concerned about is making money and that is their major concern. The price of food and gas is rising and people who are unemployed and who are just living on hunting are going to be hurt. The explorers are probably just going to be exploring, and once they start rigging, it is going to be kind of dangerous.

You know, just looking at it on paper, it is not very meaningful. It states here on page 12.04 that the air should be smog-free. I cannot really understand what that means, because I have seen -- like, they do some drilling in the Keewatin region, looking for uranium, and some of them have found some. We cannot know whether the vapors are coming out, and nobody seems to be doing any studies about this. I do not know why.

No Assistance To Fight Fires At Baker Lake

I have heard rumors that in the Keewatin region the National Geographic people went near Baker Lake, and they said that there -- I really cannot tell you, because I have not seen personally. In the summer there are no trees up there, but we do get fires, even around the Baker Lake region. Around Quoyich River, we had two fires last summer, and the person who was monitoring phoned Yellowknife to get some assistance to put out the fire before it spread. The only answer he got was that there were a lot of fires around the Yellowknife area and that they could not help Baker Lake. That is all the answer he got.

It is not very meaningful when you just see it on paper. We do not see what they are going to be doing. It seems that they are just using it to make money. When there is that situation, it does not help. Sometimes we get fires when there is lightning. For that reason, I think that we should get some assistance to put out fires. I think that the whole Northwest Territories should be considered, not just the Yellowknife area and not just written down on paper.

Sickness In Caribou

Also, one of our concerns is caribou. This summer, the caribou that we got, the tendons on the legs were swollen and the caribou were sickly. Their joints were swollen. Their skin was stuck to the meat. It seems that there are more things like that going on and when we request a study to be done, it takes a long time to get an answer. That is also one of our concerns.

If there were a science lab in the Keewatin region or somewhere near the Keewatin region and if there was scientific equipment for use up in that area, I think there would be an improvement. Sometimes it is a little bit too late when they start a study and it does not help at all. When something starts happening, I think that they should start the studies right there and then and not just wait for something drastic to happen, because you cannot do anything about it after it happens.

Now, on page 12.04, it is written that the environment, or the air, should be kept clean. It is written like that on paper. Are you going to be following it, now that it is written on page 12.04, or is it just going to be written and nothing is going to be done about it? I have a lot of statements to make, but I will say them when the time comes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Noah. Thank you for making your statement short. Okay. Environmental service, \$300,000. Is there any question? Ms Cournoyea.

Special Funding Re Major Resource Development

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the federal government and the territorial government and the Dene Nation were involved in discussions on the Norman Wells pipeline, and the involvement of special funds, or the arrangement of special funds. Did the department in this area get any infusion or suggest an infusion of funding to take care of the extra problems that may be -- or could be -- related to the Norman Wells pipeline, from this particular fund?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, the actual infusion to respond to major resource development is under environmental planning and assessment on page 12.06.

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

Information Re Proposed Drilling Requested

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to ask one question and I will make it short. I have a question on environment. I do not know how they go about their work. In the papers we have here you mention that there is some drilling planned in Hudson Bay. We have never been told by the federal government or by anyone else that they were planning to do drilling in Hudson Bay even though our settlement is situated around Hudson Bay. Has that been approved by environmental protection services and environmental department? Have you okayed the go-ahead to do drilling in Hudson Bay?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: With regard to the exploration that is occurring in Hudson Bay, we had no part in the decision as to whether or not the permit to explore in the Hudson Bay was given. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development were the primary decision makers in that permit being given.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you. When we discovered or heard that they were planning to do some drilling in Hudson Bay, we were not very happy. We were not happy because we have marine mammals that we rely on, in Hudson Bay. If they do drilling there is going to be quite a bit of damage and the people in the Keewatin, in our settlements, live on the Hudson Bay resources. I have a hard time understanding why the local people or the inhabitants of the Northwest Territories are never informed about what is being done in their own land.

