



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. George Braden, 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. Don Stewart, Hon. Kane Tologanak, Hon. James Wah-Shee

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Thursday, February 25th.

Item 2, replies to Commissioner's Address.

Item 3, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Ms Cournoyea.

Question 47-82(1): Motions Passed In The House

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a question, and the question is directed to the Leader of the Elected Executive Committee, and it is in regard to motions passed in this House; as well, I would like to address the question to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. The question is, when we have motions passed in this House, what is the policy of the Executive Committee in terms of dealing with the motion as it relates to the number of people who voted?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Return To Question 47-82(1): Motions Passed In The House

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Generally, we have a record of all motions that are passed in the House concerning the issue, and who it was moved by and seconded by; and what we endeavour to do during a session or following a session is to direct the motion to a particular Minister or department involved, and provide a recommendation as to what action should be taken. So while it may appear that sometimes there is inaction, that may be because work is being conducted or because the Executive Committee has decided that it is not possible to take action immediately or shortly after the motion was passed.

With respect to the Member's point or question on who voted for it or against it and the number of votes that a motion was given and passed by, we do not really pay that much attention to the number of votes that were cast to pass the motion or defeat it, unless, of course, it is a very significant issue and it passes by 10 to nine. I am really not quite sure what the Member is addressing. Perhaps she could restate her question for me.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea, I understand you directed that question to the Commissioner. Do we have the consent of the House to ask the Commissioner to join us?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner. Would you care to add a few remarks at this time, Mr. Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Braden has explained the system very well, and I, like him, would seek any further elaboration on the question that the honourable Member may have.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Supplementary To Question 47-82(1): Motions Passed In The House

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, what I would like to know is if a motion passes, what status does it get? Is there a difference in having a motion passed unanimously, 50 per cent, 60 per cent, or if there are only, say, 12 Members in the House and maybe three people vote for that motion and everyone else abstains and looks disinterested, does that have a bearing on how active the Executive Committee will be on seeing that motion through?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Further Return To Question 47-82(1): Motions Passed In The House

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, no. We attempt to look at the issue that was raised in the motion and take action on that particular motion or issue, depending upon its significance. I recognize that there are occasions when we have very few Members in the House, but nevertheless, if an issue is brought through a motion to the floor and voted on and passed, we feel that it is our responsibility to take note of that particular motion, the issue, and the debate; and, as I indicated earlier on, to direct a particular Minister and his officials to respond to that particular motion. Just to reiterate what I said before, there are times when we can respond very quickly, there are times when further work has to be done, and then there are also occasions when no action is taken because clearly the Executive perhaps does not have the revenue required to move on something, or the jurisdiction.

So to conclude, Mr. Speaker, we attempt to look at the substance of the issue before we make the decision to proceed, and I would assume that Members are bringing up in their motions issues of significance and importance, so that the government is placed in a position where it looks at the substance as opposed to how many people were in the House voting. Thank you.

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

Question 48-82(1): Review Into Economic Development In Inuvik Region

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, in regard to his review into economic development of the Inuvik region, I understand that Dr. Mair is presently in Inuvik, and I am wondering if possibly the Commissioner can tell me how Dr. Mair will be conducting his review, and what possibilities would be the -- independent people who have concerns about the department -- what will their ability be to take part in that review?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

Return To Question 48-82(1): Review Into Economic Development In Inuvik Region

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Dr. W. Winston Mair came to Yellowknife first thing Monday morning and met with me and met with officials of the Department of Economic Development in an effort to obtain background knowledge and information. He then proceeded to Inuvik, and is spending Tuesday, Wednesday, and today there, and will be returning to Yellowknife this afternoon for a further discussion with me. He then will be away from the Territories for a period because he has other responsibilities. This first visit is considered by myself and by Dr. Mair as an initial review to assess the situation and to acquaint himself with the issues, and to plan his further work. I expect that he will be back again in the latter part of March and at that time he will be seeking meetings with individuals and small groups, and most certainly he will be seeking time with the Members of the Legislative Assembly from that area.

I regard Dr. Mair as a person of tremendous qualifications and very high calibre, and one who is, indeed, totally independent from the territorial government, and therefore in an excellent position to conduct this review. Finally, he certainly will be available, the second time around, to conduct interviews with concerned persons.

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

Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Are there any written questions today? Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 50-82(1): Bill C-451 Proposed Amendments To Criminal Code

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice and Public Services. Is the Minister aware of the House of Commons Bill C-451, which proposes to amend the Criminal Code in the area of gun control? I understand that this bill has been presented by a former Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Hon. Warren Allmand, and has grave implications for both sport hunters and traditional hunters in the Northwest Territories. This bill calls for extreme gun control of firearms to such an extent that it will adversely affect the hunting opportunities of northerners.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further written questions? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to have unanimous consent to go back to oral questions. I would like to ask the Minister one question.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Curley.

Question 49-82(1): Banning Trade On Sealskin Industry

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. In view of the importance of the sealskin industry in the Northwest Territories and in view of the fact the common market is now going to be debating the possibility of banning trade with Canada as far as the sealskin industry is concerned and also in view of the fact that Newfoundland will likely have a political representative during that debate, will the Minister tell this House why he is not going to the European common market headquarters to defend the hunters and trappers for the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 49-82(1): Banning Trade On Sealskin Industry

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, it is not that I do not wish to attend the European common market. It was suggested by colleagues on the Executive Committee that if any representation was to be made it would be made by someone that was associated with that industry and that someone who knew the manner in which people in the Eastern Arctic lived off the seal, but I would suggest also that we are intending to send someone to make representation. We are in fact going to provide this House with a document to discuss, hopefully tomorrow, so we will have a position to take to Europe and to European centres.

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

Supplementary To Question 49-82(1): Banning Trade On Sealskin Industry

MR. CURLEY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. What I seem to get is that the Minister does not know enough about the sealskin industry in the Northwest Territories, but what I would like to get at is as the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources he should know that it is important that there will be a political representative. I am wondering why he does not feel that he is qualified to represent the hunters who depend on this industry which is threatened today in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 49-82(1): Banning Trade On Sealskin Industry

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, the actual question as to whether I am qualified -- as you know, I am not involved in seal hunting. I do have a very good idea of the kinds of concerns many of the Inuit have. However, it was suggested by my honourable colleague, Mr. Patterson, that someone from the Eastern Arctic should be the one designated to attend the conference in Europe. So, that is one of the reasons -- it is not that I do not want to attend. I do wish to attend, but certainly there are other people in this Assembly that would be as capable of debating and, in fact, putting forward the major issues with regard to seal hunting in the Eastern Arctic.

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

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Are there any further written questions? Are there any returns for today?  
Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I have a statement that I would like to read into the record concerning a new Liquor Ordinance for the Northwest Territories. So, if I could have the consent of the House to read this in, please?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Braden.

Minister's Statement Re Recommendations Concerning A New Liquor Ordinance For The NWT

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you. As indicated previously to the House, my department has been working on revising the Liquor Ordinance. As a preliminary step we are at this stage prepared to submit a short report with some proposals and recommendations concerning some of the basic principles and provisions which could probably be reflected in an amended Liquor Ordinance.

I should like to emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that these are just preliminary recommendations or proposals and our position on them remains flexible. However, in view of the importance of the Liquor Ordinance to the Northwest Territories, I felt that they should be put before you, even in their preliminary form, and I would add, Mr. Speaker, that copies will be provided to Members after I have concluded my address. I invite the Members of this House to comment on my preliminary recommendations or proposals or on the Liquor Ordinance generally. Any comments made will be given most careful consideration before legislation is actually prepared. We will present a bill reflecting these recommendations and the honourable Members' comments the next session.

#### Underlying Principles Of Proposed Ordinance

First, Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak briefly on underlying principles of the proposed ordinance. There are two rather obvious points to be made concerning alcohol in the Northwest Territories. The first is that a large portion of the population feels that they have a right to drink, whereas others feel that it is a privilege which can only be exercised as long as it is not abused. The second point is that the harmful effects visited upon some segments of the population are so great as to warrant restrictions upon the availability of alcohol to these segments.

The recommendations outlined below are based upon the assumption that these two basic viewpoints will both have to be accommodated in any new ordinance. In addition, it has been assumed that the following principles will have to be recognized in the legislation to some extent:

- a) that a community should be able to directly influence the liquor laws affecting that community;
- b) that bootlegging must be eliminated or substantially reduced;

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. GEORGE BRADEN:

- c) that while tourists may be inconvenienced in the Northwest Territories, their presence here is desirable and their liquor habits should be taken into consideration where possible;
- d) that minorities in the communities are going to have to live with the wishes of the majority to a large extent;
- e) that impulse buying of liquor should be discouraged; and
- f) that the government, while it has to make liquor available, should not actively encourage or promote the sale or consumption of liquor in the Northwest Territories.

#### Local Option

Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment a little further on what we refer to as local option. At present the local option provisions of the ordinance have resulted in four basic plans being adopted in the Northwest Territories:

- a) prohibition;
- b) restriction, either by restricting the hours of operation or by restricting allowable quantities;
- c) wide open, subject of course, to general liquor laws;
- d) control by a local committee system, frequently known as the "Igloolik" model.

Mr. Speaker, it is recommended that the local option provisions of the ordinance be retained. Communities should be able to opt for any of the above systems plus any others that they may devise which are considered to be legal and in keeping with the spirit of liquor sale and control in the Northwest Territories. It is recommended that the four systems presently in use in the Territories by way of local options have a comprehensive legislative base. A community wanting to



choose a particular model should be able to look at the legislation and see the general outlines of that system. As noted, in addition to the four models outlined in the ordinance, they should be able to devise a model which is not already in the legislation if they feel it would be more suitable to their community.

#### Local Alcohol Education Committee

I would like to comment just a little further on the fourth option, which is the local alcohol education committee. The "Igloolik" model should be expanded upon in the legislation. This model is a unique northern creation. Communities that have adopted this model seem to have fewer problems with liquor than communities that adopt other models. This is not necessarily to suggest that it is the model itself that is responsible for the lack of problems in those communities.

Essentially, a locally elected committee of eight decides who is to be allowed to order alcohol in the community. No resident can possess or consume alcohol in the community unless the committee approves of the order. People who order liquor and cause no problems may order all the liquor they choose. Any person causing problems as a result of liquor is given a warning, or perhaps "cutoff" for a specified period of time. The committee is frequently called when a person is causing a problem which is alcohol-related, in the community. They may, on occasion, attempt to deal with it prior to involving the RCMP, and appeals from decisions of the local alcohol committee are to the local justice of the peace.

The committees offer counselling and guidance services for those people in the community who abuse alcohol. The committees feel that they could be even more effective than they are at present by having their powers expanded. The following changes to the committee system are recommended:

- a) that committees should have a legislative base to prevent legal challenges.
  - b) that the RCMP should be approached to develop a closer working relationship with the committees.
  - c) that recognition might be given to the committees' role in counselling.
- The government might be involved at some point to offer more concrete suggestions of programs in this area.

#### Liquor Board

Mr. Speaker, I would like to go now to some comments and recommendations concerning the Liquor Board. Obviously, Mr. Speaker, we recommend that the Liquor Board should have wider representation. As a minimum, there should be eastern representation, and in addition there should be representation of the different cultural groups in the Northwest Territories. There could, for instance, be a person appointed in each community. When the board has a decision to make concerning a community, certain core members of the board would join the local member in making a decision. Such a system would ensure greater local input.

There is also some concern over the general manager sitting as a board member. On the one hand, there is the view that he has expertise that should be available to the Liquor Licensing Board. On the other hand, there is the view that the board should be perceived as being separate and impartial in its deliberations. It is recommended that the general manager not be a member of the board, but that there be a duty imposed upon him to remain in close attendance or consultation with the board when they request his or her assistance. It has also been suggested that the Liquor Board travel more often.

