



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**9th Session**

**9th Assembly**

**HANSARD**  
Official Report

Government Library

NOV 18 1982

Government of N.W.T.  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1982**

**Pages 267 to 312**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO THE COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Friday, November the 12th, Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Mr. Arlooktoo's Reply

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a brief reply to the Commissioner's Address. It is going to be a very short reply. Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen, Members of the Legislative Assembly, thank you. I will be using an interpreter in order to get the communications across to the House. I would like first of all to say thank you for all the things that are happening here. We are being looked after very well in having to move to Yellowknife for a while, and having to travel a long distance from our area to Yellowknife. Also, we, as parents -- we have children and we have to travel a long distance and we have to leave our children behind. That is the way it is, we were elected, so that we would be able to face those situations. I would also like to say that I am thankful again, that -- as I mentioned it in the spring session, on April 1, 1982 Lake Harbour was incorporated as a hamlet, and also Cape Dorset. I am very pleased about that. Also, the Department of Local Government held good workshops, and those other communities, those communities that went to hamlet status, we learned from them, from their mistakes. I am very thankful to the people. It is more appropriate now, than when we were a settlement; it is better, now, to have hamlet status. Also, I would also like to speak about something else, Mr. Speaker, -- that we are running more smoothly at the national level. However, inflation is always causing problems.

Since the 1950s, I used dog teams to go over to Frobisher Bay, and sometimes it would take seven days to get to Frobisher Bay. Nowadays we can go to Frobisher Bay within half an hour, by aircraft and by snowmobile, it takes four hours to go to Frobisher Bay. This is the modern transportation that we have now, and I would like to thank all the people that make it possible. I also would like to thank again the Members of the Legislative Assembly -- that at first I was not even aware, or had no experience -- but when there were debates going on, when we were in the sessions, I gained experience, now, of how the Northwest Territories is functioning. The Inuit MLAs on this side especially are having a lot of support from Tagak Curley. Ever since ITC was incorporated he has helped us very much. Not only him, but all of us -- and I am very thankful for the Members of the Assembly.

Houses Burned Down In Cape Dorset

I would also like to make comments about the problems in my constituency -- but you have heard it often, from the people. The local housing associations in the communities are not able to fix their rental rates, and it has caused some problems. Perhaps if the local housing association can make their own adjustments to the rental rates, then I think there would be some more profits made for the Housing Corporation. That has been a major concern in my constituency, and they would prefer to make their own adjustments to the rental rates. I would

like to say something more about housing. In the summer, five houses were burned down at Cape Dorset, and they were not even used, they were brand new. I was concerned about that -- who is responsible for tendering the contracts for houses, and when there are going to be employment opportunities available in house construction the Government of the NWT is first to know -- and I was not sure, up until now. I have never received any written correspondence either, about who burned the houses or who was responsible for the houses. I thought this person was insane or he would be taken to court, and I have never heard anything about that -- about that person being taken to court. We feel very sorry that there is a shortage of houses in Cape Dorset after that. We do not know why, and there was a great deal of sorrow for us in Cape Dorset. Of the five houses, three of them burned right to the ground, but with the other two, you can still see the foundations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make another comment regarding this problem -- that we, as natives, often have some difficulties in housing. In 1981 there was also housing that was supposed to go to Lake Harbour, but that was transferred to Frobisher Bay. To date, Lake Harbour has not received that housing. I am very sorry about the housing problem. It is not just because I do not like it, but people have to know, the authorities have to know, that we are facing some problems in housing.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say something else, about the topic I brought up regarding the northern Quebec people -- and it was in a question that the Quebec people wanted to hunt in Ungava Bay, the people from Payne Bay wanted to do some hunting -- and there is going to be a lot of assistance in that area. That area is in my constituency, and my constituents cannot go hunting in the Payne Bay area. Perhaps if we can purchase an aircraft, we could go over there and hunt. I will be supporting that area, for the northern people, that they should be able to hunt in our area.

#### Support For Industry And Exploration

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say something else that I am very happy to say. There is some exploration being done in native lands, and there are also some mineral industries being brought to our land, and it has been very helpful to the people. I am also in support of industry and exploration being brought to the NWT. I can be very happy, or very supportive, about these interests, but there are some people who are opposing this kind of activity, and there should be some more information, or more communication with the native people. The reason why I am very happy about developments in that area is because, in Lake Harbour and Cape Dorset, the seals and the carvings are dropping in price, and I think it is going to be very hard in 1982 or 1983, so we will have to have some assistance with these problems, especially in Lake Harbour and Cape Dorset. There are no job opportunities available in those two communities, and we do not know if there are going to be any.

The Government of the NWT does now seem to be very supportive of some local sewing centres and co-ops. Perhaps in 1983 they will be asking for some support, because of low sealskin prices. I would also like to thank again, Mr. Speaker, especially the Government of the NWT staff and say that you are doing a very good job.

When there are patients going south to hospitals -- and I only know about those of the Baffin region -- the Department of Social Services is doing a very good job in that area. But there is a problem that is felt by the people, that when a patient has to go to Montreal, there are not many people looking after that area -- and I should let you know that, in the future, there will be no adequate accommodations -- or, there will be problems in Montreal for quite a while.

I thank you very much for listening, and I have to say also to the translators, thank you very much. Those of us who do not know how to speak English would not be able to say anything without the translators, so thank you for getting our translators in the government. Maybe in the future we will not need any interpreters, when there are all white people elected to the House. I have kids at home and I want them to participate in the future. I just want to say now thank you very much to everyone here in Yellowknife, because they have looked after us and they listen to what we have to say.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am very happy that you are Speaker of the House. You have listened to us and guided us in our mistakes and you have been able to fix everything up. Thank you very much, everybody.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Replies to the Commissioner's Address. There appear to be no further replies today. Item 3, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question 48-82(3): Polar Bear Quota In Outpost Camps Near Igloolik

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I have received a letter from the Igloolik hunters and trappers, concerning outpost camp problems with polar bears. What are you going to do about the problems of the outpost camps on polar bear? I would like to know whether you are going to reply to the requests from the Igloolik residents. Can you please give reply to me before the end of the session? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have received the letter and I am prepared to reply as quickly as I can. I am in the process of having the staff of Renewable Resources do an assessment of the proposal and when the recommendations are in fact forwarded to me I will be prepared to discuss the item with Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking this as notice, then, and will give a written reply at a later date. Oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question 49-82(3): Replacement Of Burnt Houses In Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Are the five houses that burned down in in the summer in Cape Dorset going to be replaced and, if so, when? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 49-82(3): Replacement Of Burnt Houses In Cape Dorset

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, the five units that were burnt in Cape Dorset were insured with an insurance company in Canada. Following the fire we investigated the possibilities of replacing those units immediately, but found that prices were too high. It would have been doubtful that we would have been able to meet the sea lift. We were obligated not to make any move without the consent of the insurance company, so the recommendation that I have is that we will defer replacement of those houses for another year.

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

Question 50-82(3): Schooling For Keewatin Children

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Education concerning the problem the Keewatin people have. The government did not inform the people to send Keewatin kids to Frobisher Bay for the first year. I want to ask the Minister if the Keewatin children are going to go to Yellowknife. Is it possible to send the Keewatin kids to Frobisher? Maybe they can go to Churchill, Manitoba, to school. I want to know if the Minister is going to okay this or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 50-82(3): Schooling For Keewatin Children

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have some time to look at this option for next year, if there still will not be enough room next year to accommodate Keewatin students in Akaitcho Hall, and if there are no alternatives. In one sense the option presented by Mr. Curley is appealing, in that it might well cost less money to send Keewatin students to Churchill than to Frobisher Bay, although, on the other hand we have to think about the ongoing costs of operating a large facility in Frobisher Bay. What I will say is that the idea is an intriguing one. I have not ruled out the possibility and I think I will have time in the next few months to study it more closely as to the feasibility and I will keep the Keewatin regional education authority informed. I have offered to attend their next meeting, if at all possible, if I should receive an invitation, and should be able to discuss it with them at that time. Thank you.

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

Question 51-82(3): Regulations For Smoke Detectors For Multi-Dwelling Units

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice and Public Services. In the late summer I wrote to the Minister urging that regulations be changed to require that owners of multi-dwelling units and hotels, regardless of when they were erected, install smoke detectors in each unit and some time ago the Minister informed me verbally that he was receptive to such a change, but no formal action has been taken yet, to my knowledge. So, may I ask the Minister what is presently happening in respect to that matter?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Return To Question 51-82(3): Regulations For Smoke Detectors For Multi-Dwelling Units

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, yes, we have been doing some work in this area. Draft regulations have been prepared and are under consideration by myself and officials in my department. There are a couple of problem areas. The most significant is with the time frame that we should provide for owners of multi-dwelling units to install the smoke detectors. But in light of some of the tragic fires we have had over the past months and years, rest assured, Mr. Speaker, that the government is going to take some positive action in this area.

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

Question 52-82(3): Person Employed In Housing Association In Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, this is a question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. We have had a problem in our community for a while with our housing association. They were trying to look for staff, but they have to hire somebody that could speak Inuktitut and English. They hired somebody that could not speak Inuktitut at all and the advertisement was not following their guidelines. Maybe the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation could find out, because they were not following their guidelines when they hired the person who could not speak Inuktitut in Pangnirtung. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and provide an answer later.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions. Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Written questions. Are there any returns for today? Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 21-82(3): Progress Report On The Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, a return to Question 21-82(3), asked by Ms Cournoyea on November the 3rd regarding the progress report of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

The March 5, 1982 Hansard gave rise to the expectation of firm recommendations from the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism and from the Executive Committee with respect to 1) exclusion of the Delta and eastern fisheries from the jurisdiction of the FFMC; and 2) negotiating suitable new arrangements for the Great Slave Lake fishery.

The June 22nd meeting between the Inuvialuit Development Corporation, the FFMC and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism was inconclusive and discouraging with respect to COPE's aspiration for establishing a viable fishery in the Mackenzie Delta. In view of this impasse and the characteristics of the Delta fishery, particularly in the uniqueness of its major product, the broad whitefish, for which the FFMC has not yet developed a market, I intend to do the following:

Carry forth a recommendation to the Executive Committee for exclusion of the Mackenzie Delta fishery from the jurisdiction of the FFMC. The eastern commercial fisheries based at Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay are not included in my recommendation because the management of these

fisheries do not consider their exemption advantageous at this time. With respect to the Great Slave Lake fishery, I will be seeking imminently, the approval of the Executive Committee for a consultant's study, that will examine: 1) the impact of the FFMC's operation of that fishery on fishermen's income; and 2) a comparison of operating the fishery outside the FFMC.

Return To Question 23-82(3): Public Housing In The NWT

I have a further return to written Question 23-82(3), asked by the Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. MacQuarrie, regarding public housing in the Northwest Territories.

It is understood that the honourable Member is referring to outstanding rentals receivable from housing association authority tenants. As at December 31, 1981, the effective date of the last audit, outstanding tenants accounts receivable totalled \$2,830,953. Of this amount \$2,248,546 is recorded as an allowance for doubtful accounts. Net receivable is \$582,407. Outstanding rental receivables on the books of housing associations/authorities include rental arrears accumulated over many years, with some of the arrears predating the formation of the Housing Corporation in 1974.

A comparison of outstanding receivables as at December 31, 1980, and at December 31, 1981, is attached as Exhibit I. Details of receivables by association/authority are given on attached Exhibit II.

During 1981, total assessed rent was \$3,945,174. Total collections were \$3,579,476 for a current collection rate averaging 91 per cent. The Housing Corporation is attempting to improve on the 91 per cent collection rate experienced in 1981. Legal services have supplied all associations/authorities with memorandums as to procedures and alternatives. In addition, legal services is proceeding to assist associations/authorities in court proceedings pursuant to the Landlord and Tenants Ordinance for collection of arrears and eviction, if necessary. Each case is being reviewed carefully before proceedings are commenced.

In the current rent scale review, it is proposed to place ceilings on rent for public housing. The ceilings will vary between the low cost zones and the high cost zones. Basing rent assessments for public housing on one salary only has been considered. It is proposed that rent assessments will be based primarily on the salary of the head of the household and spouse rather than on the gross salaries of everybody in the house. This procedure is part of the federal rent scale which NWTHC is compelled to follow pursuant to the master agreements signed in partnership with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Exhibit I

NWT Housing Associations/Authorities Rent Receivables - Years 1980 And 1981

Audit Date	Rent Receivable Total	Allowance For Doubtful Accounts	Net
December 31, 1980	\$2,473,049	(\$1,914,244)	\$558,805
December 31, 1981	<u>2,830,953</u>	( <u>2,248,546</u> )	582,407
Increase	\$ 357,904	(\$ 334,302)	\$ 23,602

Note: Outstanding receivables have built up over a period of many years, from a period prior to the formation of the Corporation.