Is there any way that you can speak to the people responsible that the original people rely on their lands and live on their lands and before any damage is to be done to their land? Are you afraid to approach the people responsible, who make those kinds of decisions, to let them know we are concerned because we are afraid of environmental damage? I am asking him, can you not speak to the federal government and the people responsible for exploration that we are concerned about our land and that we would like to be informed about their decisions and what they plan to do?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: With regard to the concern that you express with regard to the environment, on a number of presentations made to panels that have been established by the federal government and also to the Minister of Indian Affairs, we have expressed our concern with major projects going ahead without a review taking place and certainly discussion prior to the permission of such projects. We have, in fact, expressed our major concern with that.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I would like to thank you, Mr. Minister, for giving me a reply.

Total O And M, Environmental Service, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Environmental service, page 12.04, total O and M \$300,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

---Agreed

Total O And M, Science Advisory Board Of The Northwest Territories

On page 12.05, Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories, \$207,000, O and M. Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I will not be making too many comments about this. I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services: I have been informed that they have scientific equipment and a scientific lab in Rankin Inlet and it has not been used at all. Is it because there are no scientists that can utilize those facilities and equipment in Rankin Inlet?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I was not aware that there was a laboratory there and I am not really sure about the actual use of that. I would have to go probably to the science administrator to find out further information for you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Would it be okay if he did his homework before he makes a reply, Mr. Noah?

MR. NOAH: (Translation) He is the Minister and I realize he has many ministerial duties under him and he should answer questions when asked. When we have oral questions to the Minister responsible we never receive any ready replies to them. I thought it was the responsibility of the Minister in charge to know what is under his ministerial duties. They should have the answers and they should have more information because that is their responsibility. I am sorry but I am getting angry because I am not getting any reply and when I do not get replies to my questions, I do not know where else to turn to get my answers. Thank you.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, I made the comment with regard to the science administrator really because Mr. Noah's question had an association with National Health and Welfare. Presently the science administrator is working out and drafting agreements with regard to Health and Welfare Canada and the territorial Departments of Health and Social Services on work sharing. Now, I am not particularly sure what the details of that are because the Departments of Health and Social Services are not my departments.

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

MR. NOAH: (Translation) I think I should answer the Minister of Renewable Resources. Peter Ernerk was the regional director for Renewable Resources. I have heard that there is scientific equipment in Rankin Inlet. He told me himself, directly. So, I am asking whether there is equipment there that is not being used in Rankin Inlet. I am asking the Minister of Renewable Resources. It has been answered indirectly. It is kind of embarrassing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Noah. Mr. Minister, do you want to say something?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I guess I am not clear on the issue, but I do believe that maybe the reference is being made to the University of Saskatchewan's research lab in Rankin Inlet. That lab has been closed as a cost saving measure and I am not particularly sure, again, of the details of that closure, but it is for cost saving purposes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories, \$207,000. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister be able to identify what studies are being planned for this year under the Science Advisory Board? Has there been anything that has been given for detailed study?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. I have an activity report of the studies being done. An energy study assessing the potential of wind as an alternate source of energy in the NWT is in its final stages of preparation. A food potential study evaluating the potential for food production in the Northwest Territories is currently being conducted in conjunction with Dr. W.R. Cummins and Dr. J. Svoboda of the University of Toronto. "Fur, Fish and Game in the North",

the summary of the conference on the above topic sponsored by the Science Advisory Board will be available February the 15th. Acid precipitation, an overview study of the acid precipitation in the NWT is in the initial stages. A community small hydro, a pre-feasibility study to assess the contribution that the resource might make to the northern energy requirements is also in the initial stages.