### Liquor Inspections

Mr. Speaker, with respect to liquor inspections, in order to provide more inspections of licensed premises, it is recommended that the inspection corps be increased in size and trained to become a professional body similar, perhaps, to customs and excise inspectors.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: It is recommended that in addition to an outside corps, for example Yellowknife, Hay River, there be local inspectors who would be able to give background, etc., to the inspection corps. There should be, obviously, provision for part-time inspectors, perhaps appointed by local administrators for "surprise" inspections.

### Enforcement Of Liquor Laws

Mr. Speaker, on the matter of enforcement of liquor laws, it has been suggested that the RCMP are not putting enough emphasis on the enforcement of liquor laws. The obvious recommendation is that the RCMP be advised by the Minister of Justice that there is some real or perceived dissatisfaction with their performance in this area, and that various measures be taken to assign the enforcement of liquor laws as a priority in our territory.

### Liquor Stores

On the matter of liquor stores, it is recommended that in certain cases and under certain situations, that there should be limitations placed on the size of orders. Bootleggers very often buy quantities that are so great that there could be no other logical explanation for the purchase other than bootlegging. As an alternative, one proposal is that any sizeable order should be reported to the RCMP for investigation.

### Liquor Licences

With respect to liquor licences, it is suggested that there be no over-the-counter sales. This is based on the presumption that on many occasions these types of purchases are very often based on impulse. Further, it has been suggested that there should be a mechanism for allowing communities to have licensed premises closed during important community meetings such as those held by band councils or regional councils; and as I indicated earlier on in this session an amendment will be brought forth to the Liquor Ordinance to provide a legal basis for this action. Further, it is recommended that the Executive Member have power to close licensed premises and liquor stores for a specific period of time in a community upon petitions presented by representative community bodies.

### Bootlegging

On the matter of bootlegging, Mr. Speaker, in addition to the recommendation regarding the large quantity sales, it is recommended that the ordinance be amended to assist further in discouraging bootlegging. In particular, it is recommended:

- a) that there be a reverse onus on people caught with large amounts of liquor;
- b) that vehicles, including aircraft, that are found with illegal liquor on board be confiscated. If there is a clear duty placed, for instance, on pilots to see that there is no liquor on their aircraft, then bootlegging might decrease. There might also be a reverse onus with respect to large quantities of liquor found on vehicles;
- c) that second and subsequent convictions for bootlegging carry maximum penalties;
- d) that search and seizure powers under the ordinance be strengthened.

Notice Of Laws

On the matter of notice of laws, people that we talked to were unanimous in suggesting that liquor laws are not publicized enough. Wildlife laws, for example, receive prominent notice in our airports. People coming into the Territories should know that liquor is prohibited in some communities. So obviously we have to recommend that any changes in liquor laws must receive wide publication and circulation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the recommendations and suggestions outlined above are the result of input from very many sources. People involved with the Liquor Control System, board members, former board members, licensees and concerned citizens and organizations all contributed. There have also been many technical and administrative suggestions put forth that we will be considering in the future. We intend to review and consider all comments when preparing a final draft bill for the House, and the Members of this Assembly and their constituents are urged to forward any additional comments that you may have, based on this presentation or any other concerns that you and your constituents may have to myself or my department. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further returns today?

Item 5, petitions. Are there any petitions?

Item 6, tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

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

Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Motion 34-82(1), Ms Cournoyea.

Motion 34-82(1): Extension Of Income Tax Moratorium On Earnings From Trapping And Fur Catch

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, this is a motion moved by myself, seconded by Mrs. Sorensen.

WHEREAS in recent history the Department of Revenue has not collected taxes on income from trapping and fur catch within the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS during this same historical period and in consideration of the aforementioned administration moratorium, trappers have not been eligible for certain benefits such as unemployment insurance, which they would otherwise be entitled;

AND WHEREAS the administrative expense to the trappers and government, including this government, of redressing the historical income taxation on trapping and fur catch will far outweigh any revenue accruing from such taxation;

AND WHEREAS the situation with respect to taxation of income from trapping and fur catch is analogous to the situation with respect to the taxation of northern benefits and northern allowances;

AND WHEREAS this government, its employees; the federal government, its employees; and the private sector are the financial beneficiaries of this moratorium;

AND WHEREAS this government has had the policy of supporting traditional economics of the Northwest Territories, including trapping as a major part;

AND WHEREAS the efforts of this government in seeking income tax moratoriums have not benefited the trappers;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this House recommend to the Executive Committee that it immediately seek to obtain from the appropriate federal Ministers and agencies an extension of the income tax moratorium with respect to northern benefits, to include incomes earned in the Northwest Territories from trapping and fur catch.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Your motion is in order. Proceed.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, from time to time I find it difficult, in my capacity representing the Western Arctic, to maintain the credibility of this government in what I am sure are unwarranted accusations that all this government does is look after itself and is not really working for the people. This motion is to bring forward publicly this long-outstanding concern and to bring this to the attention of the Executive Committee -- something I am sure they would have thought of themselves, in a little while.

I am sure the Executive Committee will be successful in getting this moratorium, if they really work at it and commit themselves to it, and I am sure that the Executive Committee and the Commissioner will be able to announce by the next session that this most urgent problem is solved. Of course, it happens from time to time that the Executive Committee and government seem to forget about the motions we make here, and we do come to the session expecting things to be done, but which we feel very disappointed from time to time that are not done. However, I think the Members of the Assembly have been very patient and would like to see this record of performance improved.

#### Hunters And Trappers Should Be Free From Bureaucratic Hassle

A couple of trappers who are known in my area to be successful trappers have gone through the process of trying to fulfil the obligations of Revenue Canada in filling out their income tax returns, and at the end of that terrible process of going back over a number of years, have found they owe nothing. I do not believe that the hunters and trappers should be forced into taking part in a bureaucratic hassle that has no positive outcome for either the government or for themselves. I feel very strongly that this issue has been in the works for some time and a number of people have made small attempts to deal with it; however, I feel that at this point of time we should put it in the same category as benefits to government employees. If we come to the next session and I find that the Executive Committee has not been successful in this straightforward task, I think some serious questions should be asked on how we can positively represent the people in the Northwest Territories; but I would expect that this situation would not arise, and I expect that the Executive Committee will do a good job with this issue in order to benefit our trappers and the traditional economy.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. As seconder, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to second the motion. Mr. Speaker, there is no secret about my support for the moratorium on taxation of allowances given by employers to employees to offset the extra high cost of living in the Northwest Territories, until an equitable solution can be found to this dilemma so that all northerners are treated equally. So, Mr. Speaker, the same applies to the taxation of earnings earned in the Northwest Territories from trapping. These people receive no northern allowance, yet they live and work in the North, and surely are entitled to the same equitable solution to this whole area which is presently under investigation by the federal government, by our own government, and by various organizations in the Northwest Territories.

The trappers, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion are not saying that they should not pay tax in the future; only that a certain amount of time is needed to sort this issue out and to have the government apply the same equitable solution to them as well as to other sectors of the northern work force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to support the motion because it makes a lot of sense. There are a lot of hunters and trappers, and they do not have any other kind of job, and there is a policy now that they have to be taxed. I got a letter from Whale Cove last fall, and the hunters' and trappers' association had a meeting in October concerning this matter of taxing trapping and fur catch, and they were saying that there are no jobs available in that settlement, and there is no other way to earn money, and they do not get unemployment insurance in that area. However, if they were taxed they would not be able to get benefits, and if you are from Pangnirtung, they used to sell a lot of sealskins, but since it is so expensive to start this -- the government has to work hard to solve this problem. The Executive Committee and the Commissioner should work on this as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. To the motion. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to support this motion too, because I know some hunters and trappers are asking why fur prices are not going higher, when everything else is going higher. Sometimes they do not know what to do, when everything else is going higher and the furs and the carvings are not going any higher when they are being sold. I would really like to support this motion, because if they are taxed, this would make it more difficult for the hunters and trappers. This is the reason I support the motion. Thank you.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to support this motion, because a lot of Inuit have been talking about this income tax, because all of the hunters have already heard about it. I know I have to support this motion, because there are not too many jobs available in my constituency and most of the people are living from hunting. So, I am in full support of this motion. Perhaps later on, when they have learned a bit more about income tax, this could be imposed, but if this was to be implemented right now it would be too hard before the Inuit are given more information about income tax. I am in full support of this motion, because the people in my constituency do not have much work. The only way they make some money is through the sale of furs and carvings. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. To the motion. Are you ready for the question. Pardon me. Ms Cournoyea, would you like to close the debate? There does not appear to be any other speakers.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 34-82(1), Carried

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

---Carried

---Applause

Motion 35-82(1). Mr. Appaqaq.

Motion 35-82(1): Housing Corporation Problem In Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS to my knowledge there have been errors on the part of the Housing Corporation in calculating rents for the residents of Sanikiluaq;

AND WHEREAS this is a concern raised by the residents of Sanikiluaq and the housing association in Sanikiluaq;

AND WHEREAS the Housing Corporation should have been calculating rents using zone five rather than zone three;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that the Housing Corporation correct their error in zoning, to zone five rather than zone three.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Pudluk. Your motion is in order, Mr. Appaqaq. You may proceed.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding my motion, it is a major concern in Sanikiluaq. I would like you to be aware of that. Concerning the residents living in zone five, we just found out that they have been using zone three. Nobody had mentioned it in statements toward that area. Since this fall they brought up zone three in calculating the rents and nobody had mentioned about the miscalculations. We are having problems with our rents. It has been about seven years that we have been paying the wrong rents. I think we should have been informed about the zoning and the employees should have been informed about that too. I think they would have been better off like that. I know in Sanikiluaq there are only 20 per cent employed and the other 80 per cent are doing some hunting and carvings.

I know that as far as people are concerned Sanikiluaq is near to southern Canada. This summer I was in Pangnirtung and there were some higher costs in Pangnirtung, as I found out. I am not sure how this was brought up. This is very confusing, and when the residents found out they were concerned about that. I have been trying to make some telephone calls to find out how they are going to approach this. I would really like some of my colleagues to support this motion. I need some more support, because it is a very major concern in my constituency. Even if they tried to move it to zone three, perhaps in the long run -- maybe we will be having some problems in the future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. As seconder of the motion, Mr. Pudluk, do you wish to speak? To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

Sanikiluaq Presently In Zone Three

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to have this misconstrued as to what I would recommend, but I have to point out to the mover and the seconder of the motion and you, Mr. Speaker, that the comments that are made or the statements that are made in the "whereas" clauses are incorrect.

The "whereas" clause number three indicates that the Housing Corporation should have been calculating rents using a zone five for Sanikiluaq rather than a zone three is incorrect, sir. Sanikiluaq is in and has been in zone three. Now, there were five zones used by Social Services and also by the Housing Corporation for the purposes of calculating rents, but there has been no change in indicating where Sanikiluaq is in relation to those five zones. It is in number three.