Current record of rent collection (1981) is as follows:

	Annual Assessed Rent	Rent Revenue Collected	Current Outstanding	Per Cent Collected
1981 Calendar Year	\$3,945,174	\$3,579,476	\$365,698	90.7



Exhibit II

NWT Housing Associations/Authorities Rent Receivable - Tenants (December 31, 1981)

Community	Accumulated Rent Receivable Total	Doubtful Accounts	Net
Fort Good Hope	\$ 26,253	\$ 25,796	\$ 457
Fort McPherson	35,044	32,963	2,081
Paulatuk	24,645	23,974	671
Fort Franklin	72,404	71,984	420
Fort Norman	24,989	23,810	1,179
Tuktoyaktuk	208,387	203,413	4,974
Sachs Harbour	18,540	17,247	1,293
Arctic Red River	15,473	15,176	297
Norman Wells	4,360	2,716	1,644
Aklavik	73,498	65,375	8,123
Inuvik	177,206	149,242	27,964
Fort Smith	22,240	15,722	6,518
Fort Providence	9,352	1,726	7,626
Fort Simpson	75,570	70,461	5,109
Fort Resolution	41,442	37,558	3,884
Hay River	12,018	2,576	9,442
Coppermine	183,324	153,783	29,541
Holman Island	17,891	14,106	3,785
Cambridge Bay	181,162	157,002	24,160
Gjoa Haven	52,370	36,446	15,924
Pelly Bay	33,548	27,117	6,431
Spence Bay	61,513	47,846	13,667
Yellowknife Housing Authority	43,867	27,638	16,229
Rae-Edzo	75,621	53,873	21,748
Snowdrift	24,433	24,433	--
Latham Island	10,955	10,955	--
Detah	1,728	1,728	--
Arctic Bay	67,650	58,158	9,492
Igloolik	60,320	49,642	10,678
Clyde River	34,550	20,205	14,345
Hall Beach	32,973	24,379	8,594
Pond Inlet	42,531	22,781	19,750
Lake Harbour	17,752	13,146	4,606
Broughton Island	18,048	7,203	10,845
Grise Fiord	11,938	4,534	7,404
Resolute Bay	29,036	22,838	6,198
Sanikiluaq	16,706	2,012	14,694
Frobisher Bay	450,762	416,062	34,700
Cape Dorset	102,172	64,507	37,665
Pangnirtung	32,984	15,986	16,998
Coral Harbour	66,766	35,254	31,512
Eskimo Point	82,869	42,471	40,398
Baker Lake	38,968	22,626	16,342
Rankin Inlet	132,795	80,527	52,268
Whale Cove	6,362	3,567	2,795
Chesterfield Inlet	22,826	12,455	10,371
Repulse Bay	35,112	15,527	19,585
Total 1981	\$2,830,953	\$2,248,546	\$582,407

Note: Rent receivable has built up over a long period of time, with some of the amounts predating the formation of the Housing Corporation in 1974. Doubtful accounts make up a large percentage of the receivables, in part due to the long period that many have been outstanding.

Return To Question 25-82(3): Housing For Residents Of Fort Good Hope

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I have a further reply, Mr. Speaker, to written Question 25-82(3), asked by the Member for Mackenzie Great Bear, Mr. Fraser, concerning housing for residents at Fort Good Hope.

Ten units were rehabbed in Fort Good Hope under the 1982 program. In addition, four units which were cancelled in 1981 were done. All 14 units are now occupied. There were some delays involved in the 1981 project due to supply shortages. Since there are no vacant units in Fort Good Hope, the tenants were moved back into the houses as soon as possible although repairs have not been entirely completed. To assure shelter for these families, the work will be completed during occupancy.

Further Return To Question 31-82(3): Lot Preparations In NWT Communities

I have a further reply, Mr. Speaker, to an oral question asked by the Member for the Western Arctic, Ms Cournoyea, Question 31-82(3), concerning housing lots that were distributed over a particular number of communities. She wanted a list rather than the total number of 82.

Eighty-two lots were surveyed and have had work done where necessary to prepare them for construction in 1983. These lots are in the following communities: Rankin Inlet, four; Chesterfield Inlet, five; Eskimo Point, 10; Repulse Bay, five; Detah, five; Hall Beach, 10; Broughton Island, 10; Cape Dorset, 10; Grise Fiord, two; Igloodik, eight; Arctic Bay, three; and Tuktoyaktuk, 10.

Return To Question 32-82(3): Housing Design For 1983 Programs

Ms Cournoyea asked a further question regarding the housing design.

Two house designs have been approved by the board of directors, NWT Housing Corporation. These designs were prepared by Ferguson, Naylor and Simek of Yellowknife, and Number Ten Architects of Winnipeg. The corporation plans to go to tender December, 1982. This is partially dependent upon funding levels approved for corporation's 1983-84 capital program. These houses are one and one half and two storey, featuring three and four bedroom options. They have received CMHC approval.

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

Minister's Statement Re Land Valuation Policy

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement regarding the land valuation policy which is in response to questions asked by a number of Members at the last session.

I am pleased to tell the House that the Executive Committee has approved a revised land valuation policy to replace the policy which came into effect in 1981. The revised policy will result in lower prices for land administered under the Commissioner's Land Ordinance. The greatest benefits will be felt in smaller communities where the public acquires land from the Department of Local Government through the local council. Larger municipalities such as Yellowknife, Hay River, Inuvik and others are mostly unaffected because in these places the public acquires land direct from the municipality.

To give Members some idea of the effect of this revised policy, Mr. Speaker, an average sized vacant lot between 500 and 1000 square metres will sell for the minimum price of \$1000. Larger lots will cost more, depending on size. The cost of leases will remain at five per cent of the sale value per annum, with a minimum lease payment of \$100.

Many of the complaints about the 1981 policy, Mr. Speaker, concerned the price we were charging for developed land. Under the revised policy the government will recover only a portion of the development costs when we sell land to the public. By absorbing some of the very high costs of developing land in communities, we shall be making the price of land more reasonable for people who want to build their own homes.

Mr. Speaker, the 1981 land valuation policy had the unfortunate effect of setting unreasonable prices for land -- particularly developed land -- in some communities. For that reason we have decided to make the revised policy retroactive to June 30th, 1981. This will allow us to put right any unfair sales or lease agreements. I hope it will also reassure the public that the

Government of the Northwest Territories does support private home ownership, and that through our land policies we do intend to assist people who wish to build their own homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

Return To Question 38-82(3): Housing For Cape Dorset And Lake Harbour

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to written Question 38-82(3), asked by the Member for Baffin South, the honourable Mr. Arlooktoo, concerning housing for Cape Dorset and Lake Harbour.

At present, the NWT Housing Corporation has plans for the completion of 10 housing units at Cape Dorset in 1983-84, and for the land acquisition and site preparation of five lots in Lake Harbour for completion the following year. Such plans are of course dependent upon the corporation receiving the proper funding levels which have not yet been approved.

Return To Question 52-82(3): Person Employed In Housing Association In Pangnirtung

May I as well, Mr. Speaker, indicate that the question of the Member for Baffin Central, Mr. Kilabuk, asked in relation to the hiring practices. Just previously I indicated I would take it as notice and come back. I am ready now to give him an answer. I think the Member is referring to the hiring practices of the local housing association, the employees involved with the local housing association. The NWT Housing Corporation does not interfere with the hiring practices of the associations. We have very little influence, if any, on hiring local staff at the association, for the simple reason they are not public servants.

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

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

ITEM NO. 7: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mr. Sibbeston.

Report Of The Special Committee On Constitutional Development

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, just a brief report from the special committee on constitutional development.

The constitutional development committee sponsored and organized a constitutional conference in Yellowknife on September 14-16, 1982. The conference was very successful and the delegates attending the conference were able to come to some agreements and, in particular, general agreements on three aspects of a future government for the western part of the NWT, and these are namely: a) a mechanism in government to protect aboriginal rights gained through negotiations; b) residency requirement to vote, and; c) guaranteed representation of native people in local and territorial-wide elected assemblies.

The outcome of the conference has been widely publicized, and a full summary of the conference is attached for your information. I am also providing a copy of the green working paper which was prepared for the conference and which I believe served as a very useful guide to the delegates there.

Mr. Speaker, your committee strongly recommends that there be future constitutional conferences and that the next conference be held sometime during the spring of 1983, between March 15th and April 30th. We are mindful of the First Ministers' Conference on aboriginal rights planned for March and are suggesting that our next constitutional conference be held after this conference.

Your committee supports the recommendation of the September constitutional conference that the working group which many of you will recall was established at the first constitutional conference in January of this year -- that this working group be activated and be asked to do work in preparation for the next constitutional conference, as well as provide further details on the three main areas of agreement reached at the conference. Our committee believes that the working group ought to meet sometime in January or February of 1983.

Your committee, in sponsoring a two day meeting of the working group in April, and also the three day constitutional conference in September, has in this fiscal year only expended \$30,104.38, precisely.

Your committee is hopeful that you are happy with the work we have done on your behalf, to date, and we look forward to receiving your support for its future plans to activate the working group and also to sponsor another constitutional conference in the spring. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston, do you wish then to go back to Item 6, tabling of documents, to table the document? Do I have unanimous consent to go back to tabling of documents?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston, you are tabling Tabled Document 16-82(3), Report of the Special Committee on Constitutional Development. Thank you. Are there any further reports of standing and special committees?

Item 8, notices of motion. We will proceed then, immediately after coffee break, with Item 10, motions, and I see that Mr. Curley will have Motion 10-82(3).

We will break for 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

I call the House back to order. I understand Mr. Evaluarjuk is requesting unanimous consent to go back to Item 6, tabling of documents. Go ahead, Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will table Tabled Document 17-82(3), Position Paper, Baffin Region Education Society. It will be distributed for the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. Curley, do you have a document?

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have unanimous consent to go back to Item 8, notices of motion, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested to go back to Item 8, notices of motion. Are there any nays?

---Agreed

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Proceed, Mr. Curley.

Notice Of Motion 14-82(3): NWT Housing Corporation Board Of Directors Appointment

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that at an appropriate time I will be asking for unanimous consent to move the following: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Western Arctic, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner the appointment of Mr. Tom Owljoot, of Eskimo Point, to the board of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Go ahead.

Notice Of Motion 15-82(3): Home Ownership Financial Assistance Program

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have another notice of motion. I give notice that I will move, Monday, November 15, 1982, the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the Member for Foxe Basin, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that it create and establish a home ownership financial assistance program, which would include technical and permanent utility and energy subsidy for people living above the tree line and the eastern part of the NWT; and further, this home ownership program be put into effect by April 1, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Are there any further notices of motion? Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will be asking for unanimous consent to move the following motion...

MR. SPEAKER: Excuse me, Mr. Curley. We have a problem. Under our rules, you are only allowed to give notice on two motions. Could you have somebody else possibly move your motion? Ms Cournoyea.

Notice Of Motion 16-82(3): First Ministers' Conference On The Constitution Of Canada

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that at the appropriate time I would be asking for unanimous consent to move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin South, that this House express to the Prime Minister and the premiers of all the provinces of Canada its sincere desire to hold the First Ministers' Conference on the constitution in the Northwest Territories; and further, that the Speaker convey to the Prime Minister and the premiers the request of this House to have the constitutional conference of first ministers convened in the city of Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The Chair would like to recognize Mr. Nickerson, our MP for the Western Arctic.

---Applause

Notices of motion. Are there any further notices of motion?

Item 9, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Are there any bills for today?

Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Mr. Curley. Motion 10-82(3).

Motion 10-82(3): Reduction On Increase To Territorial Staff Rent And Utility Costs

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories, on September 22, 1982, announced a six per cent and five per cent restraint program;

AND WHEREAS all government employees occupying staff housing in Yellowknife, Hay River, Pine Point, Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Resolution and Fort Providence were required to pay rent at the economic rates effective November 1, 1982, in accordance with the provisions of the staff accommodation policy;

AND WHEREAS government employees occupying staff housing in all other communities were notified by memorandum dated September 21, 1982, that they would be subject to rent increases of 12.5 per cent effective January 1, 1983;

AND WHEREAS those government employees who do not pay utility costs directly to the supplier were notified by memorandum of September 21, 1982, that their per square metre per annum electrical charges would be increased by \$2.78, or 32.5 per cent, effective January 1, 1983;

AND WHEREAS the government's decisions to restrict wage and salary increases of public servants to six per cent and five per cent, but to increase rent and utility charges to employees by significantly greater percentages will cause serious financial hardships for government employees;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Legislative Assembly recommend most strongly to the Executive Committee that the previously announced rent and utility cost increases, applicable to government employees occupying staff accommodation, be reduced to the six per cent and five per cent levels identified in the government's restraint policy announcement of September 22, 1982, effective on the date of their respective implementation;

AND FURTHER, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that these reductions of cost increases to six per cent and five per cent apply specifically to the following:

- (a) Staff accommodation rental rates effective November 1, 1982, in Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith, Pine Point, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Resolution and Fort Providence;
- (b) The announced 12.5 per cent rental increases for Government of the Northwest Territories staff accommodation in communities other than those identified in (a) above to be effective January 1, 1983;
- (c) The announced 32.5 per cent increase to the per square metre per annum electrical charges to be effective January 1, 1983.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Who is the seconder, Mr. Speaker?

MR. PUDLUK: I will second it.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion has been seconded by Mr. Pudluk. Your motion is in order, Mr. Curley. You may proceed.

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been given some understanding from the Members from the western part of the Northwest Territories, particularly the southern Mackenzie, that it is perfectly all right for the government to impose a restraint policy of six per cent and five per cent to government wages at the appropriate time, when the contracts have expired, and that it is perfectly okay for government employees in that part, the area like Yellowknife and the other communities that I have mentioned to be given 12.5 per cent increase and 32.5 per cent increases for the other household and utility expenses. But my point is that, in other communities, in places like Keewatin, government employees permanently living in the community normally do not have the same status as far as their salaries are concerned, because outsiders are normally in higher salary brackets; these are the so-called skilled and professional employees of the government. They are given, possibly, a generous housing rental subsidy to offset the costs of that particular apartment or house that they are occupying. But I know there are government employees in my riding who do not enjoy that kind of benefit, and therefore giving them this 12.5 per cent increase, with the kind of families that they do have, compared to the southern employees of the government who are there for a short time with significantly less family size, will be a hardship to the permanent government employees.

So therefore I am asking the Legislative Assembly to roll back the proposed increases to six and five per cent, because if the government means that we are practising restraint we ought to show restraint regardless of who the employees are. So I urge you to support this motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Pudluk, as seconder, do you wish to speak now?

Restraint Program Will Cause Problems

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a brief statement, that I will be supporting this motion very much, made by Mr. Curley. I think we also have to assist the government regarding what was proposed about the six and five per cent restraint program. We know that we will have to look after our government up here, and I think it is going to be enacting those reductions of six and five. There are some other programs, a large workload in the government, and there are some increases being brought about, but they are going to be reduced. I think it is going to cause a lot of problems in the long run, but I think it is going

to help the country a lot. But for northerners, people who live in a colder climate, it will make a very difficult problem. Because of that, I will be supporting that motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to reply on behalf of the government and give some background to the current situation and possibly some of my colleagues will provide additional information with regard to specifics in various policies or programs. I would like to suggest, though, that the honourable Member for Keewatin South was not asking the Legislature to roll back anything; he was asking the Legislature to support a recommendation to the Executive Committee to consider certain recommendations and certain suggestions.

