



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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Fraser): Item 2, replies to Commissioner's Address. Are there any replies today?

Item 3, oral questions.

Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 21-82(1): Alberta Power Corporation Power Rates

MR. MACQUARRIE: I have a question for, I think, the Minister of Justice and Public Services, with respect to -- it might be for the Minister of Energy. We are on written questions, Mr. Minister.

Will the Minister provide this House -- if the appropriate information is available -- with figures which compare the per unit rate of power charged to customers of Alberta Power Corporation where that regime provides service in the NWT with per unit rates charged to NCPD customers in adjacent areas?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Written questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 22-82(1): New Business Ventures Promoted By Commerce Division

MRS. SORENSEN: I have a written question for the Minister of Economic Development. The Department of Economic Development under its commerce division has the responsibility for promoting new business ventures. Would the Minister provide to the House a list, on a regional basis, of new business ventures which can be directly related to work done and assistance by this division over the past two years? Please list the ventures with the name of the owner/operator and the year the venture was established.

In addition the Department of Economic Development, under its commerce division has the responsibility for supporting and stimulating existing commercial activity, especially in the renewable resource, secondary and tertiary sectors. Could the Minister, on a regional basis, list the commercial activities which

have been supported and stimulated by the commerce division, and by what methods, over the past two years? In addition, the Department of Economic Development under its commerce division has the responsibility for business counselling. Could the Minister indicate by region what businesses have been counselled over the past two years?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 5, petitions. Sorry. Item 4. Are there any returns? Mr. Wah-Shee, do you have a return?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I have a return for an oral question and I was not recognized when I put up my hand.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 4, question and returns. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 19-82(1): Position Of Ministers At Meetings Of Native Associations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. MacQuarrie on February the 11th, in regard to the constitutional meetings that I have been attending with the leaders of the major native organizations of the Northwest Territories, and I would like to give the following return:

I have been meeting over the past several days with the leaders of COPE, Dene Nation, Metis Association and Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, to discuss various issues relating to constitutional development. This was an informal dialogue initiated by me, in keeping with the sessional paper on aboriginal rights and constitutional development, to: a) seek out areas of commonality; b) identify issues where the native associations can be supported by the Legislative Assembly, either directly, within its own legislative jurisdiction or within other jurisdictions; c) identify issues where the native associations can support the Legislative Assembly, either directly or indirectly; d) identify areas and processes whereby outstanding issues relating to aboriginal rights and constitutional and political development in the Northwest Territories can be resolved.

From this informal dialogue I will be bringing forward recommendations to this Assembly which have been endorsed by the respective native associations on how this Assembly and the native associations can proceed co-operatively on the issues of constitutional and political development. We have had one meeting and another is being planned for the week of February 22nd.

I am able to report that we have had very good discussions and have achieved agreements on some very general principles. We have been primarily discussing processes for political change and while many details have yet to be addressed, the formation of a constitutional alliance has been agreed to in principle, which would enable us to work together to do the following: a) invite full public participation and debate in all parts of the Northwest Territories in the process of constitutional reform; b) provide a forum and a means to assist members of the constitutional alliance in areas of common interest; c) initiate the development of common positions and negotiate constitutional reform with the federal government; d) initiate political and administrative reform within the Northwest Territories, where the jurisdiction rests with the Northwest Territories Act.

Considerable work is required in developing the details of the constitutional alliance and more details can be expected when we meet again in two weeks time. I will table the report for the consideration of this House at that time. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: Cheers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Item 4, questions and returns.
Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mrs. Sorensen.

Tabled Document 13-82(1): Notes Regarding The Operation Of Northern Canada
Power Commission In Field, British Columbia

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I raised the serious problem of skyrocketing power rates and the extreme burden these rates were placing on the consumer and the small businessman in the Northwest Territories, and, following that, a constituent of mine drew my attention to a question that had been asked in the House of Commons concerning the service which NCPC gives to the residents of Field, BC.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 12-82(1), Hansard, February 4, 1982, Page 14654, the Hansard concerning this issue, which is dated February 4th, 1982, in which the Member for Kootenay East-Revelstoke calls attention to the unacceptably high rates which the people of Field have been experiencing, and the fact that he had had a letter from the Minister of the Environment indicating that Parks Canada was preparing to negotiate with Northern Canada Power Commission a hydro rate reduction for residents of Field, BC, who now face the threat of having their hydro service cut off.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table that question. As a result of the information that that question revealed to me, which said that the federal government must, perhaps, prepare to negotiate a rate reduction, I asked our research officer to prepare a report, which I would also like to table, Mr. Speaker, Tabled Document 13-82(1), Report of Operations of NCPC in Field, BC, that indicates that the people of Field, BC, are looking toward paying a rate of up to 23 cents per kilowatt hour, which is more than double what the consumers of Yellowknife are paying...

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: That is the rate in Frobisher.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...and certainly what the people of Frobisher are paying. Now, the reason that I am tabling this is because I think that is what is in store for us in Yellowknife, and certainly, if ours doubles, yours will as well in Frobisher Bay, and in this report it does signify and demonstrate what the people of Field, BC, have done as a result of these skyrocketing increases, and I would just like to read one section of it to you before I table it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mrs. Sorensen, maybe you could table and we could go into committee to discuss it.

MRS. SORENSEN: Well...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are on tabling of documents right now, so you have to table it. If you want it to go into committee, well, then you will have to...

MRS. SORENSEN: I do, Mr. Speaker, have the opportunity to speak to a tabled document to describe the purpose for which I am tabling it, do I not?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, I am told that you cannot discuss it. You table it and then we can discuss it in committee if you want to make a motion to that effect.

MRS. SORENSEN: Very well, Mr. Speaker, I will then table the Hansard and the report.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

---Applause

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Braden.

Notice Of Motion 10-82(1): Native Women's Association To Appear Before The House

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be asking unanimous consent when we get to motions to consider this notice, and it reads: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that this Legislature invite the representatives of the Native Women's Association to appear before this House during this session at a time and date to be set by the Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Notices of motion. Mr. Curley.

Notice Of Motion 11-82(1): Postal Service In The Keewatin Region

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 15, 1982, I will move the following motion: That this Assembly recommend to Canada Post Corporation to move its regional postal facilities and district office to Rankin Inlet, NWT, from Churchill or Thompson, Manitoba, as soon as time permits, without undue delay.

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

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

Notice Of Motion 12-82(1): Tabled Document 9-82(1) To Committee Of The Whole

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, February 16, 1982, I shall move that Tabled Document 9-82(1), Energy Strategy for the Northwest Territories, 1980-2000, be moved into committee of the whole for discussion at a time to be set by Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 8, notices of motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

Notice Of Motion 13-82(1): Freeze On Power Rates Increase

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice of motion that on Monday, February 15, 1982, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, be it resolved that this Legislative Assembly requests the Commissioner to convey to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs its urgent recommendation that he implement immediately a freeze on all territorial power rate increases until the report of the NCPC subcommittee of the House of Commons standing committee on Indian Affairs has been released and acted upon, and until action has been taken to solve the serious problem of out of control power rate increases.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Item 8, notices of motion.
Mr. Wah-Shee.

Notice Of Motion 14-82(1): Constitutional Alliance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice of motion that on Monday, February 15th, 1982, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move that this Assembly support the constitutional alliance in pursuing the following objectives: a) invite full public participation and debate in all parts of the Northwest Territories in the process of constitutional reform; b) provide a forum and a means to assist members of the constitutional alliance in areas of common interest; c) initiate the development of common positions and negotiate constitutional reform with the federal government; d) initiate political and administrative reform within the Northwest Territories where the jurisdiction rests with the Northwest Territories Act.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Item 8, notices of motion.
Mr. Patterson.

Notice Of Motion 15-82(1): Air Canada Witnesses To Appear Before The Assembly

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on Monday, February 15, 1982, I will move that a representative of Air Canada be invited to appear, at their expense, before the committee of the whole as a witness when the matter of Eastern Arctic air carrier policies, prices and services is being considered during this session by this Assembly. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 8, notices of motion.
Mrs. Sorensen.

Notice Of Motion 16-82(1): Feasibility Of Extending The Alberta Power Grid

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to serve notice of motion that on Monday, February 15th, 1982, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, be it resolved that this Legislature strongly recommend that the Executive Committee discuss with Alberta Power Corporation the feasibility of extending the Alberta power grid into the southern Mackenzie region, including the Rae-Yellowknife zone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Item 8, notices of motion.

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

Item 10, motions. I understand Motion 7-82(1) is -- I understand one of the Members wants to go back to Item 8, notices of motion. Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Agreed.

---Agreed

Item 8, notices of motion. Mr. Noah.

Notice Of Motion 17-82(1): Funding To Co-operative Associations

MR. NOAH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) It is not translated into Inuktitut. (Translation ends) Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on February 16th I will move: Now therefore, I move that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that it consider the inclusion of an amount in the 1983-84 appropriations to fund co-operative associations in the communities to enable them to employ local native people as hunters and fishermen to utilize the existing renewable resources. I need a seconder for this motion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. I think that is fine. Item 8, notices of motion.

Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

MR. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Do I have the unanimous consent of this House to proceed with the motion that I gave notice of earlier on today?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is requested to go ahead with the motion. Are there any nays?

MR. SIBBESTON: What motions?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: The Native Women's Association.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Carry on, Mr. Braden.

Motion 10-82(1): Native Women's Association To Appear Before The House

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

WHEREAS the Native Women's Association has received some funding from this Legislature to enable the association to develop programs in arts and crafts, home management, community health and training;

AND WHEREAS the Native Women's Association wishes to report on their work and make recommendations to this Legislature;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that this Legislature invite representatives of the Native Women's Association to appear before this House during this session at a time and date to be set by the Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The motion is in order.

MRS. SORENSEN: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question being called. Mr. Braden, to the motion.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Just to say, Mr. Speaker, as the Minister responsible for the status of women, I would like to get this House a little bit more involved...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CURLEY: Boo!

---Applause

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: ...in issues affecting women in the Northwest Territories and I think we have in the Native Women's Association a first class organization, which we should have into this House to discuss issues that are affecting them and to listen to the recommendations they have to make. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Mrs. Sorensen, to the motion, as seconder.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Braden said it all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie, to the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: If I could ask for some clarification from the mover; is it clear, Mr. Minister, that it is not merely an appeal for funds...

MR. CURLEY: Do not worry about the women, Bob.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...because I feel that if that is the case, we could be getting into a situation which is not particularly desirable? Could you clarify that, please?

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I am not quite sure exactly what the nature of the exact presentation will be, but I would understand that in making recommendations, obviously, the organization is going to be making some suggestions for how the status of native women and the various programs they conduct could be enhanced. I would say at this time though, Mr. Speaker, that the Executive Committee considered this morning a proposal for assistance to the Native Women's Association and I will be reporting later on next week on the results of our discussions this morning. I would just say at this time that I believe that we, as a government, will be able to, in the 1982-83 and 1983-84 fiscals, make a positive contribution to this organization. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 10-82(1), Carried

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question is being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

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; 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, with Mr. Pudluk...

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: He is at the bank.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...Mr. Noah 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. Noah 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

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism, Total O And M, Commerce

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): We are still on page 16.06, Department of Economic Development and Tourism, total O and M, commerce, \$7,567,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, just some clarification with respect to the Small Business Loans and Guarantees Fund. I would say that, obviously, from the report we have received, the board is doing a good job. The concerns that I have may not be applicable if the motion that the Member for Keewatin South introduced yesterday and was passed comes to have effect, but at any rate, in reviewing the report, I noticed that the statement is made that businesses supported by the fund in 1981 employed 816 persons at an average wage of \$15,000, for a total payroll of approximately \$12 million. This means that one job is created for every \$5000 of funds loaned out, resulting in an annual return to the economy of \$15,000. I think that that is a very significant and important success.