Now, as I have indicated, I do not want to have my remarks taken wrong. I would, on behalf of the Department of Social Services and the Housing Corporation and, as well, if you like, sir, the government, to undertake and assure Members that I will look into the zoning of communities in the Territories with the idea to re-evaluate those and to place communities in a more appropriate zone, given present day requirements, but, Mr. Speaker, I have to take issue with the "whereas" clause and with the resolution in saying that the Assembly recommends to the Executive Committee to correct an error in zoning. There is no error in zoning. Sanikiluaq is and has been in zone three, but I will, on behalf of the government and of both departments for which I am responsible -- that is, Social Services and the Housing Corporation -- undertake to re-evaluate how those communities are placed in particular zones and put it in a zone that is more appropriate to the cost of living in those particular communities. Those are the only comments. I am not suggesting that I am against looking at the community of Sanikiluaq and putting in a more appropriate zone if that is such, but at the present time, as to correcting an error and saying that Sanikiluaq should have been in zone five, Mr. Speaker, I have to point out to you that those statements are incorrect.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Appaqaq, with this information would you like to withdraw this motion at this time and get some assistance from the Clerk to put forward a new motion that would serve your purpose? If your motion is incorrect, it does not accomplish anything. We must accept motions as they are presented to us, basically, that the "whereas" clauses and the statements made in them are true. We do not have a research department here to go into every motion that is presented; but if, indeed, you are mistaken, as the Minister suggests, maybe you would prefer to withdraw this motion at this time and come back with another one at a later date. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not quite believe the statement that it is miscalculated. I say the Housing Corporation members in Sanikiluaq have been trying to meet with me to discuss this problem. I also would like to proceed with my motion. This concern is brought up by the Sanikiluaq residents and the Housing Corporation council.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Evaluarjuk. To the motion.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement that I will not vote for the motion. The fact is that this is going to make some changes in that area, or if it is going to make changes in the rents of the Sanikiluaq houses -- if this motion is not going to do anything I am just going to abstain. I do not think it is going to change any costs of the rents, and for that I am not going to vote on the motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Pudluk, do you wish to speak as seconder? Are there any further persons wishing to speak at this time? Mr. Appaqaq, you can close debate now if you wish.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) I am quite confused now, and I have asked some questions to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, and as far as I know it has been wrong most of the time. However, I think that was in zone five all the time, and I am well aware of that. I asked the Housing Corporation in Sanikiluaq if they had corrected this problem, and they informed me that I should proceed with this regarding zoning miscalculation. If there is going to be some kind of study on that it will take a while, and there are going to be no funds. I am quite confused now.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Motion 35-82(1). All those in favour?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that I have spoken to the motion already, sir, but on a point of privilege, if I may just indicate what the role of the Housing Corporation is in applying that as regards those particular zones, sir.

Motion 35-82(1), Defeated

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think it is appropriate at this time, Mr. Minister. Could you maybe get together with Mr. Appaqaq later and discuss the matter with him? The motion was ruled to be in order when we started; we found out afterwards that possibly it is not in order, but it has been accepted by the House and the only way it can be cleared now, as far as I am concerned, is by vote. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed? The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

Motion 36-82(1). Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to stand the motion down for the day.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley.

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

Matters Relating to Constitutional and Political Development. Tabled Document 15-82(1), Workers' Compensation Board task force report; Bill 1-82(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1982-83; and the 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Matters Relating to Constitutional and Political Development, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order. We are dealing with Matters Relating to Constitutional and Political Development. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Report Of The Constitutional Alliance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to read the report that I tabled yesterday. The following is the report of the constitutional alliance.



The groups most active in seeking political and constitutional changes in the Northwest Territories are working together in an alliance, the alliance members being the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada; Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement; the Metis Association of the Northwest Territories; the Dene Nation; and the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly. They have presented a unified position in support of the NWT Legislative Assembly motion dated November 5th, 1980, agreeing in principle to the division of the Northwest Territories. The alliance has further agreed to work together to have a large representative vote on the April 14th plebiscite in order to reflect the real aspirations of long-term residents for responsible government as advocated by the aboriginal associations and the Legislative Assembly.

After several days of meeting in two sessions, the alliance has produced two solid positions. The first is for the alliance to support the initiatives of its members for constitutional reform that involve negotiations with the federal government. The second is to support the Western Arctic regional municipality process which is an initiative for change within the Northwest Territories. The alliance members have in common the desire to realize significant constitutional, political and administrative change within the Northwest Territories, and between the Northwest Territories and the federal government within the life of the Ninth Legislative Assembly. The alliance is committed to the principle that constitutional and political change must originate from within the Northwest Territories as a result of an active public process. The alliance is unequivocal that northern initiatives must not be impeded by policies or programs adopted by the federal government.

At the founding meeting, the alliance adopted the above principles and agreed on the following co-operative efforts to achieve them:

- a) invite and provide for full public participation and debate in all parts of the Northwest Territories in a 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; and
- d) initiate political and administrative reforms within the Northwest Territories where the jurisdiction rests with the Northwest Territories Act.

Being committed to progressive political and constitutional change, the alliance has agreed to take the initiative after the April 14th, 1982, plebiscite, for ensuring an open and fair process to work out the details necessary to realize significant political and constitutional reform. The April 14th plebiscite will give impetus and direction for the future work of the alliance. The alliance will begin work at that time to define constructive solutions in such matters as boundaries, restructuring the government and administration, and the further devolution of powers from Ottawa.

Mr. Chairman, this report is the result of the meeting that was held by the major native organizations and myself. The basic idea, Mr. Chairman, I believe, is to have a formal working relationship between the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories and the native organizations in the area of constitutional development. As I indicated earlier, Mr. Chairman, when I was tabling this report, that the native organizations have a desire to participate in the area of constitutional development, and the members of the alliance are extending a proposal for your consideration of how this co-operation between the Legislature and the native organizations can be possible. With that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the committee to invite the executive members of the major native organizations as witnesses to answer any questions that Members may have regarding the report.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Is the committee agreed that the Member bring the witnesses in? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Thank you. I would like to recognize the witnesses from left to right, for the record. Mr. Bob Stevenson, Mr. Sam Raddi, Mr. Georges Erasmus, Mr. John Amagoalik, Mr. Thomas Suluk. Seated with them is Mr. Wah-Shee, the Minister of Aboriginal Rights. Mr. Wah-Shee, have you any further opening remarks before we go on with the witnesses? Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I believe the various members of the alliance would like to make a brief statement, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Georges Erasmus.

Presentation By Dene Nation

MR. ERASMUS: Thank you. Perhaps I could begin. After our brief comments we will be prepared to answer questions. We are here today because we feel it is time that the people of the Northwest Territories began to work together on a number of major issues, major issues dealing primarily with constitutional and political change. For around a decade there have been movements, both in the East and in the West, dealing with possible change to the political institutions in the NWT. The native organizations have expressed for quite some time their desire to have self-determination in northern Canada, self-government in northern Canada, the same as is experienced in all other parts of Canada.

For quite some time, both in the East and in the West, there have been movements discussing the possibility of dividing the NWT into smaller political entities. The NWT Assembly, the territorial government, has over the years discussed the possibility of further devolution of authority from Ottawa to the NWT. It is generally a concept that is endorsed by most northerners, that we in the North, being Canadians not having any real difference from other Canadians -- we should have self-government in the North.

The process of devolution of authority to the North and the process in which the North decides how many political entities we will have has been frustrated many times. We still do not even have an agreed upon process as to how we will go about devolution from Ottawa or even in the North an agreement amongst ourselves as to how we will reach some sort of consensus or at least majority opinion on the direction of the North. In the past, there has been disagreement as to what role either native organizations or the Legislative Assembly should play. The concept behind the alliance is to bring together those major parties that need to be part of the process. We are calling it an alliance because it is a gathering of interests that come together to work together. The body itself, when we are together, does not have itself any authority. Each member organization or institution has its own process for making decisions. It has its own mandate. It has its own memberships, etc. We feel that neither the native organizations by themselves nor the territorial Assembly alone has the mandate, has the legitimate right, to be dealing with political, constitutional change. We feel it is time that we worked out a process that represented the aboriginal interests, along with the political government forum presently in the NWT.

The major event before us in the next couple of weeks is the plebiscite. We have some major thoughts dealing with the plebiscite. We would like to disclose them here. We feel it is in the interests of all long-term residents that there be a proper turnout, that there be full participation, so that the true will of the citizens of the North is expressed in that plebiscite. We have looked into the present information that is available to the general public. We feel it leaves a lot to be desired. The onus right now is upon the general public to go out and actually find out the information dealing with the plebiscite. We really, truly believe that there should be a much better educational program to educate the public in general about the plebiscite, the need for the plebiscite and the historical event that the plebiscite really is. It should be put in its proper context and the general public should be encouraged to participate.

This will be my opening remarks for now. Other members of the alliance will take their opportunities now to make their opening statements. I think John Amagoalik will be the next speaker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Mr. John Amagoalik.

Presentation By Inuit Tapirisat Of Canada

MR. AMAGOALIK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When there is a government of Nunavut, I shall speak Inuktitut, but since there is no Nunavut government yet, I shall be speaking in English. (Translation ends)

The ITC was the organization most reluctant -- the most reluctant to join this alliance, and we had two main reasons. Number one, it seemed that the alliance was attempting to prolong a marriage which had already failed; and number two, it seemed to us that we were making plans even before the will of the people had been expressed through a plebiscite. We are now satisfied that the alliance has accepted the fact that the divorce is almost final, and the alliance has also agreed that our first order of business is the plebiscite. We have agreed that we must work for a large turnout. We have agreed to start a public information campaign so that the people understand the issue of the plebiscite; and we have also agreed that our plans depend very much on the results of the plebiscite, and that we will finalize our plans after April the 14th.

Now, it seems to us that it was the ITC that was the only organization that had any sort of campaign going. I must admit that our campaign is off to a slow start because of our financial situation, but none the less it has started and it will pick up in intensity as we come closer to the 14th of April. We feel that it is the responsibility of all these representative organizations to be doing the same thing. The plebiscite, as Mr. Erasmus has pointed out, is an extremely important event in the history of the North and it should be seen as such. The citizens of the North must be given an opportunity to really understand what the plebiscite is all about, and we must make sure that everyone will vote without undue fear about a lot of things such as the boundary and the residency requirement. I think it is our responsibility to make sure that people understand that these issues will be dealt with fairly, and that everyone will have an opportunity to have input. If we do not do a good job of informing the people of exactly what the plebiscite is about, there is the danger that the "No" side is going to run a campaign of -- what shall I say -- a campaign of fear, and we do not want people to be afraid that the boundary is going to be an unsolvable problem. It is not. As Mr. Suluk commented yesterday when he was being interviewed by the CBC, it is a serious issue and people have natural concerns about it, but will probably be smiling and laughing about this whole thing 10 or 15 years from now. That is all for my opening remarks at the moment. I would like Mr. Suluk to add a few things.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Amagoalik. Mr. Suluk.

MR. SULUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. John Amagoalik just mentioned the constitutional alliance, ITC, the Dene, COPE and the territorial government have agreed to give out information, and Mr. Amagoalik just mentioned that ITC in the future will be informing the people concerning the land claims. The federal government has stated that land claims could not be talked about, and we are trying to just use that money for land claims purposes. The federal government has not given us adequate money regarding information items to the people, and we have one question here. Before we met on the subject in Rankin Inlet, we asked the Minister of Indian Affairs, John Munro, to see whether he can pay our debts of over \$100,000. We discussed political and constitutional development. They cannot give us an adequate answer. They have not given us an adequate answer as to whether or not they would give us some funding. We asked the Legislative Assembly to pay half or some of the money that we used for the constitutional meeting that we had in Rankin Inlet, and I just want you to note that that is my first comment, and I will be talking in English for the other part. (Translation ends)

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to conclude my initial remarks. Concerning the alliance of the Dene, the ITC, COPE, and the territorial government representatives, over a year and a half ago, or it may have been earlier, when the debate concerning division was first made in Frobisher Bay, one of our requests was that the territorial Legislative Assembly appoint a minister of aboriginal rights for Nunavut. To date, we have not yet seen any move toward that, and I would like to state that this will be a good opportunity for the Legislative Assembly when appointing their Members to the alliance concerning political development in the NWT that one of their appointments should be somebody who would be suitable as a minister for Nunavut aboriginal rights, and, Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude on those two points. Perhaps other issues will come up dealing with any questions at the end of the initial opening remarks. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Suluk. Do any other witnesses wish to speak? Mr. Raddi.

Presentation By Committee For Original Peoples Entitlement

MR. RADDI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a very short remark here. I think that this alliance was set up so that we can be able to work together and have an understanding. If we can work together as an alliance, as a group of people, with the territorial government -- there is room for you -- we invited them to be a part of the alliance -- and we have found all these years since the Territories were formed, the territorial government here was very hard to work together with. People always wonder what is the territorial government doing, or how do they represent us, you know, what can they do for us, what are they doing? There are problems, a lot of things, but they never really achieve very much. I know they are trying, it is a difficult job, it is very hard, but I think when we are not working together it is even harder. However, this alliance is formed now, and I think it would really help every one of us. We can work together and support each other on big issues, and this is why I was very happy about this alliance being formed. In the Western Arctic, in our region, COPE, we would also do our part in trying to help as much as we can. I think it is a good thing that we have set up at this time. I do not have much to say now because the others have said most of it. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Raddi. Mr. Stevenson.