Total O And M, Science Advisory Board Of The Northwest Territories, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Operations and maintenance, \$207,000, agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Environmental Planning And Assessment

On page 12.06, environmental planning and assessment, total O and M, \$350,000. Are there any questions from the floor? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister be able to indicate if \$350,000 or \$359,000 was the only amount that could be wrested from the federal government to deal with the area of the Norman Wells pipeline and if he thinks that perhaps by getting this secretariat in place that you would be able to tap into more of the money and funds that were allocated to the Norman Wells pipeline?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: The actual \$350,000 that has been allocated is for the initial set-up of the division, the section. We do have an additional \$1.6 million that has been allocated to the Norman Wells project, the expansion and pipeline, and we will be making use of that money to do as many studies as possible, wherever we can, to respond to the impact areas. As you know the idea of the environmental planning assessment division was a response to try to get some co-ordination within this government to respond to, especially, major types of projects and major mega-type programs that are proposed for the North.

Total O and M, Environmental Planning And Assessment, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Total O and M, \$350,000, agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

Under detail of capital, pages 12.08 and 12.09, \$850,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): On page 12.01, operations and maintenance, \$7,981,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

I would like to thank the witnesses, Mr. Bowyer, Mr. Monaghan and Mr. Minister Richard Nerysoo.

---Applause

Thank you. Does this committee wish to move to another department, Health?
Are we ready? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. McCallum, an opening statement? Do you wish to call your witnesses before you make opening remarks or do you wish to make opening remarks before you call the witnesses? Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I have a few opening remarks that maybe will begin the study of this department's budget. At this particular time I have no need to call any witnesses. There may well be at a later date, questions that may arise from individual Members. I would like to very briefly and hopefully make a few introductory remarks about the department, if I could do so at this time, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I appreciate that, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would recognize that I can make a particular statement of the department's goals, aims, objectives that may sound as though they are flag waving and whatnot but I make no apology for them. I would simply indicate that the Department of Health believes that the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every citizen of the Territories. As a government we believe that health is a partnership that involves personal responsibility of individuals as well as working with supportive programs and professional services that may be offered by government and by the private sector.

Five Principles Of Health Program

There are five principles that underly this particular program or service: that is the principle of accessibility whereby we would hopefully make health services accessible to everybody and equal for everybody; the principle of portability, that the benefits are good throughout the Territories, throughout this country and to the greatest extent possible, throughout the world; the comprehensiveness principle that we would make our program of health services as comprehensive as funding and manpower or resources would permit, we would strive to work toward the principle of universality, that is, that services are available to all without regard to any barrier; and finally, the principle of public administration, where the government administers on behalf of its constituents without financial profit.

The programs we provide as a government, the services that we fund, amount to approximately 50 per cent of the total amount of money spent on health in the Northwest Territories. Health and Welfare Canada spends approximately the same amount of money as we do, that is the Government of the Northwest Territories, on the operation of hospitals, nursing stations, public health clinics across the Territories. Our department's operating budget last year amounted to about 10.3 per cent of the entire government's expenditures. This year we are relatively at the same figure but this in no way compares -- that is our share in no way -- compares with the share that another province would make of its budget. Provinces spend approximately 30 per cent of their budget on health services. We do have revenue as a government that is derived from the services that we provide. We would anticipate an expenditure of \$35 to \$36 million this year on health and that we would be able to derive approximately half that in revenue. It was about the same figure, give or take some amounts, last year.

There is a difference in the major reason why revenue is not keeping pace with expenditures. It is the increased costs of services, of expenses paid entirely by this government without federal sharing. I would like to, very briefly, look at the things that we have done and the things that we would hope to accomplish in this coming fiscal year given the resources and given the approval of those resources by this committee.

Accomplishments Of The Past Year

We have completed health reviews in the Central Arctic, the Kitikmeot region. We are initiating with a follow-up committee of representatives of that region and medical services of what should be done. We have commenced a study of health care in the Inuvik region. We have, within our personnel of the department, accepted the role as co-chairman on behalf of the provinces on a task force that would prepare a national strategy for health in the next 20 years across the country. As a result of demands and concerns raised in the Keewatin area, we purchased in Winnipeg a boarding house for patients who had to use that and use medical services in Winnipeg and we have a contract to operate that facility. We undertook negotiations with the representative of Health and Welfare Canada, including the ITC and the Baffin Regional Council, to establish a regional board of management for the Frobisher Bay hospital and we contracted for the operation of the hospital and its related activities in that area. We are continually and we do continue to work with the board of management in Yellowknife, the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, the city of Yellowknife in planning for the new Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