When I look further back at the number of loans I see over the years 1977-78, 19 loans were approved out of 42 applications, next year 18 loans out of 48 applications, the next year 18 out of 33 applications and finally, last year eight loans out of 35 applications were approved. Then again, when I turn to another section of the report it states that at the time of the transfer of the fund from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs in 1977, it was determined that a realistic loss rate of about 15 per cent would be acceptable, due to the high risk nature of the fund, whereas the actual loss rate is only 3.15 per cent and when everything is taken into account it says that it may go up to nine per cent. So, if a loss rate of 15 per cent was acceptable and we are fairly well below that, it seems to me that there might be room for just a little more daring in the granting of loans by this board. In other words, maybe it is just a little too conservative when you consider the kinds of benefits that apparently result from the granting of some of these loans. So, I would ask the Minister then, in view of those statistics, is there possibly room for encouraging the board to be a little -- just slightly, maybe slightly more liberal in the granting of these loans, because there does seem to be some room to play with? Is that possible, without interfering with the right of the board to decide in individual cases just who should and who should not get a loan?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Minister, Tom Butters.

Operations Of Loan Board

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The loan board, as the Member has indicated, is a board which operates at arm's length from the department. I too have noticed that its loss percentage is very small when compared with the original recommendations of some 15 per cent and even when one examines the loss rate suggested for the Alberta Opportunities Board. My understanding is that the board examines each application on its merits. It recognizes that it is a lending institution of the last resort and attempts to make its judgment upon that basis. Whether or not they should be considering riskier ventures, I do not know. I think that we can ensure that this debate and the Members' comments are made known to the chairman and all members of the board, but I do not know what else I might do on that score. I am assuming that their judgment and their decision on the material placed before them is based on the best opportunity for the business to succeed, with a margin for failure which would be reasonable in terms of the northern conditions.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Just finally, then, that if, in fact, a loss rate of 15 per cent is really acceptable, and in view of the benefits that seem to accrue from this type of thing, certainly I would just personally encourage a little more liberal attitude, perhaps moving gradually toward that acceptable loss rate.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I welcome the Member's recommendation and suggestion. I do feel that probably "conservative" would be a proper word to describe the board's approach up to this point in time, and I will pass on his recommendations and suggestions to the chairman.

I have one further comment, while I have the mike. I promised yesterday in responding to the Member for the Western Arctic that I would phone John Scullion, who is the interim co-ordinator for the pipeline project out of Norman Wells to determine whether it was his intention to utilize the labour pools and the labour resources that exist in the smaller communities satellite to Norman Wells. He answered me and indicated that, while he could not speak for the board of industry, government and for the native organizations that would be guiding him on this, he felt that every use would be made of the human resources in the community and any individuals or groups who could advise on the best use of those resources. So that was the oral response that I had from Mr. Scullion to the Member's concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Butters. On page 16.06, \$7,567,000. Supplemental, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Number Of Communities Without Bank Service

MR. MacQUARRIE: On another matter, could I ask the Minister if he has access to statistics that indicate just how many communities in the Northwest Territories are still without savings and service functions? You know, where there are no banks and where people are forced to resort to, say, credit or accounts with the Hudson's Bay. What I am thinking of, particularly, is at some point along the way, trying to restore credit unions in the Territories; at least, if not the loan function, the savings and service function. I would appreciate that kind of information if the Minister has access to it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do have information of the nature that he desires. I am just looking for it now. I could make it available to him in the near future and he could examine it and see whether it meets his requirements and his request.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Sayine.

MR. SAYINE: Mr. Chairman, I have a question for the Minister in regard to the co-op store in Snowdrift. The store in Snowdrift has suffered continual losses ever since it has been operating. I just have a question for the Minister as to what the department is doing to support this co-op.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, any support that probably we would be giving would be of an indirect nature. The co-op would be supported by the federation of which it is a member. Our assistance, I believe, is in the form of moneys that are used in management training situations jointly sponsored management training situations.

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

MR. SAYINE: The co-op has also been asking for a subsidy to operate. Where, then would this subsidy come from?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Sayine. Mr. Butters.

Fiscal Situation Possibly Needs Tightening Up

HON. TOM BUTTERS: My understanding -- and I will not be responding to the question directly, Mr. Chairman, but my understanding is that, while we recognize that the co-operative is in a serious fiscal situation, it would appear that information that is available to the department and the officials of the department is that the internal fiscal management of the co-operative is very loose and requires tightening up. So that possibly what the co-operative unit needs more than funds at this time is a tightening up of its fiscal situation and getting its own financial affairs in order, and I believe that that type of advice and assistance is provided by the co-operative federation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. The next speaker is Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I have a question to the Minister with respect to a statement here that "The commerce division also regulates and monitors the operation of co-operatives." I wonder, really, why the department should be regulating or monitoring the co-operative operations. Probably in doing that it spends quite a lot of money. So why do they not put that money to a better use by subsidizing the food prices in some parts, in some places like Whale Cove, for instance, where the price of consumer goods, particularly the essential foods, are at least 50 per cent more than places like Rankin Inlet? Could the Minister maybe evaluate that and, rather than trying to continue to play a traditional, again, approach in monitoring and regulating the freedom required by co-operatives to operate their co-ops, why does the Minister not say to these guys, "Here is an amount of money; put it to good use by subsidizing the essential food supplies where some communities are having a really difficult time"? Could the Minister respond to that, please?

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

Monitoring Of Co-ops Required By Legislation

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the statement that the Member is referring to describes the statutory requirement that devolves on the department as a result of legislation of this House. The Co-operative Associations Ordinance requires that monitoring go forward, and it is provided for in our legislation. The department has allocated one man year to fulfilling that statutory requirement under the ordinance.

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Mr. Chairman, it might be the time has arrived that that part of the non-important roles should be amended, to allow the co-ops to have a freedom in operating these businesses, because, after all, any business could normally succeed better and operate better without the government intervention. I do not think the government intervention ever proves that it is the best way to run businesses in the Northwest Territories. I would like the Minister to state to the House whether or not this statutory requirement is really in the best interests of the co-operatives to operate freely and independently, and thereby possibly would run better. I would like him to respond to that.

I have another question, with respect to the grants and contributions in the amount of \$930,000. Could the Minister respond as to what kind of organizations receive this particular grant and contribution and allotment here? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: With regard to the Member's first question, the statutory requirement on co-operatives is analogous to similar requirements which are imposed upon businesses under Companies Ordinance, so that I do not think the situation that he is describing is a type of regulation by government or a

diminishing of the organization's freedom to carry on business. I would suggest that, if the Member feels that there should be changes in the existing legislation or existing ordinances, that he would make known this desire to the chairman of the standing committee on legislation of this House, and request that the committee examine proposals or provisions for amendment.

Contributions From Commerce Section

On the other matter, on page 16.08 there is a breakdown of contributions which are provided from the commerce section, and it indicates the type of industry and activity that is supported, and also there is a reference there to special agricultural and rural development program, Canadian Arctic Co-operative Federation, co-operative field service agreement, co-operative management development. I believe that is the amount that he is referring to. I could provide the Member with a list of those organizations that have received grants under the assistance to industry program, if that is what he is seeking.

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

MR. CURLEY: I would like to ask the Minister whether or not this particular grant is proportionately distributed within the regions to allow those organizations or businesses to take advantage of that Department of Economic Development grant. Could he respond to that, whether he has any type of figures, whether or not it is equally or proportionately distributed in the regions, or most of it is spent in the Western Arctic?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I can develop the figures that he requires in terms of the distribution among the regions, but the answer is very simply no, it is not equally distributed. At the present time there is an imbalance of assistance provided in the western portion of the NWT.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the question I was going to ask the Minister of Economic Development was following the same lines as Mr. Curley on the allocation. On page 16.08 it attributes \$590,000 to various expenditures, so it looks as though the total package has not been allocated. Perhaps the Minister could supply us with the information on how much money is allocated to the Great Slave Lake fisheries project and, as well, the allocations they have out to these low standard access roads to resource areas? I would like to know what criteria would be looked at if a community was to apply for a contribution for construction of a low standard access road.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Minister.

Great Slave Lake Fishery Funding

HON. TOM BUTTERS: On the second part of the question, the assistance to roads is negligible. At the time, that program would appear to be dormant. With regard to the Great Slave Lake fishery assistance, there is \$100,000 in our current budget which will be expended and as of last summer, we indicated to them that there would be an increased level of funding for the Great Slave Lake fishery of between \$200,000 and \$300,000. I am just not quite sure of the figure at the moment, but there has been an increase pinpointed in that program. We have found that a program which started out to be almost a support price for fish has now become significant enough to mean the continuation or the cessation of the Great Slave Lake fishing industry. In fact, I think the Member was present with me some two weeks ago when we met with representatives from the Great Slave Lake fishing group and she heard, as I did, the president of that association tell us that without the assistance that we are providing them, there would be no fishing industry on the Great Slave Lake.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Mr. Minister. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Could you give us a breakdown of the \$590,000?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I will have that circulated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. Page 16.06, commerce, \$7,567,000. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have been trying to say in the House that if the Department of Economic Development is to contribute to the economy of the Northwest Territories it is going to have to do a number of things, you know, hold regional conferences such as I mentioned the other day, by inviting the representatives of the small business operators and independent contractors and arts and crafts representatives, and so on. I think these small business operators can give quite a significant contribution to the Minister as he plans his strategy for future northern economy. I know, for instance, that many of the organizations and small businesses other than the tourism organizations hardly ever receive any funding to allow them to achieve the kind of reference made on page 16.08, "To encourage the creation and maintenance of stable employment opportunities, provide interim bridge financing..." and so on.

So, because I do feel there is a disparity as far as the regions are concerned in granting of small grants and contributions, I would like to move a motion that would resolve that kind of problem in the regions. I am sure that more funds are spent in the Western Arctic with the larger business community and maybe not so much for the native organizations. I would like to see that the Assembly recommend to the Minister that the funds be equally and proportionately distributed to the regions and if they are not spent by the end of January, for instance, maybe other regions could then grab some of that small fund.

Motion That Grants And Contributions Of Commerce Division Be Equally Distributed

So, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I would like to move the following motion. I move that this committee recommends to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism that the grants and contributions of the commerce division be equally and proportionately distributed to the regions of the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Can we have a copy of your motion, Mr. Curley? Mr. Curley, your motion is in order. Proceed.

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Mr. Chairman, my motion does not try to take away the possibility of grants being given to the Western Arctic, like Yellowknife Centre and so on, but it is just trying to alleviate the problem where some of the regions possibly never have had an opportunity to even know that there are such grants and contributions available to small businessmen. For instance, chamber of commerce may have benefits from those kinds of things, but I would like to see that regions be given that opportunity to present to the Minister the kind of opportunity that the small business operator would like to see. I think if by the end of the year the exact money is not spent, then it could always be given to the Yellowknife Centre's constituents, if he still feels that there are economic problems in his community. But if we were to divide that \$970,000, at least the regions would have about \$180,000 to distribute to the people who wish to give the Minister advice and in order that he would be able to assist the small business operators, for them to establish and provide opportunity for employment. So, I would ask that the Members support this motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Mr. Curley. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

Bulk Of Payments Going To Native Activities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just a couple of questions relative to the program. The assistance to industry is in the amount of \$590,000, as it shows on the grants and contributions page. The other items are really committed to other areas. The discretionary factor is found only in the assistance to industry section, I believe. I would also like to assure the honourable Member for Keewatin South, although I know he said it with a sense of jest and good humour, but the urban centres in the West are not where this money is going. I think when the schedule of payments is circulated, they will see the bulk of it is going to native organizations, native people and native activities and in large measure, in the non-renewable resource area. So, I think Members will see that we are attempting to respond to the direction and initiative that was given to us yesterday. It could be that constituents of the honourable Member and other residents in the Baffin region are not as aware of this program as residents of the western section of the Territories, but to my understanding there has not been a request from the Eastern Arctic turned down for applications for assistance under this program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie, to the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Would you just read the motion again, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): I will ask Mr. Hamilton to read it to you one more time.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion reads: I move that this committee recommends to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism that the grants and contributions of the commerce division be equally and proportionately distributed to the regions of the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Mr. Hamilton. Mr. MacQuarrie, to the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you. If the Minister assures us that, generally, that money is not coming to the urban centres now, and the motion wants to distribute it equally, I think I can support the motion. We may get certain funds that we are not getting at the present time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Did the motion say, "and according to population"? No? I missed the last part.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) The motion does not relate to population. (Translation ends) Do you want us to read it one more time? Mr. Hamilton.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion is: I move that this committee recommends to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism that the grants and contributions of the commerce division be equally and proportionately distributed to the regions of the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Hamilton. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question being called. All those in favour? Mr. MacQuarrie, do you wish to speak to the motion?