#### Planned Increases In Electricity Rates Already Reduced

I would like to assure Members that the Executive Committee of the Government of the Northwest Territories has given extensive consideration to the recommendations that are contained in the Member's motion. In fact, we have given so much consideration that we have already done one of the things which he has suggested, which is in part (c), and in fact if you approve the motion you will be asking that we increase the amount that we will be charging public servants in our housing. I refer specifically to (c), and I read it: "The announced 32.5 increase to the per square metre per annum electrical charges be effective January 1st, 1983." Well, if the honourable Member had been listening, he would have heard an announcement made in Frobisher Bay, I believe, by the honourable Minister of Education and the Commissioner to the effect that there had been a very serious re-examination done of our original projection and program, and that we had agreed to limit increases to electricity rates to six per cent, the planned increases in fuel rates amounted to only three per cent, and there were no increases necessary to the rates for water consumption. So that matter has already been acted on and put into effect -- if not put into effect yet, was accepted.

---Applause

#### Research On Other Aspects Of Proposal Questioned

So I just wonder, then, how much consideration and how much research the Member has done on these other aspects of the proposal. In the "whereas" clauses he points out that, "All government employees occupying staff housing in Yellowknife, Hay River, Pine Point, Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Resolution and Fort Providence were required to pay rents at the economic rate effective November 1, 1982, in accordance with the provisions of the staff accommodation policy." He should have also noted that at that time there was an additional \$450 made available to those employees to ensure that they could, without undue hardship, meet the market rents being assessed them, and I believe, in the main only one in six would find themselves in the situation of having to pay slightly more rent than they are currently paying now.

#### Salary Increases Have Preceded Rental Increases

So that, again, we have looked at the situation of our public servants, and attempted to deal with them equitably and fairly. I would point out, too, that the "whereas" clause which says, "The government's decisions to restrict wage and salary increases to public servants to six and five per cent, but to increase rent and utility charges to employees by significantly greater percentages will cause serious financial hardships for government employees" -- that statement is just not true. I would point out to the Member -- and again, if he had done his research, he would -- looking at the increases that have been won by both the Public Service Association and the NWTTA over the last three or four years, see that on April 1st, 1979, the PSA achieved a salary increase of 7.5 per cent, the NWTTA, on September 1st of the same year, of 8 per cent, and the rental increase charge as of September 1st of that year was 8 per cent. On April 1st, 1980, the PSA won an increase of 7.5 per cent, and the NWTTA of 9.65 per cent, and the rental increase charged on September 1st of 1980 was 7.5 per cent. In April of 1981, the increase won by the PSA was 14.5 per cent, by the NWTTA, 12.25 per cent, and there was no increase on September 1st of 1981. On January 16th of 1982, there was an increase of 14 per cent, so we did begin to pick up, at a time four months removed in one case and seven months removed in another, of some of the increases that staff had been enjoying. On April 1st of 1982, the PSA, 12.5 per cent, and the NWTTA as of September 1st, 11.7 per cent, and there was no increase as of September 1st. The increase is coming into effect at the date that the Member indicates. So, again, our public servants have had a cushion and a release from paying an increase in their rents when they have received an increase in their wage scales.

The Member is talking about rolling back these increases. We did not roll back the wages won by the two employee associations, the PSA and the NWTTA. The six and five increases that will be permitted them, their wage increases, will go into effect on April 1st of 1983 and September 1st of 1983 in terms of the teachers. So they achieved 14.5 and 12.5 per cent increases, and the percentage of increase on the rent structure they are currently paying does not come into effect until a time many months after the date on which they received their increases.

#### Staff Has Been Dealt With Equitably

So I do not feel that the staff will suffer serious financial hardship. I think we have dealt with the staff equitably and we have taken into consideration every possibility to ensure that our staff are as well treated through the restraint situation as they have been over the past years. I think that is about all I would say at this moment. I would indicate that this matter will obviously again receive much more attention and consideration when the restraint legislation is discussed in this House in second reading, and at that time if Members wish some specific information as to what exactly did happen, I am quite sure we can call witnesses and have them provided with the answers to their questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I just want to indicate, along with my colleague, Mr. Butters, that there seems to be some either -- the knowledge of the mover and the seconder to the motion in the various "whereas" clauses. The second "whereas" clause indicates all government employees occupying staff houses in particular communities, and he lists them as being Yellowknife, Hay River, etc. The government only dealt with government employees in three of those centres: Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith. The other communities were deferred.

Mr. Butters indicates that there has been an offsetting amount of money paid for housing to government people, by the government and he indicates that that is to enable employees to be able to pay the economic cost. Mr. Butters indicated that one in six would go up. Because of that levelling off, I suggest to the mover and the seconder, that in other places one in six went down as well. I think the mover and the seconder should know as well that we have particular people living in particular communities, when they get into economic rates our government employees are not getting just \$450. I think in Frobisher Bay and in other communities, the amount that they are getting is above that, because we recognize that it costs more money to live in particular communities outside Yellowknife.

This increase has been given to employees -- not just straight across the board -- but it is given so that employees can get into private accommodation, look at alternatives for getting private accommodation, and there are examples of that that have occurred. People in Rankin Inlet, government employees, are now in private accommodation and other people are attempting to buy some of our units. People in Yellowknife and in Frobisher Bay are involved with co-operative housing movements. I think what we have done is a positive move, and a move that does not present a hardship to people working in the government in these other communities.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. There does not appear to be any other speaker. Mr. Curley, you will close the debate.

MR. CURLEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that information that the Minister of Finance gave will be useful to the people who are going to be affected by that, as well as the comments from the Member from Fort Smith, but I would just like to remind this House that according to the information that I have, the provision of staff accommodation policy, rents are being increased to market rates on November 1, 1982, in Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith, Pine Point, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Resolution and Fort Providence -- unlike the Member from Fort Smith suggested, that it affects only three -- and employees, it says, have already been notified of the rental rates which will apply on that date. Rental increases for units outside the communities listed in the preceding paragraph are also scheduled -- would normally be effective September 1st. Rental increases were delayed, as the Members have suggested and this information that I have states that because of this delay the rate of inflation in 1982 -- we are increasing these rents -- furniture rental rates, where applicable, by 12.5 per cent on January 1, 1983. Increases are also being considered for electricity and fuel over the past few months. Therefore, we will be passing these increases on to employees and that means your



heating charge will be increased from \$9.80 to \$10.04 per square metre per annum. Electrical charges will be increased from \$8.55 to \$11.33 per square metre per annum. Water rates will remain the same. Increases will initially be reflected on January 14, 1983, salary schedules. I would say this information that I have presented to the Members is correct and that I think it could be confirmed by the government. I would urge that the Members support this motion so that not only will the people in Yellowknife enjoy all these increases, that they certainly do not have any problem with, but so the people in the Keewatin region, permanent members of the community who work for the government will not suffer. I have been approached by my constituents on that, and I will be asking for a recorded vote on this motion. Thank you.

Motion 10-82(3), Defeated

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. This concludes the debate on Motion 10-82(3). A recorded vote has been requested, Mr. Clerk. All those in favour, please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Curley.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed, please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Mr. Patterson, Mr. Tologanak, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. Butters, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. SPEAKER: Abstentions.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Mr. Arlooktoo, Ms Cournoyea.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion has been defeated 10 to four, with two abstentions.

---Defeated

Motion 12-82(3), Radio and Television Information Program at Grise Fiord, with Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to defer this motion until tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Was there an indication that unanimous consent was going to be asked to proceed with a motion today, Ms Cournoyea?

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I asked for unanimous consent to deal with the motion presented today on the constitution.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? You may proceed, Ms Cournoyea.

Motion 16-82(3): First Ministers' Conference On The Constitution Of Canada

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS section 37 of the Constitution Act, 1982, contemplates the holding of a First Ministers' Conference to deal with the Canadian constitution;

AND WHEREAS section 37 of the Constitution Act, 1982, provides that the First Ministers' Conference on the constitution will have included in its agenda an item pertaining to aboriginal rights;

AND WHEREAS the constitution further provides that native organizations and the elected representatives of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon are to be invited to participate on the item pertaining to aboriginal rights at the First Ministers' Conference;

AND WHEREAS the majority of the residents of the Northwest Territories are native people;

AND WHEREAS the question of aboriginal rights is of prime importance to all residents of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS no First Ministers' Conference has been held to date in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS it is appropriate that a conference pertaining to the question of aboriginal rights be held in the Northwest Territories, where it will have the most impact;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin South, that this House express to the Prime Minister and the premiers of all the provinces in Canada its sincere desire to hold the First Ministers' Conference on the constitution in the Northwest Territories;

AND FURTHER, that the Speaker convey to the Prime Minister and the premiers a request of this House to have the constitutional conference of first ministers convened in the city of Yellowknife, in the Northwest Territories.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Question.

Motion 16-82(3), Carried

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

---Carried

---Applause

I would point out to the House at this time that we may have to juggle our sitting, depending on the time of this conference, but I presume, from the unanimous support that we have here, that we will fit our sitting times in to accommodate the First Ministers' Conference. Unless I hear differently, that is what I will assume.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Motions. Are there any further motions for today? Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

ITEM NO. 11: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS FOR FIRST READING

Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 22-82(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 1, 1982-83

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 22-82(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1982-83 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The bill has had first reading.

---Carried

Are there any further bills for today? Mr. Curley, I understand that you have a motion that you wish to ask unanimous consent to deal with today. Is that correct?

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I did give notice that I would be asking for unanimous consent to deal with the appointment of the Housing Corporation's board member.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays?

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Proceed, Mr. Curley.

Motion 14-82(3): NWT Housing Corporation Board Of Directors Appointment

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS vacancies exist on the board of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that one of these vacancies be filled by a representative from the Keewatin region;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Western Arctic, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner the appointment of Tom Owljoot, of Eskimo Point, to the board of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Question.

Motion 14-82(3), Carried

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

---Carried

Now, Mr. Evaluarjuk, I understand that you have some problems. Did you want to give notice of motion?

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Yes, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today, I think, I said two days ago, but I deferred it for today. Is it all right if I proceed?

MR. SPEAKER: Could you give me the number of that motion, please? Is it number nine? I understand it now. You are giving a replacement notice for Motion 9-82(3). Do we have unanimous consent to give notice of motion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Notice Of Motion 17-82(3): RCMP Post For Hall Beach

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker: Whereas Hall Beach residents have requested an RCMP constable; and whereas there are some problems in Hall Beach with regard to alcohol; now therefore I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that the Legislative Assembly recommend strongly to the Commissioner and the Minister of Justice and Public Services, that they meet with the commanding officer of "G" Division, RCMP, to advise him that Hall Beach needs an RCMP constable.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Now do you wish to ask unanimous consent to proceed with your motion? Are there any nays?

---Agreed

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Mr. Evaluarjuk, you have given notice of a new motion, now you may proceed with the motion. You have unanimous consent.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Shall I reread the motion?

MR. SPEAKER: I think everybody has read it, so you could save time, I believe, if you just want to speak to it. That would be in order.

Motion 17-82(3): RCMP Post For Hall Beach

WHEREAS the residents of Hall Beach have requested the establishment of an RCMP post in their community;

AND WHEREAS serious problems with liquor are being encountered in the community of Hall Beach;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that this Assembly recommend strongly to the Commissioner that he and the Minister of Justice and Public Services meet with the commanding officer of "G" Division, RCMP, to bring to his attention the urgent need for the establishment of an RCMP post in Hall Beach at the earliest possible date.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not trying to say that the Hall Beach residents are in a very high crime area; that is not what it means. I would like you to understand that. However, my motion states that Hall Beach community has been requesting an RCMP constable every year for a number of years. There have been some motions brought up before in Baffin Regional Council meetings. I have even tried asking the Legislative Assembly in Yellowknife through written questions, so I will try again through a motion. I have stated that Hall Beach is not in a high crime area, but in most communities -- even though they are small communities or large communities -- problems are always coming up for the people. Some of them do not come very often, but I know that there are going to be problems again in the long run. I think the Commissioner and the Minister of Justice and Public Services should make this request of the superintendent of the RCMP.

I think you have noticed that the community is dry. Also, they have alcohol control. Now, I am not trying to say that there are crimes occurring there, but the older people in that community, and also the people who do not drink alcohol, will have to face some problems from the other residents. Also, the RCMP constables in Igloolik have travelled to Hall Beach sometimes, but there are some problems when there is bad weather. Let us say that there was a crime or some bad incident in Hall Beach. It would be impossible to have an RCMP travel to Hall Beach in bad weather, so I would like to get some support before there is a major problem. If we deferred this request, the government would be too late in the long run. I do not have a very long statement to make, so I will just ask for some support from my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. As seconder of that motion, Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I will make a brief statement that I am well aware of that problem. Also, my communities in the Baffin region have the same problem. They have been requesting an RCMP constable. When they got an RCMP constable, their problems were reduced. If Hall Beach does not get an RCMP constable, it will create some problems. I would like to make a long-run prediction that, since a mine is going to be set up near the Hall Beach area, there is an even greater necessity to receive an RCMP constable. That is all the statement I have to make.

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

Suitable Accommodation To Be Found

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am really pleased that the Member is concerned about law and order in his constituency. As the Minister responsible for police services, I am gratified generally with the positive attitude which all MLAs have, and many residents of the Territories have, toward the force and its presence in our regions and communities. I believe that they do make a significant contribution toward maintaining law and order, but in many other ways they do make a positive contribution; working with younger people, assisting in searches for lost hunters, organizing sports, and so on. With respect to the particular request that we are considering in this motion, I am advised that we can place an officer in Hall Beach. The one problem that we have to overcome at this time is accommodation. So if the Member and his constituents can bear with the government for a while I am sure we will be able to find some suitable accommodation for the officer in Hall Beach, and have him placed there as soon as possible. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston.

