



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. George Braden, Hon. Tom Butters, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Fraser, Mr. MacQuarrie, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. McLaughlin, Hon. Jennis Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, 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 Friday, March 5th. Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address.

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Mr. Evaluarjuk's Reply

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am just going to make a brief comment. What I am going to say is going to be completely different from what we have been discussing.

Some of the people are concerned about the plebiscite. It is going to be held on April 14th; some of the people are very concerned about the date. I am not concerned about it, but I do not know what is going to be happening before the date of the plebiscite. The people are going to be making a decision about the division of the Northwest Territories, and we are going to find out how it is going to turn out. Some of the people have said that they are not informed about the plebiscite; I know because they are my fellow Inuit and I know what they feel like. Inuit do not usually read all the propaganda, and the way that we get information on what is going on is through conversation. Now we are going to find out the turnout of the vote in April, and we, the elected Members, are going to use everything to inform the people about the plebiscite. Also, the native groups like ITC and the other organizations are going to try to inform the people about the plebiscite, and we are not going to tell the people how to vote. They are going to be doing that on their own, and they are probably going to decide on how they understand it and how they feel about it.

Concerning the other provinces throughout Canada, it is not going to be making any difference if we make a couple of provinces out of the Northwest Territories. I am very happy and looking forward to the plebiscite, and I am very pleased with the way the people are working on the plebiscite. That is what I wanted to talk about.

Housing Rental Increases

The other thing is, since I am in this Assembly representing my people, because I am representing the people I am sitting in this House and I am very happy about it. I would like to mention also, I would like you to know that the people that I am representing are backing us up. The people from Eskimo Point and Whale Cove have made petitions about putting a moratorium on housing rents. It is going to be too late to make a motion on that, but you, as the Executive Committee, should look into this concern of the Keewatin people, because it is affecting them deeply; maybe not only in the Keewatin region, but in the whole Northwest Territories the people are concerned about the high cost of living.

The price of everything up here is higher than in any other place. We have been requesting a lot of things through the Baffin Regional Council and other organizations on certain things like food prices, and we have been asking the federal government to help us with the high cost of living up here. If the federal government is going to be helping the people of the Northwest Territories on the cost of living, if the rent increases it is not going to matter too much if they are going to help us through other things like food subsidies and other things. I am going to be leaving the government if a little bit more of that happens. My people told me that they have been listening to the discussions and they realize how hard you are working, but I think that if they put a moratorium on housing rents, I am going to find out how hard we are working for the people, because it is a major concern of the Northwest Territories. That is all I have got to say for now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Replies to the Commissioner's Address.

Item 3, oral questions.

Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

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

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a brief statement I would like to make respecting the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance, if I could proceed under returns, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Braden.

Minister's Statement On Landlord And Tenant Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The purpose of this statement is to set out clearly the important aspects of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance so that these may be considered in determining what modifications to the present legislation, if any, can be made. The territorial Landlord and Tenant Ordinance is similar to that in all other jurisdictions in Canada except New Brunswick, in that it draws a clear distinction between commercial and residential tenancies or tenants. Generally, the law governing residential tenancies is more restrictive, reflecting the belief that the parties to a residential lease are usually not as accustomed to entering into contracts as those involved in a commercial venture. Part IV of our ordinance, which pertains to residential tenancies only, provides a measure of built-in protection for the parties, and it is designed to ensure that all such relationships conform or be deemed to conform to a certain determined minimum standard. These provisions cannot be waived, notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary. I will set out below in summary form the essential rights and obligations of the landlord and the tenant under part IV of our ordinance.

Landlord's Rights And Duties

With respect to landlords' rights, a landlord has the right to terminate tenancies at the end of a tenancy period or for non-payment of rents on giving prescribed notice. The landlord may also seize personal property of the tenant as security for non-payment of rent. Upon giving the required notice, or in an emergency, the landlord may enter the premises for a variety of purposes. Rental increases are allowed with three months notice except where an agreement is in force that calls for a greater period. The landlord is entitled to a security deposit of not more than one half of a months rent, and is also entitled to a speedy application to the courts in the event of non-payment of rent or excessive damage to property.

Now, with respect to a landlord's duties, Mr. Speaker, the landlord must keep the premises in a good state of repair and comply with all health and safety standards. Interest at the rate of four per cent must be paid on the tenant's security deposit, and the deposit must be returned to the tenant within 10 days of the termination of tenancy. The landlord must also make the premises reasonably secure from unauthorized entry.

Tenant's Rights And Duties

Third, Mr. Speaker, on the matter of the tenant's rights, the tenant cannot be evicted for complaining about the landlord's violations or lack of adherence to health and safety standards, or for generally attempting to enforce his legal rights as a tenant. As well, as I noted above, he is entitled to four per cent interest on his security deposit, and may take court action to compel the landlord to pay it. The tenant is entitled to three months notice of an increase in his rent.

Fourth, with respect to tenants' duties, the tenant is responsible for ordinary cleanliness and must take reasonable care of the premises. He must repair any damage caused by his conduct or the conduct of his guests. The tenant is not permitted to cause a nuisance or disturbance to other tenants in the building.

Mutual Rights And Duties

Fifth, Mr. Speaker, on the matter of mutual or joint duties and rights, the tenant may not assign the premises to someone else without the consent of the landlord, and the landlord cannot unreasonably withhold that consent. Neither landlord nor tenant can alter locks on any door giving entry to the premises, except by mutual consent.

I have directed my department to carry out a comparative study of the law relating to landlord and tenants in all jurisdictions in Canada. This study will enable me to suggest viable methods of amending our existing legislation so that landlords and tenants will have their individual rights protected wherever possible.

In conclusion, we are all acutely aware of the existing housing shortage in the Northwest Territories, and particularly in Yellowknife; therefore, I must be mindful that in presenting recommendations to this Assembly, the incentive for developers will not be and should not be reduced to the extent that new units will not be started. Nevertheless, I recognize that developers or landlords cannot be favoured to the extent that the rights of the tenants are rendered meaningless. With this difficulty and these conditions in mind, I will be dealing with the problem over the next few months. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. Tologanak.

Return To Question 84-82(1): Selling Government Owned Housing

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to written Question 84-82(1), asked by Ms Cournoyea on March 4, 1982, and the reply is concerning the selling of government owned housing.

The sale of government housing to government employees is handled by the Department of Government Services. There is no possibility of employees selling assets to themselves as Government Services personnel simply administer the tendering and turn over the unopened tenders to the housing implementation group. It is not deemed necessary to appoint an independent qualified body to carry out these transactions as the Department of Government Services has the expertise necessary to administer the process as developed through its responsibility for disposal of government assets. The implementation group is accountable to the Executive Committee through the office of the Deputy Commissioner. The process for the sale of staff housing was developed by the implementation group and approved by the financial management board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns. Any further returns? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I will be distributing to Members today the report of the bilingual educational conference in Frobisher Bay, which includes a summary of the Inuvik conference. It has been translated and it will form the basis for the development of a grants policy on native language preservation and development in the coming year. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: That more properly should come under tabled documents, I believe, Mr. Patterson.

Item 5, petitions. Are there any petitions today?

We shall accept that last document then as a tabled document, Mr. Patterson. Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled documents. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 33-82(1), Correspondence on Postal Service to Rankin Inlet; a series of letters that have been written both by the territorial government, myself, and Mr. Michael Warren, who is the chief executive officer and president of Canada Post Corporation concerning the improvement of service for postal services to Rankin Inlet. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 34-82(1), Services to Business, A Guide to Territorial, Federal and Other Services to Business.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I am going to give notice of two motions, and I shall be asking for unanimous consent later on today to deal with them.

Notice Of Motion 58-82(1): Appreciation To Attorney General Of Canada For Appointment Of Madam Wilson To Supreme Court Of Canada

The first is: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre that this House express its congratulations and appreciation to the Attorney General of Canada on the appointment of Madam Justice Bertha Wilson to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Notice Of Motion 59-82(1): Appreciation To Mr. Stewart And Appointment Of Mr. Robertson To NCPC Board Of Directors

The second is: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that this House express its sincerest and deepest gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Stewart for his long and unfailing service for the Territories as a member of the board of directors of the Northern Canada Power Commission, and that it recommend Mr. James Robertson of the town of Inuvik to the Governor in Council as the new member for the board of directors of the Northern Canada Power Commission.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motion. Mr. Patterson.

Notice Of Motion 60-82(1): Application By Bradley Air Services To Establish Scheduled Air Service Between Frobisher Bay And Ottawa

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice that on Monday, March 8th, I will move: Now therefore, I move that this Assembly support the application of Bradley Air Services/First Air to the Canadian Transport Commission to establish a scheduled air service linking Frobisher Bay to Ottawa. Thank you.

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

Notice Of Motion 61-82(1): Extension Of Sitting Hours

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the appropriate time I will be asking for unanimous consent to move the following: Now therefore, I move that this Legislature authorize Mr. Speaker to extend today's sitting hours beyond the time set by the rules for daily adjournment in order to consider all items remaining on the orders of the day.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motion.

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

Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Motion 50-82(1). Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion 50-82(1): Petroleum Resource Development To Benefit NWT

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to proceed with my Motion 50-82(1), Petroleum Resource Development to Benefit NWT.

WHEREAS the federal government appears likely to approve energy resource development projects in the Northwest Territories despite the objections of local residents and this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it has been our experience in that most companies have largely failed to live up to socio-economic agreements to employ northerners or purchase goods in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS some of the companies involved in the Norman Wells and Arctic Pilot projects are in the business of marketing petroleum products in Canada;

AND WHEREAS petroleum products are both a necessary and very expensive commodity in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS these projects are expected to generate profits for the companies involved and royalties will also accrue to the federal government which will help to subsidize the price of petroleum products in central and eastern Canada;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Frobisher Bay, that this Legislative Assembly request the Commissioner to convey to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development its most urgent recommendation that the issue of required approvals and permits for energy resource development projects in the Northwest Territories by the federal government be made subject to the following conditions:

- a) that the residents of the Northwest Territories be guaranteed future supplies of petroleum products;
- b) that refining and regasification facilities be constructed in the Northwest Territories;
- c) that NWT residents be charged prices for all petroleum products not greater than those charged in Edmonton, Alberta; and
- d) that provision be made for resource revenue sharing and to permit equity participation by the residents of the NWT.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, Mr. McLaughlin. You have the floor.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been concerned for some time, as a Member of this House and even as a candidate for election. I mentioned during my campaign to be elected to this House that I was against a Norman Wells pipeline and I was against the Norman Wells pipeline because we would be pumping our resources and our opportunities for the future out of our territory. Without firm control and advantage to the people of the Northwest Territories of their own resources, our future is very shaky; our possibility of ever becoming a self-sustaining province is just about zero.

No Firm Commitment For Future Supply To NWT

It is a terrible situation to allow the petroleum products of the Northwest Territories to be shipped out of the Territories when we do not even have a guaranteed future supply, when we have no firm commitment that as long as there are petroleum resources being refined in southern Canada that they will be made available to us if there is ever a world shortage. I really believe that what is happening to Norman Wells, for example, is not to the advantage of northerners in the long run. A pipeline is going to be built, a lot of people will be employed for a short period of time and then there will be nothing left but the small number of jobs involved in pumping our resources to southern Canada and a few jobs in a slightly refurbished refinery which exists in Norman Wells now.

In past sessions I have discussed this before. I believe that what is happening is approximately the amount of crude oil that is required to develop all the products we use in a year is about what is going to be pumped out of the Northwest Territories. Then it is going to be very inefficiently returned to us by barge and by train and by truck when, in fact, it is up here for our use to start with.

I also recommend that the Northwest Territories should have its petroleum products supplied to it at Edmonton prices or less than Edmonton prices, in fact. Mr. Fraser, the Member for Mackenzie Great Bear, passed some information around to other Members the other day that proved that a northern company refining products in the Northwest Territories can, in fact, provide petroleum products in the Northwest Territories at a cheaper price than Edmonton. Gas in Norman Wells to fill your car is cheaper than it is in Edmonton right now. So, there is no reason why we cannot have that going on, on a long-term basis, to benefit all the northerners.

Also, the people of the Northwest Territories should be given the opportunity, through crown corporations, through the Government of the Northwest Territories or the future governments of two new territories, if that happens, through the corporations formed by native associations in the Northwest Territories, to participate in the equity of the developments so that the people of the Northwest Territories will get long-term benefit and profits from development of resources which really belong to us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. As seconder, Mr. Patterson, do you wish to speak at this time?

Petroleum Resources Will Be Exported

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The current exploration activities and proven reserves in the Arctic Islands have established that oil and gas supplies could be easily guaranteed to residents of the eastern part of the Northwest Territories if, as a condition of their exploitation, provision of those products to residents of the Eastern Arctic were guaranteed. If the Arctic Pilot Project is approved, residents of the Eastern Arctic will see millions of cubic feet of gas sailing past our very doorsteps, while we burn high cost diesel imported from the South. This gas will have been developed at Canadian taxpayers' expense for, it appears, export outside this country.

The Norman Wells project, Mr. Speaker -- this House has already, by almost unanimous motion, approved the principle of assured energy supply for the western part of the Northwest Territories, as Mr. McLaughlin has mentioned.

In the Beaufort Sea, which could cost up to \$40 billion, the project was initially defended by the notion that it would lead us to Canadian energy self-sufficiency, and it was on this basis that Dome Petroleum and other companies initially paid only about six cents on the dollar for exploration. Now, even under the National Energy Program, 93 cents out of every dollar is going to be spent to develop these reserves using Canadian taxpayers' money. It appears, however, Mr. Speaker, now that this project is well on the road, that we have reasonable prospects of energy self-sufficiency in Canada through other sources: through energy conservation; through coal; through hydrogen; perhaps even through nuclear sources, by the early 1990s, and now the only justification that appears for further exploiting the Beaufort Sea is the export market abroad.

Tax Incentives Provided For Canadian Use Of Resources

What I would like to ask is why should this government encourage this project in exporting petroleum resources from the Northwest Territories when we provided incentives through our tax money for Canadian use? I think we should start with this principle if these projects are to go ahead by applying these resources to the Northwest Territories, and I fully support the motion in all its aspects. I think particularly it is of interest to me because we should have access to the oil resources that are available in the Arctic Islands, and the same principle should be applied with Beaufort Sea exploration and with the Norman Wells

pipeline. Since most of these megaprojects are still to be approved, with the exception of Norman Wells, I think this motion is timely and will restate principles that this House has already adopted with reference to the Norman Wells pipeline. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to support the motion. When the Arctic Pilot Project proponents came before us last week, we learned that the gas from the Arctic Pilot Project will be sold to eastern Canadians, and that was being done so that western Canadians could sell their gas to the Americans, so there are a lot of people that will benefit from the exploitation of the gas from the Northwest Territories except the people of the Northwest Territories. I have not been convinced by the proponents of the project that there will be sufficient jobs and business opportunities, and really the only two things that we can benefit from are the guarantee of future supplies of oil and gas, and as well, the equity participation through revenue resource sharing and through development corporations taking part in the exploitation of these resources.

People Of North Must Stand Up And Be Heard

The standing committee on finance, Mr. Speaker, has just gone through a very gruelling exercise of having to review the proposals made by the government to the committee and in turn to the Legislative Assembly for tax increases on petroleum products. We agonized over whether the people of the North could suffer another increase, and we did a bit of a survey on what people were already paying for their oil and gas and products of oil and gas, like naphtha and Iosol, which many people use to light their homes. We found northerners were paying far more than double, in fact sometimes four and five times more for these very essential and crucial products. We just feel that the time has come that this Legislature and indeed the people of the North have got to stand up and have got to be heard with respect to a guarantee of supplies of petroleum products and resource revenue sharing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, there is one provision in here, and I do not really know how I can express my concern for it; neither do I know what kind of amendment would be acceptable. In d), that provision be made for resource revenue sharing and to permit equity participation by the residents of the NWT, there seems to be a gross neglect on the issue of land claims and the possibility of the negotiating groups receiving some share of those resources within their negotiations. It appears that as a Legislative Assembly, we have neglected to include those within that recommendation to resource development. I would not like to support a motion that would preclude and lead the federal government to presume that as a Legislative Assembly we would be satisfied to have the Northwest Territories in general participating in revenue sharing or equity sharing in lieu of land claims settlement and the equity that would go to the negotiating groups.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. McLaughlin, you will terminate debate if you speak now. You have the floor if no one else wishes to speak.

All Groups Included

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, section d) of my motion -- I specifically indicated when I was speaking to the motion to start with that I did include native groups in that. Originally I had "Government of the NWT", and I changed that, realizing that it was not adequate. So I left it "by residents of the NWT", and my definition in that case includes all groups, native organizations, and the Government of the NWT -- whatever fashion in which it has to be done to make sure that residents of the NWT are able to participate in this. Mr. Speaker, it was not my intention to close debate, but just to clarify the point.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 50-82(1), Carried

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

---Carried

Motion 53-82(1). Mr. Curley.

Motion 53-82(1): Standing And Special Committee Meetings Open To Public And Media

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS this Legislative Assembly is responsible for the equitable representation of the multicultural population of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the activities of this Legislature must not only be seen to be open to the public it serves but must be open to that public;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Legislative Assembly instruct the Members' Services Board to investigate the possibility of making meetings of standing and special committees open to the general public and the news media except where particular circumstances dictate the need to hold specific meetings in camera;

And further, that the Members' Services Board report back at the next session with recommendations.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. You have the floor, Mr. Curley. We need a seconder, I am afraid. Ms Cournoyea seconds the motion. You have the floor, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My motion is straightforward, I think. We represent quite a large area and many of the communities are constantly saying to some of us Members that they really do not know what is happening. I have had constituents come into Yellowknife during this past three weeks and they would ask me, "What are you guys talking about? What is the real issue? What are you guys dealing with for all that length of time?" So I think it is important, in order for us to be able to communicate with the public, that we have to consider opening some of the proceedings of the standing committees and special committees, except maybe where the special committees or standing committees are dealing mainly with administrative and in-house financial matters. That might not be too important, but I think we should at least give

the Members' Services Board an opportunity to look at it, because it is going to involve costs. If we do formally allow the committee proceedings to be open, then that is going to involve even asking the court reporters to be present and all that sort of thing. So, I think it is not an important motion, but I think it would be worth-while looking at it at the next session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Mrs. Sorensen. Pardon me, Mrs. Sorensen. Ms Cournoyea, you are seconder. Do you wish to speak first?

MS COURNOYEA: No.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Sorensen.

Standing Committee On Finance Meetings Have Been Open To Public

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, as the chairman of the standing committee on finance, I would like to speak I think on behalf of my committee. We welcome this motion. We have, indeed, opened our committee meetings, particularly those that have been held in Holman Island, in Inuvik and in Tuk, to the public. They have been attended primarily by community council members who were interested in the proceedings. So, it is not something that we have not already done.

With respect to my committee's evolution or movement into a public accounts committee, it is traditional that those committee meetings are open to the public and the media. We have certainly discussed that and we will be bringing recommendations to the Legislative Assembly in the fall session concerning what must be done in order to open up those meetings to the public. So, as I say, it is not something that we have not already discussed and I welcome and ask that all Members approve of this motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 53-82(1), Carried

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

---Carried

Motion 55-82(1). Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion 55-82(1): Financial Assistance For Arctic Winter Games

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to proceed with my Motion 55-82(1), Financial Assistance for Arctic Winter Games.

WHEREAS it is sometimes very difficult for small communities to participate in the Arctic Winter Games due to the size of teams needed for some sports and the high cost of air travel;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that all young athletes in the Northwest Territories should be able to participate in the regional trials;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Foxe Basin, that during negotiations with Sport North for the provision of financial assistance to support the Arctic Winter Games, the Executive Committee consider a higher level of funding on the condition that communities off the highway system will be subsidized for air travel during regional trials and that teams comprised of participants from more than one community will be allowed to participate in regional and territorial playdowns.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order, Mr. McLaughlin. You have the floor.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have had experience in the past with Arctic Winter Games and fielding teams involving athletes from small communities. Often small communities like Fort Simpson, for example, cannot field a hockey team, because they do not have enough players and in the past we have had players like that added on to some of the other teams. Apparently there are some rules made now that prevent this from happening in some of the sports. So, when this extra money, which I hope will be given to Sport North, is given to them, I hope there will be conditions on the money that make it clear that we want to remove any of these barriers from small communities getting together to field teams.

Small Communities Need Funds For Regional Games Trials

Also, some small communities that are off the highway system do not have the wherewithal to participate in the regional trials and I am sure that Mr. Evaluarjuk, the seconder of my motion, will have something further to say about that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Mark Evaluarjuk, as seconder, do you wish to speak at this time?