MR. MacQUARRIE: No.

Motion That Grants And Contributions Of Commerce Division Be Equally Distributed, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): One more time, to the motion. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Commerce, page 16.06, \$7,567,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Sayine.

MR. SAYINE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister assure me that he can take a trip with me to Snowdrift in the very near future?

AN HON. MEMBER: Why?

---Laughter

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes. I was going to say I am easy, but...

---Laughter

Yes, I will travel with the Member. Obviously, if it is related to the question with regard to the co-operative, I am not an expert, and I would want to have attend with me either Mr. Bennett or probably Mr. Buchanan.

Total O And M, Commerce, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. Commerce, on page 16.06, total O and M, \$7,567,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you.

---Agreed

Total O And M, General Development Agreement

General development agreement, on page 16.07, total O and M, \$563,000.
Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to point out to Members that the funds on this page, this \$563,000, represent an amount of money which will complete the programs approved under our first general development agreement with the federal government. It is the total amount required. It includes 40 per cent of our contribution, and 60 per cent which we will be recovering from the federal government, so that does not reflect or represent anything associated with the new agreement.

While I am speaking to the GDA, I would like to inform the House that this morning both my deputy and I have been in touch with Ottawa to attempt to move up and to speed negotiations on our new general development agreement. I will be absent from the House on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, in Ottawa, to attempt to put that thing in place by the end of the year, so I am hopeful there is a similar awareness on the part of the federal government of our need to have

that completed and in place, and that the co-operation that I heard extended to me this morning by Neil Faulkner, the assistant deputy minister of the department, will be provided in fact when I am there next week.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Page 16.07, general development agreement, \$563,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on finance -- and I am asking this question on behalf of them -- would like some clarification on how the government goes about collecting its 60 per cent of the general development agreement. What process must be used by our government to do that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

Process Of Collecting Government Portion Of Funds

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The process is the obvious one. The management board, on approving a program, requires of the successful applicant for funds that accounting is kept for auditing purposes, and the paper associated or reflecting such expenditures are collected by staff in our department, audited, and then submitted to DREE for claim on a project by project basis. Obviously no claim can be made to DREE until the money has been spent, and that is why we are placing before you here the total amount of money required, of which we will recover some 60 per cent.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: With respect then, Mr. Chairman, to the money that has already been spent in previous years, have we collected all moneys owing to us, and are there any outstanding audits that still have yet to be done?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, we have not collected all moneys that are owing to us, and there are outstanding audits to be done. There is an ongoing process of doing those audits and submitting those claims. I could provide a breakdown on the collections over the last two years. I will just see if we have a figure available immediately.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. On page 16.07, general development agreement, \$563,000. Mr. Curley.

Equal Opportunity For East And West

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Mr. Chairman, again I am concerned that the funds be provided to the regions in equal and proportionate -- to other regions, because if we are to stimulate the northern economy, even far Eastern Arctic regions must have at least an equal opportunity to receive such funds, to allow the economies of these regions in the Eastern Arctic to develop and thereby resolve the unemployment problems that we have in the Eastern Arctic, which is significantly much, much higher than the Western Arctic. There are quite a lot more opportunities in this region, but the Eastern Arctic communities, economically, are not as developed and therefore require a lot more attention in terms of strategy and planning. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he could assure me that he would ensure that the regions in the Eastern Arctic have an equal chance, an equal opportunity to receive the kind of funding that the Western Arctic normally enjoys? Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think that probably -- rather than I give him assurance -- I have circulated to Members a list of the successful applicants under the general development agreement over the past two and a half years. My information is that a calculation of the amounts shown on that list will indicate that a higher proportion of moneys has gone to the East under the general development agreement. I cannot make that statement from my own observation, but I will circulate the names of the applicants and the amount of money they have received, and you can do your own calculations.

I also have available for the Member a sheet outlining the expenditures and recoveries on a year by year basis. Some are actual recoveries and some are the anticipated recoveries, as in the current year; recoveries for 1979-80, \$98,655, and for 1980-81, \$227,453, and there is an expectation of recovering some \$814,084 in 1981-82.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to continue on this business of the audits. You were talking with your people. Did they give you a list of outstanding audits and outstanding moneys still yet to be collected from the federal government? If that is available, I would like to see that table.

In addition to that, Mr. Minister, I wonder if you could explain the monitoring process, because obviously -- it is quite clear that money will not be released from the federal government until and unless certain criteria are not lived up to, and so it is important that our monitoring process be efficient and thorough. I wonder if you could explain how we do go about that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

System Of Auditing

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will table the material requested by the Member on projects that have been audited, and I think this may indicate just the status of the collection of money. I hope it does. I have not looked at the document that closely. On the matter of auditing, I understand that a pre-audit is done in the Department of Economic Development and then the result of that is referred to the audit bureau and, if that is acceptable, it is then submitted as a claim to DREE.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Is there an ongoing process whereby the Department of Economic Development works with the various groups and individuals that have obtained the funds to make sure that the proper forms are being completed? I think back to the days of special grants that I was involved in, like LEAP, Local Employment Assistance Program, and Canada Works, etc. There is a need to have that kind of monitoring going on. I am wondering, with only one person under this general development agreement, one person, obviously, working in this area, whether or not that person is responsible for the monitoring or whether you have other individuals within the Department of Economic Development that do it?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That person carries out the day to day auditing and, as the Member rightly anticipated, she is required to work with the successful applicants for general development agreement money. We also can call and do call upon the services of our finance section and in my experience, Mr. Horn has been very much interested in what is going on and assisting as and where

he and his staff can to ensure that the recoveries are made. I must admit it has been a very difficult process, because when the agreement was signed and devolved upon us we attempted to carry out that fiscal management of the \$3.6 million, whatever it was, within the division of planning and resource development. I think we took on a little more than we could handle there, so that we are looking in the new general development agreement to set up what we consider to be the adequate resources and man years to administer the money that will flow from that agreement. For our new agreement, for example, we are looking at some \$490,000 and seven man years.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Butters. On page 16.07, general development agreement, \$563,000. Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Request That New General Development Agreement Be Set In Place

MRS. SORENSEN: I have a motion, Mr. Chairman. It concerns the new general development agreement, which I feel is very much in jeopardy at this point. The motion is as follows: I move that this House convey, through the Minister of Economic Development, to the Minister of, I guess it is DRIE, Department of Regional Industrial Expansion now, the Hon. Herb Gray, our urgent request that the new general development agreement be set in place as soon as possible.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear! Agreed.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Can I have a copy of your motion, Mrs. Sorensen, please?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: In my joy, Mr. Chairman, of hearing that motion, might I just be presumptuous enough to suggest that she might include Mr. Munro too, because the new agreement will require from his department some \$8.9 million and if she might just generously include the honourable Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Your motion is in order.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Yes.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I would agree to adding the honourable Minister of Indian Affairs, Mr. John Munro, to the motion.

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

MR. CURLEY: I was just going to ask whether or not that would have to be in the form of a motion? I believe it is an amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Right. (Speaks in Inuktitut)

Could somebody make an amendment to the motion -- what Mr. Butters was saying? Mr. Curley.

Amendment To Motion To Request That New General Development Agreement Be Set In Place, Carried

MR. CURLEY: I move that it be included, just as a formality.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the amendment.

MR. CURLEY: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question is being called. All those in favour of the amendment, I mean. Opposed? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Motion To Request That New General Development Agreement Be Set In Place,
Carried As Amended

To the motion as amended. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried as amended.

---Carried

Total O And M, General Development Agreement, Agreed

Under GDA, page 16.07, \$563,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Pages 16.10 and 16.11, detail of capital, \$1,000,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 16.01, O and M, \$17,066,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you very much. Coffee time, for 15 and a half minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): The Chair recognizes we have a quorum now. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Could we return to Local Government and complete the discussion on capital?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Do you agree to go back to the Department of Local Government, capital?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Local Government

Detail Of Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Wah-Shee. Pages 13.10, 13.11, 13.12, 13.13, \$18,500,000. We are on page 13.10 right now, I believe. Mr. James Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask my deputy if he could come up as a witness, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Is it agreed to call him as a witness? Do you agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): It is agreed.

---Agreed

Welcome back, Mr. Minister, and Mr. Deputy Minister. Have a seat. Any questions? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I do not have specific questions on capital, and I was called out of the House when general comments were made, and I would ask permission of the House to make a few general comments if that is agreeable. If there are Members who have questions specifically on capital, I am willing to wait until a little later.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Do you agree, then? (End of translation) We are on page 13.10. I do not think it was agreed, so we will carry on with capital.

MR. MacQUARRIE: May I have permission to make a few general comments, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Okay. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. As I said, I was called away from the House on other business at the time the opportunity arose, but I would like to make a few general comments, just in the area of, I suppose, policy.

Policy Lacking Consistency

What I feel has maybe been lacking in the department, Mr. Minister, is consistency, consistency from the department in the area of policy, because there have been what I feel are sort of contradictory initiatives in the area of local and regional government development. I recognize that that is partly as a result of the general uncertainty in the Territories as a whole as to the direction or directions that constitutional development will take, but I feel that the department and the Minister are not entirely without blame. I feel that there is some confusion, and it may result to yielding to pressures from different bodies -- and I acknowledge there probably is a great deal of pressure -- who are attempting to accomplish different and sometimes contradictory ends, and of

course that includes municipal governments and regional governments and native associations and others, and in that I include myself, who pressures from time to time to try to secure certain principles that I feel are important.

What I am talking about specifically is that in your introduction you say that there will be a continued emphasis placed in developing greater flexibility in local government structures, and increased authority and responsibility for community programs as a basis for continued constitutional development. In accord with that, I am aware that over a period of time, in response to a desire from communities for more flexibility and more authority, the department introduced a new community government ordinance for hamlets, to allow that kind of flexibility, and in some areas there were extensive discussions, and yet, Mr. Minister, you have decided -- although, to my knowledge, the ordinance is pretty well in shape -- you have decided not to proceed with it, and the reason advanced -- and I quote from a letter I have received from you -- I had written to you just as an ordinary MLA with respect to that matter, and your response says: "I have been concerned for some time about the relationship between this ordinance and the larger issues of constitutional development within the Northwest Territories."

This is a particularly important statement: "I question the timing of proposing major changes at the community level when native groups and the Assembly are addressing a major restructuring of the Northwest Territories and the present Government of the Northwest Territories." A little further in the letter, you say: "To do so" -- that is, to introduce the ordinance -- "would tend to unnecessarily complicate the more fundamental issues of political and constitutional development being discussed at this very critical time."

So you have decided that you must not proceed with that new community government ordinance at the present time. At the same time, in your speech a few days ago, you said that you were a very strong supporter of devolution policy. You would like to see the implementation of this policy this year, and that, in a sense, it had been approved in principle by the Executive.

Distinction Between Devolution And Decentralization

A question that I have -- and I hope you will address it a little later -- is, do you distinguish between devolution and decentralization of government? I think that there is an important distinction, and it must be very clear because devolution's ultimate end would be actual constitutional authority for local governments, and I do not think they have that kind of authority anywhere else in Canada, and the question has to be asked, is that the aim of this government, and yourself as the Minister of Local Government? Because, if it is, the process in that direction would tend to expand and entrench powers of specific municipalities, and the question has to be asked -- as you yourself ask it in your letter to me -- should that be sought while the larger question of constitutional development in the Territories is still pending?