Situation In Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would also indicate that I support the motion. I should say in passing that in my home town, we have many policemen. We have too many, I believe. We have nine, and we would be pleased to have you take one or two of them.

---Laughter

I want to say that I think Fort Simpson is probably the most policed town in all of Denendeh. I can tell you of a recent incident where I was out driving some friends home at 1:00 o'clock in the morning. The police were around and stopped me, and saw that my window had a bit of ice and snow on it. So they had me pull over to the side, and insisted that I clear my windows. So that is the sort of thing that the police in Simpson get themselves involved in, rather than real serious kinds. So I support the motion and hope that the police, if they are short of men in the North, can take a few from Fort Simpson. In all fairness to the RCMP, the reason why they have so many in Fort Simpson is, they say, that the police are also looking after the surrounding communities, but for the most part, since there have been liquor prohibitions and restrictions, there are not too many problems in these little communities. As far as I know, there has not been a need for months, for court parties to go into some of the communities like Trout Lake, Nahanni, Wrigley, and in some places, for over a year. So I do really think that is about time the RCMP in our area reduce their number so that we can just live peacefully without being harassed or stopped for minor things in Simpson. Mahsi.

---Applause

MR. PUDLUK: Question.

Motion 17-82(3), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Question being called. Do you wish to sum up, Mr. Evaluarjuk, or are you ready for the question? Question. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Now, does that clear motions for today? It has been a bad day for notices and for motions. Item 12, second reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 12: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, might I have the consent of the House to give second reading to Bill 22-82(3)?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested for second reading. Are there any nays? You may proceed, Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 22-82(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 1, 1982-83

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 22-82(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1982-83 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the current financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of Bill 22-82(3). Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 22-82(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

We will move to 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

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Tabled Document 1-82(3), report on the special committee on education, and Motion 7-82(3),  
Electoral Boundaries Commission, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER TABLED DOCUMENT 1-82(3), LEARNING: TRADITION  
AND CHANGE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now, this committee will come to order, and we will take a lunch break  
until 1:00 o'clock.

---LUNCHEON RECESS

Further Discussion Of Motion To Accept Recommendation Six, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Now we are going to go back to Tabled Document 1-82(3), recommendation six. There was a motion. Actually, it was amended a couple of days ago. Now, to the motion. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address a couple of questions to the committee, if that is acceptable, and then I would like to make a couple of comments. This basically has to do with the intent of the committee in putting forward this recommendation -- how strongly they felt about it, and the input they received during their many community meetings.

Now, first, I believe that Mr. MacQuarrie described this recommendation as an "afterthought" in his comments yesterday. It is on page 694, and I quote the Member, "So I just urge all Members to defeat this. I think it was maybe kind of an afterthought on the part of the committee, and they could prove that they are not paranoid or excessively possessive about their report if they would also agree to defeat this motion." So that is the first question I would like to pose to committee Members: Was it just an afterthought? Second, in the debate yesterday, someone made the comment -- I do not know who it was, because it is just "an honourable Member" described on page 697 saying, "It is baby-sitting." Now, do the Members of the committee feel that they have just put this recommendation in for the purposes of providing a baby-sitting service? Do they consider it to be just an afterthought?

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The recommendation certainly is not an afterthought. At the public hearings we held, it was one of the first issues that came up. There are several communities in the Northwest Territories right now where, in fact, four year old children are in kindergarten, and there has been no effort to take them out of those kindergarten classes because the community supports having them there. There is no added cost to the territorial government because the kindergarten classes in those particular communities are so small that it does not create extra staffing.

The other thing is, during the public hearings -- also in several communities -- there was actually a call that preschool should become part of the education program in the Northwest Territories. Now, the committee did not think, at this time, it wanted to make a recommendation that the government should support a total preschool combination day care program for all children in the Northwest Territories, but we did want to address the problem of four year old children in some of the communities. We thought, even in communities where this was not an existing situation, that where the community and the parents involved with the children wanted to have four year olds in the school, that this could begin as long as the Minister was satisfied that a good program was in existence. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Braden.

Good Environment For Children Of Working Parents

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So we have established that this recommendation is not an afterthought, and it is not intended to provide a baby-sitting service. Now, I would like to make a few comments in support of this recommendation, Mr. Chairman. Certainly I respect that the committee's main function was to deal with education, and how it is delivered to residents of the Territories, whether they are four years old, 14 years old, or 40 years old. I guess this is a pretty important issue for me, and for many people in the Northwest Territories -- in particular, women. Now, as the Minister responsible for the status of women, and also as an MLA, I receive constant and numerous representations on the problems which single, working mothers face, which parents face generally, in obtaining the right kind of environment for their child to stay in while they are working.

Now I read through the transcripts of Wednesday, what Mr. Sibbeston said, and he suggested that parents were greedy in that they both wanted to work. Now, I really have to take issue with that kind of statement. I think that in all constituencies in the Territories there are single parents, there are couples who simply have to work to pay the bills, to bring up their children properly. That is a fact of life in 1982, and I do not see anything wrong with this committee approving a recommendation which goes part way toward alleviating the kind of problem that parents face -- in terms of getting their young child, or their young children, into an environment where they receive good care and are getting ready for what is formal school training starting in grade one. Now, I was amazed -- quite frankly -- at the opposition that

was expressed on Wednesday to this recommendation. Surely there has to be some sympathy for the individual and the parents in this type of situation. Believe me, it is hard to get the proper day care programs in the Northwest Territories, and they are costly. We have one in Yellowknife that is doing very well, but it is costly. Now, with this type of situation -- and I am not advocating that it become a baby-sitter service, we would have the option for parents to choose whether they wanted to have kindergarten start at the age of four years. So I think that we have to recognize this is 1982. It is not 1942 or 1952 any more, and the reality is that parents have to work, and if our government and our Legislature can see fit to establish a productive kindergarten program, where children can enter and start their education process in a good and productive way, I can say we should be supporting this kind of recommendation.

#### Impact Beyond Education Of Children

Finally, we have a situation where women, in particular, in our territory, can go out and work, and contribute to the joint family income. They can contribute to maintaining or increasing the standard of living of their family. They can contribute to their own personal and professional development and, finally, when women are out working they pay taxes, so they are contributing to the revenue of the Government of the Northwest Territories. So, Mr. Chairman, I would just urge that the Members sit back and think about the impact of this recommendation, beyond the education of children, for single parents and parents generally in the Northwest Territories. I would urge you all -- especially those who expressed the fact that they were not going to support this motion -- to reconsider what you said the other day. Thank you very much.

---Applause

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

MR. CURLEY: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. We certainly did not want the Members of the Assembly to misunderstand the purpose of this recommendation. This recommendation was not put in there to bombard our four year olds to go to kindergarten, because after all we must recognize that kindergarten is not compulsory. If parents wish to, if Mr. MacQuarrie would like to adopt the policy for himself that only nine year olds should first enter into the school system, that is probably fine, because I think it is possible to do that, but the problem we have in the NWT, as we have mentioned before, is that there is a high drop-out rate. People cannot get used to learning within the school system, particularly those of my heritage, native people. One way we, and many of the community representatives, thought was possible, was to get them used to learning and the environment of the school, so that they can succeed and be able to compete in this competitive society that we have even in this remote part of Canada now. So that was the reason that we attempted to suggest that to the Assembly, taking into consideration what George Braden has talked about.

#### Opportunity To Participate

It is costly. There were some people throughout the Territories who felt that preschool should be part of the whole educational system, and that we should be trying to include the day care centres into the educational, institutional system, so that it becomes part of the guaranteed kind of a program. But we knew very well that was not going to be acceptable because of the high cost of operating day care centres in the NWT. So I would urge the Members to support the motion, because, particularly today, kids are beginning to enter into the competitive world much earlier than members of the last generation did. I think it is important that those who wish to, should be given a chance to do so, because I think too, that kids can learn a lot more and learn a lot better these days if they are given an opportunity to enter into the kindergarten early. I say that because I have seen, and I know that most kids of that age enjoy going to school at the very early age. I have never seen a bunch of kids so proud to go to school, and take pride in going to school at that age, because they know where they stand. They are dependent on the people that handle them. They are not being put in there to be trained like military robots, or whatnot, you know. They are being given a good program. I think the programs that are provided to these little kids are very good and I would think that supporting this recommendation certainly would allow these young children to develop and be able to be trained, and learn the complexity of our societies, much earlier than those of us who did not have that opportunity. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is a motion on the floor. I think I am going to ask the Clerk to read it for me, as amended. It was amended yesterday. Mr. Clerk.



CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion before the committee as amended reads: Divisional boards of education shall, with the approval of the Minister of Education, lower the entrance age for kindergarten to four years, where requested by a local education authority.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday, Mr. Chairman, we heard from a number of the fathers in the Legislature. Some of them were bachelors.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame, shame!

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: We heard some of the gentlemen who spoke insinuate that a wife belongs in the home and there are a great many people who still believe that, although society is changing and certainly that attitude is changing. I would like to speak as a wife, I would like to speak as a mother -- a mother of three -- and I would like to speak as a nurse.

MR. CURLEY: And as a politician.

MRS. SORENSEN: Oh, a politician, always. Well, of course.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: What about Shirley Temple?

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: She is an ambassador now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order, please.

MRS. SORENSEN: I think the plain fact about the situation that we are facing right now is that four year olds in some of the communities are already in school and those four year olds, for the most part, belong to teachers, and teachers in this point in our system are supposed to be the experts, so if it was so bad and is so bad, why are the experts already doing it? I think that is probably a solid argument to say. I do not think our four year olds are going to be hurt by going into school a little bit early.

#### School Age Decided By Economic Factors

The second point, I think, is that I truly believe that the age of six years to start school was arbitrarily chosen and that it had a lot more to do with the economics of schooling than it did with the perfect age for a child to start school. That is why we saw the age for starting school changed to five years. Economics allowed us to do that and society began to change, and society began to accept that five year olds were now old enough to start school. We had the money to expand our schools and to add the additional teachers that that required and, therefore, the entrance age was then lowered to five years of age. We agreed as a society, however, that kindergarten was not a compulsory thing, although parents felt that it was a time at which children could be introduced into what school was all about and into getting up in the morning and going off with their brothers and sisters. So I think that that also is a good argument.

I think now society, particularly society in the North, is saying, well, perhaps four years old is an age at which children should become introduced to our schooling system, because a four year old in the North does not have an awful lot to do in the winter. He sees his brother and sister going off to school, he is willing and able to learn, so why not lower the age? Certainly, there is an economic consideration, but we have heard support for it from the government leader. Obviously, he sees that there could be the dollars found to do that, but even more importantly, I think what we are seeing in the North is a developing sophistication in our children and, indeed, not only in the North, but across this country. Television has a lot to do with that -- the advent of Sesame Street, the advent of children's programs...

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Dressup.

MRS. SORENSEN: ...where children are learning and are being taught how to learn and, therefore are interested in doing that. They see the school in the community and they would like to take part in that as well. So, I do not see a four year old going to school as being at all threatening. In fact, I think that a child is never too young to be in a structure, as long as

that structure is what the parents want and as long as the parents have a lot to do with the make-up of what that child is learning and, of course, that is what this whole book is all about and what these series of recommendations are all about. So, I would ask all Members to support this recommendation. I think that it is a recommendation that reflects our changing society and our changing times and I think it is about time that we be leaders in Canada instead of followers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion as amended. The honourable Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are dealing with a report that is purported to be presented by the special committee on education. The recommendation is a recommendation dealing with education and I refuse to sit back and allow what is an educational issue be turned into a day care issue or a women's rights issue.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Shame, shame!

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Hear, hear!

Strictly Educational Issue

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is an educational issue and that should not be forgotten. With respect to day care, I make no apology, nor do I think I need to in that area, because I have supported it as strongly as I could at every opportunity that I could and, indeed, I was very proud about a week ago, or two weeks ago, to receive a letter indicating that I had been named an honorary member of the Yellowknife Day Care Association for having supported day care in Yellowknife, and I will continue to do it...

MS COURNOYEA: At the right age, the right age.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...but I will not let this issue be turned into a day care issue. It is an educational issue and the question that should face this committee is simply this: Is it desirable to have four year olds in a formal school setting? Now, if in answering that question some Members reach the conclusion, yes, fair enough, vote in favour of it, but I must say that as a parent and a teacher of 22 years, I say that if it means kids going in earlier to a structure which I already do not approve of -- and which I have said on several occasions I regret that the special committee on administration never did address and that is real educational issues -- if it means them simply going into the same structure at an earlier age, I say that educationally it is not desirable and I will vote against it for that reason and urge other Members to do so as well.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Hear, hear!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. I have the honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was very pleased this morning to have seen so many women that are interested in this subject and I think they were gathered here by my friend, Mr. Braden.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: George Axworthy.

MR. SIBBESTON: I just gathered that they were some of his constituents and I thought it was nice to have these women here, because they could maybe hear some truths and I wish I could have had the opportunity to bring a woman that thinks similarly to me, but they are all at home looking after their children or else they are in the remoter parts of the North and cannot so readily come. The first argument against having this recommendation is that this recommendation is simply standing by itself in that whole report. There is just this recommendation about four year olds. There is nothing to support it. There is nothing that says Mrs. So-and-So said this in Pelly Bay or Mrs. So-and-So said this in Yellowknife. It stands by itself. I looked through the report and could not find anything. So I feel that it must have been a recommendation that one of the Members on the committee put in on his own or maybe even the consultants, or there was a slip somewhere in the printing of it, but somehow or another it got in, I say, without much support or basis. This being the case, I would hope that the Members do not take offence or do not defend it too heartily. I do not think it is a recommendation that goes to the foundation or the basis of the whole education report.