Presentation By NWT Metis Association

MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chairman, thank you. As the representative for the Metis Association on this alliance, I too would just like to add a few comments, and, like Sam Raddi, say that we are happy to be a part of this alliance and we see

it as probably a continuation of what was known as the Federation North of 60 a number of years back. We would like to be involved, as always. We have always tried to be involved in different aspects of changes in the North. We are very much a part of it. We represent some 5000 people. Of course, everyone knows that more recently we have been working very closely with the Dene Nation and the Executive of the territorial government, and we like to see the opportunity extended now as it is starting again with COPE and ITC especially; plus the fact that just recently, February 20th and 21st, we had a board of directors meeting in Fort Smith and were given the instructions to carry on with the working within the coalition as an executive. As far as the plebiscite goes, we, too, felt that there was not that much information. We would like very much to be a part of assisting in informing people in the Mackenzie Valley as to what that really means, and of course to make sure that there will be a large turnout, as we did agree during our last few days of meetings with the coalition. Also, that we look forward to the ongoing work as an alliance after April 14th, especially if the vote comes to a "Yes" vote, because there are many issues, like the boundary, and the constitution and future political and administrative changes that will be made. I am just simply saying that we want to be a part of all that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Stevenson. We shall break for 15 minutes and have a cup of coffee, and then we shall come back for the question period. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Mr. Minister, I guess we will open for a question period now and the Members wishing to ask questions would maybe direct their question to the Minister and he will delegate the person to answer. Is that the way you wish to do it, Mr. Wah-Shee?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I think it might be appropriate if questions were directed at any of the members of the alliance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. Any questions then? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A couple of weeks ago, I guess it was, when I first heard about the alliance being formed and was not apprized of the initiative beforehand, I had some things to say about it in the Assembly, because when there is uncertainty, you are just never sure what is up and why it is up. As a result of those remarks I was called a number of nasty things, but at any rate, the simple truth is that I have no purpose that is different from any of your own and that is to do the best I can to protect the legitimate interests of the people that I represent. In fact, what you are doing by forming this alliance, this type of effort, is something that I have advocated since before I was elected. It was part of my election platform and I have consistently advocated it since being a Member of the Assembly; that is, that all peoples in the North get together, sort out what they would like in the way of constitutional development and then make a united approach to the federal government.

#### Specific Representation Of Non-Aboriginal People

I am happy in large measure with what is happening, but from my point of view the process is not quite complete, because this is a constitutional alliance designed to generate public government institutions in the Northwest Territories and so, that means that since they are public government institutions, the people that I represent have interests, because they are going to be impacted. So, my main concern is that while I want such an alliance to go ahead, I want to be sure that non-aboriginal peoples have a voice as well in what is happening, in the decisions that are made and in the negotiations that take place. So, with respect to the interests of non-aboriginals, in Frobisher Bay in the fall of 1980 this Assembly passed a motion stating that successful constitutional development would not take place unless the interests of the various communities of peoples in the Northwest Territories were taken care of, were taken into account and respected, and then specifically those communities of people were named, being the Dene, Metis, Inuit and non-aboriginals. So, my concern now is to try to ensure that there is full and direct participation by non-aboriginals in the activities of the alliance.

So, as to the means of doing it -- I recognize that a number of members of the alliance already would have concerns about direct and full participation by municipal governments which are not mandated to effect constitutional change at the territorial level. They would have concerns about full and direct participation of territorial-wide associations such as the chambers of commerce or the Chamber of Mines, because again, they are not mandated specifically to effect constitutional change at the territorial level. I understand that and agree, as a matter of fact, that while representatives from these groups ought to be and must be heard in matters pertaining to constitutional development, that in the final analysis it will not be those representatives that actually sit down to negotiate and determine change.

So, as an alternative, what I would like to propose to this Assembly a little later on is that the Assembly itself, in its representation, ensure that as part of its representation, very specifically non-native Members will be part of that representation. So, while it is a matter for this Assembly to decide in the final analysis, I would appreciate just hearing any comments that you

might have to make about such an approach as that. Do you believe that non-aboriginal people do have legitimate interests in the matter of constitutional development that is trying to establish public government institutions and could you accept that kind of specific provision for non-aboriginal Members of the Legislative Assembly to be part of the Assembly's representation at all alliance meetings? I guess I would direct that generally to any members of the alliance that would care to answer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Does any member wish to reply? Mr. Wah-Shee.

Assembly Members To Represent Non-Aboriginal People

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, it is the desire of the alliance to have representatives of the non-aboriginal people represented. We had a discussion among ourselves regarding the concerns that the non-aboriginal people have in regard to the process of constitutional development and I do not think the alliance has any difficulty with the appointments of the Legislature being full members of the alliance. As part of the process for constitutional development for regional conferences we will ensure that other interest groups like the Association of Municipalities, chambers of commerce and mines will be given full opportunity to participate in the regional meetings, but on the membership of the alliance, the alliance is extending an invitation to the Legislature to appoint two or three Members as members of the alliance and, therefore, it will not have to be totally native Members sitting as members of the alliance.

MR. ERASMUS: If I could just further add a few comments?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS: I guess the way we think is that this arrangement that we have between ourselves, which we are calling an alliance, recognizes the distinct institutions, the distinct organizations that exist and we are not too hung up on how many people you would send to your meetings. If you wanted to send every Member of the Legislative Assembly, do so. We would argue that it probably would not be as productive as if you sent some representatives. So, the make-up of the group is your own business and we will take direction from that, but I wonder if we are saying that if we send aboriginal people from this organization, from the Assembly, that they will not represent non-native interests. I do not think that the non-native Members here would want to, on the other hand, accept the countercharge, that they do not represent non-native interests or that they, along with representing non-native interests are not at the same time protecting native citizens of the North. Nevertheless, you can choose whoever you want. It would be no problem to have two or three people and to make it a procedure that you do have both native and non-native people representing the Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Any further questions? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to raise the question of the boundary if I might. The boundary question seems to be causing a lot of concern in some parts of the Northwest Territories -- not Frobisher Bay, because if there is going to be a Nunavut territory, I know that Frobisher Bay certainly is going to be entirely within it...

MS COURNOYEA: Quebec, Quebec.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...since it is the easternmost riding. However, I am concerned about hearing from areas in the Northwest Territories that are in the area where there appear to be overlapping views about where the boundary should go. People are saying they cannot vote in the plebiscite without knowing where the boundary is. I believe that those people are trying to put the cart before the horse, that we have to take things one step at a time, and ask the question of principle first: Is the Territories too big for one government or not? Should it divide or not? Then we take the next step, if there is a majority that says yes, and determine the boundary in hopefully a very democratic, efficient way.

#### Role Of Alliance In Determining Boundary

Now, the question itself which is going to be voted on suggests that there should be a boundaries commission resulting, and I have also heard ITC and the Dene Nation talking about negotiating amongst themselves -- I should include the Metis and COPE as well. What I would like to ask, just really generally, is how do you -- and I will ask this to anyone, although I would like to have John Amagoalik answer, since he represents people in my area -- how do you see this alliance dealing with the boundary question? And once we have come up with agreement on a boundary -- it should not be hard, there seems to be more than enough land in the Northwest Territories -- do you feel that the public should have an opportunity by plebiscite to finally approve any boundary proposal? Those are my questions, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

MR. AMAGOALIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After the plebiscite, if the answer is yes, a public process will begin, and all people who have a legitimate concern will have opportunities to have their input. Now, what kind of public process we will put into place will depend on the results of the plebiscite, of course, so it is difficult for me to describe in detail exactly what kind of process we will have. The Legislative Assembly will continue to debate this issue. Nobody can prevent you from debating these things. The alliance, as we point out in our report to you -- you know, one of the very first things is that we will invite and provide for full public participation and debate in all parts of the NWT in the process of constitutional reform.

All interest groups will have opportunities at different levels. This is necessary. I think everyone recognizes that. Such groups as the Association of Municipalities, even though they only represent 15 communities out of a possible 72 -- they will have their opportunities to voice their concerns. The Chamber of Mines, they will have their opportunities. In the final analysis, all concerns will be taken into consideration. We are open to the idea of using the plebiscite route again to confirm or ratify whatever agreements or decisions are reached through all these public processes, including a boundaries commission; and as I say, in the final analysis everyone will have been heard.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Amagoalik. Mr. Erasmus.

#### Border Should Be Agreed In The North

MR. ERASMUS: We have not yet predetermined exactly how that public process will take place. We are aware that there is a motion that will be dealt with tomorrow on this issue. We would suggest that it is in the interests of the North that we here arrive at a negotiated border, a border which we are happy with, which the member organizations of the alliance could jointly recommend to the federal government. So we believe that what needs to take place, then, after the plebiscite -- if there is a strong vote for division -- part of the business of the alliance would then be to manage the process of division, to give it some co-ordination to make sure that interests in the West, interests



in the East, were taken into consideration and protected. We need to sit at the table. We need to make sure that those communities that will be most affected have a way in which they can be involved in a process which they have some control over. Just to appoint a federal commission which then operates something like an inquiry or other commissions which the North is only too familiar with, where we surrender our rights of self-determination to Ottawa, is completely undesirable. If there is going to be a strong vote for "Yes" in the West, it will be because we believe we in the West will have some control over the processes that will be necessary following the vote; and one of the processes that will be absolutely, totally important to the people in the West -- as in the East -- will be where the political border will be. It may be that we in the North will not be able to come to an agreement where we all agree where the border is; but it is the feeling of the alliance that we should first give ourselves a serious opportunity to try and arrive at a border which most of the citizens of the North could live with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Any further questions? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Another matter I would like to get a little more clarification on, Mr. Chairman: You are chairman of the impact committee, and I am a Member of that committee, and I guess members of the alliance are aware that the information which the impact committee will be putting out under the auspices of this Assembly is very carefully designed to be non-controversial, factual kinds of information. I am interested in your suggestion that people of the Northwest Territories could use more information than what is already being planned through the Assembly, and I am just wondering how you would propose to disseminate information? If you could give me a bit more of an idea of what you would see being included in the information given, and how you would see the costs of any information program being met. I would just direct that to any member, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. The question is directed to any of the members. Who wants to reply? Mr. Wah-Shee.

#### Funding For Information Package

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I shall not reply on behalf of your committee. There are some concerns about not enough nor sufficient information is going out to the communities, and the feeling of the alliance is that they would like to come to the Legislative Assembly to ask for funding to have a comprehensive information package put together, and that we want to ensure that all of the communities and the majority of the northern residents should have this information. It is not only for the East or the West, but it is also in large centres as well. So this is the concern that the alliance has expressed over the meetings that we have had, and we hope to have the support of the Legislature in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Any further questions? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I would like to congratulate Mr. Wah-Shee and members of the alliance for resolving some of the problems that we will be dealing with in terms of the process. I believe that the process is very, very important, just to ensure that everyone has that ability to take part. I myself as an individual looking at the report from Mr. Wah-Shee feel that many of the areas of concern that people did have are addressed in the paper. As to getting the involvement of people, we do not have a long time between now and the plebiscite, and I would like to say I have basically no questions to ask in terms of the alliance. I am glad it is here. I am happy that we have been able to overcome some of the difficulties, and as a regional organization, we have had our fair share of them, but we have never thought very badly about them,

except we felt we had to deal with them. I believe this alliance has overcome a lot of the difficulties, and I certainly congratulate them on their commitment to do all this great job that has to be done, because it is a big one.