Another question that arises from that general area is, how does this process of devolution -- or decentralization -- jibe with our efforts in recent years to achieve ministerial responsibility? Are there problems that are arising in that area as a result of shifting authority outward to regional administrators and so on? Are you as a Minister able to maintain the kind of control over what is happening that is commensurate with the responsibility you have to answer for what is happening? Again, you said that we ought not to proceed with a new community government ordinance, but at the same time you say -- and, again, this was in your speech to the House a few days ago: "I think that we are in the midst of making fundamental changes within the existing status quo in this government and that is part of the thing that I would hope that we would concentrate on for 1982, and I would hope that we could come up with appropriate structures." Again, I remind you that in the letter you said that you do not want to make major changes while this other matter is pending.

So there seems to be a kind of uncertainty or confusion as to just what direction we are or ought to be taking. You also said that you do not have a preconceived idea of regional government but your feeling is that we ought to deal with every region who expresses a wish to have a regional government in their area. Indeed, yourself and this Assembly introduced an ordinance to establish and give legal status to the Baffin Regional Council and I think is now entertaining plans to establish a Keewatin regional council. So those things are being done and yet there are no additional funds, for instance, for the Baffin Regional Council. I know for a fact also that the Baffin Regional Council very specifically has asked for the implementation of that community government ordinance at the soonest possible date and yet, as the Minister, you have arbitrarily decided not to go ahead with it for the reasons that I cited earlier from your letter. So in a sense what is happening is by creating these regional entities, we sort of raise expectations and then disregard what they say.

Government Policy And Directions Not Clear

I feel that yourself and the Executive Committee as a whole, and I guess this Assembly too, have to clarify what the medium-range objective of the government is. On the one hand, is the aim to work with native associations and municipalities and so on, to shape new government for the whole Territories? If that specifically is it, then I suggest that in the meantime individual efforts that are directed here and there with communities may undermine that process if there is fundamental change right now. Or is the aim, on the other hand, to modify this government, to make it acceptable to people? Then it is understandable if all of these various initiatives are undertaken. I think that either of those approaches, if it is clear that one is more desirable than the other, that will determine which pressures ought to be yielded to rather than attempting to yield to or to satisfy all of them, because I think that the present kind of a schizophrenic approach of trying to please all, causes confusion. What is maybe worse is that it might put us in the position of yielding more in the area of local authority than a thoughtful approach to constitutional development might rightfully allow if we have broader changes and longer lasting changes in mind.

I feel that if there is not a clear decision as to what the policy is and the directions that are taken, that the government and yourself are in danger of raising expectations that are not going to be fulfilled and that will lead to dissatisfaction and resentment toward the government or, on the other hand, it will result in initiatives being taken that in a sense are irretrievable once they are implemented. The people in local communities have certain expectations with respect to those things, and that in a sense limits the scope of future and more far sweeping change if that is the intention of the government.

So my question simply, then, is where does the Minister stand? What is the answer that we are to accept from the kinds of conflicting responses that have been given at the present time? What is the clear objective of the Department of Local Government in respect of constitutional change?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I think the honourable Member has brought up a number of points. First of all, I think in the area of community governments there are many aspirations, I believe, from various communities on the type of authority and responsibility that they would like to have. I think they would also like to get into the area of programs and services. We have, at the present time, different levels of municipal government. I do not think we have gone out of our way to create completely new community government institutions. However, there are other problems that are related with that. I would speak, more or less, toward the western territory because I think in the Eastern Arctic we have a number of municipalities which have developed a settlement council and have developed to hamlet status. They have got into the whole area of regional government. The Baffin Regional Council has achieved that particular status because of the desire of the communities within the Baffin area collectively.

No Standard Approach To Regional Government

However, I hope the honourable Member is not saying that we should try to come up with a standard approach in the area of regional government because you may find -- and I have indicated this earlier -- that I believe various regions would like to develop at their own pace. They may desire to have additional authority which the Baffin Regional Council does not presently have. You may find that other regions may want to have other degrees of authority and when you get into the Mackenzie Valley -- we have a unique situation in the Mackenzie Valley and I have indicated this to the honourable Member -- we have band councils and we also have municipal councils.

It is very difficult at the present time to come up with a general standard approach on how these two councils should come together because in other cases individual communities may come up with a different approach, a different formula. It has been my desire to try to deal with this situation on a regional basis, regional meetings. Collectively the various municipal councils in the Mackenzie Valley have had the opportunity to discuss this situation but we have not come to a point where we can say in the Mackenzie Liard area this is the standard approach that people want in the area of band councils and municipal councils. In some cases you may find that the band councils would like to assume the responsibilities of municipal governments. So it is not the case that we do not have an idea of how to cope with this but it is just that we feel that we have to allow the time for the native people particularly to deal with the kind of changes that they would like to see within the existing structure of government. I think we have heard this ever since we all got elected so it is not something new. Otherwise, perhaps Local Government could be accused of trying to maintain the status quo and trying to have the existing municipal councils absorb all the band councils and that I do not agree with.

Band Councils And Municipal Councils

I feel that there has to be some arrangement made between band councils and municipal councils. Also I think that we have heard that the Dene Nation has come up with its own idea of Dene forms of government. It would be appropriate, I believe, to try to co-ordinate all these various views and to try to deal with them in a reasonable way. It is not appropriate, I believe, for us within the department, to have the bureaucracy come up with all kinds of different ways and means of how we ought to get all these varieties of views together. I think it can only be done through regional meetings, community meetings. But in some cases you will find that in individual communities the individual band council and individual municipal council jointly would want the two councils to come together. They would like to have the opportunity to discuss the matter in their own communities, and they would like to put forth a proposal for us to consider. These are some of the situations that you do have. In other communities you have the two, hamlet council and band council. You have the same members, in some cases, in two councils, but the community has not come to a point where they have come out with a definite formula in terms of how to resolve this particular situation.

It is my own personal opinion that the community government ordinance still requires some further refinements and further changes. I do not believe that this particular ordinance will accommodate all the concerns that the band council has -- I mean the proposed community government ordinance which is being discussed. How and when we should propose this community government ordinance, I think is something that we are still trying to come up with in terms of what is the appropriate time to bring it forward. I am having some difficulty in the Mackenzie Valley. It has been proposed that perhaps we can come up with two separate ordinances, and that is another thing we are looking at, but I would hope that we can deal with the situation in a most reasonable manner.

Co-operation Of Departments In Devolution Process

In the area of devolution, I believe that we have had some discussion in the past whereby people have expressed the desire to have decentralization of responsibility for programs and services. I believe that if that is what the people want, then I think that that is what should be considered and it should be discussed again with the communities and the regions. This particular policy that you are referring to in terms of devolution has been approved in principle by the Executive. However, the problem at the present time is, as I have indicated earlier, that the other various departments have to co-operate in terms of identifying the different areas of program services which each department should be in a position to recommend for devolution, as part of the devolution process and it has to be co-ordinated not only at headquarters, but I believe the various regional offices have to participate in it.

Also, when you get into the various municipal regional meetings, I would hope that that would be part of any discussion. That would ensure that we have good co-ordination in terms of what direction we are going, but I do not believe that we should try to maintain all the responsibility in program services at headquarters, because there is a clear desire, I believe, on behalf of the communities and the regions to take over various program responsibilities -- also authority, also they want resources, they want staff. So, these are the kinds of things I think that are still in ongoing discussion at this stage. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, I just feel that with what is happening, in a way we are going everywhere and at the same time going nowhere. You have talked about responding to initiatives from out in the field and in a sense that is what was done when the Baffin Regional Council was established. So, we have created an entity that says we want such and such a thing, and then we have said no, that is not going to occur. So, I feel you and your department should be saying -- or at least asking the question as to whether you should be saying to municipal and regional governments that we are not dealing with specific requests, except in a context of total constitutional change. You say you want to approach change in a most reasonable manner, but I am not sure that the most reasonable manner is in accommodating every initiative -- that all initiatives must fit within a kind of comprehensive plan for constitutional development and we do not have that yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): I think Mr. MacQuarrie wishes to become a minister. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to be given an opportunity to make some general comments, for I was not able to be here when that part was dealt with, with your permission.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed.

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to at least give my compliments to the Minister. I think he has worked very hard these past two years to try and at least bring about a better relationship between the Department of Local Government and its officials and the communities and I think that is important. If that kind of dialogue will continue, it will be very important to the development of strong municipal governments in the regions. I support that.

I have a fundamental principle that I would like to state here, because I think it is important to the people of the Northwest Territories. Sometimes I am concerned that we can create a possibility of backlash between the different groups and between the different ethnic compositions of the population if we are not careful about how we are going to allow the citizens to participate in a democratic atmosphere.

Civil Servants Still In Control

I am saying that because, for instance, there is a danger that the civil servants continue to control the freedom of the people of the Northwest Territories to manage and administer programs. In the regions and so on, we continue to deprive the people of their opportunities to administer, for instance, community projects. The Department of Public Works, for instance, is under the direct control of the Deputy Commissioner, who is not elected and that is the biggest department which has something to do with the communities throughout the whole of the Northwest Territories. Communities and local governments have no involvement as far as managing engineering projects, town planning, as well as the maintenance requirements of the community capital projects, which are the ongoing concerns of the citizens and the municipalities in the regions. I suppose that cannot be so, maybe, in the kind of democracy we have, because unless you pay taxes you should be deprived of your right to administer these projects -- or could we devolve truly to the communities, to allow them to take part, that they could be involved in for instance, administering their own budget rather than the headquarters having the final say as to how the funds should be spent in the regions? Anyway, I may be far out on this, but I just do not believe that we can move ahead in establishing strong regional or local governments without giving them the real bread and butter to work with.

You know, Mr. Moore has praised the development of the Baffin Regional Council for years, but I say they do not have any control over public works projects. They do not have control over, or administration of the major town planning made to the communities. These are still co-ordinated and final control is under the direct responsibility of the Director of Local Government. They only have the advisory responsibility. So, I say that if we are going to create advisory regional municipalities, we should say it like it is, that they are only advisory, even though there is legislation that says they are incorporated, through the ordinance passed by this Assembly, but that is no big deal, because each organization, whether it be an association, can do that. They can only form themselves as an advisory body.

So, these are the kinds of things that I am worried about -- that we can possibly, you know, create an impression in the remote regions that we are, in fact, taking a major step in the development of local government when, in fact, we really are not doing what we meant to do -- when we do not give them the direct control of financial and personnel resources to do that.

No Union Representation For Municipal Employees

For instance, I can give you an example. The municipalities may be the largest employment agencies in the Territories, but they do not have a union or anything to represent them in terms of their benefits and salaries and so on. Why is it when they are less fortunate than some of the government personnel, that the Department of Local Government does not care to introduce the legislation to form unions for municipal personnel so that they could have at least the same rights as the civil service, public service of the Northwest Territories and the teachers' federation? Why do we deprive them of that fundamental right? Because they have not asked for it? Or are we waiting until they have personnel with degrees and all that sort of thing, which you can relate to intellectually? Are we waiting until that time to give them that democratic right? I tried to get that through to the department quite a while ago, but I see there has been no development in terms of establishing a type of collective bargaining process

with the personnel of the municipalities in the Territories. So, I would just like to have the Minister respond, to see whether or not he shares the kind of concerns that I have. I know that he will probably look into that.

The other thing that I am a bit concerned about is that in the municipalities, I think they should withhold the principles of free democracy. You know, if I were to continue to try and oppress citizens in the communities, that would only contribute to a worse situation than we would want it to be. I think any government of municipalities, if we are to be concerned about local government, must uphold the democratic rights of the individuals, whether they be native communities or native majority or not. I think that has to get across. For instance, in places like Rankin Inlet, it is no strange thing to see a white person get elected, whether they are civil servants or not and if we are going to develop local government, I think we have to give an opportunity for the community to choose who they wish to have through the election process, that is what I am talking about. That, I think is important. Otherwise, there would be no need to have such an Assembly as this to be concerned with protecting the rights of the individuals in the Northwest Territories. So, Mr. Chairman, these are my introductory remarks and I would like the Minister to just respond to some of them. Thank you.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I concur in the area of Baffin Regional Council. I think that we could provide more support. I would also like to see the regional council get more involved in the capital planning process, also getting into the area of devolution of more program services, if that is the desire of that council. In the area of the principle that the honourable Member has outlined, when we do consider municipal governments, community governments, we will have to take a very close look to ensure that the democratic principles of a free and democratic institution are maintained.