#### Four Year Olds Not Ready For School

Let me just state my position again, lest someone does not understand it clearly, and it is that I do think children four years old are too young to be sent to school and I am not saying this out of no experience. I experienced it myself and the fact that I had gone to school when I was four years old, I was sent away, is an experience that I will never forget in my lifetime. It was terrible. Certainly, it is not quite being sent to a kindergarten for a few hours. I was sent away for 10 months from my mother, but still, it is the experience of being away from your mother, your parents and having to go through an experience outside the home.

The other thing is that we have six children, again, and that we have waited for the most part until they have been six years to send them to school and that has worked very well. We just simply find that when kids are four or five years old they are not sufficiently formed, they are not able to go out into the big world, as it were, and fend for themselves and so forth. We do find that as long as we have the kids in our care, under our control and under our guidance they are pretty good; you can, you know, guide them properly. But when they are outside your influence, in schools, we find that kids come back not able to listen. They lose their way back from school and you have to reprimand them quite a number of times before they will listen and they also do pick up things that do not normally happen or are said around the house. I do not know, maybe it is just kids stretching their wings and feeling a little more independent. I do not know, but we definitely see a difference from the time we send our kids away and that concerns me.

Now, I would just like to speak on the subject on a much broader basis, talking about people in general, and I would like to get very deep into the subject, if you will, and try to deal with some of the fundamental truths. In doing this, I think we always must keep in mind the difference between society here in Yellowknife and society in the smaller communities: different situation, different kind of life, and different people too. I will deal first with the urban centres, places like Yellowknife.

#### Economic Situation And Social Change

I think in the last 10, 15 years there has been a tremendous difference. There have been changes in our society, particularly in respect of women. More women have taken to the marketplace than ever before. I guess more women feel independent. Partly this is because of better education and just wanting to do like men do, and I must mention the pill. It has made it possible, I guess, for women to work without getting pregnant, and I am also conscious of the economic situation with women. There are some young women that sometimes find themselves having to work. Maybe their boy friends or husbands have gone away, or maybe they have separated, and they find themselves having to work. It is also a fact, too, that with the economic situation the way it is, some couples have to work in order to keep their fancy cars and fancy houses and fancy hairdresser's appointments and all the things that they have become used to in the last few years. So I appreciate that that is a situation with some people. So in the last few years we have seen a burgeoning of day care centres and so forth, and now there is a bit of a movement maybe to have kids go to kindergarten, and I suspect it is just so that parents or mothers can be more free than ever before, not necessarily that they think their children are going to be better educated, but just so they can have free baby-sitting for a few hours a day. I am not sure whether this is precisely the case, but it makes you wonder.

Now, I would like to just show the situation as I think it exists in the rural places, and in this case you have to say, with native people. I think native people for the most part have had a history of keeping their children with them as long as they possibly could and I know that there is a reluctance to have their children separated even like they do when they go to school. In the remoter parts of the North, I do feel that there is no rush to educate -- why are you educating -- why do you want to start your kid off in school at the age of four? What is the kid going to become educated for? What is the rush to be educated? There is no need to finish grade 12 by the time you are 13 or 14 and then go on to university, and so forth. That is not the situation. So I just feel that I cannot believe that native people on this council, particularly native people, would support something like that, because it would be going against their cultures and the way of life as it exists in the remoter parts of the North. So I just urge everybody to oppose the recommendation and come back to some more sensible age for children to be sent away to school. I would say offhand six years old, seven years old -- that would be a much preferable age.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I would like to speak in support of the motion.

---Applause

First of all, if we talk about rights, I do not think we are only talking about the rights of women generally, whether they are natives or non-natives. I think we are also talking about the rights of children generally. I think that the other thing, too, is that whether we have three children or 10, I do not think that necessarily makes one an expert in terms of how a child should be raised. As you know, there is a great number of publications on the most progressive way of raising children, and so I think there is a variety of points of view in regard to how children should be raised and educated, and so I do not think those kinds of arguments are really valid.

#### Flexibility Of Recommendation Provides Options

The other thing, too, is that the society in 1982 and onward is a very complicated and complex society that we are living in, and that times are changing. I think that we should try to prepare our children to deal with the complex society, and that every opportunity should be given to them.

In regard to being a native person, I would like to regard culture as something that is continually changing, that certainly the finer qualities of our cultures should be maintained, supported, nourished. However, on the other hand, I think that the majority of the native people -- particularly young people, who have gone through the education system -- I think they want to pursue their own way of life. They want to pursue their own particular vocation in life. So I think every opportunity should be given to the people to pursue their own vocations. The other thing, too, is that I think that we should not say that women should stay at home.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Hear, hear!

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I think they should be given the same opportunity as men to pursue their own particular work or employment that they want to pursue. I think that in the Territories we are only 46,000 as a population, and I think that more people trained and into the work force, will be very beneficial to the people of the North.

So I think that this particular recommendation states very clearly that it is really up to the divisional boards. If they so desire, they make the request to the Minister of Education to lower that age, so I do not feel that this particular section will arbitrarily apply right across the Northwest Territories. At least the option is there, and I think if some regions do not wish to see their children go to school at the age of four, the option is there. I very much appreciate in this particular section that there is that kind of flexibility, so for those reasons I would like to support that recommendation. Thank you.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. Tologanak. To the motion as amended.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have children, too. I am a father.

MR. CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: My wife used to work in a kindergarten. My son this year is four years old, and for the first time has gone to school, because the school is just around the corner. I think some of you have met my son, and he is generally shy of people, especially of people he has not seen before, but the school did open up his shyness a bit, and his ability to play and make some new friends. In the city the other day we went to visit some friends that we never visited before. There was another little boy who was four years old and he was also going to school. We got home later on that evening, and my son said, "Mom, I have three new friends now in Yellowknife", and he names them all and he describes what their houses looked like.

#### Recommendation Acceptable As Amended

In the area where I come from, in the Kitikmeot region, the regional organization that deals with education -- it has been organized and has been meeting for the last couple of years -- is opposed to the recommendation as it was written. Since it has been amended, I think it is now

flexible enough that divisional boards, whether local or regional in that division, have that flexibility now whether to lower the age to four or not, or to continue at five or six. I feel the flexibility is there now so that we do not really have to vote in favour or against it. Voting in favour of it would open it up for the other divisions in the Territories to be able to request the approval of the Minister to lower it to age four. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to support this recommendation as amended. I have children that are going to school and I am a grandfather to students. They are very happy in school when they first start going to school. I am going to support this motion as long as it says that parents have the option to send their children to school at the age of four. As long as it says that, I will support this motion. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try not to say anything that has already been said, but I would just like to clear up a few, I think perhaps, misconceptions about what the recommendation is, or at least what I understand the recommendation to be.

First of all, this is kindergarten we are talking about, not school as such. We are talking about making kindergarten classes available to four year olds whose parents wish them to go, because kindergarten is not compulsory, where communities agree, and kindergarten is a half-day class, and it is preparation for school. So Members who have been talking about lowering the school entrance age should understand that, at least my view of the recommendation is that we are not talking about adjusting the age at which students enter grade one, but rather we are talking about the age at which students enter kindergarten, which is a preparation for grade one.

#### Law Does Not Permit Four Year Olds In Kindergarten

Secondly, I would just like to make some observations as a former Member of the committee about what led to this recommendation. It has been mentioned a couple of times that students under five seem to get into kindergarten. It seems to be happening. I have even heard of a three year old recently who is in kindergarten in a small community, and the law presently does not permit that. In fact, when I first took this position, it became quite a controversial issue in my own home community, and there was a directive issued instructing principals that really we did not have the statutory authority to allow children under five into kindergarten, but it is happening. They tag along with their brothers and sisters. There are sometimes in smaller places sympathetic, or pressured administrators who sometimes skate over the birth date when it comes to kindergarten, and I think that is a reality that we cannot ignore.

Another observation I made is that while there are cost implications of this decision which the Executive Committee is naturally going to have to review -- and I do not think it is fair to say that any Member of the Executive who supports or does not support a recommendation in the House approves the cost implications -- but there are in at least a significant number of communities very small kindergarten classes already. I can think of my own constituency, in Apex, which is a small suburb of Frobisher Bay, there was, at least last year, a class of about five or six kindergarten students with one teacher. So there does appear to be some room, at least in the smaller places, to opening up classes without significant increases in costs, although I recognize that that does not apply in the larger places.

#### Choice Left To Communities And Parents

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we did hear most clearly from a number of communities requests that the kindergarten age should be lowered. At the same time, I must admit quite frankly, just as in this House, that there are areas where people have spoken very strongly against it. I recently attended a meeting of the education chairmen from the Inuvik region, and one recommendation they brought forward was they did not like this recommendation. They did not think it was wise for I am sure many good reasons, but I am pleased that the motion has been amended to allow a choice at the community level. I also agree with Mr. Curley that whether the community opts to recommend the age being lowered to four, there is still another level of choice, and at the individual parents' level. I know that parents might feel very strongly about this, and that there are native parents who feel that they should keep their children at home as long as they can, that the education system does tend to isolate them from their children, particularly if they are non-English speaking, traditional-minded people; but I would also say that there are also many parents in the communities who have not -- through no fault of their own -- had the

opportunity themselves to go to school, and I think some of those parents welcome the opportunity to give their children an exposure to reading, writing, paper, books -- that they recognize that they cannot provide at home, simply because they have never had an opportunity to go to school themselves.

So as I see the recommendation, if it is approved, all it will give us is the option to institute this change where communities are in agreement, and even then the parents would still not be compelled to send their children. So I myself feel that I can vote in favour of the motion without in any way limiting the choices that people like Mr. Sibbeston and other Members who feel that this is wrong, would still have with their own children. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I just would want to indicate that I want to be associated with the remarks that Mr. MacQuarrie made. As an educator, having had some experience in education, I do not agree with putting children of four years of age into a competitive or structured situation which it will be if students are allowed generally across the Territories to go into kindergarten. I was going to raise a question on it, but Mr. Patterson has indicated that just because a four year old goes into kindergarten does not necessarily mean that that four year old will then go on into the first year of school. He knows full well that a number of teachers of first grade classes have been requesting him to reduce the teaching day for those five and six year olds who are now in the first year of school. It is not an innovative program to allow preschoolers, underage children, to get into that kind of a setting. In the provinces that I have had some experience in, there has been a primary grade. I am not going to tell you for how long, because you will get an idea how old I am, and I am not going to tell you that.

#### Present Practice Should Not Be Accepted As Philosophy

I think that everybody will have a choice whether to send their child to school or not, and everybody must make that choice. I personally do not agree with it. I do not think that because there are students of this age group in kindergarten classes now that it necessarily follows that teachers accept that as a philosophy. If they are in the school, teachers are going to have to take them. I would suggest that in some instances, there would be a requirement for a greater number of teachers, and primary teachers -- primary education is a specialty. I do not know how many of you would want to go into a first year or a kindergarten class. I know I did not, and would not want to.

I hope that there will not be, as a result of this, a great deal of pressure brought to bear on other parents to put their child in kindergarten, because a lot of children within the community are taking advantage of a pre kindergarten set-up. Again, I would have hoped that the amendment would have said that it would be individual communities that may or may not -- not "shall", but may or may not set up this kind of a situation. I do not agree with it for the same reasons educationally as Mr. MacQuarrie said. I am not going to confuse the issue with the other things that have been indicated today. I have been an educator. I likely will have to be again in the future, and I am against that. Whether it is old or new, I would still be against it. I do not agree with putting four year olds in a competitive situation, and putting them into a structured situation. For that reason, then, I will vote against it.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Just a few clarifications. I think what a lot of people here, and the educators, have to understand is that many of the smaller communities in the various regions of the Northwest Territories have no ability to put together a preschool program, and cannot raise funds to run a preschool or even get anyone to try to put together such a program, which seems to be very popular in the larger centres, whereby parents actually go out and raise money, and they have a preschool program that four year olds go to. The concern that a lot of people had when we were discussing lowering the age at which a child gets to move into a school system, is that oftentimes you are just under that age of being in or being out, and we had desired to make that age a little more flexible, and not a compulsory one -- because some parents indicated very strongly that their four year old children often felt left out and left behind because they were not able to even get a small program.

#### Frustration More Harmful To Able Young Students

I believe, if this is introduced and it is popular, that the programs that are made available at that age level will certainly change -- I hope they will -- but it is to address the issue of these young students who really do have a desire, and from time to time there are a number of them

in almost all the communities who seem to have an ability to learn much quicker than their own counterparts. I think the frustration in not being able to take part is more harmful to them than being able to take part. As for putting them into a competitive scene, I have not seen any kindergarten that was very competitive, and I wonder if perhaps we are predetermining the initiative of the schools who would decide on a younger level, that they would not be able to revamp the program somewhat and take these young people into consideration.

The other thing that came up from time to time is that perhaps it is mostly the students that were not necessarily geared by their parents to understand the system. If they were anxious to take part, well, the parents felt that they should be given that ability to do so. As well, if we look forward in our system, our problem of drop-outs often ends up in an age group of about 14 or 15. Now, sometimes when parents begin to have problems with their children at that more adult stage, they generally have one or two children who have been held back because they have not had an opportunity to go to school, and therefore sometimes when that parent has decided to leave the community and spend more time on the land they are held back because the one child does not have that experience, and they are not able to determine, yet they are so close in the age group. So we did not feel that we should make it compulsory for people to throw their children to the wolves, if they felt that was what is being done, but there are children who are four years old who are extremely bright. They want to take part and we, in our area, do not have money for preschool. It will be a long time before we will be able to raise those funds to have a preschool.

#### Might Enable Drop-Outs To Return To System Later

The number of students or young children who would be involved in such a program is not that large. Yet, in my own belief, I think there is merit in what Mr. Sibbeston said -- in keeping children at home as long as possible -- but he has to realize too, we have some pretty rough homes as well, when both parents are home. Whether one parent is at home or not, we have some pretty rough homes, and if a child in that home environment has an opportunity to relate to some other students, and he is quite bright, and he wants to go along with his brother and sister, and he is only a few months behind the age allowing children to go to school, then, why deny him? Why deny that child? So it is not to make people do things they do not want, but give an opportunity to a child, and give an opportunity to a family, to take part to see how it goes. All the programs that are available can be adjusted. If there is success, if it is tried and it looks good, maybe there is something that can be developed between preschool and kindergarten that could tie those two together. In later years when they are out and trouble begins, they would have been in the system and got enough out of it so when they do opt out in a troubled time -- well, at least they will have moved far enough along to have an ability to come back without being maybe a drop-out in grade six, maybe it will be in grade eight. It is not such a horrendous task to come back and face a school system after two years out of it.