Motion To Endorse Efforts Of Constitutional Alliance And Accept Invitation For Four Representatives

I would like to make a motion that the committee endorse the efforts of the constitutional alliance and accept the invitation to designate two representatives to act on behalf of the Legislative Assembly in that alliance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Can we have a copy of that motion, please? Your motion is in order, Ms Cournoyea. Do you want to speak to it?

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe I have two representatives and it should be four. I am sorry about that. Would you make that correction on the motion? May I continue?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I understand you want to amend your motion?

MS COURNOYEA: No, I just made a mistake on it when I wrote it out. I am sorry about that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Okay. Well, we will have the Clerk read the motion out again then, just to make sure.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion is that the committee endorse the efforts of the constitutional alliance and accept the invitation to designate four representatives to act on behalf of the Legislative Assembly in the alliance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Your motion is in order, Ms Cournoyea. Do you want to speak to it?

MS COURNOYEA: Yes, I would like to make a few brief comments. I believe that the meetings that have taken place in the last three weeks, the members have spent a total of four to five days in trying to reach some of the objectives and efforts that will have to take place and the members of that alliance would have to be committed to try to relate to the general public and to carry the message in the most objective way and deal with those issues. I am not prepared to make comment on each detail of the outcome of that meeting. At this time I would like to say that I am putting my confidence in the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. We have designated him to do a job for us and I would like at this time that the Members of our committee here take this opportunity to give him that vote of confidence, that he is carrying out his duties as Minister in dealing with the various native organizations and that in order to give him that confidence, that we should accept that invitation, that we are willing to take part.

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

Appointment Of Members To Non-Political Committees

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like at the outset to state that I am a little confused with the intent of the motion, because presently this is a political institution and, therefore, I think should have a neutral -- if at all possible, neutral position as far as the non-political committees are concerned. Although this alliance is a political group, I think they fit into a category that they are non-political institutional representatives, even though they are not the representatives of the Legislature. They are

the committee set by the Minister within his responsibilities and I would think that if the Members of the Assembly were to start being appointed to committees that are not appointed solely by the Legislative Assembly, committees set by the government, for instance, the Housing Corporation or the board of the committees set by the departments to inquire into certain things, we could get into a lot of conflict sometimes.

So, what I am trying to prove to you is that I think we should, if at all possible, leave room for non-politicians, the public out there, to be involved in this committee, because otherwise, how are we going to react, respond, when the final proposal is finally put here? We could get into immediate opposition or whatnot. So, I am a bit confused. I can see the Member for the Western Arctic supporting it immediately, because if I could see that my kind of regional organization or municipality was included in it and supported by this committee, I would probably want to endorse full support as well. You know, if I could see that this alliance fully endorsed the division of the Territories, then I would say to myself, let us put four Members of the Legislative Assembly to this alliance, but I do not see what the Assembly -- the groups in the Territories are really going to benefit. I do not know whether I am putting my message across or not, but what I am trying to say is that I think we will have to sort out the role of this Assembly. I think first we are going to have to agree that this Assembly has no darn role in the political development of the Territories and we are going to pass that on to somebody else. I think that has to be settled as well, that we are not being engaged in the political development, but rather, we give the role to the committees set by the Minister responsible for Constitutional Development. So, I am going to abstain from the motion.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have been able to participate in some of the sessions of the alliance and was pleased with the spirit of accommodation and goodwill that was shown. I am not sure in what capacity I was -- who I was representing. My constituents are about half aboriginal people. I hope I was representing both and also the Eastern Arctic, which I feel definitely must be represented in this alliance, since the native associations involved are -- the majority of them are based in the West.

I believe that the point Mr. Curley raised about links with the Legislative Assembly is quite important and I guess my own view agrees with John Amagoalik, that the most important constitutional development that is now taking place, and there are many other things that are percolating, but the most important history-making step we are about to take is considering the issue of division. I feel that it is very important that it be recognized that although native organizations -- particularly the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada -- have spoken about division for many years, that really the initiative for creating a Plebiscite Ordinance and putting the question to the people of the Northwest Territories after the unity committee gave its report -- the initiative did come from this Assembly and I think that there has to be a partnership developed between the native organizations and the Legislative Assembly.

#### Co-operation Not Abdication Of Responsibility

I think we can start by making sure there is significant participation of the Legislative Assembly Members on the alliance, as the motion suggests, and I also think that it does not mean that the Legislative Assembly is going to completely abdicate its responsibility for public discussion and public decision making on constitutional development to that alliance. I would see a co-operative process being worked out where there would be a place for the alliance to report to the Assembly and for the Assembly to respond and I am quite sure provide ongoing support to the work of this group. So, I do not see it as a black or white situation, an all or nothing situation. I think we are continuing the spirit of co-operation and partnership between the organizations and the Assembly, which represents certain interests that the native associations clearly do not pretend or wish to represent.

So, I do not have any difficulty in supporting the motion. In fact, I am pleased to support the motion, because I think we are going in the right direction and even if, as I hope, we are about to determine that the Northwest Territories should divide, I think that it is very important that in the last years of the Northwest Territories Assembly, that the various constituent interests in the Northwest Territories work together on the process of dismantling this government and establishing new government and I think it is very auspicious that this alliance has been able to achieve some consensus and is coming here for our support. I certainly have no hesitation about offering my support. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Wah-Shee. To the motion.

Shared Responsibility For Constitutional Development

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could clarify the purpose of the creation of the alliance. The reason why is we all know that in the past years each, individually, including the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, has come up with their own independent initiatives on the area of constitutional development. The native organizations have also been taking their own independent initiatives in this area. However, I think we have come to a point in time where we feel that it should be a shared responsibility. It should be done in a spirit of co-operation, not in terms of confrontation, but rather to sit down and work together. This is the reason why, and the purpose, I believe, that the alliance has been formed. The accountability of all the members of the alliance is very clear, that the initiatives that we do take as members of the alliance will come back to the Legislature for their consideration, approval, changes, or whatever. I expect that the other members of the association will do likewise. They would have to go back to their membership. I think that this is not in any way to indicate that the responsibility of constitutional development should be taken away from the Legislature. By no means at all. I believe that the members of the alliance acknowledge that the responsibility of the Legislature clearly lies in the area of constitutional development; but likewise, I think the Legislature has to accept the fact that the native organizations should also participate and do so in a spirit of co-operation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. McLaughlin. To the motion.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other day when Mr. Curley introduced his motion about the alliance becoming a working group and involving the Association of Municipalities, I supported his motion, because just as some of the original people's organizations do not believe that the Assembly can represent them, there are people who are not native people in the Northwest Territories who seem to think that the "other" MLAs in the Legislative Assembly do not represent them in a lot of matters. That is why I was supportive of Mr. Curley's motion to amend that municipalities be involved, because they represent a specific group of people where lands have sort of permanently been turned over, and people hold individual title to those lands, and they have shown a big interest in being represented in some fashion. But I also realize that you people have come together as an alliance, and I imagine you will remain together as an alliance whether we participate with you or not, or whether you invite the municipalities to join your alliance or not is something that is difficult for us to force you to do. So I see this as a compromise situation. If you are going to have four MLAs instead of two on this alliance, then I can see that it is a compromise between the two problems, and I will support the motion.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order. Could you read it once again, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Clerk.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion is: That the committee endorse the efforts of the constitutional alliance and accept the invitation to designate four representatives to act on behalf of the Legislative Assembly in the alliance.

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

Endorsement Of General Objectives

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am inclined to support the motion. There is one concern that I have, and perhaps the mover of the motion would be willing to clarify it, and that is that in the earlier part of the motion, is it an endorsement of the general -- of the formation of the alliance and the general objective of constitutional change, or would you consider it an endorsement of the specific items that are noted in Mr. Wah-Shee's report? To me that would make a difference, because I can endorse the formation of the alliance and the general objectives of constitutional change; but if it meant that we are endorsing everything that is in the paper, there would be questions that have to be clarified and so on, since we are seeing it for the first time. So could I have that clarification, please?

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it is a question -- you must understand that I feel that once the four Members from our committee are involved with it, then you have an opportunity to throw back and forth your ideas on the outline that Mr. Wah-Shee has given to us. I think it is a working document that has been tabled by the efforts of the group that have been working for four or five days, or some people working 10 years; but it seems to me that as you move along, things change and develop and get more detailed. The reason that I put the motion on the floor is because I know it is a difficult thing getting groups of people together, such as we have sitting before us, and I fully respect each of their positions and where they stand. No matter what you try to put together, the alliance is one that will take a great deal of work to detail any kind of objectives that you do have, so I feel it is a beginning where people are going to sit together, and you may agree to disagree at a later date -- I am not going to predetermine anything.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes. In which case, I will support the motion, and in doing so I feel that I am supporting the formation of the alliance, the general objectives of constitutional development in the North satisfactory to all people of the North, and will welcome the opportunity to discuss specific matters that were raised in that paper at another time.

Motion To Endorse Efforts Of Constitutional Alliance And Accept Invitation For Four Representatives, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? Abstentions. The motion is carried.

---Carried

Any further questions to the witnesses. Mr. Noah.

MR. NOAH: (Translation) I was not here when they made their opening presentation because I had to go to a meeting somewhere else. However, I would like to express my concerns to the witnesses, or maybe I could put it as a question. I know that the native organizations have worked together for quite some time,

the Dene, the Metis, and the Inuit, and they know how to talk in English and Inuktitut, and I am in support of them. I know that some of them, when they talk, they talk very loudly, to be able to be heard and understood clearly. If what I am about to say is not agreeable to you, maybe you could answer me. All the people -- the native people of the Northwest Territories for many years now, we have been trying to deal with the constitution of Canada. It must be at least 54 years now. Maybe it has been tiring working on it. Politically, I feel that they are capable, our native leaders of the NWT. If they were not able to agree on a certain topic as to what the boundaries of the NWT would be, if they were not able to agree on the boundaries, I know that the federal government would split the Keewatin, and the ITC would have said that they would like to split the NWT along the tree line, and the Dene Nation have already proposed their boundary.

#### Legal Authority To Decide Boundary

We already know that the proposed boundaries of the Northwest Territories -- that there is an ITC proposal and there is a Dene Nation proposal, and that there is a federal proposal. Especially concerning the Dene Nation and the ITC proposals, if they were not able to agree after the plebiscite question, if they were not able to agree on the boundary, I would feel that they will be working toward agreeing on the boundary proposal, probably for a lifetime. When I just came in I heard that they will not be run by the Ottawa people. Politically, we all know how to talk, but we always have to follow things legally. I do not think anybody could really say which boundary you can draw up. I feel that the Supreme Court of Canada are the people that would be able to draw up the boundaries according to how the Eskimo people used to go hunting. I feel that they would be able to split the boundary as to where the Inuit people used to go hunting. I believe in justice according to the law, according to the courts, is much better. Justice always wins.

I would be happy if they were to split the NWT, and I would be in support of it, but if they were going to be disagreeing about the boundary for a long time, I feel that there will never be a definite boundary set for quite a while. Possibly after 20 years, if I am still alive, and the Dene Nation and ITC and the federal government cannot agree on a boundary, I feel that I would challenge them legally, through the Supreme Court. I feel that I would challenge the ITC or the Dene Nation and the federal government.

My question is if the majority of the people in the NWT were to vote "Yes", who do we listen to on the boundary question? Will it be the federal government, ITC, the Dene Nation, or the Supreme Court of Canada? Who would we listen to on the boundary question of the NWT? I feel that this is going to be talked about for quite a while, and they are going to have to work on negotiating the boundary question for many years. My question is very important, and I would be very happy to get a reply. If you do not like what I have said, I would very much like you to comment too. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Noah. Mr. Amagoalik.