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am seconder of the motion and I would like to say a few words. I am not an athlete myself, but back some time ago I enjoyed it. Maybe once a year we could find funds to help the people who participate in sports. The games that are being played these days have been very much enjoyed by the young and there are community recreation centres. I think that they would really be thankful if they could also participate in regional playoffs and I support this motion. I have heard of people going to some communities for the regional playoffs and they do not have enough funds for them to go on to any further games. I had a good answer from the Minister of Local Government. I want this motion to be carried; that is why I seconded it. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just very briefly, I am very pleased to see this motion coming forward, because the reality is that the larger centres of the Northwest Territories have a better chance of fielding stronger teams because they have more people to choose from and they often tend to be successful in the end result. I am particularly pleased that Mr. McLaughlin, who I know is a very keen supporter of not just the Arctic Winter Games, but the sportsmanship and intersettlement communication that it brings, has endorsed the notion of having participants from more than one community playing on teams, because without subsidy for the air transportation costs, even from Frobisher Bay, where the return fare is now almost \$1200, let alone Igloodik or other communities, it is very difficult for these small communities to raise the necessary funds. So I think this is a very encouraging motion and I am pleased to support it. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 55-82(1), Carried

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

---Carried

That concludes all of the motions that are in order. Motion 56-82(1), Mrs. Sorensen's motion, was given notice of yesterday. Do you wish to ask for unanimous consent at this time, Mrs. Sorensen?

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent to proceed with Motion 56-82(1), Stoppage of Debate by Conservatives in Ottawa.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. CURLEY: No.

MR. SPEAKER: I hear one nay. Unanimous consent has been denied.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed, agreed, agreed!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We want a chance to defeat it.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: We want a chance to talk about it. We do not care what happens to it.

MRS. SORENSEN: It is on the books.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 57-82(1). Mr. Patterson.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You have got a fat chance too, Dennis.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: It is a confusing motion. It should be withdrawn.

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: Nay, nay! Nay, nay!

AN HON. MEMBER: Forget it! Forget it!

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I am sorry. That motion was dealt with yesterday. It should not be on here at all. It should not be on the paper. On motions now, are there any requests for unanimous consent? Mr. Minister. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, do I have unanimous consent to proceed with two notices of motion I gave earlier on concerning...

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested to waive the time of 48 hours on these two motions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Braden.

Motion 58-82(1): Appreciation To Attorney General Of Canada For Appointment Of Madam Wilson To Supreme Court Of Canada, Carried

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

WHEREAS the Attorney General of Canada has announced the appointment of Madam Justice Bertha Wilson to the Supreme Court of Canada;

AND WHEREAS this is the first time that Canada has taken the progressive step of appointing a woman to the bench of the Supreme Court of Canada;

AND WHEREAS the appointment of Madam Wilson will be a source of encouragement and inspiration for all women in Canada;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, that this House express its congratulations and appreciation to the Attorney General of Canada on the appointment of Madam Justice Bertha Wilson to the Supreme Court of Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Is there a seconder? Mr. Wah-Shee. The motion is in order. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

Motion 59-82(1): Appreciation To Mr. Stewart And Appointment Of Mr. Robertson To NCP Board Of Directors

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

WHEREAS for several years now Mr. Donald Stewart, the honourable Member for Hay River and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, has been the Northwest Territories representative on the board of directors of the Northern Canada Power Commission;

AND WHEREAS due to personal reasons and in view of his duties as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly he is unable to continue performing his duty as a director of the board of the Northern Canada Power Commission to his satisfaction;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Stewart has today submitted his resignation as a member of the board of directors of the Northern Canada Power Commission to the Commissioner and the Governor in Council in accordance with the provisions of the Northern Canada Power Commission Act;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Canada Power Commission Act requires that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Governor in Council the appointment of a new member for the board of directors;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that this House express its sincerest and deepest gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Stewart for his long and unfailing service for the Territories as a member of the board of directors for the Northern Canada Power Commission and that it recommend Mr. James Robertson of the town of Inuvik to the Governor in Council as the new member for the board of directors of the Northern Canada Power Commission.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Butters. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Well, very briefly, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to express, on behalf of all of my colleagues in the House and the people of the Territories, a really sincere appreciation for the hard work that you have put in representing the Territories on the Northern Canada Power Commission. I realize that it has not been an easy job, but we recognize that you have put forth a great deal of work and knowledge in your position, and I think I can just say for the whole House that we very much appreciate what you have done for us; and with respect to your successor, Members will recall that this is an item that I discussed with all of them a little over a year ago, and as I recall, it was just unanimous agreement that Mr. Robertson would serve us very well. Thank you.

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: I only wish that the efforts were reflected in the power rates of the Northwest Territories.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: So do I!

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to join in the words of Mr. Braden in congratulating you and thanking you for the service that you have provided to the people of the North. I have a few words of advice for Mr. Robertson. He has a very big job ahead of him. I have been involved with NCPC since 1973, and I will not let up. I have often tried to give the former member of the board, Mr. Speaker, yourself, advice. You have not always listened, but many times I am sure you have. You do not admit it, but I am sure you have.

My advice to Mr. Robertson is to stick to your guns, sir. You have a very big job ahead of you. Remember that you are there to carry the Northwest Territories concerns to the board and to stick up for the Northwest Territories as much as is humanly possible. I would ask that you consult and seek guidance from the consumers, because they are the most affected by the rates and by the management of NCPC; that you find a means by which you can consult; that when you are appointed to a board, it is to do more than just attend meetings; it is to find out what the feeling of the North really is. I would also ask that you keep the Minister in touch with what is happening; that you arrange to speak with the Minister as often as possible, because he is your political contact, and he can give you guidance and certainly support. Again, I would have Mr. Robertson remember that he has been appointed by this Legislature, and that many of his positions -- he can find out how we are thinking in presenting those positions if he does read the debates when we are talking about NCPC. So, again I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your service, and I welcome the service that Mr. Jim Robertson will provide to us.

---Applause

Motion 59-82(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Motions. Are there any other requests for unanimous consent at this time?
Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to get unanimous consent for my motion to allow the Speaker to set the hours for today to make sure that the business of the House is concluded today.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being asked for. Are there any nays?
Proceed, Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion 61-82(1): Extension Of Sitting Hours, Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS only a small amount of business remains to be done to complete the work of this session;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to conclude this session as expeditiously as possible;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that this Legislature authorize Mr. Speaker to extend today's sitting hours beyond the time set by the rules for daily adjournment in order to consider all items remaining on the orders of the day.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. Proceed, Mr. McLaughlin.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Is there any other person wishing to ask unanimous consent? All right.

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

Tabled Document 25-82(1); Bill 3-82(1), Bill 4-82(1), Bill 5-82(1), Bill 6-82(1), Bill 7-82(1), Bill 13-82(1), Bill 14-82(1); Tabled Document 9-82(1) and Tabled Document 15-82(1). Before I place this into committee of the whole, I would advise the House that the hours of 6:00 o'clock are being waived for today. With Mr. Fraser in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Tabled Document 25-82(1), Analysis of Freshwater Fish Marketing Options; Bill 3-82(1), Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1982; Bill 4-82(1), Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1982-83; Bill 5-82(1), Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, 1982; Bill 6-82(1), Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance; Bill 7-82(1), Tobacco Tax Ordinance; Bill 13-82(1), Municipal Ordinance; Bill 14-82(1), Wildlife Ordinance; Motion 51-82(1), Expanded Terms of Reference for Impact Committee, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER TABLED DOCUMENT 25-82(1), ANALYSIS OF FRESHWATER FISH MARKETING OPTIONS; BILL 3-82(1), FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ORDINANCE, 1982; BILL 4-82(1), LOAN AUTHORIZATION ORDINANCE NO. 1, 1982-83; BILL 5-82(1), NORTHWEST TERRITORIES HOUSING CORPORATION LOAN ORDINANCE, 1982; BILL 6-82(1), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TAX ORDINANCE; BILL 7-82(1), TOBACCO TAX ORDINANCE; BILL 13-82(1), MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE; BILL 14-82(1), WILDLIFE ORDINANCE; MOTION 51-82(1), EXPANDED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR IMPACT COMMITTEE

Tabled Document 25-82(1), Analysis Of Freshwater Fish Marketing Options

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order, dealing with Tabled Document 25-82(1), Analysis of Freshwater Fish Marketing Options by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. It seems to me we have been here before. I do not know what happens. Mr. Butters, have you any opening remarks?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Members will recall that Motion 11-81(3), Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, was passed December last, and it required an assessment of the services being provided by the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation to the fishermen of the Northwest Territories, and that we report back at this session with regard to recommendations for action. I would like to take a few moments to provide some background and indicate to Members what we have done in the last few months.

The FFMC, a federal crown corporation, was established in 1969 through the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act, Bill C-148, in response to requests from the prairie provinces for unification of the freshwater fish and fish products trade. The act gives the corporation a monopoly over interprovincial and import trade in fish originating in participating jurisdictions, namely the three prairie provinces, northwest Ontario, and the Northwest Territories. A 1969 NWT ordinance complements the federal act.

The objectives of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation are: 1) to market fish in an orderly fashion; 2) to maximize economic returns to the aggregate of commercial fishermen; and 3) to promote and develop international and domestic markets for freshwater fish. The corporation is obligated to buy all legally-caught fish of those species listed in the act. It has broad powers to purchase, process, store and ship fish and fish products; to acquire, hold, and dispose of property; to establish branches and employ agents; to enter into agreements and contracts; also to borrow, lend, and invest funds. The corporation makes initial payments on the basis of projected trade and final payments based on net profits at the conclusion of the operating year. Receipts from sales are pooled along with operating costs on an aggregate species basis.

NWT Fishermen Not Receiving Maximum Benefits

The FFMC as now structured has the potential of optimizing benefits to the aggregate of freshwater commercial fishermen through economies of scale, orderly marketing, and by reason of its monopolistic marketing position. However, marketing strategies and plans intended to achieve the greatest possible benefits for all commercial fishermen may well not be in the best interests of NWT fishermen. Since the NWT fishery represents only seven per cent of the total volume handled by the corporation, it is not surprising that our fishermen appear not to be receiving maximum benefits from their relationship with the FFMC. The corporation's marketing strategy has been a subject for much criticism since its inception in 1969, and many of the problems facing the corporation today are directly related to its apparent inability to attract higher prices and/or develop new markets.

At the outset, the corporation inherited a number of markets that traditionally dealt in freshwater fish, and it has continued to serve these markets to the exclusion of developing new ones. As a result, prices for whitefish have remained unchanged since 1975, and fishing becomes progressively more marginal each year as production, processing and freight costs escalate. This cost-price squeeze also applies to coastal and Hudson Bay Arctic char fishermen.

NWT Government Offsetting Costs

The Government of the Northwest Territories has attempted to mitigate the impact of fixed prices against escalating operating costs by guaranteeing prices and offsetting the excessive costs of operating the fish pickup/delivery system on the Great Slave Lake. Annual Government of the NWT support to this fishery is as follows: 1977-78, \$96,400; 1978-79, \$43,700; 1979-80, \$110,000; 1980-81, \$90,000; 1981-82, \$153,000; and for the coming year, a commitment of \$267,600.

During 1981, the Keewatin char fishery was subsidized at 25 cents per pound for a total of \$12,500. The plight of our fishermen has been a matter of concern to the Government of the NWT for some time, and during the 1981 winter session, the president and general manager of the corporation were invited to appear before this Legislature to account for the untenable predicament of our fishermen because of the poor pricing practices of the FFMC. The prices announced in May 1981 for that years summer fishery were the lowest ever. The fishermen threatened that they would not fish if the prices were not increased. In view of difficulties experienced by Great Slave Lake fishermen, this government responded to guarantee prices at the previous years levels, and supported the lake stations' packer boat operation for a total of \$267,000. The instability of prices and the associated decline in net income to our fishermen have been most disconcerting, particularly to those fishermen who hold the view that they could realize higher prices if they were allowed to market their fish independently of FFMC.

During the sixth session of the Ninth Assembly of this Legislature a motion was passed that called for myself, as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, to carry out an evaluation of the FFMC and its relationship with the NWT and for me to report my findings and recommendations back to the House during this session. The objectives of the evaluation as stated in the motion were to examine the option of removing the NWT from the FFMC, to develop recommendations to improve the performance of the fishing industry and achieve independence in marketing NWT fish.

Dissatisfaction Expressed With FFMC

We responded to that motion thus. There was a meeting with the executive of the fishermen's federation in Hay River to obtain its position with respect to the motion and to learn more about its problems with the corporation. There was conducted a poll of the membership of the fishermen's federation for the same purpose. Members of the fishermen's federation executive expressed displeasure and disenchantment with the FFMC and held the view that they could do a better job of operating the fishery and marketing the products independently of the FFMC. The relationship between many fishermen and the FFMC and the Hay River management and the personnel in Winnipeg has deteriorated to the point that there exists an element of mutual distrust, frustration and resentment. The result of the poll to date indicates that of the 24 fishermen polled there is an even split on the question of withdrawal from the FFMC. Obviously, that poll is not completed and we will be proceeding with that.

Thirdly, we convened an exploratory meeting involving representatives of COPE, that is the Inuvialuit Development Corporation, the Great Slave Lake Fishermen's Federation, the FFMC -- the present general manager, Tom Dunn was

there -- NWT legal services personnel and the MLA for Hay River, the Hon. Don Stewart, and also officials from my department, and we examined the options available to the NWT for improving the welfare of our fishermen through improved marketing arrangements.

The outcome of that meeting was the preparation and dispatch of a letter to the chairman of the FFMC, apprising him of Motion 11-81(3) and of the desire of the Government of the NWT to negotiate with the FFMC for all or portions of our NWT fisheries to market fish independently of the corporation. The letter further implied that failure to arrive at a mutually satisfactory accommodation relative to the foregoing would result in changes being effected through the legislative process. The letter, in effect, served to give notice of our dissatisfaction with our current relationship.

The response to my letter from the chairman indicated that the board of directors of the FFMC have unanimously requested that they meet with myself, other representatives from the GNWT, perhaps with the Hon. Roméo LeBlanc, the federal Minister of Fisheries, and the Hon. John Munro as soon as possible in Yellowknife, Winnipeg or Ottawa. I have not yet responded to this request, as I would like to seek direction from this House on the approaches I should take on the matter. It should also be noted that the advisory committee of the FFMC, comprising only fishermen, has unanimously agreed to hold their next meeting, scheduled for the first week in May, in Hay River, during which time they plan to obtain first-hand and more detailed information on the problems of our fishermen. Two NWT residents are members of this committee, namely, Mr. Bill Lyall of Cambridge Bay and Mr. Bert Buckley of Hay River.

Fifth, we had representation to attend an FFMC board meeting and made representation of the Government of the NWT position. Sixth, we have conducted an analysis of the legal and financial implications of remaining in or withdrawing from the FFMC. The tabled document, Analysis of Freshwater Fish Marketing Options, summarizes the examination and makes recommendations.

Tribute To Hon. Don Stewart

Before I move to those recommendations, I would like to add a couple of footnotes. In view of the motion to the Member for Hay River in appreciation for his long service on the NCPC board, I would like to indicate too that we owe him, as well, a debt of gratitude for his service to the NWT fishermen on the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. It has not been an enviable job because of the difficulties that have been experienced by northern fishermen, but Mr. Stewart has represented their interests very well and very recently tendered his resignation to the corporation and a replacement will be sought for him.

Recommendation Of Withdrawal Not Unanimous

I would also mention too that Mr. Lyall, who represents the Central Arctic fishery, was not consulted during this time and was not too pleased with our recommendation to remove NWT fishermen from the FFMC. He indicated to me that he had some concerns and wished he had been consulted with regard to that matter. Neither did we consult fishermen in the Keewatin area. However, as the Member for Keewatin South did move the motion, we would expect that he has carried out this consultation and maybe can recommend with regard to their position. Nor did we consult in the Eastern Arctic.

There was a telex response from that meeting I referred to in Winnipeg and one of the motions that was put to the group and was supported was this motion by Eli James, seconded by James Corman, that the advisory committee stand firmly behind the present structure of the corporation and oppose any

changes in commitment by any of the provinces or the Northwest Territories. That motion was carried unanimously and the two members from the Northwest Territories are on that advisory committee. So, I would indicate to the House that there is not a general, overall support to the position that we are recommending here.

Options Outlined

The three options which are contained in the paper are the following. There is one maintaining the status quo. The FFMC would continue to process Great Slave Lake fish and process the same in the international and export markets. The second is partial withdrawal from the FFMC. Fishermen be allowed to pursue markets for those species that are not currently marketed by the FFMC and to seek out new markets for all species in areas that are not adequately served by the FFMC. Marketing could be done independently of the FFMC or by the corporation on a fee for service basis. Such independent actions are possible under the legislative mandate of the corporation, but would have to be negotiated. The third is, withdrawal from the FFMC. Fishermen, individually or collectively, would market NWT fish. The report concluded that there appears to be no advantage at this time for the NWT to opt out of the FFMC, since withdrawal would not necessarily succeed in eliminating the complex problems and high costs associated with operating a small fishery in the North nor would it necessarily imply that our fishermen could do a better job of marketing the bulk of our fish.

It is very likely that Arctic char and broad whitefish from the Mackenzie Delta could realize better prices if they were marketed outside of the FFMC and it is implied that we should give consideration to negotiating the removal of these species from the control of the corporation. As I mentioned earlier, the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation Act provides for this accommodation.

The report recommends that the Government of the NWT defer a decision relative to the Great Slave Lake fishery until an independent assessment of the FFMC operations in that fishery has been carried out. This examination should specifically address the effect of the pooling practices, cross-subsidization, processing and freight costs on the gross returns to fishermen. It also recommends that a comprehensive analysis of the impact of withdrawal on the NWT be conducted prior to making the decision. Those are my opening remarks.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. We will break for 15 minutes for coffee and open the floor for general comments.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. We have listened to the Minister on his opening remarks, and now we are open for general comments. Everybody has a copy of Tabled Document 25-82(1), and after we are through with general comments, I think we only have one recommendation on page eight; so Mr. MacQuarrie, do you want to lead off the opening general comments?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have been provided with a fairly detailed analysis of the government's paper. I guess you could say it is an analysis of an analysis, and I cannot pretend to know the validity of all of the statements that are made in the analysis, but at least in reading through it, it seems to me to raise important questions about the paper, and so I would like to read it into the record and we shall listen with interest to the Minister's comments on the statements that are made.

Analysis Of Analysis Of Freshwater Fish Marketing Options

The analysis begins by noting that Motion 11-81(3) which was passed in this House asked that the Minister of Economic Development and the Commissioner immediately undertake a review of the performance of the FFMC and the fishing industry, and further that the Minister and the Commissioner seek means of remedying the prejudices created by the FFMC to the Delta and Eastern Arctic fishing, and further that the Minister report to the next session, evaluating the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, and include recommendations to this Assembly about the desirability of removing the Territories from the FFMC and/or recommendations to improve the performance of our fishing industry, or achieve territorial independence in the marketing of territorial fish. That is the motion that was passed.

This analysis notes that the motion requires the Minister of Economic Development and his department to:

- 1) review the performance of FFMC for our fishermen in the Territories;
- 2) review the performance of the fishing industry in the Territories;
- 3) find ways to remove economic hardship created by FFMC in the Delta and eastern fisheries, since the detrimental effects of FFMC on those fisheries were known, at the time of the motion;
- 4) evaluate the FFMC's contribution or lack of it to our fishing industries;
- 5) make recommendations to improve the performance of our fishing industries;
- 6) make recommendations to achieve territorial independence in marketing of territorial fish.

The report that resulted from that motion is now before us, the tabled document. This analysis feels that that document is not adequate and should not be acceptable, because it has presented few facts and no analysis, mostly opinion, that there are some inconsistencies in it, and that it has not addressed many of the issues that were raised by the motion. For example, it suggested a review of the performance of the fishing industry in the Territories, that these types of information should have been available for each of the three fisheries. How many fishermen, how many other employees? What are the revenues by fishermen and individuals? What are the costs and net revenues? What does this government contribute to each of the fisheries in the form of loans to fishermen, operating capital, capital loans and grants, bad debts, price subsidies, and research?

It is also suggested that in order to fill another requirement of the motion -- that is, to review the performance of FFMC for our fishermen in the Territories -- there should have been analysis along similar lines to those just mentioned, plus reviewing of the marketing practices and performances of FFMC and determining the importance of northern fisheries to FFMC marketing. This analysis feels that that has not been done.

In order to have dealt with finding ways to remove the economic hardship created by FFMC in the Delta and eastern fisheries, that this would involve -- well, one thing -- a legal review of ways and means of dealing with FFMC. It is conceded that this was done by the Justice department and by COPE, but is not included in

the report. Page six of the report is, it seems, an incorrect statement and a misreading of the act and the legal opinion. It is not that to remove the Territories would mean FFMC could not control the export of other markets. It would seem to have involved, as well, a financial review of what the costs of the fisheries are, and an evaluation of what the potential of the fishery is. It would seem to have called for some marketing option analysis, and these things were not done either.

To fulfil the fourth requirement, evaluating the FFMC's contribution or lack of it to our fishing industry, this would have required cost benefit analysis of remaining in and opting out, which apparently has not been done.

To fulfil the fifth thing I mentioned there, make recommendations to improve performance of our fishing industries, this would have required suggestions for solutions that were based on the economic analysis that was done. So this analysis feels that the report has dealt superficially with FFMC, but not with the basic issues detailed in the motion. The thrust of the Assembly's interest is, one would have to presume, to do what is necessary to maximize the benefits to NWT fishermen, and make the industry economically viable with or without FFMC.