So these things were weighed, and there are people who are for it and there are people who are against it, but be assured that this recommendation does not tie people into doing things that they do not think are right. It is a decision of the parent, decision of the community and the regional boards.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Mr. Nerysoo, you are the last one on my list. To the motion.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, I do not want to speak about the rights of women in this issue here. I think that one of the things that we referred to -- and Mr. Wah-Shee referred to -- is the right of children, and the one problem that I see is that when a child does not want to choose to go to school, that we do not have any protection for that child. One of the things that occurs at the moment is how we can stretch the present entrance age to kindergarten, and the reality is that there are four year old students in school now. My major concern with lowering the age to four is that you may have a situation where three year old students want to, and in fact do, go to school.

The other thing that I would like to raise is an institutional one, and that has to do with students going to the hostels, where the only place you have available to students that they can go to school is away from the home, away from the community. A good example is Arctic Red River where in fact you have a situation where students in grades one, two and three, have to move out of the community because there is no place in the community where they can learn -- and you talk about a traumatic experience! If you leave home when you are six years old -- and not only at six, from six to 18 -- I mean, that is an experience that not too many people have, and I cannot accept the arguments that by lowering the school age, or by giving an option,

that that will solve the problem. That is not the case. If that was the case, then I would support the idea of lowering the age, but I cannot support it if there are certain restrictions to the families and the parents as well. You cannot force people to go to hostels when they are that age and live away from you when they do not choose to live in the hostel. I think that is important. That is an important element.

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

Earlier Entrance Would Not Solve Drop-Out Problem

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, with respect to the matter of drop-outs that was raised when Ms Cournoyea spoke to the motion -- I feel that certainly that is one of the greatest educational problems that we are facing, and I regret that the special committee on administration did not deal with that educational problem directly, and I say that the drop-out problem has arisen because in fact we do not have a system that is efficient, because in fact day after day we do have kids sitting in classes doing things either that they are not prepared to handle yet -- and so they have to repeat them again and again, and they get frustrated and bored with it. There is too much time in our schools right now that is wasted -- frankly -- and that is what is causing kids to get bored with it and drop out and so on. The special committee on administration did not ever deal with that particular problem at all, but what I will say is that by lowering the age and getting kids coming into it even sooner, certainly is not going to solve that problem at all. You might find them wanting to drop out at 12.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion, as amended. I am going to ask Mr. Clerk to read it for me, before the vote. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion is that: "Divisional boards of education shall, with the approval of the Minister of Education, lower the entrance age to kindergarten to four years, where requested by a local education authority."

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

MR. SIBBESTON: A final word, which I am sure will persuade you all. The rights of children have been mentioned a number of times, and it really surprised me that people would say that, really. If you had any children -- you know children at four years old, five years old, six years old, do not have rights. A child wants a candy, cries for it, and you say, a child has rights, just give it to him. You do not give a child at four years old what he or she wants. You do not send a child of four years old to kindergarten just because he wants to go. I could understand that children later on, when they are 12 years old, are beginning to have rights, but not at four years old. Do not give us the argument that it is a child's right at four years old to be able to go to kindergarten. No, parents have rights. Parents are the ones that decide on behalf of the children, because they are too young to decide at that age. If you begin to say that children four years old have rights, "I want this candy, I want this toy," -- they have rights, so they must have, then you are going to have a bunch of spoiled brats, and what kind of a society are we going to have, with a bunch of spoiled brats always wanting things and getting it? That is the kind of society that we could end up with if we continue this process.

Further Motion To Amend Recommendation Six, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make an amendment, to change where it says "four" to "five".

MRS. SORENSEN: It changes the intent.

MR. SIBBESTON: No it does not.

MRS. SORENSEN: It changes the intent because five is already in there.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: This is not the liberal convention.

MRS. SORENSEN: At least we vote at our convention.

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, Mr. Chairman, all I am suggesting is we change the "four" to "five" and do not even think about whether it is okay or not. It is.

---Laughter



MRS. SORENSEN: Dene logic.

MR. SIBBESTON: Do not be misled by your advisers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I can accept your motion only if you say "as it was", because that is what it is right now, five, and according to what the motion says right now, the Minister of Education lowers the entrance age to kindergarten to four -- I think the whole thing has to be completely changed. I think that I am going to make a rule this amendment is out of order.

MR. SIBBESTON: Challenge.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Do you challenge me?

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you very much.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF TABLED DOCUMENT 1-82(3), LEARNING: TRADITION AND CHANGE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, an amendment to a motion was introduced by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard and I ruled it out of order. I was challenged.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We will recess for five minutes, while I check that.

---SHORT RECESS

Speaker's Ruling

I call the House back to order. The basic rule that applies in this challenge is whether or not the amendment changes the motion sufficiently to negate the purpose of the motion originally. The problem here is to decide whether or not five years old is officially recognized as the age for kindergarten. There does not appear to be a regulation to that effect. However, in as much as it is general practice and the regulations do state that school begins at six years old and that kindergarten precedes that, I think it is logical to assume that five is, by tradition, the age that normally applies to kindergarten.

Further Motion To Amend Recommendation Six, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Ruled Out Of Order

So, on that basis, I would have to rule that the motion is out of order, in that it negates the purpose of the original motion. Mr. Pudluk, will you resume the chair, please, in committee of the whole?

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER TABLED DOCUMENT 1-82(3), LEARNING: TRADITION AND CHANGE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now this committee is back to order. Let us take 15 minutes for coffee.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Nay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Motion. There is a motion as amended. I am going to ask the Clerk to read it for me. Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. McLaughlin, to the motion as amended.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, I would like to, just primarily on behalf of the committee, talk to the motion, because it is important, I think, that it should be repeated to Members that the committee did deal with this as an educational issue; that there are children in schools, especially in a lot of the small northern communities, who are only four years old and to help the administrators who work in those communities we want to legitimize that situation. In small communities where we are trying to encourage attendance to increase, we want to make sure that this is able to take place. It seems ridiculous, when you have low attendance, to all of a sudden be trying to encourage parents not to send their children to school when the children want to go. Further to that, we know that the issue came up in some communities as a proposal for day care, but that was not what the committee addressed when it addressed this issue. In the discussion the committee, when it came to this decision, also did consider the fact that

television plays a large role in the life and the education of our children in these modern days and we think it is a very modern move and a good move at this time to take this to advantage, and I think that is all I have to say, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Are there any further comments? Okay. I am going to ask the Clerk to read it once more.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): The motion in front of the committee is that divisional boards of education shall, with the approval of the Minister of Education, lower the entrance age to kindergarten to four years where requested by a local education authority.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Six, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried As Amended

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard requests a recorded vote. Question has been called. All those in favour, please stand until your name is called.

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

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I just want to know, Mr. Wah-Shee, did you vote "yes"?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, I did.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Those against, please stand until your name is called.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Butters, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. MacQuarrie.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Abstentions?

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The vote was 12 in favour, five against, and one abstention. The motion is carried as amended.

---Carried

---Applause

Okay, would one of the committee Members like to move recommendation seven now? I was asking if they wanted to go to coffee, and they were saying nay, so I am going to stay here until they tell me to do so. Recommendation seven. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Seven, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation seven, the Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories shall establish a secretariat for learning, be accepted.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: How old do you have to be?

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. Keep it high, so we can see it. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Recommendation eight. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Eight, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation eight, a Minister's advisory council shall be established, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I am in favour of this particular recommendation that a council be established, but I would hope that it would be established after the Minister has received all the recommendations, including the recommendations that come from the special committee, from the committee of the whole, or anybody else's recommendations that he would get, but it will not be established prior to his receiving these particular recommendations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I agree with Mr. McCallum, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hands. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Recommendation nine. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Nine, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation nine, the direct administration of schools in the Northwest Territories shall be transferred from the Department of Education to the divisional boards of education, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reading the material that surrounds this recommendation we see that many of the functions that the Department of Education now has are to be transferred to divisional boards, but throughout the discussions there seemed to be agreement that it would be necessary to ensure that there is a core curriculum applicable in all divisions in the Territories, and that there be some way of ensuring that standards are maintained, so that when our young people reach the level of Arctic college, that the college is aware that they have particular educational standards, sufficient to enrol in the courses in the college. I have felt, all along, that the recommendations have not been clear in that sense and so, at this point, I would like to move an amendment to the recommendation. It certainly does not destroy the intent at all, but seeks to make sure that these functions are still within the competence of the Department of Education.

Motion To Amend Recommendation Nine, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

I would like to move an amendment, Mr. Chairman, to read, right after the divisional boards of education, "but the department, in addition to carrying out various financial and other support services, shall have the responsibility and the authority for ensuring that there is a significant core program common to all school divisions across the Territories, as well as for ensuring that students in all divisions meet certain acceptable standards of learning when they graduate from grade 10, and shall retain sufficient resources to fulfil these responsibilities." Let us see if it is in order, first, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes, I think it is going to take about 15 to 20 minutes to look at that amendment, so could we take a coffee break? With your permission?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, let us take 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Chair recognizes a quorum. We have examined Mr. MacQuarrie's amendment. I rule that it is in order, but I would like to tell this House, when you make an amendment, please be careful that you do not hurt the other recommendations up to 49. I did not say you did hurt one of the recommendations, but from now on perhaps be more careful. Thank you. Your amendment is in order. To the amendment.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. In speaking to it, I ask the Members to recognize that it is not an attempt to change and in fact does not change the other very important recommendations that the Members have made, and that is that the administration of schools shall be the responsibility of divisional boards. If the recommendation with respect to the centres for teaching and learning is passed later on it will not impinge on the curriculum development function of that organization at all. I intend to support that recommendation when we reach it. So it is simply to ensure that the department will be able to carry out a function that many Members -- and this includes special committee Members and the Minister of Education -- recognized, as we were going through the debate, seemed to be important. I recall in Inuvik -- and I think this is quoted accurately -- Mr. Patterson saying, "This is the responsibility of the Ministry and the department, to maintain a core and standards." So it is simply ensuring that the department will have the resources necessary to do that. It does not mean a big curriculum development section or anything like that at all, but sufficient knowledgeable personnel to monitor curriculum and standards, and I hope that Members will find it possible to support this amendment, Mr. Chairman.

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

Department Should Not Have Total Authority Over Regional Schools

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have always continued to support the Minister's overall responsibility, particularly the legislative responsibility for running of the education system in the NWT, but my concern with this motion is that -- as well as having the various financial and other support services, it says, "...shall have the responsibility and the authority". One of the things that the people in the regions have been trying to modify is that the Department of Education should not have the total authority for all the daily administrative responsibilities of the schools in the regions. I do not know what the Member is worried about in attempting to put this amendment through, but I can assure him, though, that the people -- for instance in the Eastern Arctic -- are concerned about the standards. They do not want to degrade the present academic standards at all. They want to improve them. They would like to see high standards maintained, and I think the Minister is going to ensure that, as the Minister with overall responsibility of education, as well as financial responsibility.

What bothers me is that once the inference is given that the department should have the responsibility and authority, that is going a little too far, because you are now giving the financial responsibility directly to the department, rather than to the Minister. Maybe, if the reference were, "The Minister shall have the responsibility..." rather than the department it might be better. I would not want to see the deputy minister again having the total responsibility and authority, because I think that has been practised quite well in the past -- and possibly, you know, overdoing it a bit. So I am going to move an amendment to this thing. Maybe if I can get some assurance from the mover -- whether or not he wants the deputy minister to have a continuing responsibility and authority -- I would want to maybe make an amendment, or scrap the thing. Thank you.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: No, to me the word "Minister" rather than "department" would be fine, and it is an oversight in not putting it in. I think I cannot amend my own amendment, but if Mr. Curley were to change the word "department" to "Minister" I would have no difficulties with that at all.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie, you cannot amend. It has to be somebody else. Mr. Curley.

Amendment To Motion To Amend Recommendation Nine, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would then want to move an amendment to the amendment, that the third word, the word "department" be changed to "the Minister".

MR. SIBBESTON: Change the "but" to "and", and it will be better.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, if you would permit me, my correct amendment to the amendment would be change the word "but" to "and", and "the Minister" rather than the word "department".

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have already spoken to my amendment. I think I will leave it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the amendment.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. To the amendment to the amendment, all those in favour please raise your hands. Down. Opposed? The amendment to the amendment is carried.

---Carried

Now, to the amendment as amended.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Amend Recommendation Nine, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hand. Down. Opposed? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Now, to the motion as amended.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Nine Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried As Amended

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour please raise your hands. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried as amended.

---Carried

Recommendation 10. Who wants to move that? Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 10, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation 10, the Education Ordinance shall be amended to enable the implementation of the recommendations of the special committee on education, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not have any real difficulty with the motion. I just do not understand the rationale in having it as number 10. I would have thought that the committee would have indicated this recommendation as being number 49, and would have indicated to the Minister that the ordinance should be amended where the ordinance warrants it, after the recommendations and after his advisory council would be able to give him the advice, because I expect that is what the intention for the advisory council is. So I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we leave this motion until we have gone through all the recommendations, and then deal with it at that time, because I think that most of these will require some legislative changes, but some of them may only require policy changes. I would hope that the committee would agree that we should deal with this after we have gone through all of the recommendations that they put forward, as well as other recommendations that may come up in addition to the other 48.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. If you want to deal with something like that, you have to give us however many days to defer it, and now you want to deal with it. Now I am still going to call "To the motion". Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, my understanding of the advisory council is completely different from

what the Member is trying to suggest here. The advisory council -- meaning that it exists, even after the report and recommendations have been implemented, that it is part of the permanent advisory body to the Minister. That was the intent of the recommendation eight. It has nothing to do with scheduling and prioritizing the recommendations as we have tabled them.