The other area is that, in reference to the municipal employees, whether they have the opportunity at the present time to form their own unions, I do believe that the municipal workers at the present time come under the federal Labour Code. To give you an example, I believe in the city of Yellowknife, under that particular code, the municipal workers have formed their own union, and I do believe that the other municipalities do fall under that particular code. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Detail of capital, on pages 13.10, 13.11, 13.12, 13.13, \$18,500,000. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say a few words. I had a question to the Minister of Local Government. I was hoping that he would assist us. The municipal council, the funds that they are getting are very small. We know already that we have the least amount of funds being provided. This is your responsibility. We have already raised this problem but there is nothing being done about it. This was already brought up, but they have never had a reply from Local Government. I want to make a motion. Would that be possible?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Did you want to make a motion?

Motion To Increase Funding For Municipal Councillors' Honorariums

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Yes, thank you. I know the settlement councils or hamlets get the lowest amount of honorarium given to the councillors. I move that the settlement councils or municipal councils or hamlets be given more funds, because I know that they get the lowest amount and they have full responsibilities in these communities. I can distribute the motion that I made and have it translated. Will you see if it is in order?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Yes. We will check it in a moment.
(Translation ends) All right. I will ask the Clerk Assistant to read the motion moved by Mr. Appaqaq.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): From the translation, this is the motion that Mr. Appaqaq wants to put over: I move that this committee recommends to the Minister of Local Government that additional funds be made available to municipal councils who wish to increase the honorariums paid to council members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Was that your motion? Was your motion clear?

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Yes, I agree. However, concerning the settlement council members, I was trying to request an increase of the allowances. I think we can amend it. I certainly agree with that; however, I am satisfied with that. Thank you for rewriting it. Can I speak to the motion, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Yes. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you. Concerning the motion -- sometimes I get some information through the paper or any other committee, that is, the committee for housing or education or any other organization, they get money. However, the council of the hamlet or the settlement council does not seem to have any powers, in my experience. I have experience of two committees: the chairman of education committee, was receiving \$40 for his honorarium; also the housing committee, and the chairman for that committee was receiving \$30 for his honorarium. The mayor for the hamlet was receiving \$25 for his honorarium. When they have some general elections it gets very difficult to get funding some election years, and last year there were no elections in Sanikiluaq because of the fact that they did not have any adequate funding. Also, in the Baffin region, I was informed that there was a community that did not have any election year, and because of that I am making this motion, and I would like some supporters for the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. I would like some clarification on the motion that was made. Are you talking about hamlets, just hamlets, or settlement councils, or are you speaking on both of these?
Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, hamlets and settlement councils. I do not know anything about towns or village councils.

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

Honorariums Increased By By-Laws In Hamlets

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with the motion that was made, but the hamlets can organize their own council, I just noticed. They do not have any running. They make their own by-laws in written form. They just made a by-law that the chairman would get \$75 for each meeting that he goes to, and \$60 for vice-chairman. I know that the other communities in the Baffin are making a lot more money through the by-laws that they are making. As long as they have extra funds, the money goes to the councillors. I do not have any concerns with this problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): (Translation) To the motion. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I may say my final words. I think it is quite confusing that we never got to talk about it, and we are not willing to give up on the matter. Last year in Sanikiluaq, the hamlet council tried to make a by-law in order to request an increased honorarium. They tried that. However somebody refused and they did not get the approval.

They were also informed that the funding that is available through the budget, it is up to the hamlet council or the settlement council to make up the honorarium according to their budget. I would like to make a motion concerning that and I just want it to be carried. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I just ask the Minister if he would shed a little light on the matter, whether this is a broader problem and what implications it might have?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, at the present time the hamlets have the authority to pass by-laws to set their honorariums for their mayors and councillors. As far as I am aware, I, as Minister, have to approve the various by-laws from the hamlet councils. To my knowledge I do not think we have turned down the requests from the communities, although the rates that are set in the various by-laws seem to be fluctuating depending on the various hamlets, but I do believe in the case of the settlement councils that those rates are set. In the area of funding to the hamlets there is some flexibility whereby there is a discretionary funding arrangement to the hamlets to allow them to pay those increases. In this particular case of the hamlet of Sanikiluaq, I will have to look into that matter to see if a request was made and if it was turned down, I would like to know the reasons why it was. I would also be interested in looking at the proposed rates which the community has proposed to the Department of Local Government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Increase Funding For Municipal Councillors' Honorariums, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question is being called. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed? May I ask one more time for those in favour of the motion to raise your hands, please? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Capital, on page 13.10, 13.11, 13.12, 13.13, \$18,500,000. Mr. Curley.

Fire-Fighting Equipment For Airports

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to raise a point which I think is very critically needed in many major centres of the Northwest Territories, particularly in a place like Rankin Inlet. That is fire protection and fire prevention equipment. Rankin Inlet, for instance, is becoming a very demanding centre as far as the air lines are concerned, but there is no fire-fighting equipment that would be able to handle the job if a major plane with passengers were to have a major accident there. So, I wonder if the Minister or his deputy could assure this House that they will attempt to establish fire-fighting equipment that would be able to handle the job, before such a major accident occurs? The reason I am saying that is, I know there is a little fire truck that sits up there before or after the plane takes off, but it would not be able to put out a major fire if there was an accident. So, I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he would be prepared to review the fire-fighting equipment throughout the Territories and maybe update that fire-fighting equipment in places where there is demanding air transportation. Thank you.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, the honourable Member is correct, that in a number of the small airports the majority of the equipment may not be adequate. In the cases of equipment for airports, that primarily is provided by the Ministry of Transport, I believe, and what I would like to do in this area is to report back to this House after discussing the matter with officials of MOT to see what can be done to provide adequate equipment to cope with the possible accidents that have to be dealt with.

We have an ongoing discussion with the officials of MOT in regard to the timetables of various airport work projects that have to be done, like lengthening of airports. Also, the area of equipment that is required under that program is another area we discuss with MOT and I will certainly ask my officials in the airports division to have a discussion with the MOT officials to see what we can come up with that would be most appropriate in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Mr. Minister. Capital. Mr. Sibbeston.

Unfair Allocation Of Funds

MR. SIBBESTON: Okay, Mr. Chairman. My little interpreter is gone today and this big government does not have anybody else to interpret for me, so I guess we will go this route. Last year when we were dealing with the capital budget of Local Government, I had raised a point about my area of the North -- the Mackenzie Liard area -- that does not seem to get very much funding. There seems to be a lot of funding for the Eastern Arctic and last year I pointed out that Mr. Wah-Shee's constituency seems to be getting a lot of money. I look at the capital budget again this year and the situation has not changed any and maybe it is getting worse. So, I am just wondering, is the territorial government conscious of this? When they are allotting moneys for capital projects do they try to treat all parts of the North the same or are they so committed to the Eastern Arctic? Also, does it make a difference whether you are on the Executive Committee to make sure that you have enough money, lots of moneys for your constituency or just what is the system, because I am really beginning to wonder what I have to do in order to get capital moneys for my constituency, for my part of the North? Surely, my part of the North is not so well off that it does not rate getting any additional funds.

In the water and sewer area, for instance, there is quite a bit of money given out. In my area there is nothing and all other areas seem to get a few million. When you get to recreation, for instance, again my area gets \$40,000, that is all, and other parts of the North seem to get quite a bit. In the water and sewer area for Mr. Nerysoo's constituency, for instance, there is \$665,000 and last year there was close to a million dollars.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Check Frobisher.

MR. SIBBESTON: So I would like to know what one has to do in order to get a few little dollars of capital funds for one's constituency. Is the government being fair? Does one have to get on the Executive to push a few dollars his way?

---Applause

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Well, in reply to the honourable Member, I do not think it is necessary to be on the Executive to have distribution of funds in the area of capital requirements for equipment -- also, for that matter, water and sewage. Just a very brief explanation in the area of the process by which capital is determined. First of all, the request would come from the community and the request would go to the Fort Smith -- or the regional office, in this case, in the honourable Member's constituency. From there it would be further discussed by the regional office with the individual communities and then it would go to headquarters, and then the department as a whole would be given a particular target in the area of capital expenditure.

However, in more detail, I would like to ask my deputy to briefly indicate how we have come up with the figure of \$18.5 million for the total capital expenditure of Local Government, what part the regional offices play, where do these various requests for capital requirements originate and how they finally arrive at the distribution of various capital that you will find in the detailed capital within your budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Moore.

Process For Allocation Of Funds

MR. MOORE: Well, Mr. Chairman, it is not a simple process. I am sure Members understand that it is a process which takes many months. I will try to explain the principles of it and tell you the main points which would be of interest to Members, I think. Certainly, within this department, within Local Government, we have tried very hard to allow the regions, in consultation with communities, to develop regional plans which are based on the needs in the communities. I am sure Members realize it is a great temptation for people in Yellowknife to feel that they have, perhaps, some knowledge and some expertise which is not available in the regions and, therefore, it is always a temptation for the headquarters staff in Yellowknife to impose on the regional plans. We tried this year having the regional director and his staff consult with the communities and send into Yellowknife a regional plan which they had made up themselves, with the communities. It is true that when those plans were put together, when in total they were assessed in Yellowknife, for this Department of Local Government, the plans totalled about \$24 million for 1982-83. Those were the needs of the communities as they had been recognized by the regional headquarters.

Unfortunately, when the allocation of capital funds was made to the departments, Local Government was given an allocation originally of \$16 million, which was amended very soon afterwards to the \$18.5 million, which is what you have now before you as the capital plan for Local Government. The difficulty immediately arose as to how to cut back the capital plans in each region, but again, we tried not to do that in Yellowknife, and the regional directors, with me, agreed on the best reduction overall for the department. We decided between ourselves how much of the capital funding would go to the Fort Smith region, to the Inuvik region, Baffin and so on; and having established that, within the \$18.5, it was left to the regional directors again to consult with the communities and to decide which things had to be left over until next year and which things could proceed in 1982-83.

Funding Of Major Projects

Inevitably, there are things missing from this capital plan which the communities would have liked to have seen in 1982-83 and, Mr. Chairman, there are great unevennesses. Capital planning cannot be done, I think, on, for instance, a per capita basis. We cannot. It would be wrong to simply share the capital funds amongst the communities depending on the population, because if we did that, the big things like building the schools, the major water and sanitation programs, those things would never get done, because they cost millions of dollars each.

In this case, for instance, if you look at the regional totals, the Inuvik region this year, for 1982-83, has much the largest amount of capital funding in Local Government. Another year it might be a different region, because the demands of the major projects, the water and sanitation projects, move from region to region, depending on where DPW is doing the work.

I have not tried to answer the Member's suggestion that there is a political division of the capital and I should not speak to that. I can only say that the division of the capital money between the communities -- the decisions as to which projects would go ahead in 1982-83 and which projects would have to be left for another year, decisions as to which piece of equipment to buy for which

community, those decisions were made in the regions between the regional directors and the communities. They are very difficult decisions, Mr. Chairman, and I am not surprised that Members find dissatisfaction with the overall plan. We would, as a department, have liked to have met all the requirements of the regions and the communities, but to meet those requirements we would have needed \$24 million and we had \$18.5 million. I hope that helps the Members, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, I guess that I appreciate that you cannot satisfy everybody's needs in the North, but all I am saying is that it would be nice for our area to get a bit of attention. I recognize that a tremendous amount of money goes into the Eastern Arctic, and in particular into the Inuit communities, and I suppose it is justified on the one hand because...

MR. CURLEY: We work harder!

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, I suppose there is nothing else to do up there, and everything costs a lot more and there is nothing, you just have ice and snow and anything you have up there has to be brought there and obviously paid for by the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): I do my homework.