Effect Of Corporation On Economics Of The Delta Fisheries

It goes on a little further to talk about the analysis of the effect of FFMC on the economics of the Delta fisheries. It says that at present the Delta fishery is experimental. It is obvious, however, that should the FFMC retain jurisdiction under the present arrangement, that that fishery is not viable. Partly it is because the FFMC exerts control by:

- 1) Licensing agents. That is, that no one can buy or sell freshwater fish unless an agent of the FFMC.
- 2) Setting prices. The FFMC would apparently permit flexibility to Delta fishing if the markets were only local -- that is, if they were not competing with other FFMC agents or markets, but the test marketing suggests that 5000 to 15,000 pounds of fish could be sold locally.
- 3) Controlling trade within the Territories, and between the Northwest Territories and other markets, and that is both Canada and foreign. As that local market is just not large enough to support the fish industry, and as the Delta fishery has the potential of processing 300,000 to 500,000 pounds of freshwater fish, the Delta fishery is simply required to market outside of the local market, but the FFMC has set prices for such trade, and has set them so low that it is uneconomical.

It is suggested that some test marketing has established that Delta freshwater fish could bring from five to 10 times the price that has been set by FFMC. The FFMC has offered 50 cents a pound for all Delta whitefish, f.o.b. Hay River, and as transportation from Inuvik to Hay River costs 56 cents a pound, the fishery would require government subsidies to cover all production costs, fishermen's price, and six cents a pound freight. It is projected on the basis of test processing and marketing that if the Delta fishing were free from the constraints of FFMC, the Delta could generate \$600,000 a year annually, and it could also create a local industry which would generate six full-time jobs and 15 seasonal jobs, in addition to generating considerable tax revenue to the government. However, to remain with FFMC under the present arrangements, the same fish production, the fishery would generate only \$150,000 worth of revenue, and would require \$183,000 in government subsidy annually just in order to exist. Without such government subsidy, no fishery could exist in the Delta if the Delta had to remain in the FFMC, thus losing the entire direct and indirect economic benefits.

Effect Of Corporation On NWT Fisheries

On the basis -- it is suggested here -- of an independent analysis of the entire industry, it appears obvious that:

- 1) under the present arrangement with the FFMC, the Territories does not have any economically viable fishing industry;
- 2) the territorial government is supporting the fisheries through substantial subsidies -- and you did make reference to those a little while ago;
- 3) that the FFMC as a corporation is successful;
- 4) that the FFMC is mostly benefiting the prairie -- and particularly Manitoba fishermen; and
- 5) so it would seem that the FFMC itself may be succesful, but that might very well be at the expense of NWT fishermen.

So if the objective of the Assembly is to improve the fisheries and try to make them self-sustaining, it appears that it is imperative that the present arrangement with FFMC has to change, and that prices to fishermen would have to improve substantially. In order to achieve that, it seems that either the FFMC has to make significant rearrangements with the Territories, or the Territories must seek alternatives which one knows exist for northern fisheries.

Options For A Solution To Improve Fisheries Return

This analysis feels that there are four options for a solution to improve fisheries return. The first is to improve prices or to achieve independence and that it can be done through FFMC directors under the act through an agreement between the Territories and/or fishermen and FFMC and there may be an advantage in that, in that it is more secure and could be sort of tailor-made for the exact arrangement that is desired and it would be flexible, but it would require that the NWT be well prepared and be expert in negotiations and, of course, there is no guarantee that those negotiations would achieve what was desired.

The analysis suggests that there is a second option, to achieve independence in marketing and pricing and that this can be done through FFMC by licensing, but the major disadvantage is that it is discretionary and could be changed at any time and that option is not recommended at all.

The third one, to achieve independence in marketing and pricing the Governor in Council can exempt species and/or areas from the act and that would have security but, of course, it would require action by the federal cabinet, who may be more sensitive to FFMC than to the lobby from the Northwest Territories and would only be necessary if FFMC would not work out suitable arrangements, as indicated in the first option. Therefore, it is felt that this is probably not a viable option as an opening position.

The fourth option that is suggested here and the one that is recommended, is to achieve independence in marketing and pricing and the NWT could simply remove itself from the FFMC by giving notice. This analysis says that that is the recommended approach and that it be taken because the giving of notice would not commit the Territories to withdraw, but it would be a clear expression of will and it is the only option that the Territories can act unilaterally with the FFMC. If the Territories wish to have the maximum strength in bargaining with FFMC, it can only do so on the basis that it would be ready to act unilaterally.

So, that is the extent of the analysis, Mr. Chairman, and as I said, I am not in a position to vouch for the validity of all of the statements that are made. Nevertheless, there appear to be some very good arguments and I would be interested in the Minister's responses.

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

Name Of Author Of Analysis Report Requested

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Would the Member be willing to advise me the name of the author? The document that I put forward was authored by people in my department and approved by myself and I would like to know the expert that Mr. MacQuarrie has dragged out of the water to make these comments.

MR. CURLEY: Why? Why?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Out of the water! What water?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I just got them quiet. Do not get them started again.

---Laughter

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Butters cannot cope with it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I think, Mr. Chairman, there is no need for that. The arguments are arguments and either they are valid or they are not valid. If they are not valid, I would be pleased to hear why.

MR. CURLEY: Why?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman...

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I have a response to make.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I thought you made the response.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, I have not.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Okay, Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, I do not think that the Member really listened to my opening remarks, because a number of the things which I suggested he covered as though they were new items before the committee and some of the matters he brought forward suggest to me that the author of that document was privy to discussions with my officials and with my department when we put together the original paper.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Brown paper envelope.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Brown paper envelope, yes. Well, that is not the point, but the point is the amount of study that was done relative to the various requests for review -- obviously, if you are given an assignment in December to be developed by early in February, you cannot do a very detailed review. You cannot do the type of assessment and review which the Member calls for and the author well knows that. He well knew that when he put it together. We were attempting to respond to the request of this House to bring in a paper for this session and at the same time we were bringing in the paper, we were to do a number of things and make a number of arrangements with FFMC and consult and communicate, which I think we did. But to provide the type of review which the honourable Member suggests the motion calls for would take nine months to develop the figures and the study that he is calling for.

Government Assessment Of Fishing Industry

The other thing is that on assessing the industry, we worked on the perceptions of the fishermen. The general assessment of the fishermen from Hay River was that the FFMC has not served them well and it has not served them well because the FFMC is marketing, in the main, Manitoba and Saskatchewan fish. It is dealing with only seven per cent of their total product is out of the Northwest Territories. The members from the Hay River fishing industry indicated to us that if it were not for the subsidy which this government has been paying every year they would not be in business. So, the perception that we moved on was that FFMC was not serving us very well.

Now, we also discussed with Nellie Cournoyea, the Member for the Western Arctic, and Bob Delury, who works with her on these matters and heard from them that they were very concerned that their experimental fishery, which still is an experimental fishery, would be hamstrung and hidebound by the regulations that would encircle them were they to come under the act of the FFMC, and we recognize that.

You noted -- which I did not cover in my opening remarks, but I did indicate that Justice had provided a paper and Mr. MacQuarrie went over in your paper the three areas which Justice has indicated to us that we could negotiate with FFMC under the act. One of them was, as you pointed out, a contract, others a licence or regulations. These are areas which we have not explored. We do not know whether we might be able to satisfy the interests and needs of the fishermen of the Northwest Territories in the total Northwest Territories by some type of an arrangement under the act and that is what we are suggesting should be done. That is what our recommendation suggests should be done.

Recommendation That NWT Fishermen Pull Out Of Corporation Irresponsible

The recommendation the Member has made I think is irresponsible. What he seems to be putting forward is that we pull the Northwest Territories fishermen out of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. On what grounds, I am not quite sure. I would say that the author of that paper, too, should have taken a little bit more time and consideration in putting it together. It, like ours, may show the lack of study and concentration and application and research, because I cannot see how the author of the paper, which you provided to this House, and whom you will not identify, can indicate to us and refer to us that the best possible arrangement is removal of this jurisdiction from the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. I guess that is why I want to know the name of the writer, because if he is an expert in fishing and fisheries and marketing of fish, then I would be willing to take -- give credence to some of the comments, but as he is an unknown, I cannot accept these.

There are some positive things within the document, yes, but I think the recommendation we put before you is a responsible one in the time that we have had to research it. It is an ongoing one, in that if it is accepted by the committee we will be looking at ways to remove from the Freshwater Fish Marketing regulation or control those fishermen who have their own markets and wish to market independently. We will do everything we can to attempt to do that, but removal means a political hassle, which will begin in the Territories by those fishermen who do not wish to be removed -- and I have told you, there are a number. We do not know how many there are as yet, but there are a number who feel we should not be removing ourselves from the corporation, and secondly obviously a hassle at the federal level, with the Ministers of Fisheries and Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Munro made it quite clear to me, as I indicated to this House some 60 days ago, that he had no problem in removing us from that arrangement, provided we could guarantee that the fishermen would benefit. At the present time I do not think we can provide that guarantee and I do not think the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre can provide that guarantee, or the unknown author of the report that he read in the House can provide that guarantee.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: So I think that what you have before you is a responsible document, a document that has been researched to the extent that we can in the time available. We promised that we recognize the need to improve the situation for the NWT fishermen, and we will do this. We will so act if the recommendation as we have put it forward is accepted by the House -- we will move with all possible haste to attempt to improve the situation for not only the Inuvialuit Development Corporation test fishery, but the Central Arctic, the Kitikmeot fishery, the Slave River fishery, the Keewatin fishery, and fisheries that are operating in the Eastern Arctic. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Supplementary. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will reiterate that it is not a recommendation that is put forward by the Member; that it was a recommendation in the analysis.

Ongoing Economic Analysis Of Fisheries

Quite apart from that, the validity of things that might be stated is never determined by who says them, but by what they say in themselves, and the main thrust of this particular analysis, and of comments by Members in the past who have fisheries in their constituencies, and who feel that these are not developed adequately, has been that in order to make a very good judgment about what should happen -- whether we should be in or out of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, or whether there should be attempts at developing fisheries in an independent way with independent marketing -- the thrust of this report, as I read it, is that decisions like that cannot be made effectively unless there are certain kinds of economic and other analyses done, and it is calling for those types of analysis. So I can agree with you that it is a short time for you to have prepared a report and responded to the motion, and that it is probably to be expected that not everything could have been done in that reasonably brief period of time; but I would ask, then, what types of economic analysis specifically are ongoing that were initiated as a result of the motion, and that have not yet been concluded but are in fact under way, in order to try to ensure that when the decision is made, it is made on as factual a basis as possible?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: To respond to the Member, sir, I shall just read the recommendation that is contained on page eight of the report. "It is recommended that the GNWT defers a decision relative to the Great Slave Lake until an independent assessment of the FFMC operations in that fishery has been carried out. This examination should specifically address the effect of the pooling practices, cross-subsidization, freight, operating costs and current production practices on the gross returns to fishermen. It is recommended also that a comprehensive analysis of the impact of withdrawal on the NWT be conducted prior to arriving at a decision on the FFMC. It is further recommended that the NWT negotiate with the FFMC for special arrangements" -- which the Member referred to; there are special arrangements -- "respecting those northern fisheries that wish to pursue marketing of their fish independently of the FFMC."

I think that response covers everything that the Member has raised as an issue. It covers the requirement for doing the background studies relative to such a major move, and it also suggests that there would be discussions and negotiations carried on so that those fishermen who felt that they could do better seeking markets independently might be also attended to.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, as you will note, I have not been taking part in this discussion as much as I would like to because I have a potential conflict of interest, and I will declare that at this time.

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

Long-Term Fisheries Development Should Be Studied

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to be able to compliment the Minister for his quick response to the motion passed in November. Although I accept the response that quickly, I am not sure whether I could accept all the recommendations contained in this short report. Although it addresses the current problem of some fishermen with respect to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, I think it is too narrow a report, because the fishermen are not only having problems with the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. I think that that should be addressed, and I am at least assured that that will be looked at again, whether or not we should carry out a much more comprehensive analysis of the possibility of impact when withdrawing from that.

However, what seems to be missing as far as I am concerned is that should we be just directing the Economic Development to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation's activities? Should we not be looking at the possible long-term fisheries development throughout the whole Territories as well as looking at the current activities of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation? I think his officials are quite able to do that. If we are going to be approving a recommendation to have an independent consultant to do an analysis of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation -- I think that really should be an in-house departmental review, because I do not think that it is that difficult to do that. The officials of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation might be able to provide that information. However, the question is, do we not want to expand that inquiry or analysis into the fisheries? That is where I have difficulty. We are really playing around with the departmental detail, tedious -- analysis of the current activities and practices of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. In my mind, we should be saying to the people of the Northwest Territories, "Well, look, we have a possibly very important fisheries economy, and we are not convinced today that the Department of Economic Development has done its best to encourage fishermen in the Territories to get the best possible deal and maximum price for the fish in the Territories."

The Minister might want to make an announcement one day, but I think I need to be convinced that the recommendations that the Minister is asking us to consider here are really going to be satisfactory for the future, because I am afraid, you know, that we might have to get right back to the Minister again, either in the spring or fall session, asking him what he is prepared to do to improve the potential fisheries throughout the Territories rather than just looking at the terms of reference of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. So maybe the Minister can say to me that he might want to assure this House that he has some further plans that he will later announce in future sessions if he is not prepared to do that at this time. Thank you.

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

Exploitation Of Fishing Stock Throughout NWT

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I agree with the Member that there is a very great need to look at the exploitation -- if that is the correct word -- of fishing stock throughout the Northwest Territories. I indicated that, I think, when we discussed the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's estimates. The honourable Member for Baffin Central has been very patient with me, because some two years ago we discussed beginning to tap the stocks of shrimp and fish that live in the Eastern Arctic waters. However, in responding, I did mention that we only have one individual on staff who is responsible for fishing and other renewable resource activities. I did mention that we had approached Makkivik to see about becoming involved with them in a joint venture, and that

they had not responded to us. There was one other approach we had made, I think, to -- we have approached ITC in this matter and have not had a response there. So we are attempting to take the initiative, but we have to take the initiative in a co-operative sense with the people. The Member shakes his head. I went to Newfoundland some two years ago and spoke with the people in Newfoundland with the Minister for Economic Development there, Joe Goudie, about using their expertise to train people from the Eastern Arctic in the handling of these fishing boats. I found the Newfoundland people very interested in that, and I guess this is the reason that we have approached Makkivik.

The reason that we have concentrated on the FFMC in our paper is because of the motion that was put to us -- and it is three parts -- says: "Undertake a review of the performance of the FFMC and the fishing industry; and the Minister and the Commissioner seek means of remedying the prejudices created by FFMC to the Delta and Eastern Arctic fishing; and evaluating the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and include recommendations." So the motion very specifically directed us to turn our attention on the FFMC, and that in the 60 days that we had is what we tried to do. I suggest to you that the recommendation that we have come up with on page eight is a very rational and reasonable response to that motion. We are attempting to satisfy those people that are looking for independent markets. I know that I have heard that the Inuvialuit Development Corporation believes that they have markets for fish in Europe of seven dollars a pound, and they have markets in Vancouver of \$2.50 a pound. So I do not think anybody is wishing to see those opportunities pooled and averaged out so that there is no benefit to the producer of fish in the high cost areas. We will do everything we can to assist IDC to achieve that end. The motion requested that we look at the FFMC. We have done this, and we have made recommendations.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: In the last response that the Minister gave to my question, he pointed out that there are certain things in the recommendations for ongoing study, and I recognized that before you made the statement. My question, though, was, as a result of what was initiated because of the motion in the last session, are there already some economic analyses going on that are to be concluded sometime in the near future? That was the specific question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I believe I read into the record, during the debate on the estimates of the department, the projects -- I think it was at your request -- that the department is presently carrying forward. I believe in that list there was a study of the economic viability of the Great Slave Lake fishery on a summer and winter basis, and that is an ongoing study, but obviously, if there are some studies that relate to removing ourselves from the FFMC, I think that other studies will have to be developed and initiated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. General comments. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have received a few comments in a brown envelope...

---Laughter

...and because of the smell out of the envelope, I am sure that the person involved knows a lot about fish.

---Laughter

Motion To Exempt Delta And Eastern Fisheries From FFMC And Secure New Arrangements With FFMC For Great Slave Fisheries

I would like to move a motion to move this thing along. I would like to move that this Assembly recommend to the Minister and the Executive Committee that he, together with the appointed representatives of each of the respective fishing industries, seek to exempt the Delta and eastern fisheries from the FFMC jurisdiction and that the Minister and Executive Committee, together with representatives of the Great Slave fishery, seek to secure suitable new arrangements with FFMC for the Great Slave fishery.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Could we have a copy of that motion, please, Mr. McLaughlin? To the motion.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I think that some of the Members in the Assembly are interested in seeing more details on this vital matter and that this just gives the Minister further direction to continue looking into this before the next session.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to say that I also appreciate that the Minister has not had a great deal of time and I am pleased that this paper was brought forward, although it does recognize that more work probably needs to be done before we can make a final decision on this important matter. I do recognize that with another years fishing season upon us, not just in the West, but also in the Eastern Arctic, where there already is a significant char fishery, but where the potential is enormous in the area of Arctic char and also shrimp, as the Minister has indicated, it might be quite desirable that we try to come to some conclusion of this work prior to the beginning of the next fishing season. I would be interested if the Minister feels this is realistic and it would seem to be very appropriate that we ask that the work be continued with a view to making recommendations and taking decisions in the May session, which will be held in an area where there is a fishery.

So, I would just wonder, Mr. Chairman, if I could ask the Minister, through you, if he feels that if this motion is approved we might be able to get from his department recommendations on this business of whether or not we pull out of FFMC or certain aspects of the NWT fishery pull out of FFMC, in time for the May session?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I do not see that the motion says very much different to what is contained in the recommendations. I see the word "exempt" and I do not know if exempt means that these people would operate independently, outside of the current act; I do not know if that is possible, but if the word "exempt" is used to have them able to operate independently within the act, I see that it is almost the same as our recommendation, except it contains different words.

To answer the other question, obviously, as the honourable Member sits on the Executive Committee right beside me, he can tell me in my earhole exactly what he wants to do by May. I will respond to his dulcet tones.

MRS. SORENSEN: Right on! Right on!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Exempt Delta And Eastern Arctic Fisheries From FFMC And Secure
New Arrangements With FFMC For Great Slave Fisheries, Carried

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

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin. Any further discussion? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to give the department at least some further assistance in attempting to come to grips with the fisheries in the Territories. I am not convinced the Minister is qualified to deal with the fisheries matters at all. I think it is a joke to him.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: It is not a joke.

MR. CURLEY: I think the fisheries incentives, whatever little he has, are a joke to his departmental officials...

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Shame!

MR. CURLEY: ...and I think in that regard that the Minister should be given, by this House, an expression of disappointment to his performance for the last 12 years...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: No way.

MR. CURLEY: ...in not being able to come to grips in providing incentives and loan guarantees for capital expenditures needed, particularly, you know, in the eastern part of the Territories. Things might be going very well in Hay River, Great Slave fisheries, but look at the other parts of an area. Fishermen have had to make do with their own equipment.

Motion To Establish Fisheries Agency To Set Major Inland And Offshore Fishery
Policies, And Provide Incentives, Financial Assistance And Loan Guarantees
To Fishermen

So, I would like to move a motion, Mr. Chairman, with your permission. I move that this Legislature recommend to the Minister of Economic Development and the Executive Committee that they consider establishing a fisheries agency, which would include responsibilities for development of major inland and offshore fishery policies; and further that they provide incentives and financial assistance to fishermen and provide loan guarantees for major capital equipment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Can we get a copy of that, please? Thank you. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I consider the honourable Member's remarks that I treat the fishing as a joke nonsense and he knows it is nonsense. The Member is known in this House for producing and providing us with a lot of good laughs and a lot of nonsense and this is what is happening once again. I tell him that I have been very, very serious about assisting fishermen throughout these Territories to harvest their product and what he says is untrue, it is false, and he cannot prove his words.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I mentioned that in the East, when I was over there three years ago, there was a need brought forward that the fishing industry had not been developed and that is true. It had not been developed. There were no quotas established in that area and as I recollect, one of the things I requested be done is quotas established for shrimp and fish in the Eastern Arctic.

How far that has got along, I do not know. There still have to be quotas developed for the Hudson Bay. As I mentioned, when I was in Newfoundland, I sought ways in which we could train native people from the North to work in the fishing industry of the Grand Banks and offshore, because the fishing industry just is not learned in a few weeks.

As the Member well knows at a request from his constituents, I have subsidized the char in the Keewatin catch, 25 cents a pound to an amount of \$12,500 and there have been subsidies to the Great Slave fishermen provided, as I indicated to you. The Small Business Loans Fund and the Eskimo Loan Fund provide loans and loan guarantees and contributions for financing both capital and operating requirements of fisheries and other business enterprises. So, what the Member is talking about is already available to constituents.

MR. CURLEY: To the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Yes. Mr. Clerk, would you read the motion again, then?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion is that this Legislature recommend to the Minister and Executive Committee that they consider establishing a fisheries agency, which would include responsibilities for development of major inland and offshore fishery policies; and further that they provide incentives and financial assistance to fishermen and provide loan guarantees for major capital equipment.