We have instituted various other programs and services within the present facility in the area of mental health and hearing. We have a contract with Health and Welfare to provide physician services to fill 14 of the 18 physician positions that Health and Welfare has in the Northwest Territories, five of which will be in Inuvik, three in Fort Smith, one in Rae-Edzo, one in Fort Simpson, one in Cambridge Bay, and three in Frobisher. We would hope to be able to contract for an additional physician in Frobisher and three in the Keewatin. We have expanded our insured services to include detoxification and congenital anomalies of the urinary system. Those are the kinds of things that the department has done within the past year, Mr. Chairman, and though we would like to do many other things, we have to operate within the budget.

Proposed Projections For 1982

So what we would attempt to do this coming year would be to provide bursaries for students training to be health professionals or people training to enter the health field. We will pay for prescription drugs and drugs for senior citizens and those with specific illnesses. The department, during the year, will present to me options for achieving a wider spectrum of drug coverage within the dollars that are currently available. Late in this year I would hope to propose a new public health ordinance in keeping with the advances made to date in public health since we do pay our share of the cost of Health and Welfare's operation in the North, the nursing stations and in public health.

In June of this year the Canadian Public Health Association's annual convention for approximately 400 people will be convened in Yellowknife and our department will be playing some role with that convention and others that will be held in conjunction with it. We fund and oversee the operation of three hospitals. We pay for a very large cost of operating the Inuvik and Frobisher Bay hospitals as well, of course, as paying for the services that are received by residents outside the Northwest Territories.

Late this year and quite possibly next year, I will be proposing as well, Mr. Chairman, a new ordinance on hospitals and hospital insurance to replace an outdated ordinance that was written approximately 20 years ago. We will pay for, and quite obviously have to pay, extra or increase costs for physician services because of the kinds of arrangements that are made across Canada and most especially in Alberta.

Also in 1982 I would hope then to propose amendments to the Medical Profession Ordinance. Where the services are not available in the Northwest Territories, Mr. Chairman, we would subsidize the transportation costs to get those services

unless those costs are being paid by an employer. There is a new comprehensive policy on medical transportation that we would hope to begin on a three month trial basis in the Baffin region beginning the first of April. We would then, if it is successful, try to implement it across the Territories by September.

Improvement Of Health Care In The Territories

In addition to providing and funding all of the above health services, Mr. Chairman, the department provides other services on behalf of Health and Welfare Canada and other government departments on a contractual basis. So, Mr. Chairman, I have little else to add other than to indicate to this committee that we have been active and we hopefully would be active in the coming year. Had we the resources, there are many other things that we would want to deal with. I did indicate some of those things to the standing committee when we met with them. I would simply say that obviously the health of residents in the Northwest Territories has been improving and that it hopefully will continue to improve but it can only do so if there is a certain amount of responsibility on the part of individuals to pursue some kind of a more helpful way or style of life. I do not want to get into that because I will be hit with being hypocritical.

Nevertheless, health care, Mr. Chairman, is expensive and it is getting more and more expensive. There are a lot of costs to this government, to people in the North, that are not identified here, costs such as lost time from work, from school, disability, family and personal hardships and, of course, the lost years of one's life. We would attempt, as I said, Mr. Chairman, then, within the department, within the government, to ensure that we can do all that we possibly can to bring about an improved -- a better style of personal health care in the Territories. With that, then, Mr. Chairman, I would be ready to deal with comments or questions of a general nature from anybody who would be prepared to raise them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I think Mrs. Sorensen has an opening remark also, from the standing committee on finance. Mrs. Sorensen.