This particular recommendation is important because if we are going to do anything, there have to be not only amendments to the present Education Ordinance; there is going to likely be another set of ordinances that will have to be dealt with here, presented by the Minister. One would likely be an ordinance respecting the establishment of the Arctic college. It is going to have to be presented, as we have tabled the document at Inuvik. Secondly, there is going to have to be an ordinance respecting the establishment of the Department of Education with a new set of proposals, including the divisional boards; an ordinance to establish the Northwest Territories trustees association; and we would think that there is going to have to be an ordinance to amend the present Education Ordinance. So there is going to be set up legislation that will be necessary to effect the necessary changes if the recommendations here -- as some have already been adopted but which cannot be carried out without creating new ordinances, for instance, divisional boards and so on. So we believe that the Education Ordinance shall be amended, definitely; that has to happen before the implementation effectively could be carried out. You know, it is always better to try out maybe voluntary measures, but if we are going to have a major change, legislation is going to have to be introduced, so I think that is why recommendation 10 is put in at that stage. Thank you.

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

#### All Recommendations Do Not Require Legislation

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I agree that there will have to be some changes in the Education Ordinance, but the recommendation indicates that it shall be amended to enable the implementation of the recommendations of the special committee on education. Now, I take it that we are talking about all the recommendations, and I suggest to Mr. Curley and other Members of the committee that not all of the recommendations will require changes to legislation. Some of them can be done by policy, and, I have no difficulty in changing the ordinance where it requires it, and it may be that there should be new parts of the ordinance; but some of the things within the ordinance that now exist should stay there. Others may have to be added. I simply believe that not all recommendations of this committee require legislative changes. I think only where they warrant it, and I would hope that Members of this committee would recognize that there is some distinction.

As I said, I have no difficulty in putting into legislation what is required to be in the legislation, and some of it does, but I think the Minister, when he receives these recommendations, is going to have to look at the kind of advice that he can get. I appreciate the explanation of what the role of the advisory committee would be; I asked the question a couple of days ago when we were dealing with this report about setting things up by policy rather than by legislation, and thought I was assured that not all things would have to be done by legislation. I read from here that all the recommendations of this committee will have to go into legislation, and I do not really believe that they all have to.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree, and I do not think the government will make legislation for all of the recommendations proposed. I think that is understood if you really read the text of the recommendation on page 60. It explains properly how various changes are going to have to be handled. There are financial and administrative programs that are going to have to be shifted around a bit, but I do not think recommendation 10 states that all of the recommendations should be legislated at all, because you cannot legislate some; some of them are, surely, like anything else, motherhood statements that call for change in a voluntary way. So I would think that the Member's concern is represented well if he reads the text on pages 60 and 61. Thank you.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I agree with the point by my friend Mr. McCallum, because we are at such an early stage of the recommendations that we should not at this stage say that there must be legislation -- that the present Education Ordinance must be amended to incorporate all of these. Usually, a recommendation like this is left to the very last; to say that we have

agreed with certain recommendations, let us now put it into legislation. I am frankly a little bit surprised that the recommendation is worded in this way, that the Education Ordinance be amended. I would have thought that with all of these recommendations, that we are changing the education system in terms of control, authority and day to day administration. We are changing them so drastically that we need a new ordinance, rather than patching and changing things here. We are not just changing things here and there. We are making fantastically great amendments and the biggest change is to change the authority over the education from the government here in Yellowknife to the people down in the bush or on the land and that is very important. You cannot just amend the Education Ordinance and do this. You need a whole new Education Ordinance.

Motion To Defer Recommendation 10, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

So, I move that recommendation 10 be deferred to the end -- I move that recommendation 10 be deferred until all recommendations are dealt with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Your motion is in order.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Question.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I guess the argument is one of academic argument, but the reason that the particular recommendation was put in there is because it fitted under the administrative structure or the administrative responsibility and that is why we dealt with it at that time. I do not understand the fear that we are creating when we deal with it now, because perhaps as we go through the book there will be maybe four or five recommendations, whatever they are -- the recommendation to have the implementation dealt with -- I suppose you may want to put it at the end of the book, but we may never get to the end of the book. So, I, particularly, myself, do not understand what the fear is that we deal with it now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion on number 10, to defer until we deal with all those numbers, up to 49.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion, Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: To the motion, just in response to the movers -- this idea to defer, and the arguments made for it are not proper, I think. In the session in Inuvik we tabled four documents which were our suggestions of what legislation has to be passed to bring these recommendations into being; one of them, to establish an Arctic college, one to form the Northwest Territories trustees association, one to amend the existing Education Ordinance, and another one would be a new ordinance to establish a Department of Education. So it is important that while we are talking here, in the administrative section, that we deal with this, because it is a job for the administration to do this and we want that to be part of the job that the administration does. I think this motion should be defeated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. The motion is to defer recommendation 10 until we deal with all the other numbers. Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried, eight to six.

---Carried

Now, recommendation 11. Who wants to move that -- the motion? Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 11, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation 11, the Minister of Education shall establish two centres for learning and teaching, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Number 11. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think this is an example of why I believe that we should not rush the recommendations of the committee.

MR. CURLEY: We did not say all.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I did not say all either.

MR. CURLEY: What is this word all? Come on.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Where? Where would you like to go?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. McCallum, go ahead. To the motion. Recommendation 11.

MR. CURLEY: You are the chairman of the standing committee.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You can change that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Order! Order, please. Stick to the motion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think this is why I do not want to see the recommendations, in the legislation. I think that the centres for learning as has Thebacha College, should be established by policy. I would hope that when we are talking about the centres for learning, that they would include the existing teacher education programs, both of them, as well as all training that should go on within the Territories and I have some concern, if it is not the policy of the government that all training would be conducted by these centres of learning. I am in support of it if they include teacher education programs, or it very well may be that Education would not be looking after the training. I have heard it indicated in this House on many occasions that we have a number of departments involved with training. I would prefer to see that all this training takes place at these centres of learning and for that reason I suggest it should be done by the Minister, in terms of policy, rather than be put into legislation.

So, I am not against the centres of learning. I would simply want to ensure that when the Minister looks at this recommendation, and others, that he will be dealing with involving the training that goes on in a great number of government departments. For example, I do not believe that the Department of Public Works should be involved with the training of highway graders. So, I have no difficulty with setting up centres of learning, as long as they contain what is now in place like the teacher education programs, and that the Minister will be involved with the training that is going on throughout the government in general, and that is a comment to the Minister.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The intention of the committee for establishing these two centres is definitely the intent to have the teacher education programs that exist in these centres for learning and it is not the intention that Thebacha College and all the other training and apprenticeship programs in the Territories would be in the two centres for learning and teaching. Thebacha College would devolve into the Arctic college and the trades programs, for example, that are taught there would be within the Arctic college, not the two centres for learning and teaching -- just to make that difference clear for people. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to speak in support of the recommendation. I feel that generally these centres for learning and teaching are a very good idea. When I first read through the report I had some concern about vagueness with respect to direction, who would set priorities and that sort of thing. In discussions in Inuvik the answers that I got from the co-chairmen of the committee were essentially that ultimately they are the responsibility -- and here I am quoting Mr. McLaughlin -- of the Minister of Education. Thus, I understand that the centres are answerable, through their boards, to the Minister of Education, and it is on that understanding that I support this recommendation.

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

MR. CURLEY: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 11, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried



Recommendation 12. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 12, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation 12, the Minister of Education shall introduce legislation to establish an Arctic college, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes. One of the main concerns that I had, and certainly that my constituents had, was that once an Arctic college is established that people be assured that it would be delivering the kinds of programs at a standard that would enable students from the Territories to attend post-secondary institutions in the South, where we do not have such institutions in the Northwest Territories. I believe that most Members agree that that is the case and Members of the committee would probably say they never had any other intention than that, that it should certainly happen. The reason I would like to introduce an amendment, though, is simply because if the Arctic college is established the intention by the committee, I think, was to make the board of that college an autonomous board and the reason given was that it would be sort of like a university and there is a strong tradition in the western world that universities should be independent and determine themselves what will be taught and learned in those institutions. But my concern with respect to that is that this Arctic college would be delivering what are now school programs and that, in fact, our students would not be able to get to post-secondary institutions in the South if those school programs were not delivered effectively and at a level that would equip them with suitable qualifications.

Motion To Amend Recommendation 12, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

So, I would like to move an amendment which ensures that although the boards of an Arctic college are as autonomous as possible, that with respect to these school programs that they would be taking over, that they do meet certain standards. So I would like to add, Mr. Chairman, at the end of the recommendation 12 a comma and the statement "which institution shall ensure at the very least that programs are offered and standards maintained that will enable territorial students to gain the necessary qualifications to enter universities and technical institutes in southern Canada, where such facilities are not available in the NWT".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie, your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, some may say this goes without...

MS COURNOYEA: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Point of order, Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the honourable Member, when he is intending to make these long and lengthy deliberations and additions to amend various recommendations -- could he get them typed out beforehand. I would like to have a copy of that, and if he is going to do it ahead of time and he knows he is, he should at least embark on taking that responsibility.

---Applause

MR. McLAUGHLIN: We need a copy of that recommendation.

MS COURNOYEA: He is holding up the works by bringing it in at the last minute.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Ms Cournoyea, I am going to accept your concern. The only way we can do it now is have a little rest. We already have a motion on the floor. We deal with them one by one. Let us take coffee break and come back for that amendment. Let us take 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order. We are dealing with an amendment to recommendation 12. To the amendment. Has everybody got a copy of the amendment?  
Mr. MacQuarrie.

Maintaining Standards That Will Be Acceptable In Southern Institutions

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In asking Members to support the amendment, I would point out once again that it is not trying to take away from the idea that there should be an Arctic college and that it should be -- under a board -- as autonomous as possible; that is the major concern that I have. We have already gone along with recommendation one which, if it is finally implemented, will have education in the Territories from kindergarten to grade 10 -- that is, public school education. So it is not trying to detract in any way from the possible success of those kinds of recommendations, but simply is trying to ensure that since there will be an autonomous board, that I really feel it is important that the Minister, in setting up that board or the Executive Committee, if they finally agree to set up that board, that they will ensure that the autonomy is not so great that the Minister loses control over what are now recognized as school programs. Many of my constituents -- and not only my constituents -- but through debates and other submissions, it is obvious that many other constituents as well are concerned that we maintain what would be the equivalent of Alberta standards until some such day as we are sure that we have something in place that is just as good, or hopefully in a few years time, even better than what they are offering there.

When I first began to speak to it, Mr. Chairman, I simply mentioned that I know some people would say, "Well, this goes without saying. This is what we had intended." It would please me greatly -- although I know many Members are not in the business of pleasing me greatly -- but just for an old man who has been through the wars, that even if it does go without saying, that you...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Put it down in writing.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...put it down in writing, that is right. I would appreciate it very, very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, all we are trying to do in our motion is to establish the principle of Arctic college. The Member is making amendments to it that really would be appropriate -- if he believes in Arctic college -- at a time when this concept is introduced in legislation -- to then make motions relevant to the proposed legislation and the regulations which would arise out of the legislation. All this is, is a motion stating a bunch of concerns which would be more appropriately made at the time when the legislation is introduced at a future session.

The other problem with his amendment is that it may interfere with the intent of our recommendation 13, which is to make sure that these divisional boards of education and centres for learning and teaching and the Arctic college have some autonomy in some of these areas. It is plain that nobody wants to have these programs in the Territories that would not be adequate and would not be accepted by southern institutions. Also the intent is to have a situation where the Government of the Northwest Territories is going to fund these Arctic colleges, and if it is the job given to the Arctic colleges by the Minister to deliver the grade 11 and 12 programs, if they do not do it properly, he just will not give them the funding to do it. So it is going to be done and it is going to be done properly, and I think this amendment is not necessary. All it is is the Member stating concerns which he could just state, and he did state earlier, and I am sure that the Minister is going to take his concerns into consideration. Amendments like this are just taking up our time and are just making a bunch of points that are already fully intended by the committee. I am going to urge Members to vote against this and other such motions because they do not really add anything. All they do is muddy the water. The object of this motion is to establish an Arctic college. Exactly how it is going to be established can be debated later when the government brings down legislation and subsequent regulations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I was only going to make a comment to my good friend down the way. We should not mess with these recommendations, because what the recommendations say is not generally what is meant by the recommendations. They mean other things about it, so it is understood that there are a lot of other things involved with the recommendations -- even though the recommendations do not say it.

MR. CURLEY: According to Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: No, according to you people.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, we do have the problem that although the Minister, Mr. Patterson, has made certain undertakings -- while he is very durable and competent, I might add that he is not eternal. We do not know when things become more concrete and more specific whether he will still be the Minister, and in moving this amendment to the recommendation now, I am simply asking that when the process of developing legislation is undertaken, that this concern be addressed in some way at that time. If Members are sincere in saying that without question this is the intent of what they have, then I cannot see why they would want to vote against it. It certainly does not prevent the establishment of an Arctic college, which is their aim, and simply puts a certain limitation on it, but a limitation that I feel is very important.

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

#### Regions Where Priorities Are For Technical Rather Than University Training

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to say that I think that the Arctic college is certainly going to be offering courses to students going on to post-secondary training, and in fact I think particularly in a place like Yellowknife, not only will the Arctic college offer matriculation-type courses in grades 11 and 12, but I think there are undoubtedly enough students taking first and second year university courses, perhaps, in certain subjects -- arts, perhaps commerce, to justify establishing first and second year university level courses.

Indeed I believe that we should tailor our grants -- we should continue to apply our grants and bursaries systems to require students to take those university courses in the Northwest Territories, and not receive aid to take them elsewhere if they are available here. So as I have said before, I think it is certainly the intention that we go in this direction where it is required in a particular region, but I am a bit concerned that in some parts of the Northwest Territories it may well be that the priorities might be other than university training, or even other than technical training.