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

No Guarantees For Major Fisheries In NWT

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we have sort of an ad hoc -- departmental people, some who do not even know what fish look like, involved in trying to establish policy for northern fishermen, so I think that it is about time that we tell the Department of Economic Development and the Executive Committee, "Look, if you are serious about developing a major fisheries policy and incentives for fishermen, before you start looking around and trying to learn what they are, establish an agency who then will be able to tell you what kind of fish there are in the Territories and what they look like, and what kind of a contribution they can make at least for the fishermen and the economy that is so badly needed in this part of the North." I did not mean to insult the Minister at all, because when I look at the estimates, there is no guarantee of any sort for major fisheries in the Territories, particularly in our part of an area. The only incentives that are available at this time are on a request basis; a person has to be determined enough to try and establish his own equipment and then, on his own, in the Territories present it to the Minister for assistance. I can tell you that that is not easy. Sometimes, you know, they present financial proposals to the Eskimo Loan Fund and Small Business Loans Fund, and so often those people who are interested in buying major equipment never hear anything at all from the department.

So what I am saying is if we do have an agency like the division of tourism -- we have, I think, people who know a lot about tourist development within the Economic Development department, so I cannot say to the Minister that his officials lack any knowledge about tourism industry, but I am not convinced that we do have in his department officials who know anything about fisheries economy. So I am saying through this motion I think it would be helpful that we do provide an agency. After all, we have all kinds of agencies, even for disseminating information. What better contribution could we have for those people who wish to harvest major fisheries in the Territories -- if only we have an agency that will be able to specialize and be able to respond to them in a way and in a fashion that they are familiar with. So I think I would urge you to support the motion at this time. Thank you.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, to the motion, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to ask the Minister regarding this motion if he will regard this motion and my motion as being something that he should give notice to FFMC about -- how unhappy the territorial government and the Assembly are about FFMC, and put them on notice so that in the May session we can possibly make motions which might finalize the direction we want to take in this whole fishing issue.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. I am sure that they heard about it already. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes. Obviously the honourable Member also did not listen to my opening remarks. I indicated to him that I had, in effect with a letter, put the FFMC on notice that we were unhappy. As I said, you people do not seem to listen. I have the letter here which I would make available to Members, which was drafted as a result of a meeting in Yellowknife some three weeks ago. Yes, FFMC does know we are unhappy. They are on notice.

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

Motion To Establish Fisheries Agency To Set Major Inland And Offshore Fishery Policies, And Provide Incentives, Financial Assistance And Loan Guarantees To Fishermen, Carried

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Shall we deal with the recommendation?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think that the first motion that was passed pretty well covers our recommendation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Is it the wish of the committee then that we go into bills?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Shall we report this matter being concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 3-82(1), Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1982

Bill 3-82, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I will have to get another set of paper bullets, I guess.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Just a minute. Can we get order there? Those two lovebirds over at the side. Mr. McLaughlin. Order, please. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Sir, Bill 3-82(1) is a bill that is before the House on an annual basis during our budget review. I do not think that there is anything in it that is unfamiliar to Members. Possibly we could ask the chairman of the standing committee on finance to comment.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Commissioner to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada providing for the payment of operating and capital grants to the Government of the NWT and related matters. Your standing committee on finance recommends that the bill proceed and that the Legislative Assembly approve the ordinance. Clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. General comments. Clause by clause. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 2, interpretation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3, agreement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4, additional provisions of agreement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 5, variation and amendment. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 6, ratification. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 7, implementation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 4-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Bill 4-82(1), Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1982-83

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, this bill also is a bill that is regularly before Members during the budget session. I think that there is nothing unfamiliar in its drafting.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this bill is to authorize the Commissioner to borrow funds for the purpose of making loans to municipalities or other persons in the NWT during the financial year 1982-83. Your committee recommends that the bill proceed and that the Legislative Assembly approve the ordinance, clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. We shall go clause by clause. Clause 2, authority to borrow. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3, agreement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4, authorization to make loans. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 5, conditions of loans. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 6, power to implement obligations and rights. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 7, regulations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Schedule 1, two million dollars. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Schedule 2, two million dollars. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Now report the bill ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 5-82(1), Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, 1982

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 5-82(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to Borrow Funds. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, this is an ordinance that allows the Government of the Northwest Territories through the Housing Corporation to borrow \$10,597,000 from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation in order that the corporation may carry out the rehab program under section 43 of the CMHC agreement. That represents 90 per cent of the total cost of the rehab program. This government puts forth its own front end 10 per cent, which amounts to \$1,177,000.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: As Mr. McCallum outlined, the purpose of this bill is indeed to authorize the borrowing of funds by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation for the construction or acquisition of public housing projects, or both. While your committee, Mr. Chairman, has grave reservations with respect to the continuation of the practice of borrowing large amounts of funds, and in particular with the now massive accumulation of debt and the large debt-servicing payments now being made by this government through the Housing Corporation, your committee has no option but to recommend that the bill proceed and that the Legislative Assembly approve the ordinance.

The committee, however, would recommend to the Minister, and we have spoken with him and he concurs, that he initiate discussion with the federal government on options for funding of the NWT public housing projects, particularly in light of our unique situation in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Schedule, in the amount of \$10,597,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Report the bill ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 6-82(1), Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Bill 6-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I believe the chairman of the standing committee on finance indicated yesterday that there has been some ongoing discussion relative to Bill 6-82(1), and as a result of that discussion with the chairman and her committee there have been amendments and changes to the bill as originally produced. Therefore, if I could have your permission to circulate the new document, which was agreed in consultation with the standing committee on finance, to Members of this committee and also, we would put before you a motion which we will have to move to amend the various sections. I see they are being circulated, so I imagine that is acceptable.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Do you want to make some opening remarks, Mr. Butters, then?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, sir. The Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance, Members will note, removes the territorial tax on home heating oil, a tax which has amounted, I believe, to three cents a gallon; and on all propane, butane and

naphtha fuel. These proposed amendments are in recognition of the high cost of heating homes in the North and would also apply to fuel used to heat buildings used for business. Propane has been exempted from tax to encourage its use.

To compensate for the revenue lost from eliminating the tax on heating fuel and propane and to bring our rates closer to the rates in effect in the rest of the country, tax increases on gasoline, diesel fuel and aviation fuel are proposed. These new rates continue, though, to be substantially lower than rates in effect in the rest of the country, so that we are listening to what Members are saying about recognizing the costs associated with transportation in the Northwest Territories.

The proposed tax increase on gasoline will apply only to gasoline purchased on a highway system in the Northwest Territories. The increase is 2.3 cents per litre, up to 5.8 cents from the current 3.5 cents. The resulting tax rate will still be lower than the tax in seven of the 10 provinces and prices for gasoline in the NWT will still be lower than in adjacent areas of other provinces, with the exception of Alberta. It is proposed to increase the tax on diesel fuel used in motor vehicles from 4.0 cents to 5.0 cents per litre. Aviation fuel will increase from 0.7 cents per litre to 1.0 cents per litre and other fuel from 0.7 cents to 2.3 cents per litre. At the time that these increases come into effect, it is also proposed that fuel taxes be indexed to the price of gasoline. Indexing of the tax rate will ensure the tax revenues increase in line with future inflation. All but two of the provinces currently have fuel tax rate indexed prices.

Those are my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman. I will defer to the chairman of the standing committee on finance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Bill 6-82(1). Mrs. Sorensen.

Standing Committee On Finance Recommendations

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members will note that the copy of Bill 6-82(1) that has just been passed around to them, is the third copy that we have seen and it is because we have been deliberating and considering and agonizing over these tax increases and, in fact, it has come down to negotiating with the government, and in particular, the Minister of Finance on these tax increases. So, while there has been a lot of paper accumulated over the past week, we do, as a standing committee on finance, feel that what you have before you is a fair compromise, I think, on some very tough decisions that had to be taken.

Your committee, Mr. Chairman, met for several hours over several days to consider the proposed petroleum tax increases and also Bill 7-82(1), which involves tobacco tax increases. As I said, we found it extremely difficult to justify many of the proposed increases and that was based on several factors, and I am talking about the originally proposed increases, which were somewhat higher than what we are looking at today.

There were several factors involved. Number one, while it is true that tax rates in southern jurisdictions may be lower, however a small comparison study on prices which I have passed around, reveals that the retail price on all petroleum items sold in most northern communities is considerably higher, so that while our tax itself is lower, the actual amount that the consumer must pay for these items is very much higher than the southern counterpart. For instance, if you take gasoline itself, gasoline that you would use in your skidoos and in your cars, in Edmonton they pay 29 cents per litre, in Yellowknife we pay 39 cents per litre. In Norman Wells, they are able to take advantage of the Norman Wells being there. They pay 29 cents. In Frobisher, however, you get up to 48 cents per litre and in, for example Pangnirtung, you are looking at 54 cents per litre.

Home heating fuel is another good example. One of the reasons that we did decide to remove the tax on home heating fuel, in Edmonton, they pay 24 cents per litre, in Yellowknife we pay 32 cents, but in Tuk...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You did not take the tax off home fuel, we did!

MRS. SORENSEN: Well, we are all in this together, are we not?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: As long as we get some credit, too.

---Laughter

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Let us break 15 minutes for coffee. You can talk all you want.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Mrs. Sorensen, do you want to finish up your remarks after you were so rudely interrupted?

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, yes. I was just giving some examples from a small retail fuel price survey that was conducted, I believe, by Mr. Tologanak's department for the committee, and I was, I think, dealing with the prices for home heating oil, which showed that consumers in Edmonton paid 24 cents for their home heating oil while consumers in Yellowknife paid 32 cents and in Frobisher, 40 cents per litre. Resolute, 55 cents per litre, and so on. This mini-survey is available to all Members and as well to the press for their information.

I was talking earlier, Mr. Chairman, about several factors that we looked at with respect to the difficulty we were having in justifying the proposed increases, such as they were earlier on, and the second major factor was that adding additional taxes on fuel, particularly motive fuel like diesel, that is used for trucks and aviation, would simply cause freight rate increases, which would compound the problems being faced by consumers and this government, so we were faced with what we termed a vicious circle.

The third factor was the fact that the Alberta-Federal Energy Agreement already has indicated that there will be a doubling of fuel prices by 1986, and that will occur in stages. I think we have just experienced one of those stages late last week with, I believe, somewhat of a two cent increase in fuel prices.

Additional Sources Of Revenue Needed

Given all that, Mr. Chairman, your committee came to the conclusion that alternate and additional means of raising revenues had to be found, and we began discussing and exploring with the Minister of Finance in our meetings, and again in this House with the Minister of Justice and Public Services, the possibility of raising the profit margin on liquor, which he told us was not appropriate at this time, for many reasons. We are not entirely convinced of that, but we will and have accepted the government's advice on that and have indicated that we would like them to continue to consider that increase, but that we could see that at this time it might not be appropriate. We also began discussing the possibility of introducing a tax on certain luxury items that no one has to purchase, but most people do purchase, and that is items that we termed "high sugar content items", such as pop and candy, and we immediately found that if we put, say, a 10 cent tax on every can of pop, assuming that every person drank one can of pop a day -- and we know that far more pop than that is consumed, because there are lots of drinkers of pop and alcohol in the North -- we figured that over one million dollars could be raised a year just with each person drinking one can a day. We consider that a fairly large amount of revenue.

The Minister of Finance has agreed to report back to the committee on the investigation that his administration will conduct with respect to the feasibility of introducing such a tax, and we will hear from them. They have promised to report to us in May. I must say the Minister of Finance was very much open to that idea, and so was the administration.

Additional Taxation Extremely Important To Government

Mr. Chairman, two days ago the committee met again to consider the tax increases, and we discussed the increases, Mr. Chairman, that were proposed in a package. So with any of the dickering that went on, we wanted to end up with the same bottom line as the government had proposed. The Minister of Finance had told us that that amount that he had hoped to raise through the additional taxation was extremely important to the government in the face of the deficit that we are anticipating this year, and in the face of the need for this government to be seen by the federal government to be increasing its revenues on an ongoing basis. That is quite appropriate if we expect to look responsible, and we

expect in further negotiations to get increases from the federal government. So, because the government had introduced the bill as a package, which was an important part of this years revenue, we felt obligated to not only indicate alternatives but generally to negotiate our suggested changes.

Mr. Chairman, it is important that this government continues to increase its revenues as it continues to offer more and varied services to the people of the Northwest Territories, and it is my information that on Tuesday, the day I was away from the House, the Legislature okayed extra funding for language programs and other things that are very, very important to the people of the North, and it is things like this that we have to have the money for.

Ad Valorem Method Approved

Mr. Chairman, with respect to the actual bill, Bill 6-82(1), the committee has recommended that the Legislature support the government's move to what is called "ad valorem" or the added value method of setting taxes; both the fuel increase bill and the tobacco tax bill are proposing that we move to this method, and we are supporting the government in this. At this time of very high inflation, indexing -- which is what this is doing -- is a much more efficient method of taxation. It does provide, however -- and this is something for Members to be somewhat concerned about -- for automatic taxation increases which would not be debated in the Legislature nor brought to the Legislature's attention unless the taxation formula itself determining the rates was to be increased. Therefore, as the cost of any item increased, so would the percentage of tax increase, and so it would provide for automatic taxation. We see this now, for instance, on our fuel bill, where, when NCPC has an increase in the cost that it pays for its fuel, we automatically as consumers see an increase in our bill, and they do not have to go before the Public Utilities Board to increase their rates. The administration feels that converting to this method of taxation allows our tax revenues to keep pace with inflation, so it is purely an inflationary move.

Proposed Rates And Calculations

I would like to just deal now, Mr. Speaker, with the various items that will be subject to increase and what your committee talked about and how we dickered back and forth with the Minister of Finance. You have a summary of the proposed tax rates and calculation methods before you. Each Member has received one, and I shall be referring to that. I would like to turn to it, because it gives you an indication in dollars and cents of what we are talking about.

The first item is gasoline. Originally, the government had proposed that gasoline be increased for the entire Northwest Territories from 3.5 cents per litre to 5.8 cents per litre. We countered with the suggestion that the increase take effect in communities on the highway system only, and that was particularly to assist communities that were more isolated, because they tend to use the gasoline more for hunting and trapping in skidoos, and we felt that we did not want to impose a further burden on the hunters and trappers than was necessary. Most of the gasoline that is used in the Northwest Territories is used in cars, and we feel that cars are -- although a necessary evil -- I guess, somewhat of a luxury in the North, because in most places you can walk from one place to another, so that the people using the cars while they would not be all that happy about it, the increase could be borne on gasoline. Therefore, we recommend that the Legislature agree to the increase in gasoline for communities on the highways. Gasoline for communities off the highways would stay at 3.5 cents per litre.

Mr. Chairman, with respect to aviation fuel, the government had originally proposed an increase from 0.7 cents per litre to 1.7 cents per litre, and we suggested that there be no increase on aviation fuel, mostly because of the resulting increase in freight rates. However, the government countered by suggesting that they go from 0.7 cents per litre to 1.0 cents per litre.

This being, as I said, a package deal, we, after some discussion, agreed to that, and we also recommend that the Legislature as a whole agree to that.

With respect to diesel motive, the government proposed originally that diesel motive go from 4.0 cents per litre to 7.0 cents per litre. We were very concerned about the very high impact that that would have on the freight rates again, because diesel motive is used in the trucking industry, and we suggested the government not proceed with the tax increase at this time. We debated that for some time. The government countered with a compromise suggesting an increase from 4.0 cents to 5.0 cents, and again after some discussion, the committee agreed, and we also recommend that the Legislature agree to that minimum increase.

Mr. Chairman, with respect to diesel non-motive, the administration has recommended that it go from 0.7 cents per litre to 2.3 cents per litre, and we had a great deal of debate and concern registered, because diesel non-motive is used in the production of electricity, and it is used by industry in the mines. However, again because this is a package deal and we need to generate the funds, we felt we had no option but to agree to the increase, and recommend that the Legislature do so at this time.

Home Heating Fuel Tax Removed

I said earlier, Mr. Chairman, that with respect to home heating fuel, the taxation was at 0.7 cents per litre. The standing committee on finance had recommended very early on, at one of its first meetings, that the tax on home heating fuel be removed. The administration countered with "That is an impossible feat." The question was again raised by Mr. MacQuarrie in the House in oral questions. The administration agreed to look at it again, and they have since come back and said, "Yes, it is possible", and so all taxation on home heating fuel will be removed. Now, that is a loss of \$1.1 million, so it is a significant loss of revenue. However, we have made it up in other areas, and we recommend that the Legislature agree to that.

The other area where taxation has been removed, Members will notice, is on propane and propane motive. We feel that propane is a serious alternative source of energy that people should be considering, and certainly there is a lot of information available now through many of the provinces, and it is something that we would like to encourage consumers to look at. There are problems, however, because propane does freeze at a certain temperature level, but we are aware that there is work being done in this whole area, and we would like to encourage consumers who are willing, I suppose to be a part of the experiments to get out there and try, because propane is an abundant source of energy, and we would like to see that it is used, where it can feasibly be used.

I believe that that covers all the increases, Mr. Chairman. The bill proposes to establish a tax rate for fuel on the basis of the price paid for gasoline in Yellowknife so the tax will be based on Yellowknife rates; and to raise the interest rate on overdue taxes. That is for companies that do not submit their taxes when they should; they will be charged a higher interest rate. That is it.

Alternate Tax Sources To Be Proposed In May

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the standing committee on finance, I would like to recommend that the Legislature consider this bill as a package, and that they throw their support behind these increases. They are difficult right now to swallow, I suppose, but they are necessary, and as I say, the Minister of Finance will be coming forward in May with alternate sources, which might allow us to remove the taxation, for instance, on diesel non-motive, which will further help the consumers of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Are we ready to go clause by clause? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am aware that the standing committee on finance and the Executive Committee had a thorough go with the bill, and I just do not have the information at hand to be able to say whether certain things should or should not occur, especially when I recognize the amount of work that has already gone into it. However, there was one question that occurred to me, and that was whether in considering the increase on petroleum -- I am sorry, I have just come back to the House after doing other business. I am a little disoriented. At any rate, with respect to a tax on diesel fuel that is utilized in the production of energy, I just wonder whether either the government or the standing committee on finance had representatives from NCPC or the Alberta Power Corporation actually visit and talk about the impact, and perhaps they might have some ideas of their own as to what could have been done effectively. So could I ask whether that was done, and I suppose if it was not, it is maybe too late to do it, but at any rate, if it was not, it would be interesting to know why not, and whether in the future there would be a kind of undertaking that where there is impact like that, that these people have a chance at least to say how they view the situation, and what recommendations they can make?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, no, it was not done. I just would point out the practice is that when a taxation regimen is being developed, there are usually not negotiations taking place beforehand with various segments of the community.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, with respect to that response, I certainly did not mean negotiations, and I recognize governments like to keep proposed tax increases perhaps secretive as long as possible, but certainly in a general way discussions could go on when that sort of thing is thought about. I would certainly recommend it. I would also ask the standing committee on finance the question as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mrs. Sorensen.

Approach To Reducing Taxation On Fuel

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, no, we did not invite representation from NCPC nor Alberta Power. I would agree with the Minister of Finance's observation that tax increases are delicate, and we certainly know what the effect will be. We know that the corporations will be passing on that cost to the consumer, but as I said, if Mr. MacQuarrie had been here earlier and had listened to the opening comments of both Mr. Butters and myself -- as the standing committee we are very aware of the effect that this will have. However, we have started a logical approach to getting rid of taxation on fuel. We have taken it off the first area, which will affect most people in the largest way, and that is the home heating area, and we have done it also in the area of propane. We have kept our increases to a minimum in diesel motive, which again will affect the most people, and in gasoline. You cannot be all things to all people and, as I said, we are asking the administration to come before us in May with the alternative means of raising funds on pop and candy. It is the standing committee on finance's hope then that if we can raise alternate sources of revenue, that we will again look at the taxation on fuel with a hope to either lowering amounts that are now being collected, or removing them altogether. However, as I say, it is not something that you do in one step, because the implications to the government financing are vast.

I might also remind Mr. MacQuarrie that we are looking at a deficit of over one million dollars this year, and we have to find a means by which to raise the funds, and it is very important that we do so in a responsible manner. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make two points. The first one is that the fuel price comparison that has been distributed compares prices in the Northwest Territories with Edmonton. I do not, of course, dispute the facts. The chart is accurate, but it is very difficult for us comparing with a place in Alberta, because Alberta is the only province that does not have any taxes on petroleum products. So, it cannot be regarded as typical in any way. They are fortunate in being able to raise their revenues in other areas. Probably a more valid comparison would be with Saskatchewan or Manitoba.

The second point, Mr. Chairman, is that since Mrs. Sorensen went through the proposed tax rates very carefully -- and I would thank her for that -- I would just like to underline the point that Mr. Butters made and that is that we are proposing to remove in this bill any and all taxes on naphtha gas. It is not a big item, but I think it is a helpful one.