Moneys Must Be Found For Health Needs

MRS. SORENSEN: We have no recommendations as such, Mr. Chairman. I would like to point out to Members that the Department of Health shows no man year changes this year, and the growth from the revised 1981-82 estimates is approximately 18.8 per cent, or \$5.6 million. The increases are made up of all pretty well non-controllable items, such as salaries and wages, the 14 per cent inflation factor, and such non-controllable items as health services and the budget review, hospitals, medicare and transportation.

If you take out the non-discretionary or non-controllable items, the real growth in this department over last year is only 1.2 per cent, and if the things that the department would like to do -- as Mr. McCallum has outlined -- are things that we would like to see in the North, certainly we are going to have to find new moneys or readjust other programs and services within our existing budget to find the dollars to respond to the needs that Mr. McCallum has identified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Are there any general comments from the floor? Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who are the people in Winnipeg who are looking after the people coming in and out of Winnipeg? Who are these people, really? Maybe the Members can thank the people down in Winnipeg, or they can send a message to the Winnipeg people to thank them, that they have done a very good job. They have looked after a lot of Keewatin people, and the people

in the Keewatin region are really satisfied, and they are always welcoming the Keewatin region people. I would be very satisfied if we would show our appreciation with a thank you note to the people, or if we would inform them that they are doing a very good job. It is because of the fact that they are well-known now by many people in the Keewatin region. I think there is Keith somebody, and I am not sure who the other person is. However, I have heard from a lot of people that these people are looking after the people very well. Also, they are doing a very hard job, and are looking after native people. Thank you.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Noah. General comments? Mr. Patterson, general comments?

Contractual Arrangements In Area Of Health

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I said this before, but I want to say it again for the record that I am delighted with the progress the Minister has been able to make through a contractual arrangement which will in no way jeopardize land claim settlements in the area of health which will be negotiated in the future between the Inuit and the federal government. A much improved quality of service -- it is already a good service, but it is going to become even better -- will be available in Baffin region with the takeover of the management of the Frobisher Bay hospital by a board of management of citizen representatives from the region. The board is operating, active, enthusiastic; they have had a significant involvement in the establishment and selection of board members through the Baffin Regional Council; and they already have their eye on the nursing stations. Again, if this can be done through a contractual arrangement, I think it will be a step which we all agree must be taken toward more local control in the delivery of health services in our region. So I would just like to say that I am very pleased with the progress that has been made, and thank the Minister for his support for this initiative, which I think has been encouraged by the Assembly and as well by the ITC.

I will just say, also, generally, that I am very concerned that the matter of the status of Inuit women married to non-native men and their children still has not been resolved by the federal government, and though I will recognize it is not our government's responsibility, I would like to suggest at this time that we should give consideration to the -- I think it is almost an established practice now of inviting the representative of the federal government, the regional director, to attend here as a witness to answer questions pertaining to the federal Department of Health. I do not have this particular matter of the status of native women in mind, because it is now with his Minister, but I was wondering whether other Members might have some questions to ask of that person, or if we should at least ask that he be available when his department is discussed later on. That is all that I have in the way of general comments, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

O And M, Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. General comments. Page 14.02, administration, \$1,391,000. Are there any questions? Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

O And M, Supplementary Health Programs, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): On page 14.03, supplementary health programs, \$365,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

O And M, NWT Share Of Health Care Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 14.04, Northwest Territories share of health care services, \$3,457,000. Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

O And M, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 14.05, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$23,198,000. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, in the opening statement that the Minister made, he made reference to the fact that he was rewriting the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance or in the throes of rewriting the ordinance and I was wondering, I have heard some concern voiced about the fact that there may be a move to do away with the THIS board. I wonder if the Minister could enlighten us as to whether that is true or not and if it is true, whether there is anything that he is looking at which might take its place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated in my opening remarks that sometime this year, and for me the sooner the better, but it will be sometime this year, that I would be proposing a new ordinance on hospitals and hospital insurance. The current ordinance under which the THIS operates goes back approximately 20 years. It goes back to the time when this government had no hospitals of its own and as this government took on responsibility for funding the hospitals as they arose and in this case there are only three directly funded; that is the Stanton Yellowknife, the H.H. Williams Memorial and the Fort Smith Health Centre. The THIS board, in my opinion, became redundant because we now have in place boards of management made up of local people, people from the community. In the case of the H.H. Williams Memorial and in the case of the Fort Smith Health Centre, it is people of those communities that make up the operation and operate under an ordinance as to the control, the administration of those units for this government.