MR. AMAGOALIK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to answer. On April the 14th, if the majority of the Northwest Territories residents vote "Yes" for the division, if that were to be so, the constitutional alliance would try to get negotiations going, including ITC, COPE, and the Dene Nation and the Metis Association, and Members of the Legislative Assembly as to where the boundaries could be. We would be negotiating for Denendeh, COPE; we would try to negotiate on the boundary of the Northwest Territories. Maybe you are right in stating that we would probably try to negotiate the boundaries for life. Maybe it might be, but you the Members of the Legislative Assembly can state -- during the life of the Ninth Assembly, you could try to, and when the Ninth Assembly almost dissolves, if you have not agreed on the boundary question, then the Members of the Legislative Assembly could ask the federal government for a boundaries commission. The territorial residents could get

another plebiscite for the boundary question, and get a commission from the federal government. They could look at the plebiscite and the boundary commission and negotiate on that. Maybe you can talk about this again tomorrow when Tagak Curley talks on that. Maybe Thomas Suluk could add to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Suluk, do you want to add to those comments?

Negotiations For An Agreed Boundary

MR. SULUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to add to what John Amagoalik was saying, that the Dene Nation has said that this is very hard to work on. We have agreed that we will not just give the harder subjects to the federal government. We are just trying to agree upon something on the constitutional development with the federal government. We are going to negotiate right now. We have been saying that we would like to be responsible. For this reason, we are trying to get together and trying to negotiate with each other on boundaries and if they cannot set this up we can set up a boundary commission or we will have to try and work on this ourselves. When you are trying to get some power, I think the Members know that the Commissioner or the Minister -- when you are asking them questions, you have to keep going after them in order to get an answer. People get mad along the way. We are not able to take any powers from the Government of Canada, so we have to work together, because I am sure we are going to get into some problems trying to get things we want. So, the Indians, the ITC and the other groups are trying to -- I am sure they are going to have problems too, but let us try to work ourselves and see if we can solve it. Because of those reasons, I want you to understand that this is the purpose. We probably all know that there is going to have to be a commission at some time in the future, and I wonder if that is understandable.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much, Mr. Suluk. We will have Nick Sibbeston after the break. Coffee break, please.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Mr. Noah, do you have a supplementary?

Ninth Assembly Is A Strong One

MR. NOAH: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have any more questions, but I would like to state that the ITC president was saying that we do not fight against each other. I am not expecting any fights or disagreements with the different organizations. I know that this is not going to happen. I do not think there has ever been any Assembly like the Ninth Assembly. I am not going to criticize the prior Assembly, but I do not think there will ever be any other Assembly like this one. Maybe there will be better Assemblies after us, but we do not know whether we are going to be elected again in 1983 and if you want to start something, maybe you could start this now, while we still have the Ninth Assembly, so that we can work well together. I think the Ninth Assembly is a lot stronger because there are more natives in the Assembly.

I do not know what the other Assembly was like, but I have never noticed the native organizations being invited to the Eighth Assembly or the Assemblies before us, but it seems like we are working very well together. I know that we are working very hard together, working on section 34 with the native organizations, but it seems like it is going to be just the opposite with division of the Northwest Territories. I think that there are going to be different ideas for the boundaries of the Northwest Territories, and there will be differences of about five or ten miles.

Question On Boundary Within The Keewatin

I do not see into the future. I have never seen Indians near the Eskimo Point and Baker Lake area. I have only seen Inuit living in that area within the Keewatin. As I said before, I might have said something that people were not going to agree with, but why is the proposed boundary written within the Keewatin as proposed by the Dene Nation? I want to get some answers on that. Also, what I am saying is that I am sort of forecasting that we will not be able to agree on the boundaries with the Dene Nation, ITC and federal government, and this is mostly what I am scared of. So, I would like to get some clarification why the proposed boundary has been marked in the Keewatin just near Baker Lake. I would like to know what is happening with that and why the boundary is proposed that way?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Qujannamiik, Mr. Noah. (Translation) I would like to recognize Mr. Peter Ittinuar, MP, in the gallery.

---Applause

Who would like to answer the question? Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS: I am going to add to what John Amagoalik and Tom Suluk were saying earlier and that is that the alliance would prefer that following the plebiscite, if there is a strong "Yes" vote for division of the Northwest Territories, that the major organizations and the territorial Legislative Assembly create a process where we in the North attempt to reach an agreed-upon border. The proposal of the Dene Nation is just one of the proposals. We are prepared to enter a process where, if necessary, we will compromise and attempt to reach a border which is mutually acceptable.

Proposed Boundary Based On 6000 Years Of Traditional Land Use

The proposal that we have put forth for our border comes from traditional land use over at least 6000 years, but we would have to recognize present day use and we would be prepared to negotiate. We think it is in our interest in the North



that we control the process. By "we" I mean people in the East and people in the West and if it is going to be that we cannot arrive at an agreed-upon border, only then, I would think, would we in the North throw our hands in the air and say that we cannot agree, then look to other alternatives. But we need some time for us here to make an attempt at that. To date we have not really sat down and made any serious attempt at an agreement on the border. We had hoped this winter that we would, but as it was that was not going to be the case; early in the new fiscal year the work can begin. It can begin in earnest and I feel that we can determine ourselves, where the boundary is going to be. I have faith that we will deal with each other fairly.

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

MR. NOAH: (Translation) As a last comment to what Georges Erasmus just said, I would like to answer him briefly. When we say we are aboriginal people, the people have to be living in the Northwest Territories for 4000 or 6000 years, but right now it is really different from what it was like 6000 years ago. I had relatives that were living 6000 years ago around Baker Lake, and they were called Thule Eskimos. The Dene used to visit the Keewatin area close to Baker Lake, but they never really lived in that area because there were no trees and it was too cold for them to live in that area. I do not think they could live in the Barren Lands. Maybe they could live in modern houses, but if we tried to live the way people lived 10,000 years ago, I do not think we could live like that any more, trying to live on hunting or trapping in the winter or even summertime, fall or spring; trying to get clothes from caribou skins and trying to get food.

"Thule Eskimos" Living In Baker Lake Area For Thousands Of Years

This has been recognized by Justice Mahoney, that we have been living in the Baker Lake area for thousands of years. I do not think as long as I am a Member of this Assembly that I will disagree with the proposed boundary, and if they are going to propose a boundary in the Keewatin, we may have to go through the courts in order to agree where people were living before, or when they were fishing and hunting. We will not just give the area away where we used to go out hunting.

I think the Inuit and the Dene and the whites and the others will have to agree together. I do not want to be tied down on one thing. I like the boundary that was set up around the Keewatin area, and if they are going to cut it up and make another boundary, I think everybody will have to agree upon this. Even if they do not want to deal with the federal government, they will have to ask them later on anyway. If the ITC and Dene Nation were to agree on a boundary, the federal government will always have to be involved, even though they are asked afterwards. Whether we like this or not, we will have to ask the federal government about the boundaries before this division is decided. I think I am talking a little bit too long, and I think the rest of the Members have things to say, too, so I shall stop for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Qujannamiik, Mr. Noah. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS: I just want to make a few more comments. I am afraid that the Member is taking our proposal for a border between north, east, and west, too seriously. We are prepared to sit down and work out a border. The Dene, for many years after ITC originally put forth its proposal, never decided upon what border we would suggest. We have always hoped that we would be able to sit down and negotiate a border, and the reason why we did not for many years was because we did not want the kind of reaction that we are getting here now. Finally, the reason we were forced this spring to do that was because there was becoming a mind-set that in fact if there was going to be a division it was going to be along the tree line. Now, there are some communities of the Dene that are two

or three miles away from the tree line, and I name communities like Snare Lake, and it would just be completely unreasonable in those circumstances -- and the only intention was to make it very clear that we need to sit down, we need to work out where the border will be. We have no intention of attempting to be unfair, and those people that are very cynical and believe that maybe we will not be able to reach an agreement might be right. But I still feel that it is possible for us to reach an agreement and we should make an attempt first. Then finally, if we do not succeed in reaching an agreement then we look to alternatives beyond our control. We can ask the federal government or whatever, a third party, or, indeed, we go to court if there is a court issue. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say a few words. Seeing this privately as just an ordinary Member and not chairman of the constitutional development committee -- the committee itself has not met, so we do not have a position to take to the Assembly at this time -- but I just want to say that since the alliance has been established, a question has arisen as to the role of our constitutional development committee. I just want to state briefly my own feelings on the subject.

#### Mandate Of Special Committee On Constitutional Development

The mandate of the special committee on constitutional development is fairly simple and is set out in a couple of paragraphs in the terms of reference. The first term of reference is simply to hold meetings with the following organizations about the processes or mechanisms which may be established to deal with future political and constitutional development in the western NWT. So as I take it, it is simply to hold meetings with the Dene Nation, the Metis Association, COPE, the Association of Municipalities and other groups to talk about processes or mechanisms. Now, the second term of reference is that in the event that the above organizations agree there be a conference of representatives of organizations to attempt to come to some general conclusion about the future constitution for the western NWT. So I feel that the mandate of the committee has been fulfilled.

We have had meetings with these organizations, and then we have had a constitutional conference, so the committee obviously needs to report to the Assembly, and depending on its recommendations, seek a new mandate. So this will be done in the next few weeks, but in the meantime, the question still arises as to what is the role of the constitutional development committee. My own private feeling on the subject is that the committee is an arm of this Assembly, that it could serve a very useful role in providing information to this Assembly and then, in turn, to this alliance.

I feel that there is merit in continuing to sponsor conferences where, like the first conference, all organizations in the North that are interested are invited and discussion and information are given and exchanged with one another. I see at any future conference that the alliance, foremost, would be welcome; the whole process of people expressing themselves about various aspects of the constitution can continue and the attempt continue to reach a consensus in the western part of the North. So that is my own feeling on the matter. I was going to ask where the alliance saw themselves fitting into this process that I mentioned, and whether they would be prepared to attend any future conferences should some conferences be held.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie. Do you have any questions?

Role Of Alliance In Future Constitutional Conferences

MR. SIBBESTON: I guess my question was to the alliance, maybe Mr. Erasmus, or Mr. Stevenson, or Mr. Wah-Shee -- or, for that matter, Mr. Sam Raddi -- members of the alliance who are in the western part of the North, whether they would be prepared to attend any constitutional conferences that are held by this committee in the future, should any be held, and also what is their role in this?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the constitutional committee, I think that there has to be some further thinking in this area, I think, because the alliance had in mind holding their regional conferences to have public input on constitutional development. The Dene Nation will undertake the responsibility of holding conferences with the Dene people. The Metis Association will do likewise. So therefore, it may be a possibility of giving consideration that the committee may be responsible for holding conferences in large centres like Yellowknife, Fort Smith, Pine Point, Hay River, Fort Simpson, unless the honourable Member disagrees -- Fort Simpson -- and Inuvik; but what we had in mind was that each member of the alliance would be responsible for organizing regional conferences in dealing with the constitutional development activities. However, I think it might be appropriate to wait for the honourable Member's report to be given to this House, and perhaps we can go from there in terms of trying to work out an appropriate arrangement which would be acceptable to the Members of the House.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. I have first a question and then a motion, Mr. Chairman. The question is for Mr. Wah-Shee, and it is with respect to some comments that were made earlier that raised a question, and I would like him to answer that now. Is it clear in your understanding, Mr. Wah-Shee, that the decisions that are made by the alliance are subject to ratification by the Assembly? That you bring major matters back that the alliance has dealt with for discussion and decision in this Assembly?

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

Membership Of Alliance Based On Co-operation

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, the honourable Member is correct. The members of the alliance are accountable to their own membership. Members that will be sitting that represent the Legislature will have to come back and present a report for their consideration and debate, and the decision will be required as we go along. One thing I have not mentioned earlier was that the membership on the alliance is really based on co-operation, but also individual members of the alliance have the opportunity to opt out. They will not have to belong to the alliance, and this goes for any member that belongs to the alliance. This is why I think that the membership and the co-operation is very essential, that we do commit ourselves to work together. However, it is a very fragile kind of coalition we do have, and I think it takes a great deal of understanding, and I think there will be give and take, and it is not something that we can force on any member at the present time. It is really based on the opportunity for all members to work together and we hope that we can maintain this co-operation. We also ask for understanding from the Members of this House and also on the part of the native organizations as well. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. That is a very satisfactory response from my point of view, and the idea of non-imposition on any member of the alliance, I am sure, includes non-imposition on the Assembly itself. Further down the line, I would

hope that it also includes non-imposition on the peoples that are represented by the various groups as well, that there would be a process of ratification, I am sure -- I not only hope, but I am sure that that would be the case.