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

More Consultation Desirable

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. I certainly see, especially in party government, where it is important for the party's sake, when you are preparing tax bills and so on, to operate a little more secretively, and I also understand that, in fact, when you have decided on certain tax increases, that there are reasons why maybe they should not be disclosed until a certain time. But I would just like to say, before we move on, that for both the government and the standing committee on finance, that to me it seems desirable to get as many informed opinions as possible about proposed or possible taxation and that I think both should consider, in the more general stages, of talking to people who might be impacted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I thank the Member for his comment and I will take note of that and advise my staff.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Are you ready to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say something about the bill, before we study it clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): General comments. Go ahead, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: General comments. We just passed a motion earlier, Motion 50-82(1), whereas, you know, this particular motion by Bruce McLaughlin was very concerned about energy resources development in the Territories. It wants to ask the federal government to guarantee future supplies of petroleum products. Now, to me, I think that is a very wise decision by the Assembly that we should have a guaranteed supply. To me, I cannot support a bill that -- imported oil for my area, for the eastern part of the Arctic, to subsidize Argentina's oil supplies or something. I do not know where it comes from. I think that regardless of the need to increase this, we could increase government revenue

through all sorts of other junk. So, on that basis, I am not going to vote in support of this bill, because it is going to hurt the ordinary family. It is going to hurt the aviation industry. It is going to, as well, hurt the ordinary citizen who has to pay for the energy, because once you increase the heating oil to the utility operators, they are going to pass it on to the customer, to the user. This government has gone on record as saying they are going to allow the users of the heating oil and so on and electricity to be responsible for them. So, to me, I think we are trying to represent two completely different problems. You know, we say we want to clamp down on energy costs. At the same time we are continuing to take part in increasing it through taxes. I think we could generate revenue by increasing the price of liquor, increasing the price on all sorts of candies or whatever, where you could make a million dollars throughout any months of the year. So, Mr. Chairman, I am not going to be voting in support of this bill, because I think it undermines the decisions of this Assembly which we have adopted throughout our term. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause by clause. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Bill 6-82(1) By Adding New Clause 1, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I believe Members have copies of the amendments before them that I am going to be moving. I move that Bill 6-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance, be amended by including immediately before clause 1, the following clause: 1. The Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance is amended by adding immediately after paragraph 2(a.1) the following paragraph: "highway system", the definition; "(a.2) 'highway system' means the highway system as defined by regulation." By way of explanation, a definition of "highway system" is required because different tax rates will be proposed for communities on and off the highway system.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 1(2)(d) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that paragraph 1(2)(d) of clause 1 of the ordinance be amended by deleting the word "naphtha" in line six, and by deleting the words "propane or butane" in lines nine and 10, and substituting the words "propane, butane, or naphtha".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Clause 1, petroleum products, as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 2, taxable price per litre of gasoline. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3, tax on fuel.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 3(1)(a) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I move that paragraph 3(1)(a) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by adding immediately after the word "gasoline" in line one, the words "purchased at a location on the highway system, and", and by deleting from line two the words "purpose, other than gasoline used" and substituting the words "purpose other than".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Subsection 3(1) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(1) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by adding immediately after paragraph 3(1)(a) the following paragraph: "(b) in the case of gasoline not purchased at a location on the highway system, and used for any purpose other than for aviation purposes, at the rate of 0.6 times the rate of tax imposed on gasoline under paragraph (a)."

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 3(1)(b) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(1) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by renumbering paragraph 3(1)(b) as paragraph 3(1)(c) and by deleting in line three the number "0.3" and substituting the number "0.15".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 3(1)(c) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(1) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by renumbering paragraph 3(1)(c) as paragraph 3(1)(d).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 3(1)(d) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(1) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by renumbering paragraph 3(1)(d) as paragraph 3(1)(e) and by deleting in line two the number "1.2" and substituting the number "0.85".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Paragraph 3(1)(e) Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(1) of clause 3 of the ordinance be amended by renumbering paragraph 3(1)(e) as paragraph 3(1)(f) and by deleting in line three the words "(c) or (d)" and substituting the words "(c), (d) or (e)".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Clause 3, tax on fuel, as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4, Mr. Butters.

Motion To Delete Clause 4 Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that clause 4, rebate where petroleum products used for commercial generation of electricity, of the ordinance be deleted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Bill 6-82(1) By Renumbering Clauses 1, 2 And 3, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that clauses 1, 2 and 3 be renumbered as clauses 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Clause 5, no tax on petroleum products used for heating premises, lubricating purposes or on roads and streets, cleaning fluids or solvents. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed.

---Agreed

Clause 6, taxable price per litre of gasoline may be prescribed. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 7. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 10. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 11. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 12. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 13, penalty. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 14. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Clause 14 Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that paragraph 16(2)(h) of clause 14 of the ordinance be deleted and be replaced by the following: "(h) defining, for the purposes of this ordinance, 'highway system'; and".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Clause 14 as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed.

---Agreed

Clause 15. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Statement Of Purpose Of Bill 6-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have one more amendment to this bill. I move that the statement of purpose is accordingly amended to read as follows: "The purpose of this bill is to raise revenue for the Government of the Northwest Territories by raising taxes on gasoline and other petroleum products; to abolish tax on oil for the heating of buildings..."

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: "...to abolish tax on propane, butane and naphtha; to establish a tax rate for fuel on the basis of the price paid for gasoline in Yellowknife; and to raise the interest rate on overdue taxes."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 6-82(1) as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Shall we now report the bill ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 7-82(1): Tobacco Tax Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 7-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Tobacco Tax Ordinance. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, this bill also requires a few minor amendments, and I have an opening statement that I would wish to make before I proceed with those.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Proceed, Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: When introducing this bill, we are introducing amendments to tobacco taxes which are expected to raise additional revenues of approximately \$750,000 per year. It is proposed to increase the tax on cigarettes from 1.2 cents each to 1.7 cents each, and to approximately double the tax on cigars. The tax on cigarettes in future will be indexed to the price of these items.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame!

---Laughter

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Cigar taxes are set according to suggested retail price, and so are already indexed. These tax increases move us closer to the rates in effect in the provinces, but still leave us with lower tax rates than most provinces, maintaining tax rates comparable to those in other provinces necessary to generate revenues to offset priority expenditures, and are consistent with this government's past taxation policies.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mrs. Sorensen.

Standing Committee On Finance Recommendations

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on finance considered the revenue that would be generated in both these bills, as I said, as a package, and when we encouraged and asked the Minister of Finance to lower the taxation that he was proposing on diesel motive and on aviation, and on allowing gasoline in communities off highways to remain at 3.5 cents per litre, we recognized that we would have to recommend alternate sources of revenue.

One of the areas we looked at was cigarettes. The government had initially proposed that we move from 1.2 cents tax per cigarette to 1.5 cents per cigarette for tax. We countered and said we realized we have to raise additional funds, and we can raise those funds through adding a few points of a cent, and that is why it has gone from 1.5 to 1.7 cents each. The original dollars that were to be raised with the first proposal were \$429,000. With the new proposal it is \$719,000. So we recommend, Mr. Chairman, that the Legislature agree to the increase in cigarettes. Mr. Chairman, your committee also recommends approval of the increase in cigars.

The Minister of Finance had originally recommended that we tax loose tobacco, and that was to have generated approximately \$70,000. This was to be a new tax. Your committee felt very strongly that loose tobacco was primarily used by the older people, the senior citizens of the North, and this was one of the few enjoyments that they had and, given the fact that many senior citizens particularly -- I suppose most of them -- are on fixed incomes, we felt that we would not like to add an additional burden by adding a tax to loose tobacco. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, your committee recommends acceptance of Bill 7-82(1), and we recommend that the Legislature adopt the ordinance. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): General comments. Clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The first amendment I have is in clause 2, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 1, taxable price per cigarette. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 2, tax on tobacco. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 7-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that paragraph 3(1)(a) of clause 2 of An Ordinance to Amend the Tobacco Tax Ordinance be deleted, and the following substituted: "(a) 45 per cent of the taxable price per cigarette or, where no taxable price per cigarette has been prescribed by the Commissioner by regulation, 1.7 cents per cigarette."

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. To the motion. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Clause 2 as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Clause 3, Bill 7-82(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that subsection 3(3) of clause 3 of An Ordinance to Amend the Tobacco Tax Ordinance be deleted, and the following substituted: "(3) 45 per cent of the taxable price per cigarette under

paragraph 1(a) shall be computed to the nearest 10th of a cent per cigarette, and for this purpose, one 20th of a cent shall be computed as one 10th of a cent."

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed?

---Carried

Clause 3 as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4, taxable price per cigarette may be prescribed. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 5, penalty and interest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 6. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 7. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 7-82(1) as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Shall we report the bill ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 13-82(1). Mr. Wah-Shee.

Bill 13-82(1): Municipal Ordinance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, the main purpose of introducing this bill is to render a person ineligible to be or remain a member of the municipal council if he or a corporation in which he has a controlling interest is indebted to a municipality for a sum greater than \$250 in respect of a debt other

than for current taxes. At present, Mr. Chairman, any person who is indebted to a municipality otherwise than in respect of current taxes is ineligible for re-election as a member of a municipal council. The bill places a limit of indebtedness so that any person owing less than \$250 to a municipality will not be deprived of membership in the municipality.

However, the bill provides for two additional disqualifications to prevent persons from using the cloak of a corporation to avoid the existing provisions of disqualification. If the bill is enacted, any person having a controlling interest in a public or private corporation which is indebted to a municipality for a sum greater than \$250 otherwise than in respect of current taxes, will be disqualified. "A controlling interest" is defined in the bill to mean equity shareholdings in a corporation of more than 25 per cent of the shares. The bill also provides for a simplification of the present cumbersome procedure for challenging the election or the membership of a councillor on a municipal council and removes the requirement for a security of cost.

The bill also provides for authority to a municipality to make by-laws preventing children below a specified age from being on the streets or at other public places in a municipality after a specified hour at night, and also for prohibiting or regulating noise likely to disturb or annoy inhabitants in a municipality. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): General comments. Mr. MacQuarrie, chairman of the standing committee on legislation.

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the committee considered this bill, it was concerned that the amendments as originally introduced to it, while endeavouring to close existing loopholes in the legislation -- which was certainly desirable -- the committee felt that the initial amendments might have resulted, if enacted, in the exclusion without sufficient reason of some persons who might otherwise have been able to make a valuable contribution to municipal politics, so during consideration of the bill, the following amendments, designed to overcome some of the concerns identified, were agreed to by the committee. They included inserting in paragraphs 2(2)(e), 2(2)(f), and 2(2)(g), immediately after "indebted", the words "for a sum greater than \$250". They also included deleting in paragraphs 2(2)(f) and 2(2)(g) the words "or is a director or senior officer of", and they also included substituting in subsection 2.1, "25 per cent" for what had appeared as "10 per cent", and these suggested changes were agreed to and they are incorporated in the bill that is now before the House, and so we have agreed to refer it as is, to the committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Ready for clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 1, vacancy. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 2, persons not eligible. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 3, controlling interest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 5. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 6, notice of petition. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 7, security for costs. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 10. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 11. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 12. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 13. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Right on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 14. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 13-82(1) as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Can we now report the bill ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 14-82(1): Wildlife Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 14-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, because the Minister responsible for this particular bill is not here, Mr. Braden will be speaking toward it. Mr. Braden will be speaking on behalf of the Minister, Mr. Nerysoo.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We knew that. We knew that. Mr. Braden, please.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I just wanted to get it in today.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I have a few comments to read into the record to explain the amendment to the Wildlife Ordinance. The present section 61 of the Wildlife Ordinance allows an export permit for the exportation of the meat of game to be issued only to the person who has lawfully killed the game. Motion 10-81(3) was made at the last session to allow corporations to be permitted to export the meat of game outside the Northwest Territories.

We believe that it is desirable to allow individuals and corporations, as well as hunters, to be able to export the meat of game outside of the Northwest Territories. This amendment would allow individuals or businesses to develop southern markets, and would be particularly useful in marketing the meat of herds in which there is a surplus.

Under the amendment, the person who has lawfully killed the game will still be entitled to an export permit for other than commercial purposes. If he wishes to export for commercial purposes, he will be required to obtain a licence to deal in the meat of game, as will any other individual or corporation wishing

to export meat for commercial purposes. A licence to deal in the meat of game will be prescribed by regulation. An export permit may only be issued to a person licensed to deal in the meat of game where the game was taken under the authority of a commercial tag, or is game that is allowed by regulation to be exported. The quality of the meat exported will be controlled by the terms of the licence itself, and the quantity of meat that may be exported may be prescribed by regulation. As a final control, the Executive Member will have the discretion to issue export permits to persons licensed to deal in the meat of game.

In order that the regulations and administrative requirements of implementing this requirement can be completed before the amendment comes into force, it is proposed that the amendment come into force on July 1st, 1982. Those are my comments, Mr. Chairman. It is pretty straightforward, and I would urge all Members to support this amendment.

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

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Just very brief comments. When the bill first appeared before our committee, it seemed that there was a little confusion with respect to export of game by an individual as compared to export by a corporation. The committee was advised that "person" means a legal person, which may be an individual or a corporation, and the committee also felt that an individual could engage in the export of game, thereby interfering with markets developed by a corporation, and agreed to amend the bill by adding in the clause in paragraph 61(1)(a), after "game" in line two, the following words, which were "by other than under the authority of a commercial tag". This amendment has been included in the bill that is before Members, and the committee has agreed to refer the bill to this committee as it is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): General comments. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, just for the record, I will not be voting on this subject. I am an executive director of a corporation which may or may not benefit from this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Ready for clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 1, export permit. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Bill 14-82(1) as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Now report the bill ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Tabled Document 9-82(1). The substitute House Leader wants to comment on that.

---Laughter

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Just as long as you are awake, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, both tabled documents we would not -- that is "we" in toto, not just the government, all together -- we do not want...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): What do you mean, both tabled documents? We are dealing with Tabled Document 9-82(1).

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Both tabled documents, Mr. Chairman, Tabled Document 9-82(1) and Tabled Document 15-82(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): That is better.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is two of them -- both.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: We do not want to move forward with those. We would like to go to Motion 51-82(1). Since you are in the chair, you have a conflict. You will have to get someone else to sit there.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is it agreed that we...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Both Tabled Documents 9-82(1) and 15-82(1) have been stood down.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Can I not even make comment with respect to the energy paper? It is not a discussion of the paper, but I just feel that the paper appeared initially a year ago, and it has appeared again this session, and some of the recommendations and the action plan seem to be saying, "Let us get going on an energy policy." That is what I say, and I just wonder how many times it is going to be deferred. I understand that the appropriate Minister is not here, but I certainly hope he will be when we meet in Inuvik.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Minister responsible is in other parts of the world pursuing...

MR. MacQUARRIE: More than one?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: ...other interests of this government as put forward by this Assembly and committee. We would make sure that both documents would be then placed before this House in the session in May in Inuvik.

MR. CURLEY: What for? What for?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Motion 51-82(1). Just a minute. I cannot jump out of this chair until I get somebody to replace me.

Motion 51-82(1), Expanded Terms Of Reference For Impact Committee

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Motion 51-82(1). Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I moved the motion on March 3rd. The motion was made to refer to committee of the whole, and it now appears on the order paper as Motion 51-82(1) under Item 13.

I spoke briefly to the motion, but I might maybe speak a little further. There were five recommendations that came out of the impact committee. Three of them were taken out by form of motion. However, one of the mandates of the impact committee was to disseminate the information to the settlements. Some of the settlements, I know, have requested this information. Mr. Evaluarjuk this morning in his reply to the Commissioner mentioned that some of the settlements in his area are not too sure. We have most of the information, the packages, ready to go. We had the Information services work on the packages for us. There will be TV interviews, there will be radio interviews. Further, Mr. Chairman, we have not that much time left before the plebiscite, and we would like to get to some of the settlements and just explain things.

If you wish, Mr. Chairman, I will just read the motion. Motion 51-82(1): Whereas the dissemination of objective information relating to the forthcoming plebiscite is essential; and whereas the present terms of reference of the special committee on impact restrict that committee to disseminating information contained in the consultant's report; now therefore, I move, seconded by the Member for Yellowknife South, that the terms of reference of the special committee on impact be expanded by the addition of the following provisions: 4) The committee shall also disseminate to the public of the Northwest Territories such additional objective and impartial information as in its opinion may be necessary to adequately inform that public prior to the plebiscite date. 5) The committee or individual Members shall be authorized to undertake such travel as may be necessary to ensure the dissemination of objective information relating to the plebiscite question. That is the motion then, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like the opportunity to point out that I noted in one of the papers recently that a reporter had made the comment that the Assembly somehow was not able to make up its mind, because at one time it had said to the impact committee, do not disseminate the information. Then it seemed to be saying now, do it, although that statement was made by the reporter before this motion had passed, if indeed it does pass, but I would simply like to point out, for that reporter's benefit and others of the public that there is a difference.

Motion Prevents Dissemination Of Subjective Information

The concern at the time the matter was first raised was that many Members obviously felt that if Members of the impact committee were to go to settlements and actually explain the report, that they might be involved in interpreting one way or another and persuading one way or another. That was the concern, that despite their best intentions, that might happen. I would say that this

motion prevents that from happening, and so it could be that Members would support this motion who would not support the earlier initiative. I do not know, but that is a possibility, because this -- I will point out in number five of the motion: "The committee or individual Members shall be authorized to undertake such travel as may be necessary to ensure the dissemination of objective information relating to the plebiscite question." So the travel is only to ensure the dissemination of the information, and as it is to be "objective information" that would obviously mean that the people who have to travel to disseminate it would not personally speak on the matter, because that would not be objective information, then, but subjective information. So I think there is a distinct difference.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I cannot support the motion. We do not go late in the game to try to push additional terms of reference when you have had two years to play around with the terms of reference of the committee. That is no way to operate, you know. What we really want is that we make funds available for each MLA to do whatever they want, because I would not want to see MacQuarrie to try to disseminate information, because he says he is not going to vote...

MR. MacQUARRIE: I am not part of the committee.

MR. CURLEY: ...he has not made up his mind, and Lynda Sorensen said the other day she has not made up her mind, so just imagine the kind of information that they would try to give to somebody when they are not committed...

MR. McLAUGHLIN: That means they are neutral!

MR. CURLEY: ...and the kind of information that they have given to us in their replies to the Commissioner's Address confuses you more than ever, than trying to give the public a proper perspective.

MRS. SORENSEN: Do not confuse them with the facts!

Money For Travel For Members

MR. CURLEY: So what we really want, I think, is some money, to allow Lynda Sorensen and MacQuarrie to travel to all parts if they want to, to provide their position, not the information which they do not believe in, because the information that is contained in the consultant's report says, "Well, there is no problem in dividing the Territories. The cost is not going to be too much. So what kind of information do we want to provide?" So I would say what we really want is to have some money, rather than just adding two more terms of reference to the impact committee. What we really want is more money so that each Member, whoever they are, can provide the kind of propaganda they want to, because that is precisely what we are going to do. You know, you are not going to agree with the kind of propaganda that I might be carrying with me.

So I think the two items here that the motion wants to achieve by adding two more terms of reference, will not achieve that. It is the money that is going to make the difference. You know, each Member should be allowed to travel to provide the kind of politically related message that they want to carry to their constituencies, because I do not think you would want me to come to Yellowknife and provide the kind of information which I believe would really make a difference to those who do not know which way they are going to vote on April 14th. So, Mr. Chairman, the way the terms of reference are worded here, I cannot support them. I will oppose the motion. Thank you.

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

Motion To Delete Number Five, Expanded Terms Of Reference, Motion 51-82(1)

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to propose an amendment, to delete number five under the proposed motion, and I would like to move that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is a motion on the floor. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I have more to say on the whole motion, but I will speak to the amendment that Mr. Wah-Shee has proposed, and if Mr. Curley can separate Lynda Sorensen from -- Lynda Sorensen, MLA, Yellowknife South, politician, from Lynda Sorensen who sits on the committee...

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: What about Lynda Sorensen, president of the Liberal Association?

---Laughter

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Shame!

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: That is not "shame"; that is "sham".

MR. CURLEY: What about Lynda Sorensen, wife of the director of Information?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I would just like to say that I am not in support of the amendment. The committee has had a formal request to send one of its Members to the Western Arctic region. After the region's Member had taken a tour around, she made a request to the impact committee to send someone from the impact committee to that area...

MS COURNOYEA: I did not make that request.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: What are you talking about?

MRS. SORENSEN: ...and the impact committee is not able to do that unless its terms of reference are expanded. The Member indicates she has not made that direct request -- that is my indication from the chairman, Mr. Fraser, who raised it at the last meeting and said that he had had that request. That is one of the reasons for our wishing to expand the terms of reference. It is not my wish to travel to that region. We had already discussed that the chairman was the most likely to go, and he has indicated that he has the time and is thoroughly apprized of what is in the report and is willing to do that.

Travel By Committee Would Be In Response To Requests

So that if this is not left in the terms of reference, if you take out our ability to travel as a committee, then you make it very, very difficult for people in the regions to get the information that they require from the committee. We do not have a dire or clandestine motive behind this. It is simply to be able to respond to the requests that we are getting from the regions to send a Member or a number of Members into that region to discuss the report. That discussion would be done with the MLA from the region, and the person representing the impact committee would only speak to the impact report, because that person has been involved right from the beginning with the report and has sat with the consultants and is very knowledgeable. All Members on the committee who attended the meetings are very knowledgeable with the report, and I do not think that Members should be threatened by committee Members going into the regions at the request of the regions to deal with the report. It is a logical thing to do, as a Legislative Assembly.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Amendment To Motion To Delete Number Five, Expanded Terms Of Reference,
Motion 51-82(1), Ruled Out Of Order

MR. CURLEY: To the amendment. Sure, I support that amendment, but I will also add an amendment to an amendment that number four also be deleted.