In the case of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, there is a regional board because there are people on that board from many areas, not just including Yellowknife. The rationale of the THIS board was to have some local input into the distribution of funding for the operation of hospitals prior to the setting up of boards of management and that board then would deal with the formula and the chairman of that board or the board would deal with the Department of Health for the kinds of funds.

Operations Of Hospitals And Hospital Insurance Services Should be Separated

I do not see the necessity of putting in a further level by which local boards of management should have to pass in order to get to the funding that would be available to them. In all honesty, I do not see any deterioration or degradation of services in the Territories because we are going to then bring up to date territorial hospital insurances. I think the operation of the hospitals to a great extent should be separate from the operation of the hospital insurance services. For that reason, as I indicated, I would be proposing ordinances to deal with the operation of hospitals, with the board of management and with the hospital insurance as well because we still would have to have that. I think we would thereby be able to respond more quickly, we would still retain a formula based financing for the operation of these hospitals and for the ones that we are partially involved with now, that is the Inuvik as well as the Frobisher Bay.

So I see no difficulty with it. That is my own opinion. I would hope that that is the opinion that I am getting from the group of hospital administrators in the Northwest Territories. For two years or more I have been listening to these people give me this kind of advice and I accept that kind of advice because they are in the business of administering hospitals. Who better than they to know how to operate them? As long as we have the areas involved well represented.

So, Mr. Chairman, I am not sure whether I have answered the concerns that the Member has raised. Were I not in this maybe somebody else would want to do something different but I believe it is a positive step in the right direction and a positive step toward the future if we were to separate what has now become a rather cumbersome and, to some degree, in my opinion again, redundant piece of legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Sorensen, we have four minutes, take it or leave it.

Ministerial Department Should Be Open To Advice

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a mechanism whereby -- I can see your point, Mr. Minister, with respect to boards of management and the kinds of local people that you have on them. But I see a need for advice being given to you as Minister of Health by people at large and on a territorial basis on health concerns. I guess I saw the THIS board as a mechanism for that. Whether the members did that or not, I am not sure. But I see that there is a need, given the very peculiar and special problems that we have for public input, to yourself and I am wondering if you have perhaps thought of an advisory committee or any kind of a mechanism whereby the public can have that direct access to you.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, at the outset, the THIS board -- I do not think we depended upon them for a great amount of health advice. We dealt primarily with the operation of the hospital. I and the department, we, receive a great deal of good advice throughout the Territories from the medical profession, physicians, doctors, from the nurses association, from the hospital administrators association, from the hospital boards themselves, from various other groups across the Territories, and I would welcome and continue to welcome that kind of advice because, after all, they are the pros in that particular endeavor, that particular health service if you like.

I can recognize to a degree that we should be open to that advice. I would like to think that we within the department have an open-door policy in terms of receiving advice from any and all of the various organizations and groups throughout the Territories. I do not see the need to try to pull it together under one umbrella as it were or the umbrella of something similar to THIS. I think that we take the advice as a department from various groups and I would suggest that we continue to work in that fashion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The hour now being 6:00 o'clock, I will rise and report progress.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-82(1), APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE,
1982-83; 13TH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-82(1) and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting tomorrow morning, at 9:30, in Katimavik A, of the standing committee on finance. At 11:30 tomorrow morning the special committee on education will meet in room 301.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 5, 1982.

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
9. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
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 the Legislature and Other Matters:
Bill 1-82(1); 13th Report of the Standing Committee
on Finance
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 5, 1982.

---ADJOURNMENT

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