I think that there is some talk alive and well in the Eastern Arctic, for example, about establishing a cultural university, or a university museum complex as has been proposed by the Inuit Cultural Institute, or a folk school along the Greenland model, whereby people would be able to take training in areas that might not lead to university or technical institutes in southern Canada.

I can see the Arctic college as being flexible enough to offer programs in -- let us say fishing, the renewable resource industry -- by that, I mean hunting, trapping and this sort of thing. I would not want to see this motion as precluding that possibility where clearly there is strong demand for other than academic or even technical training in a region in the Northwest Territories. So that is just, I guess, a concern that I have about the motion, although I think it is perfectly appropriate to Yellowknife and this part of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Butters, to the motion.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would just urge all Members to support the amendment. It takes nothing away from recommendation 12. It adds the request that the Arctic college would ensure standards that are maintained to permit its graduates to apply for and enter academic and technical institutions in southern Canada. We agreed already, in the policy area, that this was one of the intentions of this government. It certainly does not restrict the Arctic college in any way with regard to programs that its board may determine should be offered and could be offered. It just ensures that the standards maintained will be acceptable to southern Canadian institutions.

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

#### Disparities In Present Educational System

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to make it clear that I will not be supporting the amendment, because it is precluding any of the freedom and responsibility that this independent board of governors should be pursuing. Although maybe it is my problem that I do not understand

the Executive Committee's role in the government, I am not too sure if the Executive Committee and the government are the only ones that can protect the high standards of programs offered in any educational institutions. Because to me this involves the political -- not so much decent, independent, highly scholarly type of institution that should really be running. Now the Ministers want to say: "We are the only ones that can protect the high standards of education," -- and the present ordinance does not say anywhere that it will attempt to protect the best possible, high standards that are currently being provided to the people. There are disparities right now. When you travel to Rankin Inlet and Eskimo Point, they ask, "Why is grade nine not a grade nine in Yellowknife?" When you travel to Cape Dorset, same thing. They ask the same question, "Why is grade nine provided at Cape Dorset not a grade nine when it gets to Yellowknife?"

So you are telling me that you want to protect that kind of practice of disparities continuing in the present system. I say, the best way to protect the high standard is to give it to those people who are academically oriented, who are not politically tied in with any government -- you know, the Minister will no doubt want to appoint those best possible individuals to run the Arctic college. So I would think that we are attempting to put standards, when in fact they might not be the priorities of the independent board of governors, set up to run the best possible system and programs for the students of the North.

I say, maybe I can see the fundamental change here, that we are changing the tradition of running the present education in the NWT and that is always hard for those people who have originally been involved in the school administration from the executive level, to see this kind of thing sort of starting to disintegrate to the people who really should run it. If this recommendation is passed -- I am urging all of you to defeat this amendment -- no doubt we will want to again bring in specialists later on, when we are dealing with the proposed legislation to tell us whether or not standards can be best measured by elected representatives of the government or academics who are appointed there to administer and maintain and develop programs for this kind of institution. So I am going to be voting against the amendment. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I would just like to explain that it is certainly not the intention of the motion to limit what the Arctic college could do. I understand that its job would be to offer a wider range of programs than is now offered in high school, and I accept that. I also understand that it would attempt to begin offering university level programs as that became possible, and that academic freedom must be guaranteed when that takes place. But I would want a situation to develop where, once a board for that college was established, that it was clear to the board that they must remember that they would be delivering what are now in-school programs, and programs that are necessary to enable our children to go on to post-secondary institutions. The question arose as to why the government should do that; well, the reason is that that board would be an appointed board, whereas the government, at least, is directly answerable to the people through this Assembly, and that is why I would want to see a rider such as this on the recommendation.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Just to support Tagak Curley's comments -- I am not sure that I am satisfied that I would want to maintain the standards that are presently set in the communities, because we suffer in our area from the same questions that continually arise when a student leaves the interior and comes out to a main school and finds that they are not up to standard. In the recommendation, it is expected that when we deal with the legislation these questions will be dealt with in a very detailed fashion. I urge that it is not necessary to have this amendment, and I will be voting against it, and I urge all others to vote against it.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Question.

Motion To Amend Recommendation 12, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Defeated

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

---Defeated

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie, to the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, to the motion itself -- I would just like it in the record, right near the recommendation, that there were concerns with respect to the establishment of an Arctic college, that you now have teachers who are teaching grades 11 and 12, and have a certain system of pay and benefits established and so on. They presently belong to the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association. This could be a very difficult area. I note that in Inuvik, with respect to grade 11 and 12 teachers, Ms Cournoyea said, and I quote again, "... that what is intended will not unnecessarily disrupt that. Again, we will deal with them in a fair and reasonable manner" -- and I certainly hope that that will be the case. I certainly support the establishment of an Arctic college.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Curley, to the motion.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, to the motion, I just wanted to respond a bit there. I would think that we will before too long -- once the appropriate legislation is introduced -- that there will be a policy or legislation introduced with respect to the public service. I must say that I am against present amendments that are being proposed, that are tabled by the government, regarding Bill 6-82(3), and the other bill, that would make it hard for one union to represent them. This is why I suggested the other day, I think, that it was too early for the government to be amending the Public Service Ordinance and the NWT Department of Education's ordinance with respect to local education authority staff -- that they will no longer be considered as members of the NWTTA or Public Service Association. So I am conscious of that. I certainly do believe, though, that teachers will remain teachers. They will have a role to play; they will continue to have that and they will continue to have the benefits. I sure wish that the government will introduce appropriate legislation one day and that they will be able to carry that out. I am presently not overly worried about it, maybe if half of them were teachers, I probably would, but I would say, at this moment I am not. Thank you -- not until the next election -- if I ran in Yellowknife Centre.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Patterson, to the motion.

Interested Parties Will Be Consulted In Implementation Stage Of Arctic College

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I would just like to say -- as I believe I said in Inuvik, and as I have said publicly, and as I have said to the president of the NWTTA -- and I do not know how many times more I am going to be required to say this -- I will be happy to say it again: I recognize that the NWTTA has a very great interest in this issue of the employment status of new employees that may work for the Arctic college, and I want to assure the Member for Yellowknife Centre and the public that we are not going to be ignoring these concerns in proceeding to the implementation stage -- not that I think we could get away with ignoring them if we wanted to, but we certainly do not intend to proceed arbitrarily. I realize this is a matter of great interest to professional teachers for many good reasons -- not just the numbers of members which would be in that union, but for other reasons. I want to state again that I am well aware of this concern, and although the precise path for the future is not yet clear in all its details, as long as I am involved, I hope that everyone will accept that these interested parties and others will be fully consulted as we go along. Thank you.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 12, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried As Amended

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. The question has already been called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Recommendation 13, rather. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 13, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation 13, divisional boards of education, centres for learning and teaching, and the Arctic college shall have the power to establish their own priorities, programs, and schedules of implementation, be accepted.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. With respect to this recommendation, I understand that they are attempting to cut down on bureaucratic controls, once these institutions are established, and I certainly accept that. The major thing that I was worried about was programs, that there at least be a core curriculum, and certain standards, and that was taken care of earlier, and therefore I can support this recommendation.

---Applause

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

The school program. Recommendation number 14. Ms Cournoyea.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 14, Tabled Document 1-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that recommendation 14, the Minister of Education shall delegate responsibility for program and curriculum to the divisional boards of education, be accepted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Simply, near the recommendation, I would like to have in the record, statements that have been made by committee Members in the past or by the Minister. With respect to program and curriculum being delegated to divisional boards, I note that at various times Mr. Patterson has said that they would very likely keep the 60-40 break that presently exists in curriculum, that the matter of the need to have territorial standards and the means to monitor and evaluate divisional boards is recognized as a responsibility of the Minister, that the Department of Education will have to have the necessary staff to meaningfully monitor those things. At another time, the Minister must have expert aid to satisfy himself, and in this connection Mr. McLaughlin, one of the co-chairmen, has on a couple of occasions said, "I do see the core curriculum as coming under the Minister," and also "We can maintain standards in kindergarten to grade 10 by not giving funding if the Minister is not satisfied." He repeated that again recently with respect to the Arctic college as well. Again, the concern I had about core curriculum and standards being maintained seems to have been answered, and again I support this recommendation.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Just to add that I agree with what Mr. MacQuarrie mentioned, and one final means of authority over and control over program and curriculum and, indeed, all other decisions made by divisional boards, their fiscal responsibility, etc., is the power now held with respect to the two boards in the Northwest Territories and the Rae-Edzo School Society, and that is the ministerial power of dissolution. I believe it is a power the Minister of Local Government also enjoys over certain levels of local government. I believe this power is intended by the committee -- and certainly by myself -- to be retained and would be the ultimate control in addition to the fiscal control exerted by he who pays the piper.

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

Powers And Privileges Of The Minister

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am rather surprised that we are unbelievably going rather fast...

---Laughter

...and Mr. MacQuarrie agreed to many of the recommendations, but there was one area that I wanted to -- it might be a while before we see the light of the day when the recommendations are implemented. You know, I am not wishing that that would happen, but some of the changes -- for instance, you know, we did not debate recommendation seven, "The Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories shall establish a secretariat for learning." Again, if it is ever created,

that is going to be a powerful machinery within the educational system which will involve the elected representatives again in the planning of strategy for major improvements, probably, or where education should be heading, because no doubt the economic structure of the North is going to change. Right now we have a voluntary system, some departmental training programs in the Department of Economic Development and some of the Ministers and some of the other departments, so I think when we look at those major changes I do not see why we have to worry about the government losing control.

The advisory council, for instance -- again, the Minister may want to draft his own terms of reference. We have not actually tried to deal with that. The present legislation is not changed. Where the Minister is not satisfied with any school board, he is able to establish a commission or a commission of inquiry. I know that Mr. MacQuarrie did not agree with that privilege of the Minister, but that is a powerful role; the privilege that the Minister has, we did not dare try to change in the ordinance. As a matter of fact, we included that in the ordinance, whereas, if the Minister has reason to believe that certain standards are not being followed, he has the power to put it into a trusteeship of any of his responsibilities to be exercised. So I would think that recommendation 14 could certainly be carried without any further debate. Thank you.

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

#### Sanikiluaq And The Kativik School Board

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a brief statement. It seems like there are two different things in recommendation 14. It says "The Minister will administer..." and in another part it says, "The Minister shall delegate...." It seems like there are two different subjects in this area, and part of this recommendation is that Sanikiluaq will be part of the Kativik School Board. I just want to make it clear that Sanikiluaq people do not really want to join the Kativik School Board because some of the people that lived in Quebec moved to Sanikiluaq and we are having problems with housing. It is getting to be a problem with the school when we are getting overcrowded. I want the Minister of Education to know that the Sanikiluaq residents do not want to be transferred to the Kativik School Board, since there have been so many families who wanted to transfer to Sanikiluaq that the housing is getting to be a problem in Sanikiluaq. The people of Sanikiluaq do not want to be transferred to Kativik School Board. I would like to mention this to the Minister of Education, the fact that they do not want to be part of the Kativik School Board. We realize they will be using this money on our future, and I guess our education system will not go anywhere.

I would like to ask the Minister of Education -- who wrote this recommendation, could we get rid of it or are you still going to go ahead with it? Maybe Sanikiluaq will not be happy any more. That is the only brief concern I wanted to comment on, about this recommendation. Even the Sanikiluaq people who were asked to join the Kativik School Board, they say the same thing, they do not want to be part of it, and they do not want to lose the money by joining it. For this reason they would like to get some support. I know that Tom Butters knows this, this concern they have in Sanikiluaq, and they do not want to go ahead like this. I just wanted to mention that for my constituents, because it was pointed out for me to mention it in this Legislative Assembly, and I guess Dennis Patterson, could you answer my question? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Somebody maybe could reply? Mr. Minister?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have now received the same message from the mayor of Sanikiluaq, the chairman of the local education authority, and the MLA, and I fully understand and respect that the recommendation of the education committee, not myself -- that the people of Sanikiluaq are not even willing to entertain the idea of a limited term contract with the Kativik School Board. I think, with any discretionary decision which would lie with the Minister in implementing these recommendations, including the establishment of divisional boards, we are not going to push any new status down anybody's throats. I certainly respect the strong wishes of the people of Sanikiluaq, and understand that there are many reasons why they are very skeptical about this idea. I am not quite sure what the housing issue has to do with this matter, but I do understand that there are religious differences between Sanikiluaq and Quebec, and that people really feel that even though this would be a contract as proposed, it is seen by the people of Sanikiluaq as the first step toward annexation to the province of Quebec, which they do not want, and I do not want -- we do not want.

So I have no hesitation at all in saying that now that we have this clear expression of the will of the people of Sanikiluaq, it will not go any further. So I take that advice, I respect that

advice that is given, and certainly I think the matter is a dead issue now. I guess often outsiders come up with what they think are good proposals, but if the people of that community do not agree, then obviously we are not going to try and force them to make that decision.

I guess I might say I was a little disappointed that the people of Sanikiluaq were not willing to investigate this matter a little further. I had suggested they might want to look at the Kativik School Board and see what it might have had to offer them, but they were not even willing to do that, and this is clear indication of their opposition to the notion, so I respect that, and I hope that satisfies the Member.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 14, Tabled Document 1-82(3), Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Do I hear question? Are you ready for the question? All in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that we report progress.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF TABLED DOCUMENT 1-82(3), LEARNING: TRADITION AND CHANGE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been dealing with Tabled Document 1-82(3) and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Fraser. Announcements and orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes, there is a meeting, Mr. Speaker, of the standing committee on legislation at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow in Katimavik A.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Saturday, November 13, 1:00 p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to the Commissioner's Address
3. Oral Questions
4. Questions and Returns
5. Petitions
6. Tabling of Documents
7. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
8. Notices of Motion
9. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
10. Motions
11. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
12. Second Reading of Bills



13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Tabled Document 1-82(3); Motion 7-82(3)

14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 13th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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