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: This was very predictable. I told the press this would happen.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, if I may speak to the amendment. I am a Member of the impact committee, and the impact committee has not had a unanimous agreement...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can you hold it for a second? Mr. Curley, your amendment to the amendment is not in order. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, what I am trying to say is that this very motion requesting the terms of reference -- the two of them, four and five -- were the very ones that were rejected by the Assembly last November.

MRS. SORENSEN: Nay, nay.

MR. CURLEY: They were the first and second recommendations made by the consultant's report, and when they were presented, this Assembly struck them out of the consultant's report. Now we are coming back and saying, "Look, without the committee having agreed to it unanimously in the committee, we are trying to split back in there again."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. First of all, was Mr. Curley's amendment in or out of order?

AN HON. MEMBER: Out of order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Out of order?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes. This amendment to the amendment is out of order. Speak to the first amendment.

MR. CURLEY: It does not matter. The point is that we had already voted them out. The Legislative Assembly has already struck them out of the terms of reference, so I would say that unless the committee has a unanimous position on the terms of reference, why should we go in there and try to force it on the other committee? I do not think that the committee should be the tool of the Western Arctic Members only. If the committee is going to operate, it has to have a unanimous position. Therefore, I cannot support -- well, I am going to be supporting the amendment -- deleting it -- but I will also be opposing the total motion. Thank you.

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

Committee Member Would Travel With Constituency Member

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amendment to delete number five sort of takes away the motion completely. I do not know if it is in order or not, but I guess you ruled it was in order. Just to clarify one thing, the

Member for the Western Arctic did say that she wanted somebody from the impact committee to travel to two of her communities. Mr. MacQuarrie was present when she said that. I do not know if she is denying it now, or what she said when Mrs. Sorensen mentioned it, but I said at the time that I would be prepared to go, and I would go along with her, or she could come along and we could go together. But I think if we were going to do any travelling, if it could maybe enlighten the Members -- if I was to do the travelling, I would contact the MLA in that particular constituency and if he was not able to go or she was not able to go with me, that they would appoint somebody to come along. In that case, if I was to do Yellowknife South, I would have Lynda Sorensen with me to do Yellowknife South, and that would be about the extent of it.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: That would be nice.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

---Applause

Deletion Of Number Five Defeats The Motion

MR. FRASER: In the Eastern Arctic, in Frobisher Bay, I would contact Dennis Patterson to get any feedback I could from him as to how I should go about it or where I should go, and then who wants to come with me. But this is the reason why this was put in there, Mr. Chairman, and to take number five out sort of defeats the motion.

Now, we have not got that much time left. I do not mean until 6:00 o'clock, but I mean until the 14th of April, and we have most of the stuff together now, and it will be distributed and disseminated. I do not think that we have to travel to all of the communities. It will be up to the MLA in each individual constituency what communities he thinks we should travel to, and by all means the Member could come along. So I do not see any fear in the travelling and getting this information out, as we have not got much time left. I would not like to see number five deleted, Mr. Chairman.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to relate to the Assembly that I did not make a formal request. I did say to Mr. Fraser that I would like him to come along to one of the communities; that I would like to see him with me and I would have been quite willing to bring him along. That was an individual request, but I do not know whether they wanted to see the dissemination of information or because Mr. Fraser is such a nice guy.

---Laughter

Time Element In Travel

So I am just a little bit concerned about this, because if you take a look at it, we only have from mid March to April 14th, and that is not that much time to try to be fair to every community. I do not know what it would gain. I just do not understand how anyone can be impartial, and not show bias or what you really believe in at this late stage. Many of the communities that I relate to may never even want to see me in the community for less than two days at a time, and normally with adequate notice. I have made one trip around in relationship to the dissemination of objective information, and I did not present any definite point of view. I said I would do that in my next trip around. I am quite happy to have Mr. Fraser with me, but I would be quite happy that he travel with me with the money I have in my constituency allowance, because I would not want other communities to make the allegation that I had his services, and the other communities were not able to take advantage of him because of the time element that is there. I do not know how the people who are offering their services to travel, if the response is to any degree, how

they would comply with all the requests that may come out. Even, say, if you had to go to 10 or 12 communities, certainly for my invitation to Mr. Fraser, it would take him probably four days. I would not wish anyone brought into the community who just goes in for a few hours and then out again.

So I do not believe that this motion will -- looking at it either way, looking at it to accommodate what you could do to put people at such a disadvantage to say that they are going to travel, and then possibly not even being able to do it. I know myself, if I were on the committee, at this late date I have so much work to do with the few communities I have, and with the kind of work that people want done, I just cannot see how I can even go to see the communities and discuss with them at the level that they wish to have this discussed at. So I do not see anything but more turmoil by authorizing people to travel when they cannot possibly meet those commitments in fairness to the number of communities. So I certainly wish to apologize to Mr. Fraser if he felt my request was in any way forcing him to broaden his mandate, because I was quite willing to have him without having to broaden the mandate.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Mr. Patterson.

Information Through Publicity In The Media

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to say that to imply that the impact committee has not made considerable efforts to inform the people of the Northwest Territories about the objective information surrounding this important vote is not fair. The impact committee has planned radio spots in all native languages which will give the essential information on the question and the results of the impact committee's study. The impact committee is also publishing material including a major newspaper insert, translated, for every newspaper in the Northwest Territories, and we have also been involved in the planning of three one-half hour television specials which the CBC is producing which will very soon be aired for all the people of the Northwest Territories, going into the question in great detail. Furthermore, the plebiscite office is undertaking an extensive publicity campaign to ensure that people understand the question.

I think some Members of this Assembly have a very real concern that certain Members of the impact committee, if they are permitted to travel, might use the opportunity to try and misinform the public or, as Mrs. Sorensen did the other day in the House, deliberately confuse the people of the Northwest Territories by deliberately distorting the question, by trying to imply that a yes vote means voting in favour of a tree line boundary when the question itself clearly states that the boundary question is to be reserved. This vote, Mr. Chairman, is not being run by...

MRS. SORENSEN: I did not do that. ITC did. I was quoting from the paper -- that is why we need to get out and tell the people...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please. Would you talk to the amendment, Mr. Patterson?

MRS. SORENSEN: Right on.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I am speaking to the amendment, Mr. Chairman. The issue is whether or not Mrs. Sorensen is going to be authorized to travel and spread her distortions of the question throughout the Northwest Territories. I think that is where Mr. Curley is quite properly concerned, because she has taken ITC's interpretation of the results of the question and tried to apply that to this Assembly. This Assembly has said the boundary question is to be reserved, and it does not matter what anybody else has said. This is an Assembly initiative...

MRS. SORENSEN: That is why this Assembly has to get out to the regions to tell the people what it means.

Faith In Chairman's Ability To Control

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: So I would like to speak to this amendment, Mr. Chairman, and report as a Member of the impact committee that I am aware that the impact committee has determined that if travel is to be authorized by this Assembly, it shall be at the control of the chairman of the impact committee, and I would like to say that I have full faith in Mr. Fraser's ability to see that this privilege is not abused. I do not think that he will allow it to be used as an opportunity, for example, to organize the Liberal party for the next election in this territory.

---Applause

We have also received assurance from Mr. Fraser that he is going to be very careful to consult MLAs if he is going to be leaving his constituency, and he also implied that Mrs. Sorensen probably would not be asked to travel outside Yellowknife Centre, which also gave me...

---Laughter

MR. MacQUARRIE: Nay.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...Yellowknife South, which also gave me great relief, because I do not think she understands the question yet, even though she is on the impact committee.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: She cannot even find her way to the Cunningham Building any more!

---Laughter

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: So, Mr. Chairman, just to wrap it up, I will not support the amendment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Decision As To What Is Objective Information

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, just let me say at the outset that I oppose the motion completely, but if the second portion of the motion was deleted or taken out, it would be a little bit more acceptable. I just want to give you my very good reasons. The first is that -- the motion reads that the committee would disseminate to the public additional objective and impartial information. What is that? Is it something beyond what is being written here in the impact committee's report? So there is some uncertainty, and who is going to be deciding what is objective?

The other reason is that I am simply afraid there are too many status-quo-ey people on the impact committee, so that I am a little bit concerned that, of course, in their desire to be objective, because of their status-quo-iness -- generally against any change -- would reflect their personal views. The other point is I really do not know that the committee is able to distribute this and interpret this into a Dene language. I do not know that this government has any facilities at the moment to translate this stuff into the Dene languages.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We are contracting it!

MR. SIBBESTON: So I do not think, inasmuch as they may want to, that this could be translated, because, as it is, if it were distributed to every household in the North, it would not make that much sense to many of my constituents. My other point is that I think there are better ways of informing the people. I know CBC has three half-hour TV programs that are going to be aired shortly before the election. As for the Dene people, I know that their leaders and some of the MLAs will be at the Dene Nation assembly in late March and April to discuss the whole question of division, so I think that way we will be able to inform the people in the Mackenzie Valley.

Question Of Division Is An Emotional Issue

Lastly, I think the impact report is one of statistics, graphs, figures and so forth, and I think it is not going to make any sense to people anyway. The question of division is largely an emotional question, not one of rationale, statistics, and so it is not going to help anyway.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I once read that when you cannot debate an issue with the facts, you deteriorate into name-calling and attack, and that certainly is what has been happening to me today. Now, with respect to Mr. Wah-Shee's amendment to take away the right of the committee to travel, the committee has a mandate to disseminate information, and part of that, because we are an oral society up here, is to take the information that we have put together in a huge book and talk to the people about it. Now, Mr. Fraser has said consistently that he will probably be the one to travel, because he has the time and he is familiar with what is in the impact report, and he is very willing to take the MLA in the region along with him, so that that MLA can watch guard on him to make sure that he does not say anything that he should not about the division, you know. You have got to make sure that he remains objective, and he is quite willing to do that, and he can do that really well, so he will make sure he does that.

The other reason is because we want to have the opportunity to accommodate, Mr. Chairman, the requests that we are getting from the regions, and to accommodate the people who are saying to this Legislative Assembly, "We need more information and we want to talk to MLAs, not just our own MLA, but other MLAs about the situation." I say to Mr. Patterson, so what if it is me? All the better if it were me, because it is healthy debate that we need on this issue, and we need that with MLAs who might have a different opinion going into the region, because that is how people make informed decisions, Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We do not need people to distort the question.

MRS. SORENSEN: It is not distorting the question. It is giving people the opportunity to discuss the issue with open-mindedness and to hear all sides of the issue, not just one.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Do not distort it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please. From now on there will be no communication without your microphone on.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Go on, Mrs. Sorensen.

Oral Communication Better Than Cassette Tapes

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I will repeat again: The Northwest Territories and the people that live here communicate orally. The impact committee has only one method now of communicating, and that is through cassette tapes. We

feel that it is much better to communicate with people by eyeball-to-eyeball, by sitting there and talking and answering questions. Mr. Chairman, I just feel that if this Legislature, by vote, prevents the committee from getting out into the regions, that it will absolutely throw the whole credibility of this Assembly out the window...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MRS. SORENSEN: ...and the whole credibility of the actual vote.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MRS. SORENSEN: As far as I am concerned, I think that we have an obligation as a Legislative Assembly to give the people of the North as much information as we can possibly give to them, and they are asking for that, and I think it would be absolutely irresponsible for us to not allow the impact committee to get out there and at least give them the facts that we have at hand in an objective way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Review Of Terms Of Reference In Response To Request Of Constitutional Alliance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the honourable Member who has just spoken previously that we should really debate this in a verbal manner. We should not be physical about it...

---Laughter

...and it is purely by choice on my part that I choose to debate it in a reasonable manner. Originally, the request that was made was made because the alliance has requested that there be sufficient information going out to the communities, and as the Members of this House have, in their wisdom, made the decision that funds should not be made available to the alliance, therefore we should review the existing mandate and the terms of reference of the impact committee.

The reason behind making these changes was that the impact committee should make more information available, other than the summary of the impact report, which was not satisfactory to the members of the alliance. I think that if the impact committee was to come up with a more informative type of information package to the committees, then I think that would satisfy the alliance. This is the reason why we felt that originally the request was made, and it was not based on whether the committee ought to travel or not, because the various interest groups, I am sure, will make an attempt to travel and make sure that the information is made available to all the communities, and that is the reason why I made this amendment, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard. To the amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Would you read the amendment?

Motion To Delete Number Five, Expanded Terms Of Reference, Motion 51-82(1), Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is to delete number five of Motion 51-82(1). A recorded vote has been requested. Please stand until your name is called.

To the amendment. All those in favour, please stand. You are voting only to the amendment, to delete number five. To the amendment.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Tologanak, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. Butters.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Opposed?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Patterson, Mr. McCallum, Mr. McLaughlin...

MRS. SORENSEN: I must have won you over.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: For different reasons.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I know you are not going to be doing any travelling.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MRS. SORENSEN: I am going to travel.

MR. CURLEY: That is your husband's job. That is your husband's job.

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

---Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now, to the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley.

Motion To Add Additional "Whereas" Clause And Replace "Now Therefore" Clause
And Number Four, Motion 51-82(1)

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have a further amendment to the motion. Right after the second preamble, I wish to add another preamble and it reads: "And whereas it is essential that the public hear from their MLAs on the issue of division;" and, Mr. Chairman, I wish to delete the "Now therefore" and number four and replace it with the following: "Now therefore, I move that this Legislature make funds available to individual MLAs to cover travel expenses when requested to appear in any communities in the NWT prior to the plebiscite on April 14, 1982."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, can we have a copy of that?

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Point of order, Mr. MacQuarrie?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would ask that you rule that motion out of order. It is obvious that the amendment...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie, can I examine that motion first and...

MR. CURLEY: It is probably out of order anyway.

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: It is. It is, but it is welcomed, actually.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can we have the amendment to the motion, please, Mr. Curley?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: You say a constituency allowance, Tagak.

MRS. SORENSEN: It is out of order, obviously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Every time I get the chair you guys seem to be getting hotter and hotter.

MR. CURLEY: It is out of order anyway.

Motion To Add Additional "Whereas" Clause And Replace "Now Therefore" Clause
And Number Four, Motion 51-82(1), Ruled Out Of Order

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): (Translation) The amendment that you have made is ruled out of order, Mr. Curley.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I wonder why?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, a point of order?

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak to the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is not in order. To the full motion, as amended. Okay. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: What did he say?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: To the motion as amended.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, to the motion as amended.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, to the motion as amended, Mr. Chairman. I still cannot support the motion, because I do not think on this division the only route to provide information is through a consultant's report. That is not their role. We have the agency who must do that and the Commissioner, as the man in charge of that agency, should be satisfied that this House is not responsible for disseminating information, because it is a political institution. I think if we do that we are going to be tied in to provide certain information only and not be able to really express your own view about the division question. So, I cannot support the motion and will vote against the motion as amended. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. CURLEY: Recorded vote.

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

Role Of Assembly In Disseminating Information On Plebiscite

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think when we discussed this matter at the last session it was agreed that the primary responsibility of this Assembly to advise the public would be redressed with each MLA and I can say that I believe we do have constituency expenses which should cover that. If we have exhausted our constituency funds by the end of March, we will certainly have a lot of money as of the first of April, because the new fiscal year will have started.

MRS. SORENSEN: To the motion.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: So, I feel that the House is still bound by its commitment that the MLAs will take a lead role in disseminating information.

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: However, I cannot see why we cannot authorize the committee to do even more than what it has already done.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I have suggested already in this debate that I think the committee has done an admirable job in preparing an objective information package to date and while it may not have been fully visited upon the people of the Northwest Territories yet, I think Members who are concerned about misinformation should be quite pleased. There is a limit to how far a committee of the Legislative Assembly can go...

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Frobisher Bay.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...because the matter is ultimately a political question. I think that by the time the plebiscite comes around, even on what we have already done...

MR. CURLEY: You are just muddying the water, Dennis.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...the people will understand the question.

MR. CURLEY: Our usual politician.

---Laughter

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I did not hear that.

MR. CURLEY: Just do not eat the water, please.

AN HON. MEMBER: Do not eat the water.

MRS. SORENSEN: You are starting to move up. You are starting to sound logical.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I think...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please! I will repeat it again once, no communicating between you guys without your microphone on or until you have been recognized. Thank you.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: The primary objects of the impact committee, Mr. Chairman, were to make sure that people understand what the question is, make sure they understand the objective facts that we have been able to obtain on the plebiscite -- not on the impact of division, not the subject of facts. That is a matter for MLAs to deal with in their own ways. While I am satisfied that people will understand the question and will understand the preamble to the question -- which I may remind Mrs. Sorensen, is an integral part of the question -- I think that if the chairman of the committee, in his wisdom, sees that we can do something more than we have already done, I do not see any reason why we cannot authorize him to do so. I am aware that the committee has been given ample funds from the Assembly's budget to accomplish any further objects that the chairman might, in his wisdom, see fit to obtain. So, I do not have any difficulty with supporting the motion. I think the impact committee has done a very good job in disseminating information, but perhaps something more may appear that we can do and in that case I do not see any reason why we cannot trust Mr. Fraser to carry on in that direction. Again, I will say, I am glad it is Mr. Fraser and not other Members who have this responsibility. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Motion To Distribute Information In Individual Constituencies Only On Request Of MLA

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I wish to make an amendment by adding the following "whereas" clause after the only "And whereas" clause that now exists: "And whereas, notwithstanding all of the above, no public information on the question of division as provided by the special committee on impact shall be distributed in any of the 22 constituencies in the NWT unless such information is requested by an individual MLA of a constituency."

MRS. SORENSEN: Boy, oh boy!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can we have a copy of that amendment?

MRS. SORENSEN: I hope the federal government reads this.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Soon legislation will be passed to ban newspapers.

MRS. SORENSEN: Boy, oh boy!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your amendment is in order. To the amendment. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I just think that it is a good addition to the motion, because it simply says that only those Members who wish information for their constituents may so ask the committee and, otherwise, then the impact committee is not able to provide information to that particular constituency. So, it may be in the North that only one or two or three may refuse that information be provided. So I just feel that it is a compromise and those people who do want the impact committee to go into their constituency can request it and have the information so provided.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: What about the CBC TV package?

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Notwithstanding democracy...

---Laughter

...we are a Legislative Assembly. I say this motion must go down. We heard yesterday, when the education committee report was being given, that they had received complaints from communities for not making themselves available to those communities when they made themselves available to many others. Now, this is not precisely the same, but there is a parallel.

MR. CURLEY: Why do you want to go?

People Should Have The Right To Request Information

MR. MacQUARRIE: The parallel is this, that if information -- well, that has got to be determined first, should there be additional information, but if it is determined by this Assembly that there should be additional information prepared...

MR. CURLEY: But you do not believe in it.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...and if communities want that information and request that information that has been generated at public expense, I could not be any part at all of a system that said an individual MLA would decide whether they were going to get that information or not.

MR. CURLEY: You already said you are not going to take part.

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is people that have the right to request it if it is available. So, I certainly will vote against that amendment, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser, to the amendment.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the amendment. I do not know why the Member just does not vote against the motion, because the motion reads "expand terms of reference for the impact committee". That is what the motion says.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. FRASER: So, if you are going to expand information -- terms of reference and information to the Northwest Territories, the people of the Northwest Territories, how can you vote for a motion like that? The motion says, if you request it. Well, how are we going to do it? What are you going to do, tell everybody in Fort Simpson to shut their TV off, there is going to be a TV announcement tonight on impact, and the radio the same way?

MR. CURLEY: Vote against the motion later.

AN HON. MEMBER: He will.

MR. FRASER: Yes.

MRS. SORENSEN: Do not worry.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have some clarification. I am a bit lost here. Number four is still in? Is that...

MR. SIBBESTON: Right.

Providing Information By Mail, Radio And Television

MS COURNOYEA: Okay. Now, Mr. Sibbeston made a motion and his explanation was different than the motion. It seems to me in number four we are dealing with dissemination of information on public channels and papers, etc. What Mr. Sibbeston seems to be relating to is travel or individual Members of the committee to go into communities only upon request and I am just wondering if I could have some clarification on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, by defeating number five we have excluded the committee from travelling anywhere in the North, so really the motion up to now only provides that they disseminate information by both sending out material in the mail or else disseminating information on local radio stations and local TV stations. It certainly implies that there should not be anything on that whole network in the North where everybody can receive the information, because if there are many constituents who do not want public information, then a Member is able to not have that information provided, and so it stands to reason that the committee should not put anything on a network that provides, generally, information in the North.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I support the motion because my constituents...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, we are talking to the amendment, not the motion. Thank you.

MR. CURLEY: Excuse me. The amendment. I have no difficulty with it. My constituents do not need any of the undecided Members to come over there and try all of a sudden -- they know something about the division. Mr. MacQuarrie has already decided he is not going to take part in the division, so I think he should just wait for the outcome of the plebiscite and be content with his decision. He already stated that he has not made up his mind, and I do not think he will make up his mind, and will possibly never make up his mind. So I am in support of the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: The amendment, the amendment.

MR. CURLEY: We have often complained that when the Ministers travel that they should first at least consult with the MLAs. I think other MLAs and so on should also communicate with them if they are going to send the kind of information that could be harmful to a Member's constituency. So I shall be voting in support of the amendment. Thank you.