MR. SIBBESTON: I do not believe that you get funds by talking a lot -- I mean, you cannot deny that I say a lot and try hard...

---Laughter

...but obviously that is not the test. That is not the way this world or this political system works, but I am learning and I am wondering if the answer is not to become very involved, to making -- I do not know whether motions do anything -- but I am wondering -- I think it is important to know. I guess people ought to know that maybe the way that the political system works is by becoming really involved, meaning to get involved as fully as possible, and meaning in this case to get on the Executive Committee. Maybe that is the answer, maybe that is the way the political system works, but I had thought that we were all reasonable people and that things were done on the basis of reason...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Only some of us are.

MR. SIBBESTON: ...not on political influence, favouritism, or anything else like that.

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

MR. SIBBESTON: So maybe my illusions or my feelings about politics have been -- I have been disillusioned, I guess.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. We will break for 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): The Chair recognizes that we have a quorum now. Capital, any more questions? Ms Cournoyea.

Price Of Gravel

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in funding for gravel, for the last number of years I have noticed that there is generally some allocation of gravel funding for roads, upgrading, and for community repair, and it always appears that these figures are placed on the budget in the dollar figure and then it generally appears that there is an equal distribution of funding to the various communities. In terms of the communities that I represent, the cost of gravel is very high, in particular the community of Tuk, where we are facing, for fairly reasonable gravel, \$30 a cubic metre from a very close source; and substandard, \$18 to \$20 a cubic metre. The allocations, say for \$15,000 or \$20,000 for road repair might mean a lot in another community up the valley, however it means very little to this community. So it may appear that a particular community is receiving adequate funding because we talk about the dollar figure; it looks good, but when you talk about how much that dollar can buy, it is very unfair treatment for certain communities. I feel that probably in your department's desire to be fair to communities and to fair distribution, a community such as Tuk really does not get their equal share because of the actual cost of a cubic metre of gravel. I am wondering if your department is looking to allocating gravel needs according to cubic metres rather than just to dollar figures.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have my deputy reply to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Moore.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, the point that the Member has made is a very good one. The price of gravel does vary very much from community to community. In Tuktoyaktuk, for instance, there is a particular problem and with only \$50,000 in this budget, I think it is understood that there has to be some sort of supplementary arrangement. The distribution was done within the region and I cannot be absolutely sure how they arrived at it, but it is understood, both here and in the Inuvik region, that in the case of that community, especially in the case of Tuktoyaktuk, the amount allowed here in this budget for gravel is inadequate.

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

Sending Used Equipment Into Remote Communities

MS COURNOYEA: I have another concern as it relates to extended discussions at the last budget session and that is second-hand, well-used equipment sent into remote areas where it is very difficult to get repairs for it or very expensive to have engineers or mechanics sent into those remote communities. The actual cost, if looked at critically, would show that it would have probably been far more reasonable in dollars to send in new equipment. I am wondering if your department has, in the last year, looked at that and made a policy on how equipment is going to be purchased for places that only have airlifts and are in a bad position, and where the cost of transportation to send in equipment repairmen is very, very high?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask my deputy to provide the information as requested.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I agree entirely with the Member. It is a false economy to send used equipment to a place where it cannot be properly maintained. To be honest, I do not know to what extent the department has done that. The first priority is to buy new equipment, but we do have a number of pieces of

equipment which are renovated and, in theory, a piece of equipment which has been fully renovated and overhauled should be as good as a piece of new equipment, but I know that for practical purposes that is not always true. I can only say that I take the point that the Member has made, and I will look at it myself.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Yes. Just to perhaps help the deputy minister along, I believe if you look at the costs that have been built up over this last year to maintain equipment in Holman Island and in Paulatuk, you will see the cost differential. That is also including Sachs Harbour, particularly Sachs Harbour. The equipment that was sent in there, you will find that the kind of transportation and expenditures that were made over this last year, plus the downtime on that equipment, will far outweigh supplying new equipment to those communities, and we can provide you with the information piece by piece if necessary.

Snowblower And Freezer For Holman Island

Another concern is in terms of initiatives by communities. Last year the community of Holman Island had placed on the priority list two things: a freezer unit and a snowblower, and they were told that they would not be able to have both, and that they should set a priority. Therefore, the community had made the initiative to apply through Special ARDA to have their freezer unit fully paid for through the ARDA program. As a result, the initiative of that community was not rewarded by a snowblower being placed on the priority list as promised, and I am wondering, since this issue has been brought to your attention on a number of occasions, if you intend to do something about that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes. Go ahead.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, if I can speak to the question of the snowblower and the freezer. I cannot, for the life of me, think how the two could have been traded off. The freezer would have had to be paid for by the territorial government. The snowblower is a piece of airport equipment. The airport equipment comes from MOT, and as the Member knows, MOT have now told us that the snowblower for the airport is not to be delivered until 1983. With the Minister, I will look into what we can do to bring that forward, because it is between us and MOT. I appreciate the point that has been raised, and I cannot for the life of me, think how the freezer was traded off with that community against the snowblower.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Just to follow up on that point, then, perhaps it would be advisable for Local Government to let the communities know that snowblowers are not part of the Local Government budgeting. For example, on the workout on capital expenditures required for settlements, on Tuk, for 1983-84, they have a snowblower that was put on their requirements and so far they have not been told that this is not a legitimate capital expense and especially in terms of the airport at Tuk not being a territorial government airport. So this possibly makes people have an expectation that something is going to happen if your department is not informing them that they should be going someplace else.

Arena Complex In Tuktoyaktuk

Another question in regard to another constituency issue that I have is the arena complex in Tuk. We have been on this question for some time now. The community has done its best to live up to its responsibility in taking care of the last attempt at the building. Previously we had a difficulty because the arena was not finished because there were so many complex and different people involved with it and it created a bad reputation for that community. Since then, the community has tried very hard to maintain what we consider the first stage of the arena. I would like the Minister to explain why, since this has been an ongoing issue over the last eight or nine years, the arena second stage is not anywhere within the budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I understand that in Tuk the situation with the arena -- what I would like to suggest in that area is that I will go to my colleagues to ask for additional dollars in the area of doing an estimate of the costs that would be required. As I understand it, it is to do with the designing and to have further work done on the community arena.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Just to clarify, the design work was to be completed this fiscal year, and the completion that we are talking about is the extension of a community hall onto the arena, and that community hall was to take care of social functions, the normal things. They cannot use the gym. They have a very small community hall that was paid for many, many years ago between the community and the IODE, so the territorial government has never spent any money in that area, so the actual expansion of that program is for that extended facility, and I just want to clarify that.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the extension, I do believe that we will have to work on the design for the extension to the community hall. I would like to see if an arrangement could be made with my department and the community of Tuk to work on the design for the extension of the community hall, to see what the total cost would be, and to see if we could accommodate the construction of the community hall.

However, we do have a new policy that has come out, and in that area. We do not have money for that new policy. However, there have been some requests made in other communities. Therefore, I would like to go back to my colleagues and try to get new moneys for the new policy, which could probably be done on a phase-in arrangement. However, I think I would like to see something done in the way of getting a co-operative arrangement between ourselves and the community of Tuk in the area of designing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I feel that in terms of the individual needs of the Beaufort Sea area, we try to address them through the finance committee in providing a plan for impact development. However, I understand that other departments are involved and it has gone another stage, and we do not seem to be getting anywhere. I do not feel comfortable continuing to deal with individual problems that are the same as last year and the year before. I understand Mr. Sibbeston, in terms of his needs to have things equalized, and it was never our intention in the Beaufort Sea to take away from another community, but rather to provide a plan and to seek extraordinary funding, perhaps, in another way.

Motion To Resolve Impact Shortfalls In Tuktoyaktuk

However, we have had a difficult time in co-ordinating all the people that are involved, so I would like to put a motion on the floor, that the Minister and deputy minister of Local Government, in co-operation with other participating departments, apply themselves to the task of again seeking ways and means to resolve the impact shortfalls that the community of Tuk presently is experiencing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Wah-Shee. I am sorry. A copy of the motion, please. Your motion is in order, Ms Cournoyea. To the motion.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I do not think I have to speak a long time on this motion. I just feel that, as the years go by, I am taking up time at this Legislative Assembly continually, trying to express the real needs of that community. I am not hoping that everyone understands about the shape that that

community is in, and I believe the community has withstood the kind of thrust that industry has given to them. They do have problems, and we are all trying to make an effort to resolve them, and we feel that, in trying to treat us just as another area -- and we do have the ability to capitalize on other input from that area, to build on the needs of that community -- that we may not necessarily have to take away from the territorial government budget.

However, there are certain things that are needed for the well-being of that community, and if the well-being of the community is not met, then you have a whole series of people who are not well. They can participate; they can take part in what is going on; but if the community does not show that improvement, and this government does not recognize that it should be dealt with and does not deal with it, then the whole meaning of why we are here is not reflected in those community needs. This motion is to give further direction to the Department of Local Government, because they are the ones involved with that direct community impact. If it requires the Minister and deputy minister to come and see for themselves -- and I prefer them to come when there is no snow on the ground, or in the spring, when you can see the mess that community is in -- if it requires that, then I believe they should go and see it. We are willing to help and do as best we can, but industry is refusing to really come up with any answers, and the onus is on the community of Tuk to always lay out in absolute detail where the companies can take part. Otherwise we just have a series of meetings.

So far we have done as much in detail on the needs, the upgrading of that community and what we feel that upgrading is, and then also looking to the future. The present budget has not met it. I realize there are a lot of dollar figures in there, but I think if this Assembly looked at those dollar figures, much of it is related to gravel, because the large developments, such as the water and sewage and the reservoir need gravel. So it may be in the dollar figure a lot, but in terms of projects and enhancement of the community, it is not. So I hope that I can have the support of this Assembly, that the Minister of Local Government, his deputy minister, in co-operation with the other departments, as soon as possible try to meet the commitment to that community.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. I will ask the Clerk Assistant to read the motion one more time.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion before the committee is: That the Minister and deputy minister of Local Government, in co-operation with other participating departments, apply themselves to the task of again seeking ways and means to resolve the impact shortfalls that the community of Tuktoyaktuk presently is experiencing.

Motion To Resolve Impact Shortfalls In Tuktoyaktuk, Carried

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

---Carried

Detail of capital, pages 13.10 to 13.13, \$18,500,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Fraser.

Unequal Budget Allotments To Communities

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is very seldom I agree with my colleague across the road, there, but I have to agree with him this time. The Local Government capital budget seems to be lopsided. When you get \$5,219,000 going into one Member's constituency, that is a lot of money. The budget does not show a lot of this stuff, but being on the finance committee, we have a detailed look. In breakdown, Rae Lakes has \$64,000, and \$50,000 of that is for

radio and television equipment, which I would like more detail on; \$577,000 going to Rae-Edzo, and \$80,000 going to Snare Lake. There is \$4,498,000 going to Lac la Martre; three million dollars of that is for a new school, but it seems to me that the new school for Lac la Martre was never talked about before in this Assembly, but it was talked about for Fort Franklin. We have some money in Fort Franklin just to do a study this year, and for a new school next year. I agree that maybe you have to get on the Executive Committee to get something for your constituents.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Shame, shame!

MR. FRASER: There is quite a bit in here for Fort Smith, too, so do you want me to go through it?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: No, there is not. No way. Go ahead. I would like to know what it is, then.

MR. FRASER: Last year, we brought it up in the Local Government's budget, when the Member's constituency got about a million and a half dollars, just for building storage houses and garages and storage sheds. I am told that there are only a handful of people living in Snare Lake, but they are going to get a community hall built out there. Four big garages in Lac la Martre. When you see things like this in the budget, and then you ask for money and the government says, "No money. We have no money. We have to keep it tight this year." When, however, you see four or five million going into one constituency, there has got to be something going on. I am sure the Member did not do this on his own. He had to have approval from the Executive Committee. Last year we complained as to why that one constituency got so much money, and we wanted to see that the other settlements got an equal share, but this year instead of knocking it down they got more. I would like to know what this \$50,000 is for radio and television equipment. I do not see it on any of the other budgets.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Fraser, concerning the radio -- it is from the Department of Information, not Local Government.