Motion That All Constitutional Alliance Meetings Include Two Non-Aboriginal Members Of The Legislature

Mr. Chairman, if I may, I would like to move at this time something that I referred to earlier. I move that this committee ensure that the interests of non-aboriginal peoples are looked after in the matter of constitutional development by including in its delegation to all alliance meetings two non-aboriginal Members of this Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): May we have a copy of that motion, please? Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is advanced on the basis of, first of all, the motion that was passed in Frobisher Bay by this Assembly, by a vote, I believe, of 18 in favour, in the fall of 1980 which, as I said earlier, recognized that successful constitutional development in the Northwest Territories will not likely occur unless the interests of all significant groups of people are considered and taken into account. Also, in view of the difficulty of including representation for non-aboriginal peoples in any other way, and also, further, in view of the comments of members of the alliance earlier, which generally were receptive to that kind of representation, I hope that Members of the committee will not have problems with the motion. Certainly, if it is endorsed, I feel that that would go a long way toward making the alliance work effectively.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would think that this motion is really out of order, because we already dealt with it. It is really up to the Assembly or the caucus to appoint those Members, so I would think that -- I would have to ask for a ruling on that, because we already moved a motion and the normal procedure is that the caucus normally appoints Members.

Chairman's Ruling On Motion

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) The motion that was made did not state who was going to be on, and I think the mover was well aware of the first motion. However, it stated only "four people" and it does not state who they are going to be, but this motion now states that two representatives are on, and it does not say who are going to be the two representatives. I agree with the motion. It is in order. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, maybe if I could ask the Law Clerk. That motion that was made earlier and passed, stated that there would be four representatives. That motion does not state about native or non-native, but I think it should be stated that if you are a native or a non-native, you will have responsibilities in the committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Perhaps we can speak in English.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, is it not automatically accepted by tradition and by the practice of the Assembly that this Assembly, Assemblies do not operate on the basis of race? Should the original motion not have already assured that there will be a fair representation on the alliance regardless of who, or should we be specific as to what race should we appoint to the alliance?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) The question will be directed to the Law Clerk, but perhaps there is an alternative; that you speak to the motion and if you do not support it, you can abstain. Do you understand? (Translation ends) Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: I do not think the chairman should advise me that I do not have the privilege of asking the Law Clerk. As an MLA, I have the privilege of asking him, and I think he should answer my question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) Yes, I will forward that. (Translation ends) Law Clerk, please.

Law Clerk's Opinion

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): Yes, Mr. Chairman. I am really of the view here that this question of Mr. Curley's is not a question of law, and I have said as much to the chairman, or to yourself.

I was in on the discussion as to whether the motion was in order, and I expressed my view to the Chair that this, although it could have been an amendment to the original motion, does not offend against the original motion. It can be considered a separate subject and, consequently, I am of the view that the motion is in order, but that is, of course, a question for the Chair to decide, and that can be appropriately challenged if the Member wishes to do so.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion That All Constitutional Alliance Meetings Include Two Non-Aboriginal Members Of The Legislature, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. One, two, three, four. Down. Opposed? Against? The motion is carried.

---Carried

On my list, I had Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to give a brief comment on what Georges Erasmus has to say about the boundary. I think what Mr. Noah was really trying to get at was that we cannot just live in the past. We have to really be looking at this reality today, the present-day reality, and the future. Sure, I think, if we look at the historical land use of the various races of the Territories, you know, we would really be looking for a really long struggle to resolve the issue of boundaries.

Presently, there are no Dene people that have an extensive use of the Keewatin, other than the people near the Thelon area, and I think they have no problem in using that land. I do not think there would be any problem in that land, regardless of where the boundaries were, as far as the native people were concerned, because all the native people would like to protect the hunting rights of each party.

Mr. Noah was really trying to say that if we try to continue to pursue and try to take over the other parties' interests, we really have to expect there will be a long struggle in resolving the issues. What he was trying to say was, regardless of how you would like to negotiate the boundary and the problems involved in selecting a boundary between the two parties, Inuit and Dene, really the one who makes the decision is still the federal government. So this is what he was trying to put in the present-day practical realities.

So I would agree with Mr. Noah that I think the possible real interest is probably to delay development of the Eastern Arctic's self-determination. You know, it was on its way to at least get a possible agreement with the federal government if someone did not come in and say that they have some interests in this area, too. Now we have ties strong enough that we cannot even untie the knots even in our own Legislature here, because not only have we confused the Inuit and Dene, but we have included the others in it, and we cannot wiggle out of the web.

#### Precedent Of Nunatsiaq Already Set For Division On Tree Line

So I do not know. I would like to see the day that we really mean what we say, that we are going to really co-operate, and that we are really going to attempt to resolve it. I say the fairest way to resolve this problem is step by step. Let us not worry about the boundary until we have heard from the people whether they are in support of the division. Let us all move our energy toward the division question and worry about the boundary stuff later. I think the point to be made about ITC's innocent political proposal a few years ago was that there was already a precedent for the tree line, based on the Nunatsiaq federal riding. People had had a chance to reflect on that for many years, but we have never heard that federal riding is unacceptable to the people of the Northwest Territories. We have never heard from others that the tree line for the federal Nunatsiaq riding is really hurting them. They have been able to live with this. They have no problem being represented by the MP from Nunatsiaq, based on the tree line, but now we say if the possible boundary is going to be the tree line, we are all of a sudden going to have problems living with each other.

I am not sure whether these kinds of fears are real, so I will concur with John Amagoalik when he says, "Our energy should be not one out of fear." I think it should be big on the practical realities of today, complex but I think exciting; they should be exciting. You know, it would be fair for members from all parties, Inuit, Dene, others to say, "We do not support division; we like it to remain the same, because we have a lot to gain from being united, by having one territory," but we have no leadership from the negative side. All we have is somebody trying to make political mileage out of something that the people in the Eastern Arctic have started out, and I am beginning to see the ones who will lose the most out of this exercise are the people in the Eastern Arctic. Not the people from the West, but the people in the Eastern Arctic are getting caught in somebody's own web.

I say that without prejudice to anybody, because I am not only an advocate for protecting the culture and aboriginal rights but one that has been involved. Being a politician is a token part of my life. I was born a hunter and I lived a hunter and I practice it and I enjoy it a lot, and I still am going to do the kinds of things that the Inuit will want to do for a number of years.

#### Solution To Constitutional Development Through Practical Realities

So, I do not want to get into talking about my philosophies on the political development, because I think the North today, the NWT, has caught itself offguard by getting mixed up in political philosophies, rather than practical realities in attempting to resolve the constitutional development. You know, that is why we have Bob MacQuarrie very interested in the political development philosophy, because he is one of the philosophers of this -- maybe the foremost philosopher of the MLAs in this Assembly, and I enjoy them...

---Laughter

...but politics, political development cannot be solved on the philosophies of the political development. The way we are going to attempt to deal with the political development, step by step, I think is one way.

Let us worry about the division. If there is no vote, then we may be wasting our time trying to have an alliance that probably will not get anywhere and I think we should also include the Executive Committee Members. Has the cabinet of this government approved the principles that have been adopted by this Assembly as they are presented by the Minister responsible? Has he discussed them through his Executive Committee? Has he got the approval of the cabinet of the government to proceed with the principles and therefore negotiate the political development with the federal government or has he got to go back to the Executive Committee once approved and present his positions to the Assembly? How does it work? You know, are we really using what we should be using in all areas of the public government? Are we using the institutions properly? Are we using our ministerial portfolios fully?

Motion To Recommend That The Minister For Nunavut Be Appointed Immediately

What I mean is this Assembly has been saying to the Executive Committee that they appoint a minister responsible for Nunavut. It never said add another position to the Executive Committee. It merely has said that there should be a minister for Nunavut appointed. I therefore will move that this Legislature recommend to the Executive Committee that the minister for Nunavut be appointed immediately, prior to the plebiscite on April 14, 1982.

CHAIRMAN (Mr Pudluk): Can we have a copy of that motion, please? Your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think everyone has to gain something out of this exercise. I think the Dene Nation has certainly gained a lot through the exercise by having had a direct endorsement from the Minister responsible for Constitutional Development and they have had a lot of support from the constitutional conference held recently in the Western Arctic -- funds provided by the government, whereas ITC and the organization had to put up the money themselves. There were no Ministers from the government attending that conference.

So, I think if we are going to gain something out of this exercise, we have to mean what we say. I think I am pressed to say also that COPE has a lot to gain from this exercise and, therefore, they have the endorsement from the Minister responsible for Constitutional Development that he will work toward establishing the Western Arctic regional municipality, endorsed by the alliance and by this Assembly. So, I think we have to do something for the Eastern Arctic. If we are going to get something out, let us see the Executive Committee appoint a minister responsible, even from its own set of Ministers, additional responsibility for that area. Then I think we are going to really demonstrate what we can do within the present authority given to this Legislative Assembly. I urge you to support -- all of you -- the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Constitutional Alliance Is Fragile

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I support the motion. I have no difficulty supporting it on the Executive, with the appointment of a minister of Nunavut. I think that the motion is a good one. However, I feel that I should repeat once more that the members of the alliance are based as one through their own individual choice to work together and it is a fragile constitutional alliance. Everybody has taken the political will to work together and I think that it should be appreciated by the Members of this House that it does take a lot of give and take and it also requires a lot of understanding. I feel that if the Assembly wishes to have an appointment of a ministry of Nunavut to be in charge of aboriginal and constitutional development for the Eastern Arctic, I am 100 per cent behind that.

I do not feel that as an individual that I am in a position to look after both interests. I feel that it could take the co-operation of two ministers to work together. I also want to state that I do support division and this is the position that the Assembly has taken in Frobisher Bay. I think that it is going to take a lot of hard work on the part of the members of the alliance to keep the alliance functional and to keep on maintaining the communication back and forth. However, the alliance will report back to the -- at least the Members of the Legislature that sit as representatives of this House on the alliance -- we will come back and report back to the House. So I do not think as representatives of the Legislative Assembly that you are giving us authority carte blanche and we go on our own sweet way. I think that we are accountable and we are accountable to this House, but at the same time, appreciate that the presidents and the vice-presidents and the executive members of the individual members of the alliance, made up of the major native organizations, are also required to go back to their membership. So, I do not have any difficulty supporting the honourable Member's motion.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I have a little difficulty understanding the motion. The motion says that they appoint a minister for Nunavut. I did not know that there was such a thing as yet. We are still dealing with Nunavut, are we not? If we appoint a minister for Nunavut, which does not take place until after the plebiscite or until after it is decided that there is a Nunavut -- so, I have a little difficulty with the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not have any difficulties with the motion. I think I know what Nunavut means. In fact, I was elected on a platform in Frobisher Bay to promote the establishment of a new territory in the eastern part of the Northwest Territories, to be called Nunavut, and I do not have any difficulty understanding what that means.