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

HON. DON STEWART: Yes. Could I have that motion read again, please, Mr. Chairman?

MRS. SORENSEN: The amendment.

HON. DON STEWART: The amendment. I am sorry. Could I have the amendment read again?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Clerk, could you read the amendment?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The amendment is that "Notwithstanding all of the above, no public information on the question of division as provided by the special committee on impact shall be distributed in any of the 22 constituencies in the NWT, unless such information is requested by an individual MLA of a constituency.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Mr. Stewart.

Cancellation Of All Present Advertising

HON. DON STEWART: Well, I guess, then, we have to cancel the television programs, all of the ads that have been placed in all of the newspapers, withdraw all of the information -- if we vote for this motion, that is what the mover is asking us to do. If that is the case, why did you set up a committee to put this information together? You have spent a great deal of money putting it together. Now you are saying we cannot disseminate it across the Territories unless the MLA asks for it. Now, something has got to be rotten in Denmark when you get to this kind of a position.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: In Denendeh.

HON. DON STEWART: There is something completely and absolutely haywire. We have spent a lot of money to put this thing together. Now you cannot put it in the communities unless the MLA agrees. Now, something is wrong. I cannot possibly support that amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Mr. Smith.

---Laughter

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Fort McCallum. Yeah, okay. 'Tis me, Alice -- 'tis I.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. McCallum.

Against Freedom Of Information

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think we have gone a little bit further than what Members would want to do, but I would suggest to you that if we approve of that amendment we are against the fundamental freedom of a democratic country, the freedom of information.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I mean, that has got to be incredible. I know it is 6:20 on a Friday afternoon, and we have been here for five bloody weeks of it, but if we are going to sit here and deny people...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment, please.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I am on the amendment. If we are going to deny people access to information on this, then we should all get out, and I will be the first one to go.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I am on the committee, Nick. I trust you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I do.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I think on that amendment I could not support it, but I cannot support anything in the motion any more, whatever it means. However, it seems to me that the fundamental issue when we are trying to revamp this motion is that there is a certain amount of distrust of certain Members of that impact committee, to do that kind of job that has to be done. There has been some reference in terms of disseminating information being the legitimate responsibility of the Department of Information, and that is to me the fundamental issue that is messing up this motion. Now that the special committee on impact has done its job legitimately, this forum should move justifiably to the Department of Information, so whatever you do with the motion, I cannot support it, because it is too confusing, and I think the issue is being missed. I think the issue is that information should go out. But should it be the special committee on impact, given the fact that there is a certain amount of distrust of some Members on that committee?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Inadequate Community Visits by Impact Committee

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, this amendment, as I said, simply provides that if a Member wants the impact committee to provide information to his constituency, he can ask, and the impact committee can go there. However, I must tell you, Mr. Chairman, that I am a little bit concerned about the type of community visits that the committee has done. Last summer, I know the chairman of the committee phoned me one evening and said, "I am going into your constituency." Well, what could I say but to say "Come, it is a free country, it is Canada." So, as it happened, Mr. Fraser went to Fort Providence and went to Fort Simpson, and I know during that time spoke very, very briefly -- in some cases, no more than "Hello, how are you?" Yet there are certain people whose names are shown as being interviewees, persons that are shown as having been interviewed on the list. I know specifically one person in Fort Simpson, Chief Jim Antoine, who is annoyed by the fact that his name is shown in the impact committee's report as having been interviewed; he said he said no more than "Hello" to Mr. Fraser. Mr. Fraser wanted to speak with him. Mr. Antoine said, "I am busy. I cannot talk with you." Yet Mr. Antoine's name is shown on there. So I am a little bit concerned at the way that the chairman of the committee has gone to the communities, particularly down the Mackenzie Valley, and so this is part of the reason why I am against the impact committee going into my area. I simply do not trust that the information provided will be fair and accurate.

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

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not believe the Member was talking to the amendment anyway, but I can reply, surely. If Jim Antoine's name was in the report, we talked to him. They were at a meeting, and we went over there and we requested to talk to him. He said, "I will come over and have a cup of coffee." He sat down and had coffee with us, and he talked to us. He talked to Jim Cranston. We have what he said. We did not put it in the books, we did not mention what anybody said in the report. We had their names, who we interviewed, but we have that information if the Member wants it, if he thinks that I was lying about it. We have that information what he said, so who are you going to believe?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. DON STEWART: Question.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. With respect to a couple of the concerns that were expressed lately, particularly by the Member for Mackenzie Liard, the question is already settled, that Members of the impact committee will not be going to those communities, so what we are dealing with is additional, objective, and impartial information, and that is the nub of the whole thing -- whether that should be available if this Assembly decides to produce it, whether it should be available to people who want it. That is the nub of the question, and I say that it ought to be, and it would be very wrong to support this amendment. It makes one feel uncomfortable and wonder whether in either Denendeh or Nunavut what the circumstances would be with respect to exchange of ideas and the fundamental freedoms of democracy.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes, to the amendment. I have a question to the mover of the motion. I do not know whether it is appropriate to do that now or after.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): It has to be after this amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called.

AN HON. MEMBER: Recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A recorded vote has been requested. A point of order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. It seems to me that whenever any Member asks for clarification of an amendment or a motion, that we generally allow that question to be asked, and I would say that if Mr. Curley wants to ask a question of the person who moved the amendment, that that should be quite in order.

Motion To Distribute Information In Individual Constituencies Only On Request Of MLA, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We are talking about the amendment right now, and he can ask the question on the whole motion after the amendment. Recorded vote is requested. Please stand until your name is called. To the amendment, please stand. All in favour?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Curley, Mr. Sibbeston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Down. Opposed?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Patterson, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. Butters, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Tologanak, Ms Cournoyea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The amendment is defeated.

---Defeated

Now, to the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, you had a question.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask a question of the mover of the motion. He is the chairman of the committee and knows very well that these two amendments were already defeated in November, and why would the chairman of the committee proceed with a motion to increase the terms of reference without the approval of the standing committee on impact? Why did they not consider the two amendments here? I would also like to ask him who is going to be the author of the kind of information that this committee is going to disseminate? Is it going to be Mr. Sorensen or Mrs. Sorensen?

MRS. SORENSEN: That is a low blow. That is a low blow. That is vicious.

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

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the Member that is asking the question is also a Member of the impact committee, and if he would attend some of those meetings, he would find out what is going on.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. FRASER: At that particular meeting when this was decided, it was a motion made by Mr. Butters in caucus to bring this motion forth and have this information disseminated. That motion was made in caucus, and the Member was not there when that was made either. So how are we going to keep up with things? We have to keep going whether the Members are there or not. This was why this motion came about; it was brought up in caucus and passed in caucus, and that is why I moved the motion. However, as far as disseminating the information, Mr. Curley himself -- and I can quote him as saying, "We have Information services here available to us any time we want them. Let them put the packages together." Mrs. Sorensen had nothing to do with it. We dealt through the Information services, and that is who put the packages together, and that is who gave us the information, and you were the one that asked for them to do it.

---Laughter

MR. CURLEY: I did not ask you to do it. No way.

MR. FRASER: I can quote you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please. Before I get back to you, Mr. Curley, I would like to recognize in the chamber the deputy mayor from Tuk, Emmanuel Felix, and secretary manager Judy Payne, and assistant to the mayor Ella Jean Nogasak.

---Applause

Thank you. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the chairman's respect to the rest of the Members of the committee. Each standing committee does not practise passing motions through caucus to expand their terms of reference; they must first be dealt with by the standing committees, whether they are or not. So I would say that there is a conflict here because Mr. Sorensen is actually the man who is providing the public information. I would say if they are going to do it, this committee should not be allowed, so I cannot support that motion as it is, because I believe there is conflict there and we are competing with an agency of the government. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended. Honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Disseminating Information To Dene Speaking People

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am glad to see that a couple of people that are normally fairly quiet are finally aroused to speak very passionately about an issue, meaning Mr. Fraser and Mr. McCallum. I just want to ask the chairman or any other Member of the committee how they intend to disseminate information to the Dene people, many of whom do not understand English. Recognizing that now they cannot travel to disseminate their information, what means do they intend to use to disseminate information?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought he would never ask. This information is being put out by the Information services in Yellowknife here, and the printed material consists of summaries of reports that will be distributed by household mail to 13 communities where postal box service is available, through newspapers by means of inserts, and through the general delivery service in smaller communities where full-sized postal service is not available. Four versions of the summary will be produced: English, syllabics; English, Western Arctic Loucheux; English, south Slavey and north Slavey; English, Dogrib and Chipewyan. The immediate approval of the attached copies -- this information is already available. We have it already available, Mr. Chairman, with posters and everything else, and the whole package for television -- production of summary -- newspaper inserts, newspaper advertising, postal charges, Anik Info spots, radio spots on CBC, contract with the Native Communications Society, community radio Inuit, commercial radio, the whole package costs \$18,000, Mr. Chairman. We have radio tapes made up in all the different languages as to how this information will be disseminated.

Now, this is going out to the settlements, thanks to that amendment being defeated, and we thought that it would be good if somebody was in there to explain some of this stuff, but if they do not want it explained, we just take it as though they do not want the information passed out to the communities. They do not want the people to know. They want the people to go ahead and vote without knowing, but some of those people want to know.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I simply was wanting to raise a point. I think we are talking about who disseminates the information. It is the Department of Information. I know that I have taken cheap shots at people and I have received cheap shots back, and I do not believe that I have to take the part of anybody else. People in here can look after themselves, and I do not mean to do that, but I really believe that we are not talking about people within the same household. We are talking about an individual on the impact committee, and we are talking about an individual who is the head of a department of this government. I think that was just a little bit of a cheap shot, and I know I have taken some, and I have given some, and I shall go on doing it, and I do not have to take the part of anybody else. That is the point that I wanted to raise. I just do not think it was correct, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Speaking to the motion as amended. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, Mr. McCallum seems suddenly concerned very much about the director of Information. It is a fact that Mr. Sorensen is head of the Department of Information, and it is a fact that Mrs. Sorensen is an MLA, so there is always that possibility of collaboration, information being given back and forth. If Mrs. Sorensen or you are insulted or think that is disgusting, have Mr. Sorensen resign or Mrs. Sorensen resign; but obviously, there exists a situation where there is a possibility of conflict occasionally, and some question as to who is going to be disseminating and how is information going to be sent out. Do Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen talk at night about the type of information that the department is sending out? You know, we do not know, and there is always that possibility.

MRS. SORENSEN: We have fun. We sleep together, too.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I am not going to recognize anybody else from now on unless you are going to speak to the motion as amended. Now, to the motion as amended. To the motion as amended. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

Verbal And Visual Information Available To Dene

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fraser seems to have read out some prepared text of what is being done. I want to know, is fairly extensive information provided in the Dene language, verbal, or something that can be seen on TV that is very objective, so that people can see or hear, rather than something printed in some syllabic or Roman orthography that the Dene cannot understand anyway? Government thinks that they are providing information to the people. I want to know if verbal and visual information is available to the Dene, and how is it going to be put out to people?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: I do not think that has anything to do with the motion, does it?

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. FRASER: It has nothing to do with the motion. He will find out soon enough how those things are coming out.

MRS. SORENSEN: Well, just tell him.

MR. FRASER: They are coming out in tape form, they are all made up already and they were made up by the Native Communications Society. They are the ones that made the tapes up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: I think it is important to know just what type of information and just how the information is getting out, because the motion does talk about dissemination to the public of certain things. So, it is important to know, because as far as I know the department does not have any Dene interpreters, no facility as such to produce stuff to put out to people. They do not have a network, as it were, to communicate with people. They have to beg CBC to put it on the radio and I suppose they have to buy one minute slots from TV.

MR. FRASER: Maybe I can satisfy the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: I mentioned it before, if the Member would have been listening, Mr. Chairman. The contract with NCS, which is the Native Communications Society -- we have a contract with them for \$4000 to put out these tapes for us and if they cannot understand them, it is not my fault.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended. Mr. Braden.

Information Should Be Sent Out Immediately

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Just to say, Mr. Chairman, that I want to support the motion as amended. I think that we have received a request through the alliance, as Mr. Wah-Shee indicated, for some historical information and there is a document that was provided to all MLAs, done by the library of parliament, which is just an excellent historical account of the whole issue as it has been addressed over the last 25 years. Now, that is the kind of thing that was requested from us and I think that what we will be able to do over the next six weeks with this one addition to the committee's mandate is to allow them to send out additional information which people are going to require, because as the first wave of advertising and information is received by residents of the Northwest Territories, I think we are going to have these questions and there will be additional information that the people will be asking for. So, I would urge all Members to support this motion. I think that we are not going to have a situation where subjective information is going out. It is said right in here that it is additional objective and impartial information.

MR. CURLEY: Do you believe they will do that?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, from what I understand they have put together a reasonable...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: ...package so far and it will be disseminated and if it is perceived by the public that it is biased or subjective, then we will have to call our committee to task for taking a biased view. So, I would urge that we vote on this, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I resent being accused of giving cheap shots. You know, I do not like that at all from the Member from Fort Smith.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Then do not give them.

MR. CURLEY: Well, I did not give them to you, sir. You just stay quiet there, because...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Do not tell me to be quiet.

MR. CURLEY: ...you are just going to...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You talk all the time, Curley.

MR. CURLEY: ...you are just too bloody...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You are talking all the time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order! Order, please! This is the third time.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You try it. You come over here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Hey, hey! Order, please! Order! I am going to ask to report progress.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, a point of privilege.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of privilege, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I do not mind men fighting over me, but I wish you would fight over my beauty and not over my position in the Legislature. The comments that he has made do not affect me in any way. I could not care less what Tagak says. He cannot argue, you see, on logic and on facts, so he has to attack me from another way. So, if he wants to do that and have it appear on the record, that is fine. That is to his discredit, not mine.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Could you stay on your point of privilege?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Oh, boy!

---Laughter

Mr. Curley, to the motion as amended.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad that you are able to give me my privilege to speak here. I did not attack Lynda. I have questions about her husband.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion, now. Come on.

MR. CURLEY: To the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Talk to the motion now, as amended.

Motion To Amend Motion 51-82(1) To Hire Independent Officer To Disseminate Information

MR. CURLEY: You let me speak. You let others speak. I have questions about the chairman using the Department of Information officer. He writes those articles. I would like to add an amendment to the motion, right up to the provisions, number four. "After the Committee shall", delete "also" and add the words "hire an independent officer to" disseminate to the public of the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can we have a copy of that amendment, please? Okay. Repeat it then.

MR. CURLEY: The motion would then read as the fourth term of reference: "The committee shall hire an independent officer to disseminate to the public of the Northwest Territories such additional objective and impartial information as in its opinion may be necessary to adequately inform that public prior to the plebiscite date."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I know it is true that there is some sense of mistrust amongst us and it is real. We cannot pretend that it does not exist. I think the committee would have been wise long ago to hire an officer outside of the Department of Information, just so that we show that impartiality. I think we would have been very wise to do that. So, I think we should have that officer, because I am not going to be able to get in touch with the chairman of the impact committee, because I do not even have his number. You know, I can look him up in the phone book, maybe, but I think to have an officer who will gather that information when it is needed, to me makes sense, because I am a Member of the committee, but I do not feel I am going to have the right -- I am not going to feel comfortable in asking Yellowknife if I can have that information available to me to provide it to this community or that community. So, I think if we were to have that independent officer, he or she could be a public relations type of person, working in providing information and making any information that is sent by the committee -- should also get into the hands of all Members of the Assembly, just so that we know what is going on. Otherwise, we are going to be seen as though we are trying to manipulate the communities or whatever -- take advantage of the travel expenses that have been allowed us. So, I think this kind of amendment will ensure that we do not get into the kind of fight that we are getting into right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like you to support the amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. Mr. Fraser.

Outcrop Ltd. Preparing Information Package

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to inform the Member again, had he attended these meetings he would have found out -- or even if he had stopped long enough to read the minutes of the meetings that we have had...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are you talking to the amendment?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay.

MR. FRASER: ...read the minutes that we had with the impact committee, he would have found out in the minutes that were dated February 4th, at 10:00 a.m., right here in this same building, we had Mr. Sorensen in and asked him if he could do this package for us and he said he did not have time -- that CBC radio programs, distribution of written material and programs on community radios -- that he did not have the time. He could not do it. So, the whole job was put out on contract to Outcrop Ltd....

---Applause

...which has members in the town here. If you read the minutes, you will find it in the minutes of February the 4th.

MR. MacQUARRIE: A private enterprise.

MR. FRASER: So, that amendment to that motion is out of order, I think.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: It has already been done.

MR. FRASER: It has already been done.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mrs. Sorensen.

MR. CURLEY: The last time I attended the meeting he was there.

AN HON. MEMBER: February 4th. Read it.

MR. CURLEY: He was there the last time I went, next door.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, just as a matter of information, the committee, realizing that we did not have an awful lot of money, hired the services, so to speak, of the Department of Information. We had obtained the dollars from the supplementary estimates from the Executive Committee and we asked for advice from the Department of Information and that was the meeting of February 4th and, again, the meeting of February 16th. The Department of Information told us that they would be happy to co-ordinate the hiring of Outcrop to do the writing of the material and the design of the information package itself, because the department did not have the time, because they were doing many other things for the government itself. Mr. Sorensen was very clear on that and that is recorded in the minutes.

Outcrop's Work Scrutinized By Committee

I think we also have to remember that whether it was the Department of Information or Outcrop or any other group, that group was hired by the impact committee that works on behalf of the Legislative Assembly. So, you do not just say to that agency, "Here is a job. Do it." You control that agency as a committee and everything that Outcrop has written has come back for scrutiny by the committee. Mr. Patterson has read it and gone over it. Mr. Fraser has and others. There were in attendance at that meeting Mr. Patterson, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Arlooktoo and Mr. McCallum and myself. We all went over the information.

Now, the information, Mr. Chairman, was based on the summary of the impact of division report, which all Members have. There is nothing in this information that will be distributed that has anything to do with other than what the impact report says, so that now, for us to go out and hire an independent officer -- we would have to go out of the Territories, because if now the Legislature is telling us that Outcrop is not an independent officer we do not, quite frankly, know where we will go. Outcrop is the only organization that is set up within the Territories to provide this kind of independent writing and dissemination of information that the public requires in the next four or five weeks -- well, less than that -- three weeks, I guess, because you have to have time to design and print it.

So, I would have to speak against the amendment, simply because as a committee we have already, through the Department of Information, had the use of an independent officer for the writing and designing of the information. As a

committee we have reviewed that information and we do not find it objectionable -- all of us have reviewed it. Those who were at the meeting do not find it anything but objective and impartial and I would have to say that the amendment is really not necessary. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, with due respect to Mrs. Sorensen, how can she say anything when the Department of Information is involved, recognizing that her husband is the head of the department? It seems to me that she is in a conflict of interest situation and just maybe not technically but certainly morally and just as a matter of -- just to be sure...

MR. CURLEY: Technically she is not.

Authority To Have Information Produced

MR. SIBBESTON: ...that there is no conflict at all, I do not think frankly she should talk when the Department of Information is involved in any way. Mr. Chairman, it seems that the committee does not have a mandate to disseminate information to the public. Who has given the authority to the committee or the department to have information produced? Can we have copies or samples of the information that is being provided now, even those that have been recorded or taken in any way in the native languages?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the Member would recall, our terms of reference were made up, I think, in Frobisher when this committee was established and the committee was established by the adoption by the Legislative Assembly on November the 5th, 1980, of recommendation seven, as amended, of the report of the special committee on unity. The committee was instructed, by this Assembly, a) to prepare an objective study of the impact of division upon the Territories as a whole and upon its several parts and their people; and b) disseminate the information resulting from this study as widely as seems to be necessary, well in advance of any public decision making. By adoption of a motion on November the 8th, 1980, the Assembly appointed the following MLAs to this committee: Mr. Fraser, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Curley, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Patterson, Mr. McCallum, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. Stewart and Ms Cournoyea, who has resigned. That is where we got the terms of reference from, Mr. Sibbeston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Then what is the purpose of this motion here today if he feels that the committee has a mandate already to disseminate information?

MR. FRASER: Therefore I withdraw the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I will withdraw the motion. We do not need the motion. We already have the terms of reference here anyway.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Spend the whole \$100,000...

MR. FRASER: I will withdraw the motion.

MRS. SORENSEN: Are you going to hit us?

Original Motion Cannot Be Withdrawn

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): You can withdraw your motion only if Mr. Curley's amendments are withdrawn. You cannot withdraw the motion at this time because there is an amendment on the floor. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am concerned. I would like to be able to develop a trust relationship with the Members of the committee. It is not a healthy one right now.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You got that right!

MR. CURLEY: There are questions of a conflict of interest which must be taken into consideration. In the October meeting Mr. Art Sorensen advised the committee -- I have the minutes here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley, I was asking you if you wanted to withdraw your amendment because the mover of this motion wishes to withdraw it. Your amendment is on the floor.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like at least to have the committee vote on my amendment because I think it is a good one. I would like to go for a vote on it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Question has been called. Mr. McLaughlin. To the amendment.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak against this amendment. This is an example of one of several instances -- I have never said anything before -- but Mr. Curley continuously has to do this kind of thing to disrupt the whole place. He has to make amendments...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment, please, Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I am talking to the amendment and the amendment is in total ignorance, due to lack of attendance -- it is just disgusting that the Member should put it on the floor.