MR. FRASER: I am sorry. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. Do you wish to respond to Mr. Fraser, Mr. Minister?

Allotments Based On Need

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to respond to the honourable Member's question in regard to -- I think what he ought to question is the process of how the capital expenditure has been determined. I think the process has already been explained. I am not surprised that the honourable Member has brought up the amount of money in a given area, but I do believe that the hamlet council in his area is given the same opportunity as any other community. Perhaps it has to do with the level of participation of all the community councils, because primarily they are responsible for determining their own needs, and the allocation for capital expenditure for equipment is primarily based on need. I think that the honourable Member has not bothered to look and do a calculation in his own area, I am afraid.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I went in and talked to the people when the capital budget came out. They were never discussed by the community; it was made up in the region and brought to the community for discussion. Last year we talked to the Member about some capital work in Fort Franklin and he informed me that he would go in or send somebody in to look at it. It is a project that has been in the making now for something like eight years and it is not a big project, it is only a small one -- a road from Fort Franklin to the mouth of Great Bear.

River. He assured me that there would be people down there to look at it and get a cost and have somebody check it out. To this day there has been nobody in there to check it out. I thought it would appear in the budget this year but it is not in there. The people in Fort Franklin started that about eight years ago and it was brought into the House for the last three years.

So I do not know what more you can do to initiate something when you put it in there for three years in a row and still nothing is done. I realize the Member is pretty busy but he has lots of people that he could send down there to check it out. I have a letter on file that says he will come down there and check it out. It never was checked out and nothing more was said about it and I imagine he thought the thing was going to die on the order paper but it did not. When I see things in his constituency that were maybe asked for by the community, if he says they were, maybe they were, but when we ask for things in our community, he says "No money, no money." I guess what you have to do is go up and bang on his door up on the sixth floor there and not come one at a time; bring a whole flock with you or a whole tribe with you and go in and bang on his door and then you can get results. We tried to initiate things and nothing has happened. So I would like the Minister to reply to that letter I got from him saying that he would check into that request from Fort Franklin.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I will have to provide the honourable Member with a follow-up with regard to the Fort Franklin project. I do not have the information at the present time but I will ask my officials to indicate to me what has happened regarding that request and I will give the honourable Member the information.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Capital, \$18,500,000. Mr. Sibbeston.

Motion To Provide More Detail Of Local Government's Capital Budget

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, I will just move that the Department of Local Government provide more detail and rationale of its capital budget and that we defer approval until closer scrutiny is provided by this committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Yes, your motion is in order. Can we have a copy of your motion please, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I must say that last spring I spent considerable time going with the regional director into all the communities in my area dealing with specifically this matter of capital budget in all spheres of government, Education to Local Government. I thought that the regional administration in Smith was doing this because of the complaint that people like myself had had with the Local Government budget and other budgets, just this feeling that generally our area of the North does not get as much in Education, Local Government and so forth. So I must say that I was quite encouraged by the regional director wanting to go through all the communities and talk to people and ask communities what their needs were. I spent quite a bit of time doing this, putting a lot of time and energy into it, and I had hoped that this would reflect in this year's budget. But it seems from the first view of the budget that it really has not.

So I think that is why there is a need to have closer scrutiny of the Local Government budget and let the government officials try to rationalize things to us. Why must there be a four-bay garage in Lac la Martre? Why must there be only \$10,000 in Providence? There is a two-bay garage; why only a two-bay garage, and why just \$10,000 this year? If garages are needed, why is the garage in Lac la Martre more necessary than the one in Providence? Let us get into these sorts of things. Let us get into each community by community need and let us see if we can come up with a better capital plan than what is before us because I do not believe, Mr. Chairman, that you have to be on the Executive to get funds for your constituency. Government must be fair; it must be based on a rational basis and otherwise it makes fun of those that are not on the

Executive. It tells those that are not on the Executive that you are just wasting your time. You can be a good MLA, do a good job and do all the right things, tour around with regional directors, write nice letters, make nice motions here, but if nothing happens, well what is the purpose? The whole system breaks down and we are into a system of, if you are on the Executive, then you can use your influence to get things for your constituents and if you are not on the Executive, you are just shit out of luck. Sorry.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. To the motion. Mr. Parker.

Distribution Of Capital Budget Is Fair

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I think I should make a remark at this stage, speaking as chairman of the Executive Committee. I am fully confident that should this motion of the honourable Member pass and some further level of detail be provided, that we will be in a position to indicate to him that the distribution of the capital budget is, indeed, a fair distribution and based on the high priority needs of each and every community. That is not to say that there are not mistakes made from time to time, no one is perfect, but I think that we can indicate to him that there is indeed a fair distribution. The numbers of facilities already existing in certain communities mean that they do not need the same level of increases, and that is the sort of thing that applies, for instance, in his example of comparing Lac la Martre to Fort Providence. Fort Providence has been on the road system, of course, for many years and has had a build-up in facilities there drawn from many years ago whereas Lac la Martre has only recently come to the stage where wheeled vehicles have been required. I do not mean, Mr. Chairman, to go into detail here but I was just looking at that one example.

I would suggest that if the review that has been suggested is supported by Members, then Mr. Wah-Shee can be supported by data produced from our capital plan and perhaps even have Mr. Pilot available here because I believe that what is being pressed for is a broader view that goes even beyond Local Government. I do not mean to presume on how the committee will conduct itself, but I must say that sitting as chairman of the Executive Committee and chairman of the financial management board, I see no evidence whatsoever of Executive Members pressing for construction projects or capital projects for their own communities, from their own constituencies to the detriment of other constituencies. If anything, I think they bend over backwards to try to ensure that the construction is done on a properly prioritized basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you, Mr. Parker. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

Baffin Region Capital Plan

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I think I can only speak of my experience as a Member of the Legislative Assembly from the Baffin region, and I would like to say that when Mr. Pilot announced about this time last year that there would be a greater regional input into capital planning, this was partly, I think, as a result of initiatives from the Baffin Regional Council. Some Members earlier were suggesting that the Baffin Regional Council just has an advisory role and does not really do much, but in this area of capital planning, which is what I want to talk about now, the Baffin Regional Council, since my association with it, has been very anxious to take responsibility for prioritizing capital planning in the Baffin region. When Mr. Pilot announced that planning would take place on a regional basis and with much more emphasis on regional planning, the Baffin Regional Council was already well prepared to take up the torch and discharge their responsibilities. They had a mechanism in place for involving the executive committee of the Baffin Regional Council and the MLAs and I was particularly impressed that when the plan was being finalized back in May, the Baffin regional director and certain staff members went to the trouble of coming to Hay River to meet with Baffin region MLAs to put the finishing touches on the Baffin regional capital plan.

Now, it is not perfect, because you can never please everybody, but I think that, from this region anyway, MLAs have had really good involvement in the capital planning process and I would like to cite my own constituency as an example while we are talking about local government. I have said from the beginning, before I was on the Executive Committee, and I still feel this way, that in Frobisher Bay we want to slow the pace of development of sophisticated, highly technical utilidor systems, not because it may not be desirable in the long run but because there are very real concerns in that community about loss of jobs and inability of local people to take up highly paid, highly technical jobs that are required, as opposed to driving trucks and that sort of thing. There is the real problem of who is going to have the ongoing responsibility for operating and maintaining the utilidor and difficulties, which I think we can work to surmount, in disincentives to private home-ownership as a result of the increased costs of land development, land valuation, assessment and taxation that these projects produce.

I am delighted that the Department of Local Government -- maybe this was an easy one to respond to since I was asking that millions of dollars not be spent -- I am delighted that they have put the brakes on the utilidor. They accepted that some bugs have to be ironed out. They have worked with the town to plan carefully and consult perhaps more fully than had been done in the past with ratepayers to make sure the pace of expansion of this system is agreeable to the town. Since I have been an MLA, there has been no major expansion of the utilidor in Frobisher Bay, and I think this is a response to a direction that has come from me. It is also interesting that Frobisher Bay certainly does not seem to have any lion's share of capital grants in Local Government, if the Member is suggesting that Executive Members always get their way in this capital planning process.

Regional Participation In Capital Planning

So I guess what I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is, as a Member from the Baffin region, I find it very hard to fault the capital planning process that was under way this year. I am not saying that it may have worked as well in the other regions -- I respect the Member's concern that he has not been involved -- but I would observe that if MLAs want to get involved, in my experience the regional governments have been more than willing to co-operate.

I also happen to know, since I have been very interested in this area of regional participation in capital planning, that meetings similar to the one I have described in Hay River -- and that was not the only one that Baffin MLAs participated in -- took place in the Keewatin and the Central Arctic regions and that much I know. I am not saying that it did not happen in the other regions but I do know that there was extensive involvement of the MLAs. Some of my colleagues may wish to comment on that but I find it really hard to support this motion because I, as an MLA, am satisfied with the way I participated in the capital planning process and I think we should discuss it further when Mr. Pilot reports to us later on during this session. It may well be that the process can be refined further. There is always a problem when you take the regional input and marry it with what is coming in from the other regions and cuts have to be made at headquarters, and I suppose I feel that at that stage there may have been a...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Speak to the motion, please.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...the process may not have been perfect at that stage, however, I find it difficult to participate in a wholesale condemnation of what has gone on, at least based on my experience from the Baffin region. So I am having difficulty in rationalizing how I can support this motion, Mr. Chairman, although I would like to hear from other Members. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion, please.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. I will support the motion. I do not think it represents a wholesale condemnation of what has gone on. It certainly could be mere coincidence that nearly a quarter of the capital budget of Local Government is spent in the constituency of the Minister of Local Government and to give the Minister his due, I would say that that is what it amounts to. I am willing to accept that, but it is a strange coincidence, in a sense, and one that does invite people at least to ask for a little more clarification. I think that is all that is being asked for, and the Commissioner has assured us that with that kind of closer scrutiny that we will see that it is a response to needs and nothing more and I would simply like to see that. So I would certainly support the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question being called. Mr. Curley. To the motion.

MLAs Should Assist Constituencies In Capital Planning

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I really could not understand why such a motion would have to be introduced at this time because we had more than a year to be engaged in lobbying for constituencies as far as capital projects are concerned and the time that we have had since last session certainly would allow me to represent my constituency. I was able to take part in influencing the regional director at that time, and his regional superintendents, to respond to the mayors' concerns and that was done last summer. Mr. Noah and I had a chance to take part in that discussion when the budgets were being prepared. I do not know what the other Members were doing. They were probably sitting and doing other silly things when they should have been representing their constituencies and urging the Department of Local Government and the regional offices to get on with the priorities of the communities that they represent.

This is not the time to go back and review all the bloody things that the communities need right now. If you have a concern, if you have a project that you want to get on with, move a motion and we will consider it and maybe there are some things that could be transferred to some other areas. I think that would be a more realistic way and if you want to build an airport or something in your community, why not let us hear about that rather than just saying, you know, there is a lot more money in a certain community than mine. Why should we give you a certain amount of money if you do not even have any idea of what you are going to spend it on? You know, that makes sense to me. If you want to build a road or highway or something, why do you not tell me or tell this Assembly so that we can vote in support of it; but, first of all, I think you have to justify what your real need is, rather than comparing it with the -- as far as the figures are concerned. I know in my region the mayors had a difficult time last summer in convincing the government that there were priorities that they wanted rather than the government, and they were able to do that, and it was not an easy job, but they were able to eventually get the government to respond. They even cut some of the department's projects such as DPW. They were able to effectively transfer some of the government's list of priorities and replace them with their own. So I cannot vote in support of this motion. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Before we go on with Mr. Sibbeston, we will have the Clerk Assistant read the motion one more time.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion before the committee reads: I move that the Department of Local Government provide more detail and rationale of its capital budget and that we defer approval until closer scrutiny is provided by the committee of the whole.