#### Recommendation 10, Report Of Special Committee on Unity

I have in front of me recommendation 10 of the special committee on unity, as adopted by the Legislative Assembly in October, 1980, and I would just like to review for Members that motion. It says that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories as follows:

- 1) That a Member of the Executive Committee be made the minister responsible for the conduct of further investigation, discussion, public consultation and negotiation about matters affecting and accompanying the creation of a new Arctic territory in the eastern part of the Northwest Territories;
- 2) That the minister be given adequate financial and human resources to carry out this responsibility;
- 3) That the present Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development concentrate his efforts on promoting the political, economic and social aspirations of the people who live in the western part of the existing Northwest Territories;
- 4) That the said minister and the present Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development work together on issues of mutual concern and interest to the people of the eastern part of the Northwest Territories and the people who live in the western part of the Northwest Territories;
- 5) That the said minister and the present Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development work together on issues of mutual concern and interest to the people of the eastern part of the Northwest Territories and the people



of the western part of the Northwest Territories, particularly issues of mutual concern and interest that arise with respect to such matters affecting and accompanying the possible creation of one or two new territories, as timing, transitional arrangements, boundaries, ongoing co-operation among separate governmental structures, aboriginal rights negotiations and reform of the Canadian constitution;

6) That the said minister undertake other responsibilities of a regular nature which will significantly relieve the burden of the Executive Committee in carrying out its duties.

#### Recommendation 10 Of Unity Report Is Not Yet Implemented

Mr. Chairman, I believe that this is the last recommendation of this Assembly following those eight days of fascinating debate in Frobisher Bay to be acted on. This one has yet to be implemented. I think all the other recommendations -- the conducting of a plebiscite, the establishing of an impact committee, the establishment of a constitutional development committee to explore future political development in the Western Arctic -- all those things have been done, but the recommendation that there be a minister responsible for investigation, discussion about matters affecting the eastern territory has not been implemented.

I have always believed that the Northwest Territories is too large to be governed from one western capital and since I have been on the Executive in the last year I have now become convinced that it is virtually impossible to govern a department of any size in this huge territory, to effectively be responsible for the eastern and western parts of the Northwest Territories.

I was pleased to hear Mr. Wah-Shee acknowledge that he could use aid in matters affecting the eastern part of the Northwest Territories and I think we can all appreciate that his task, as Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development for the whole Northwest Territories, is enormous, because there are so many different interests and so fundamentally different are they that the job is extremely demanding.

I think it is very appropriate that we should consider this motion at this time, Mr. Chairman, because here we have an alliance composed once again -- there is nothing new in this in the Northwest Territories -- composed once again of a majority of western members, with a Minister from the West and this is the kind of problem that has led historically to calling, both from the East and the West, for two territories. So I support the motion, because I think this kind of subdivision of our Ministry of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development is necessary now, and I also think that it is necessary that we do that with every department of government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. To the motion. Mr. Stewart.

#### Concept Of Nunavut Is Political

HON. DON. STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no trouble with the intent of the motion, but I do have a great deal of trouble with the word "Nunavut". The paper that Mr. Patterson read of the findings of the impact committee does not in any part of what he read mention the word "Nunavut". Nunavut is more than the eastern part of the Northwest Territories. It is a political concept that includes boundaries and everything else. I can support a situation where there is a minister appointed for the eastern territory. I could not support the appointment of Mr. Wah-Shee as the minister of Denendeh, because then again you are doing the same thing. You are taking a concept and saying that we are recognizing the concept in whole. If we put a minister in charge of it, that is what we are doing. We need ministers in both of these areas because they are very vast, but they should not have any further connotation than we need to develop something from this and be a working tool toward the eventual end; but to accept the name of these concepts, I appeal to you, you are accepting

all of the principles of that concept, and their boundaries, indeed, if they have them set out, and Nunavut does have its boundaries set. So if you approve that motion, you are saying that we accept everything that Nunavut does because we see it -- they are that powerful, we are going to put a minister in charge of it. I do not think that that is right and I am not really sure that that is what you want to do. An Eastern Arctic minister, fine, I have no trouble with it; but I cannot support a Nunavut minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Curley, to the motion. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to reply to that statement, because I think his position is really far more than just a word, "Nunavut". He has no difficulty in supporting a certain candidate, a party candidate for Nunatsiaq riding. You know, "nuna" really means land, so he has no difficulty in supporting a political candidate, if it is in the right colour for Nunatsiaq, which is representing that part of the area we are talking about.

A minister for Nunavut really would be understood in the same category. It does not endorse "Inuit", which is Inuktitut for "Eskimo". It should not have anything to do with comparing it with the Dene Nation's concept of their government. They specifically refer to it as "Dene", whereas Nunavut is a proposal, political proposal, really, strictly, not for Inuit at all. When we say Nunavut, we do not mean certain boundaries to be represented at all, because the Western Arctic area, I am sure, would not necessarily want to be represented by the minister responsible for that part of an area. So I do not see why he has any difficulty in supporting that motion, because he already in his own lifetime has supported that part of an area when election time comes each four years. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? Mrs. Sorensen.

Amendment To Motion To Recommend That Minister For Nunavut Be Appointed Immediately

MRS. SORENSEN: When we first debated this same motion in Frobisher Bay, I believe I abstained for the very reason that Mr. Stewart just outlined. I have before me a document entitled "Nunavut, April 14th, 1982, Vote Yes", which has apparently been circulated by ITC. It has John Amagoalik's name on it and Thomas Suluk's name on it. In here it says, "What is Nunavut?" The answer is, "Nunavut is the name given to the land lying roughly north and east of the tree line", and so that apparently is how ITC defines Nunavut. I would also have to abstain, I think, from the vote although I am very much in favour of the creation of a minister for the Eastern Arctic, and have spoken in favour of that in previous speeches and in motions that have been made. So I wonder if Mr. Curley would consider -- well, in fact, I shall amend the motion to replace "Eastern Arctic" for the word "Nunavut".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: I would just like to appeal to everybody here, Mr. Chairman. Nunavut is going to be what it is when it is settled. Denendeh will be what it is when it is settled. We have for many years believed that Nunavut will be generally along the tree line. Maybe it will be, maybe it will not be. An alliance has been formed here, with our trust -- not everybody is 100 per cent satisfied and perhaps I am not -- but I do not understand why we waste the Assembly's time continually to worry about little details like that. Nunavut is going to be Nunavut wherever it starts...

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

MS COURNOYEA: Now, are you going to make the determination today that Nunavut is the Eastern Arctic? You are asking right now and putting down Nunavut is the Eastern Arctic. Tuk is not in the Eastern Arctic. Maybe Yellowknife wants to be in Nunavut. I do not know.

---Applause

Determination Of Boundaries Should Not Be Set By This Amendment

So we have already generally agreed at another Assembly, at another meeting, that we should have a person for this mythical thing, wherever it functions in our mind, that there should be a person who is going to take care of this responsibility. So let us have some confidence in the motion and give further direction to the Executive Committee, which we have already given direction to, that they should have a person within the Executive responsible for this issue of Nunavut. I do not believe that the chairman should accept a determination on where the boundaries are to be by the amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I cannot support the amendment, because my motion just asks, merely recommends that the Executive Committee consider appointing a minister responsible for Nunavut. They could decide the minister for Nunavut -- that part could be somewhere starting off from the Central Arctic. Or it could start out from the Baffin area. So I do not know why you guys have any problem with that. After all, I am not putting any borderlines on it. That is going to be up to the Executive Committee to decide how they want to limit the responsibility of the minister responsible for that area. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Well, I hear what you are saying. I understand that Nunavut means many different things to many different people, but I have a document in front of me that defines it. This is a document that is dealing with the plebiscite, so it is the very latest definition that I have of Nunavut, and it says that Nunavut is the name given to the land lying roughly north and east of the tree line.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Roughly, roughly!

MRS. SORENSEN: So that has given a rough boundary, and all I am saying is that if we begin to do that kind of thing before we have determined where Nunavut is really going to be, we are just backing ourselves into a corner. The Eastern Arctic is known as that area that the eastern Members come from, and it is understood by this Legislature and by the people quite clearly. So I do not know why you are so threatened by that change.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. McLaughlin. To the amendment.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I think it was in the session in Hay River when we were talking about the plebiscite that a motion was on the floor about "a Nunavut territory", and Mr. MacQuarrie eloquently described that a Nunavut territory did not mean "the Nunavut territory", so that Nunavut in this motion could be whatever Nunavut turns out to be. It might mean that we cannot appoint a minister of Nunavut until Nunavut comes into existence, but I will support the motion and not the amendment. I do not think that the Members from Yellowknife should be too excited. If we keep bickering like this, the people in this area will be Alberta bound pretty soon.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Amendment To Motion To Recommend That Minister For Nunavut Be Appointed Immediately, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour of the amendment? Down. Opposed? The amendment is defeated.

---Defeated

To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are you ready for the question?

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

Motion To Recommend That The Minister For Nunavut Be Appointed Immediately, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A recorded vote is requested. All those in favour, stand until your name has been called, please. All those in favour?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Tologanak, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Noah, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. McLaughlin.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): All those against?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. McCallum, Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Curley.

Motion To Recommend Commitment Of 50 Per Cent Of ITC Costs Of Constitutional Development Conference

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have another motion which I would certainly like this Assembly to support, and I will explain why. First I would like to move that this Legislature recommend to the Minister of Constitutional Development and Executive Committee to commit 50 per cent of costs incurred by ITC recently regarding the constitutional development conference in the Eastern Arctic.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, can we have a copy of your motion? Mr. Curley, your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, although we recognize and accept the Minister's contribution to that -- he had contributed something like \$10,000 -- it really is, I think, a token support for it, because if he had had to charter a plane to Yellowknife, he would have used at least 75 per cent of that amount, and I am sure he would have chartered a plane to get there. So it really does not cover any delegates from the far part of the Eastern Arctic, who went to Rankin Inlet to talk about the future of the Northwest Territories, as far as the constitutional development of that part of the area is concerned.

So I think it is only right that if we really are serious about doing something for the North, that this government must contribute, even if it includes funds. After all, it did for all of the municipality representatives when the recent Western Arctic constitutional conference was held. We can also take into consideration the federal government did contribute, in the amount of \$20,000 for that, but that is all. You cannot hold a constitutional conference in the Eastern Arctic for \$30,000. Not possible. It has never been done before by the government. I think if we are really going to at least have a meaningful working relationship, it has to be a two-way street; not only one side. So I would urge you to support the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Not Right To Finance After The Fact

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Regrettably, I cannot support the motion that asks for the money after the fact, because, certainly in mounting the conference, the Inuit had specific purposes that they were attempting to achieve, and they did not -- nor should they have -- asked the Assembly whether what they were doing was acceptable to the Assembly, but also the Dene and COPE, I am sure, have had conferences like that, as have other people, and I think it is simply not right to finance after the fact. I can certainly see it in the future. If the alliance is working effectively and there is agreement on all parts that certain funds should be allocated to assist the whole process of constitutional development, I will not stand in the way of that, but I do not like this manner of dealing with funding.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to point out that, you know, after the fact, that if we had appointed a minister responsible for the Eastern Arctic, as we said -- and if it was accepted by this Assembly -- it was accepted by the Assembly -- and by the Executive Committee, I am sure we would have contributed a lot of money to that. But we did not have the constitutional minister responsible for that part of an area, so I do not think it is really an after-the-fact situation; it is that the Minister responsible for Constitutional Development really was not paying any attention to that part, as far as constitutional development was concerned. So I would ask that you should just change your mind and support the motion. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Recommend Commitment Of 50 Per Cent Of ITC Costs Of Constitutional Development Conference, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are you ready for the question? Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hand. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: What was the count?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Eight to five. Satisfied?

---Laughter

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Sure. Just checking to see how close.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are there any further questions to the witnesses? If there are not, I would like to thank the witnesses: Georges Erasmus, Bob Stevenson, John Amagoalik, Tom Suluk, Sam Raddi, also James Wah-Shee. Thanks very much for appearing in this House.

---Applause

What does this House wish to do now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF MATTERS RELATING TO CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Matters Relating to Constitutional and Political Development, and wish to report progress. This matter is concluded, with four motions being adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, will you give the announcements, please, and the orders of the day?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on finance at 9:00 a.m. Katimavik A.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 26, 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: Tabled Documents 4-82(1), 20-82(1), 21-82(1); Bill 1-82(1); Tabled Document 15-82(1); Tabled Document 16-82(1); 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House will stand adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 26th, 1982.

---ADJOURNMENT

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