MR. CURLEY: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of order. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I resent being called ignorant. I may be, but we all may belong to that category. It is the rules of this House that allow me to move such amendments and whatever and if they are ruled out of order, I will be glad to definitely abide by them.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Point of privilege.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of privilege. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I did not say that the Member was ignorant. I said his motion was ignorant.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of privilege.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of privilege. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Mr. Sibbeston Originator Of Recommendation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I felt a short time ago that the Assembly as a whole was impugned by Mr. Sibbeston's question as to where this recommendation came from in the first place as though it were some mysterious thing that was visited upon him against his will. I quote from the record in Frobisher Bay in the fall of 1980: Title: "Motion to accept Recommendation Seven of Unity Report. Mr. Sibbeston: Mr. Chairman, your unity committee recommends that this Assembly ask the Executive Committee of the Government of the Northwest Territories to set up, subject to the approval of this Assembly, an independent body to prepare an objective study of the impact of division upon the Territories as a whole and upon its several parts and their peoples and to disseminate the information resulting from this study as widely as seems to be necessary well in advance of any public decision making." So I think the question is answered. Where did it come from? From Mr. Sibbeston himself.

---Applause

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Way back in the year of the big snow.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. To the amendment.

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Recorded vote has been requested. Ms Cournoyea. To the amendment.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, again I am confused. As Mr. Curley has made an amendment, I can support that amendment and I will probably discuss that when the full motion comes with that amendment if it should carry. I believe that there are concerns about the independency of information going out and just to clear up the matter, I think it is important that we are willing to do that. Now, after the motion and the amendment -- I do not even know why it is on the floor because the chairman just read out that he already has a mandate.

MRS. SORENSEN: Not to travel. Not to travel.

MS COURNOYEA: So, Mr. Chairman, number five was deleted, so once that was, I think it was the responsibility of the chairman to withdraw the entire motion indicating that he did not need number four. However, I will support the independency of the dissemination of information.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. You are not the only one who is confused right now.

---Laughter

To the amendment. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: To the amendment. I think the Member has asked that the individual -- if you could read the motion again for me, just once more please, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Clerk.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The amendment is to add, in number four, after the word "shall", add the words "hire an independent officer to..." -- number four would read then: "The committee shall hire an independent officer to disseminate to the public..."

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: I cannot go along with that amendment at all because we have already done that. That work has already been done and we have contracted individuals to do that work. Why do we have to do it again? That amendment says we have to do it again. It has already been done.

MS COURNOYEA: Then there is no problem.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, he has already done it so he should not be in opposition because it goes along with number four because he still has the terms of reference for number four. So he should support the whole bloody thing and let us get it over with.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

Motion To Amend Motion 51-82(1) To Hire Independent Officer to Disseminate Information, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Recorded vote has been called. All those in favour, please stand, for the amendment. To the amendment. Please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Tologanak, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Curley, Mr. Sibbeston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Down. Against?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Butters, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I believe there is going to be a free drink tonight. I will vote in favour of that motion. The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Now, to the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, there was some suggestion that we were bringing this motion on to the floor for some clandestine reason. I would reiterate that it is because the committee has heard from individuals in the regions that these individuals would like to come into the regions and talk to them and also we have had at least one request that we interpreted, I guess, as a request from a region and its MLA to come into that area. It has nothing to do with Lynda Sorensen wanting to travel into the region and to give her opinion on division. I would just like that understood.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: What about organizing a Liberal party?

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

Motion To Amend Motion 51-82(1) To Disseminate Information To Only Western Part Of The NWT

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have another amendment I would like to move right now, having the amendment passed. I move that in the fourth term of reference, right after the word "public" on the first line, the words "of" and "the" be deleted and insert the following words: "in the western part of the Northwest Territories".

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: What are you going to do now, Dennis? You voted against it the last time.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I think I am going to go home.

---Laughter

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Tell you what. I will meet you next door right now, okay?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your amendment is in order. To the amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Read it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Could you read it again? I am going to ask the Clerk to read it.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The amendment is in the first line of number four, to add after the word "public", the words "in the western part of the Northwest Territories".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: What does "western" mean?

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think it is very important that the information that the Members from the Western Arctic want to disseminate in the western part of the Northwest Territories and I think they should be given that right to provide all the kinds of information that they do want to carry out. We in the East are able to provide ours. We are not going to be asking for any money from the committee, but you go ahead and do that, so that I think will satisfy the kind of division that is happening here and will ensure that you have the opportunity to provide the kind of information you want in your constituency, in your area. So I hope that all the Members will support this amendment.

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

Original Request Comes From Native Organizations

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, the original request came from the constitutional alliance. The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada representing the Inuit people from the Eastern Arctic, COPE, Metis Association and Dene Nation -- they all collectively asked that independent information be put together because the present information that is being provided by the impact committee is insufficient. So I cannot understand the honourable Member from the Eastern Arctic making a decision on his own without inquiring as to whether the information should be made public in the first place. This is where the request originated and I cannot support that amendment.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. It is a shame to see the honourable Member for Keewatin South abandoning his good buddy for Mackenzie Liard...

---Laughter

...and I hope the honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard will take note of that act accordingly.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Forget about the personals. Mr. Fraser, to the amendment.

MR. FRASER: Yes. I cannot support the amendment, Mr. Chairman. One reason, when our terms of reference were set up we did not have a recorded vote on it, but the motion was passed and b) says: "the dissemination of information resulting from this study as widely as seems to be necessary, well in advance of any public decision making and prepare an objective study of the impact of division upon the Territories as a whole and upon its several parts and their people." Now, our terms of reference says that we must do this and the guys that voted for this are now saying we should not do it, we cannot do it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called.

MRS. SORENSEN: Recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Recorded vote is requested. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to comment further, that, you know, James Wah-Shee told me that they are asking for independent information, but the committee is going to continue to be involved in disseminating

information. So, I do not think the alliance wants the impact committee to do that. They would like to be able to do that, to disseminate information themselves and I think your department will allow them to do that. Now, this committee has an impact committee. The majority of them are from the Western Arctic. ITC stated publicly here that they were very reluctant and any kind of action that should happen really should happen after the plebiscite. So, I urge you to support the amendment.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I gather that ITC was there as a member of the alliance reluctantly, but the request came forward from ITC, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, and this is the reason why I brought the request forward for independent funding on behalf of the alliance, and the Members of the caucus refused, and this is the reason why an amendment was made whereby the impact committee should be given that chore, to draw up independent information. This is where the request originated and I cannot really understand the honourable Member's reluctance to trust the alliance and now he is saying he cannot trust the impact committee, of which he is a Member.

MR. CURLEY: I am not saying that.

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

Mrs. Sorensen's Resignation From Impact Committee

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, this is a point of privilege. I am not speaking to the amendment. Obviously, as Mr. McCallum pointed out, Lynda Sorensen is the real source of problem here and so, since I am already very busy with other committees and since there are quite a number of people on the impact committee, I would publicly like to offer the Speaker my resignation from the impact committee. I really feel that the importance of this is such that if I am the subject of debate here, then perhaps the right thing to do is to resign from the committee and let the Legislature get on with its job and I do so now.

I would also like to tell you that I have just been recently invited by ITC to go to Frobisher Bay to take part in a debate on the impact and they certainly are not afraid to hear what Lynda Sorensen has to say and I have agreed to go and shall be there on the 19th of March and shall be delighted to take part.

MR. SIBBESTON: That was last week, Lynda.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the amendment. Question has been called.

AN HON. MEMBER: Recorded vote.

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

MR. CURLEY: My amendment does not prevent MLAs from travelling. My original intention in the amendment that was defeated would have allowed the impact committee, regardless if any Member should be on the committee, to be able to travel whenever requested. This really should have happened and my amendment will not prevent that, but the kind of information that the impact committee wants to do, you know, that is different. We, as MLAs, will still be free to travel. That is not what I am trying to stop you from doing, but the impact committee, which wants to disseminate the consultant's report -- ITC has not requested that the consultant's report be disseminated in the Eastern Arctic. That is good for the Western Arctic. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called, and a recorded vote was requested. All those in favour? Okay, I am going to ask the Clerk to read the amendment.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The amendment is to add in the first line after the word "public", the words, "in the western part of the Northwest Territories". The first line would then read: "The committee shall hire an independent officer to disseminate to the public in the western part of the Northwest Territories..."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Recorded vote?

MR. MacQUARRIE: We are voting on the "western part..."

MRS. SORENSEN: We voted on that.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): No.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): That is the amendment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. Recorded vote.

MRS. SORENSEN: We voted on that.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order, to clarify. What is the amendment we are voting on?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): This amendment is to add after the word "public" the words "in the western part of the Northwest Territories".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Okay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does that sound better?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Question has been called.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Recorded vote.

Motion To Amend Motion 51-82(1) To Disseminate Information To Only Western Part Of NWT, Defeated

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

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Curley.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Lonely little petunia...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Opposed?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Butters, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton); Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Tologanak, Mr. Sibbeston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The amendment is defeated.

---Defeated

To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A recorded vote is requested. All those in favour? The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I think Members should recognize, as has been said by Mr. Fraser, the mover of the motion, that he believes the committee has a mandate already. So, I really think that this motion is superfluous. It is not serious and Members should not, frankly, even vote on it. So, I am going to abstain.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Recorded vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A recorded vote is being requested. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I think as chairman, you have a responsibility to make sure that we only deal with motions that are serious or of any significance. In a case like this, where the motion is of no use, I think you should rule that the motion is out of order, because there is no need for it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): This motion is still on the floor. We are just trying to make some amendments and the motion is still in order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of order, honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard?

MR. SIBBESTON: On a further point of order, Mr. Chairman. I would stress again, Mr. Chairman, that where a motion is not necessary, that anyone should not waste the time of this House by making motions that are not necessary...

MRS. SORENSEN: It allows travel.

MR. SIBBESTON: ...and because this motion is not necessary -- and this was stated by Mr. Fraser himself -- that we should not vote on it and that this motion ought to be declared by you as being out of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): This motion here was accepted by the Speaker of the House and it was deferred to discussion in committee of the whole. We are discussing it now. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Can I just point out that it was perhaps in order before the portion of the amendment was defeated. Now that a portion of it is defeated, the motion is no longer necessary as was stated by Mr. Fraser, so it is needless; it is unnecessary, and is of no consequence, frankly, so I would ask that you rule that it is out of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is no point of order. I was accepting those amendments and the motion is still in order. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: I would question your ruling and ask for an opinion by the Speaker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): My ruling has been challenged.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

Committee Dissolved For Speaker's Ruling

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I was sitting in the chair and my ruling was challenged.

Speaker's Ruling

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Well, the motion is in order. I agree with the intent of what Mr. Sibbeston has said, that basically once section five was taken out, that section four was not required. However, section four has been amended and it takes away power from the committee that it previously had held under its mandate and therefore it does change what the mandate of that committee is and therefore it is in order and should be voted on. It is all right. It is a great day today. Mr. Pudluk, would you take the chair to go back in committee, please?

Assembly Resolved Into Committee Of The Whole

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion as amended. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, a number of Members are under the misapprehension -- and I say this with respect -- that since number five is dropped, the motion is not different from the mandate that the committee already has and I say that that is not so. It is still a distinct motion and deserves to be supported or opposed on the basis of its distinctiveness. You will notice that one of the "whereases" says that the present terms of reference of the special committee on impact restrict that committee to disseminating information contained in the consultant's report and this motion says that they shall also hire an independent officer to disseminate to the public of the Northwest Territories such additional objective and impartial information as in its opinion may be necessary. The reason this motion came into the House is because it was suggested -- not only to the impact committee but to other Members of this Assembly -- that the amount of information, the kind of information that

is presently being given out is not yet enough. As Mr. Braden stated some time ago, for instance, some people feel there should be some objective information that deals with the historical question of division in the Territories and so on. So that is what gives this motion its distinctiveness and it should be supported or opposed on that basis.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called.

AN HON. MEMBER: Recorded vote.

Motion 51-82(1), Expanded Terms Of Reference For Impact Committee, Carried As Amended

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Recorded vote. All those in favour of that motion as amended, please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Patterson, Mr. Tologanak, Mr. Curley, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Butters, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Stewart.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): All those opposed? Abstentions?

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Sibbeston.

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

---Carried

Does this House wish to go on to Motion 70-82(1)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay, I am through. Let us report progress. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I respectfully submit that there was a motion made earlier in the day that it was up to the Speaker to continue this session. You can report Motion 51-82(1), as completed, but can we not go into third reading of bills? We are here now. What the hell is the difference staying another hour?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We can deal with that only in formal session.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mea culpa.

MR. MacQUARRIE: That was a bad one.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Okay, I said I was sorry. Let us get going.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF TABLED DOCUMENT 25-82(1), ANALYSIS OF FRESHWATER FISH MARKETING OPTIONS; BILL 3-82(1), FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ORDINANCE, 1982; BILL 4-82(1), LOAN AUTHORIZATION ORDINANCE NO. 1, 1982-83; BILL 5-82(1), NORTHWEST TERRITORIES HOUSING CORPORATION LOAN ORDINANCE, 1982; BILL 6-82(1), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TAX ORDINANCE; BILL 7-82(1), TOBACCO TAX ORDINANCE; BILL 13-82(1), MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE; BILL 14-82(1), WILDLIFE ORDINANCE; MOTION 51-82(1), EXPANDED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR IMPACT COMMITTEE

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Tabled Document 25-82(1), and wish to report this matter concluded as recorded in the proceedings of this House. Also, Mr. Speaker, your committee has considered Bills 3-82(1), 4-82(1), 5-82(1), 13-82(1) and 14-82(1) and wish to report these bills ready for third reading, with Bill 6-82(1) and 7-82(1) also ready for third reading as amended. Also, Mr. Speaker, your committee has considered Motion 51-82(1) and wish to report this matter concluded as recorded in the proceedings of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Pudluk, and I must apologize for the session that you have had in that chair. However, I suppose that sitting long hours and getting toward the end of the session, you can expect days like that.

MR. PUDLUK: I am used to it now.

---Laughter

ITEM NO. 14: THIRD READING OF BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: The Appropriation Ordinance, Bill 1-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 1-82(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1982-83

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 1-82(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1983, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 1-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 2-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 2-82(1): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, 1981-1982

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 2-82(1), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the Current Financial Year, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 2-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 3-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 3-82(1): Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1982

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 3-82(1), An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do we have a seconder? Mr. Braden. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 4-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 4-82(1): Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1982-83

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 4-82(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds and Make Loans to Municipalities or Other Persons in the Northwest Territories during the Financial Year 1982-83, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 4-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

Third Reading Of Bill 5-82(1): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, 1982

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 5-82(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to Borrow Funds, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Braden. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 5-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 6-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 6-82(1): Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 6-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 6-82(1) as amended. Do I have a seconder? Mr. Patterson. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 6-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 7-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 7-82(1): Tobacco Tax Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 7-82(1), as amended, An Ordinance to Amend the Tobacco Tax Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Bill 7-82(1), as amended. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 7-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 8-82(1). Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 8-82(1): Vital Statistics Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 8-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Vital Statistics Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Evaluarjuk. Discussion? Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 8-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 10-82(1). Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 10-82(1): Small Business Loans And Guarantees Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 10-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Small Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 10-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 11-82(1). Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 11-82(1): Liquor Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 11-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Wah-Shee. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 11-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 12-82(1). Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 12-82(1): Legal Questions Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 12-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Legal Questions Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 12-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 13-82(1). Mr. Wah-Shee.

Third Reading Of Bill 13-82(1): Municipal Ordinance

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 13-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. McCallum. Discussion? Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 13-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Bill 14-82(1). Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 14-82(1): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 14-82(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Tologanak. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 14-82(1) has had third reading.

---Carried

Special Assignment Fund

I am not prepared to accept any debate on the following, but I would like some direction from the House. We have a fund in the Speaker's Office, referred to as a special assignment fund, to pay expenses for MLAs leaving their constituencies to do business in other constituencies. There has been a request that is a little different from most, and I would like direction from the House on how you wish me to handle it. Mr. Patterson, Mr. Curley, Mrs. Sorensen and Mr. Braden have been asked by the Inuit Tapirisat -- I knew I would have trouble with that word if I started -- the ITC, signed by Mr. Amagoalik, requesting their presence for a debate on division of the Northwest Territories. It is to be held in Frobisher Bay.

By a show of hands, is the House agreed that funds from the special assignment fund can be used in this manner? A show of hands, please. Opposed? The special assignment fund, then, will be used for this purpose.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I will already be there, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I understand that, Mr. Patterson, but if you should require any additional funds, they are available. Mr. Clerk, would you see if the Commissioner is available for assent to bills?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Could I ask your permission to go back to reports of committees to correct a small but important error in the education committee's report from yesterday?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Proceed.

Correction To Report Of The Special Committee On Education

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On page 28 of the full text, which was distributed to Members, there is a recommendation, number one, which indicates the creation of 10 school divisions in the Northwest Territories, and only nine are actually listed in the text. The one that is missing is a school division to serve the community of Inuvik, and I think it is important that that should be pointed out to all Members. The final report, when it is put in its proper form, will have that correction taken care of. I believe Mr. Curley had a short comment to make, too, on the report, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, not very long -- I had forgotten to specifically mention that Mr. Brian Lewis, the deputy minister of Education, had given us quite a lot of co-operation with his officials throughout the Territories. I wanted to acknowledge the fact that he was able to satisfy all our staff and committee Members wherever we went; and also, I would like to acknowledge the very valuable assistance we had from David Hamilton...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: ...who acted as the secretary throughout the whole thing. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Clerk, will you see if the Commissioner is available for assent to bills? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have the privilege of dedicating one small thing to our sometimes phantom friend, Mr. Robert Sayine.

---Laughter

When we concluded our studies, the professional people from the education committee presented each of us with a certificate, and it says "University of Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories, Canada. Be it known that Robert Sayine, having studied at this establishment of advanced learning, has satisfied his/her professors and tutors by diligence and understanding that he/she has complete practising knowledge in the subject of educational assessment and review and is entitled to bear the initials 'Ph.D., Tuk U.' after his name."

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Tribute To Mr. Remnant

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, while we are at it, I would like to mention an historical event that occurred in this session of the Assembly which Members may not be aware of. I believe that Members may have noticed that one day our respected Clerk, Mr. Binx Remnant, was absent due to illness. I would like to inform the House that this is the very first time in all his long years of service that Mr. Remnant has missed a single day of session in this House, and we trust that he will enjoy good health for the remainder of his term. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I can plainly see that we are going to be here all night for somebody to have the last word. Mr. McLaughlin.

---Laughter

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I would just like to make a point of privilege if I could. Earlier in the session, I commended Northwest Territorial Airways on their excellent service, and I would like to say that today this Assembly was fairly poorly served, because NWT Air did not leave, and caused Mr. Curley to have to remain here today.

---Laughter

ITEM NO. 15: ASSENT TO BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: Assent to bills. Mr. Clerk, will you see if the Commissioner is available?

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, honourable Members, as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I assent to Bills 1-82(1), 2-82(1), 3-82(1), 4-82(1), 5-82(1), 6-82(1), 7-82(1), 8-82(1), 10-82(1), 11-82(1), 12-82(1), 13-82(1) and 14-82(1).

Commissioner's Closing Remarks

Mr. Speaker, this has been a productive session except for the last two hours...

---Laughter

Members have shown strong attention to their duties -- in fact, carried to a fine point at times, as demonstrated today. The report of the special committee on education has been tabled, and this very important report will be discussed in May. Committee Members on this committee are to be complimented for their dedication and hard work.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

COMMISSIONER PARKER: They have heard from more territorial residents than any previous committee of this House, and delivered their report on time.

The standing committees of this House have been particularly effective. I have seen 16 budgets handled by the Legislature. The work of the standing committees and the committee of the whole has resulted in the most effective treatment of the budget to date, in my experience.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to accept the recommendation of this House and appoint Mr. Charles Hoagak of Sachs Harbour as a member of the board of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

With regard to the matter of ministerial representation for the eastern regions, and in response to questions raised at this session, I am pleased to announce the appointment of the Hon. Dennis Patterson as Associate Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development.

---Applause

Mr. Patterson will work closely with the Hon. James Wah-Shee, and will bring to his new position a special knowledge of and sensitivity to the Eastern Arctic. I expect that the responsibilities of the Minister and Associate Minister will be subject to review following the April 14th plebiscite. The Executive Committee may well provide new or altered directions at that time to the Ministers and the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development secretariat.

I would like, on this occasion, to recognize the good services of all of the staff members who have been serving this House throughout this session.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

COMMISSIONER PARKER: These staff members include those persons under the direction of the Clerk of the Legislature; each and every one of the Pages, who have done a tremendous job, in my view; the interpreters, who have turned in their usual excellent performance; and, if I may add, the verbatim reporters, who, in my mind, have provided a particularly high level of excellence.

---Applause

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Time And Place Of Next Session

COMMISSIONER PARKER: The next session of this Legislature will convene in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, on May 12th, 1982.

ITEM NO. 16: PROROGATION

As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I prorogue this session of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

---PROROGATION

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