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

System Not Working In Some Constituencies

MR. SIBBESTON: I guess what I am hearing basically is "Look, in our area the system is working fine. We make representations to the government and they respond and we do it perhaps better or we are more involved than you are." That seems to be the message that I am hearing, but maybe the system is working for your areas, but all I am saying is really for my area I have done everything I could and my efforts have not materialized in this budget. I have noted last year that what I thought were discrepancies were vast amounts of capital funds being spent in Mr. Wah-Shee's constituency and it was pointed out with the hope that this would cause some embarrassment or cause the officials or somebody that is involved in this to be a little bit more conscious of the way that capital funds are being expended throughout the Territories, but it seems that we have come to the budget here again and we still have Mr. Wah-Shee's and Mr. Nerysoo's constituencies with vast amounts of capital funds being expended for them.

I am telling you my area has little and I have done everything I could. I have gone with government regional representatives. I have gone through Wrigley and most of the little communities in my constituency. I went to Wrigley with a government representative and we had a meeting. We went to Trout Lake; we went to Fort Liard; we went to Jean Marie River; we went to Fort Simpson, and we had public meetings about what people wanted in their constituencies, what was needed most. We made a big list and I understood that this would now be taken by the government officials and when they are dealing with capital funds, that all of these would be considered and moneys put aside for it. All I am saying is that this does not appear to be done and I am concerned and I do not think you can walk away or deal with this issue by saying "Well, my area is working well. I have done what I can." People in my area have done everything they could and so the system might be working for you but all I am saying is the system appears not to be working for me and what do I do? Would it be right for me to just let it go? Would it be right for me to just say "Well, I guess I am out of luck. Maybe I will try again next year or the year after"? What do people expect me to do? Am I not entitled, just as you are, to have the same amount of capital funds spent in my constituency as yours if the need is there?

Dene Not In Full Co-operation With Territorial Government

I get the feeling that sometimes -- sure, if you co-operate with government -- if the Inuit co-operate with government, then the government is good to them, but there are Dene people in our area who have not co-operated in the past. They have not accepted the government like the Inuit have done. They have questioned and many communities are suggesting a different approach, communities like Fort Good Hope, Fort Providence, Wrigley and Fort Liard, and now just because these communities are not happy with the government system, does it mean that they have to be excluded? So the way that the government seems to have operated is if you follow the government system, you will be treated very well. You will get lots of nice buildings, lots of equipment, and so forth. All your settlement councils will have nice big seats, high backs, nice name plates, nice suits to wear, you know. If you do not agree with the government system...

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

MR. SIBBESTON: ...then you do not get all these things.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Speak to the motion.

MR. SIBBESTON: I am telling you my area is not getting a fair amount of the capital funds that this government is making available. If you vote against me, what do I do? I have really tried everything I could. I am following the democratic system and I would hope that by having another look at the capital funds, that we could change some of this so that some of the things that are needed in my constituencies will be met. I am going to be meeting again with the regional director tonight and I am hoping to get a list of all the things

that the communities had wanted last year. Early next week I will have it available and we will go through the list and again try one more time to satisfy my constituents. My constituents are just as entitled as yours to get some of the capital funds from this government. They might not support this government or like this government as much as yours, but if funds are there, let us share it fairly through the North.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Agreed.

MR. FRASER: Question.

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

Delaying Budget Debate Will Not Solve Problems

MS COURNOYEA: We have a lot of other budgets to go through and I was going to make one suggestion to Mr. Sibbeston. Perhaps he could sit on the finance committee so that gives you one more kick at the cat. I guess just to help it along a little bit, I am not satisfied with what happens in my region but I cannot support the motion because delaying the budget further is not going to help my situation and I do not know how it would help Mr. Sibbeston's. There are some budgetary items in here that are allocated to the central areas and that may help him out, but I cannot see where we are going to gain any ground by delaying and finishing the discussion on Local Government. There are areas on DPW, on Government Services and these are the areas that are dealing with other capital expenditures, also Mr. Pilot will be coming up on the mat later on, and perhaps this can go in. I do not know if Mr. Wah-Sæe is going to say that he is not going to put this project in Lac la Martre; that we will put another project in Fort Simpson. In our area the Minister of Local Government admits that the capital planning process broke down. Well, it broke down. I cannot do anything about it, that is in the past. I do not know how I can see Mr. Sibbeston benefitting from delaying it. He can get a long list of what his community wants but I do not know how delaying this budget is going to help him out. Perhaps it would be easier for him to talk to his regional director and see if there are any fundings in the central allocation that are not exactly assigned to any one project.

As for myself, I know I am concerned about how things are going in my area. We got things that we did not necessarily want and we questioned that, but in any event we still go day by day with that process in trying to resolve those problems. I just do not see where delaying this process dealing with Local Government is going to help Mr. Sibbeston's requirement. There are not that many places to move and unless I can receive further justification on why we should do that -- maybe somebody else has something to say that will convince me that delaying this is going to get Mr. Sibbeston what he wants -- or I do not know maybe what we can squeeze out of this book any more. Maybe it is another department, but I cannot support the motion because I believe it is not going to bring out anything that he wants and each day we sit here at the Legislative Assembly it is \$7500 at a minimum. Maybe if we could get through this and still keep battling and making changes, maybe the \$7500 could be set up for part of the arena complex in Tuk, or for something else, because I think every day we sit here is costing the government money.

MR. MacQUARRIE: You are becoming more conservative all the time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Qujannamiik, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Curley. To the motion.

Hard Work And Planning Gets You What You Want

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to be able to support the motion. I would like to be able to be given a really sincere rationale for delaying the estimates to carry on, but I am not convinced it is sincere. The Member is asking for an unlimited sum of money just so that he can balance some of the regions.

I do not think that is fair. The communities and the mayors that do the work that they should in my region, in my constituency, they do not just go out begging for money. They work; they work bloody hard. They do not get favours from the government and I want to get that message across, that they work hard -- blood, sweat and tears every bloody inch of it, not because they are such nice, co-operative people. In my riding, and also in the Keewatin North, it is probably because they are most politically aggressive, hard nosed politicians. The Member is just asking in the old-fashioned way, "Give me. Give me." He is begging, with unspecified reasons, and that does not ever get very far. If he wants a community hall in his constituency, I would challenge him today to put it on the table. What does Fort Simpson need today that is not included in this budget? He is complaining with the capital funds for his region in the amount of \$600,000. How much more does he want to reach, you know, the satisfactory figure that he would like?

I am fed up with the Member suggesting that the Inuit continue to co-operate with the government and therefore they get favours from the government. I want to tell him that is not at all so. My area, my constituency is never treated with favouritism. You look at the wildlife service. How many times have they kicked wildlife officers out of my region? They do their work, they represent their community, and the municipal leaders have to do the ground work for this Assembly and I think he should go back to his constituencies and suggest to them that if they expect a certain amount of capital funds, they are going to have to do an equal amount of hard work, planning and then, I think, they will get what they need.

However, if they are just expecting to have the government give them an unaccounted for amount of money, I would say to the Member, he will never get it. He will never get it. I am not convinced that the motion will do anything. If he has any urgent projects that he wants this Assembly to approve, list the projects, we will vote on them and we will convince the government to put them in a supplementary estimate, so they can get on with the jobs that need to be done in his constituency. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question is being called. Mr. Sibbeston.

Motion To Report Progress, Defeated

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I move that we report progress. Think about it over the weekend. Give me a chance to get a list, too.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): There is a motion on the floor, therefore, you cannot make another motion over it or on top of the motion.

MR. SIBBESTON: No. No, no, no. Mr. Chairman, my understanding is a motion to report progress or finish the day is not debatable despite what motion is on the floor.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Yes. Okay, all those in favour of reporting progress now? Opposed? I will have to call one more time. All those in favour of the motion to report progress, please raise your hands. Opposed? The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

To the motion, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Really, I do not know what more I could say.

MR. CURLEY: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question is being called. All those in favour of...

MR. MacQUARRIE: A recorded vote.

Motion To Provide Detail Of Local Government's Capital Budget, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): A recorded vote is being asked for. All those in favour of the motion, please stand straight.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Opposed?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Appaqaq, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Braden.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Sayine, Mr. Butters, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

We are still on capital, \$18,500,000. Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Include Regional Directors In Budget Debate

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I have a motion that I would like to present. I move that the Legislature recommend to the Executive Committee that in future the regional directors be in attendance during the budget session.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Who is going to look after the shop for six weeks?

MR. FRASER: You are darn right.

MRS. SORENSEN: If you do not like it, vote it down.

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Can we have a copy of your motion, please? The motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. FRASER: Question.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Do you want to speak to the motion, Mrs. Sorensen?

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I certainly can identify with some of the problems that Mr. Sibbeston has brought forward. Obviously, there is a need within the Fort Smith region for a better means of communication with the regional director. Had that regional director been here, we could have asked him, through the Minister of Local Government, to respond to some of the concerns, the very real concerns that Mr. Sibbeston had. Likewise, there appears to be a problem in the Inuvik region. We know that there has recently been a change in the regional director and that might account...

MR. CURLEY: Speak for Yellowknife South.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...that might account for some of the problems, but I really do feel...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...that the regional directors are big players in this game...

MR. CURLEY: Like who, Mike Ballantyne?

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: No, I am not talking about Mike Ballantyne. He is a mayor. Are you getting confused about the titles that we use in this government?

MR. CURLEY: I did not know they had one in Yellowknife South.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

Regional Directors Ignored In Budget Process

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, what I am attempting to say is that I think that we do our regional directors an injustice by ignoring them in this whole process and what I have been observing over the past two years is that, as I said, they really are big players in this game. They are making decisions out there in the regions and yet they are not really hearing what the Legislature is saying here and what it feels the needs of the Territories are. I would really like to see them involved in the interplay that goes on and with that, that is the reason that I have made this motion. I think it is important that our regional directors be here to respond to some of the questions that we might have and to hear what goes on. Thank you.

MR. FRASER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): To the motion.

MR. FRASER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I would respectfully suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the Member's motion could be answered by instructing the regional directors to read the debates. They would not have to spend six weeks away from their demanding jobs, sitting here. They might as well be elected if they are going to spend...

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...six weeks here at the Legislative Assembly. The regional directors do read Hansard, I know, and they do get direction from there and also I think most of them have and should have a good working relationship with their MLAs. If that is not the case, then perhaps the MLAs might bear some of that responsibility.

Now, they also have a major role in capital planning. They also have a major role in the budget review process. Maybe they need more of a direct pipeline into the Executive Committee. I believe we can improve the accountability of regional directors to the Executive and their communication with the Executive, but the answer is not to bring them here for six weeks to listen to us pontificate when they can get the same message by reading Hansard. I do not support the motion, Mr. Chairman, although I am in favour of regional involvement and regionalism, I do not think this is the way to do it. Thank you.

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

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just briefly, I am kind of leery about the motion myself. We have with us here in this House, Ministers and executive directors and all the big wheels we could get a hold of and they cannot change the budget in any way. How do we expect the poor regional director sitting out in the bush to do anything for us?

---Applause

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

MR. FRASER: Question.

Motion To Include Regional Directors In Budget Debate, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Question being called. All those in favour of the motion?

MR. FRASER: Recorded vote.

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

---Defeated

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Progress.

Detail Of Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Page 13.13, detail of capital, \$18,500,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

Page 13.01, total O and M, \$28,792,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I just have one question, Mr. Chairman, on page 13.14, and it is in regard to the request from Tuk a number of months ago for the department to provide information on the possible options on going to a larger tax base and how that would benefit them. When can we expect in the community of Tuk that this will be completed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Mr. Minister.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: That information, Mr. Chairman, will be provided during this session.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you. On page 13.01, \$28,792,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Thank you very much, Mr. Minister, James Wah-Shee, and deputy minister, Mr. Mike Moore.

---Applause

What is the wish of the committee now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Noah): Report progress.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Noah.

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. NOAH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-82(1), and wishes to report progress, with four motions being adopted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Noah. Any announcements? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes. Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the standing committee on rules and procedures, 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 15, in Katimavik A.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, 1:00 p.m., Monday, February 15, 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Monday, 1:00 p.m., February 15th, 1982.

---ADJOURNMENT

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