



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1982

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): I understand that we have a witness available on Tabled Document 25-82(3). There is a request to go immediately into the committee of the whole to deal with the witness at this time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays to changing the order of business? We will then go into committee of the whole.

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

We will discuss Tabled Document 25-82(3), Aboriginal Rights and the Constitution, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER TABLED DOCUMENT 25-82(3), ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND THE CONSTITUTION

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I would like to thank the Speaker and the Members of the House for departing from normal procedure today. However, we have a guest who has come in to Yellowknife to provide some comments on Tabled Document 25-82(3). The guest is, of course, John Amagoalik, president of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. So I think, Mr. Chairman, if we could proceed, as we did the other day with representatives of the other native organizations, and invite Mr. Amagoalik into the chamber, and have him give us comments on our paper. As I understand it, the time limit is half an hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Sergeant-at-Arms, could you escort Mr. Amagoalik into the witness box? Thank you. The Chair would like to welcome Mr. Amagoalik. Mr. Amagoalik, you are free to speak in any language you prefer -- we have interpreters -- and you have half an hour for your presentation and the question period included. So would you like to proceed with your presentation, Mr. Amagoalik?

Presentation By John Amagoalik, Inuit Tapirisat Of Canada

MR. AMAGOALIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I got in about midnight last night, and the first thing I did was to read the story on the front page of News/North. It seems that you guys have been having a lot of fun.

---Laughter

Now, first of all, I want to thank the Legislative Assembly very much for giving me the opportunity to address this session. Due to the very short notice, my submission to you this afternoon will not be as lengthy and as detailed as might have been expected.

The Canadian North and its people have experienced many political milestones over recent years, especially over the life of this Ninth Assembly. Previous Assemblies had failed to understand and appreciate our political and constitutional aspirations. The Ninth Assembly has demonstrated wisdom in accepting political realities. It has demonstrated flexibility by its willingness to compromise. It has also demonstrated courage by recognizing that one government cannot adequately serve the needs of all northern communities. The plebiscite of last April should have removed all remaining doubts about this fact. I would like at this time to note that there are still a small number of civil servants and residents of the western part of the NWT who are still attempting to argue about the necessity of division. I must remind them that the campaign is over, and any further lobbying against division can only be counterproductive. We have already indicated that we feel that civil servants have the right to participate in political debate, but we must ask the Commissioner to remind his employees that the debate is over, the decision has been made, and that further attempts to delay the division of the NWT can only be viewed as irresponsible.

Now, Canada is a democratically motivated society, and I am confident that the expressed political will of the people will be respected. The division of the NWT must be clean, and without hesitation, as if done with a sharp knife. Otherwise, it will be a tearing apart, which would cause unnecessary pain and bad feelings, which we must all avoid. We must remain friends, so that we can face common challenges together when necessary. The people of Nunavut will no longer accept being third-class citizens. Now, Inuit are a majority everywhere we live in Canada, but we continue to be political minorities, purely as a consequence of past boundary making. We suffer the highest suicide rate in Canada. We get kicked in the face every time the country suffers from bad economic times. Our unwritten laws and our social codes of human interaction are ignored. Our fellow Canadians assume that we cannot be trusted with self-determination. They insult us by assuming that we would abuse our new powers, just as they do. Now, we demand that Canadians express their confidence and trust in us. We deserve the dignity of being allowed to make our own mistakes. Because we are asserting our right to self-determination, it is sometimes interpreted to mean that we would deny the right of other Canadians, or that this is some wild form of separatism. We have accepted the Canadian constitution, and we intend to respect it, even though we insist that it can and should be improved, and we will always respect and defend Canadian territorial integrity.

In the past, we have been used to justify an uncertain Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic. Ministers of our national government have admitted this in public. Even though we do not agree with the methods that were used to demonstrate this, we are none the less proud that our presence has the weight that it has. We must have control over the system that educates our children, otherwise we run the risk of another generation of young Inuit who are not entirely sure of where they fit in the scheme of things. We are determined to avoid this. Our aboriginal claims must be settled. As long as they remain unsettled, the North will continue to operate at half speed.

Aboriginal organizations have a reputation of always opposing development projects. We have two main reasons. The first is that we are concerned with social issues and the environmental integrity of our homeland. The second reason is that Canada has unfinished business with us. If we are able to agree on how the environment and wildlife will be protected, and what kind of benefits northern Canadians will get from resource development from their lands, we are confident that a sensible land use planning and management regime can be arrived at. We have always said that our knowledge of our lands and waters is just as valid and sometimes more reliable than that of scientists. This has been proven over the years. Now, we are under no illusions. We recognize the necessity of creating jobs, and having a degree of energy security. We understand the position we occupy in the international community, and the pressures that face all of us. We are prepared to come to realistic solutions to these problems, but they must be solutions which respect our rights as human beings. We know there are many things such as boundaries, fiscal requirements, and transitional arrangements that need to be worked out, but these are technical issues. They can be negotiated and resolved.

The important thing is that we have agreed on the principle of division. In a time when some people are trying to convince their fellow citizens that the only way to solve their problems is to break away from Canada, we are saying that we are of a different view. We are expressing our belief that it is possible to have political and cultural freedom and growth in Canada.

We are saying that we want to have full political and economic citizenship of this, our adopted nation. We want you to support us in convincing the rest of Canada that our political and constitutional aspirations are reasonable and just. We want you to support us in convincing the rest of Canada that they should not be afraid of our aboriginal rights, and that a fair and just settlement of our claims can only benefit the whole country. We do not have any evil schemes, as some people seem to suspect. It is just not our nature. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my remarks and I am prepared to answer any questions which you may have. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Amagoalik. Any questions of the witness? Mrs. Sorensen.

Legislative Assembly Position On Aboriginal Rights

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Amagoalik, what do you think of the paper that this Legislature has been discussing, concerning our position for the constitutional conference? Have you read it and considered it and are you prepared to comment on it?

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

MR. AMAGOALIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as preparations for the upcoming First Ministers' Conference on aboriginal rights is concerned, as you may know, we have the ICNI -- the Inuit Committee on National Issues. They are responsible for the preparation and establishing the positions as far as that conference is concerned. I am not able to describe in detail as to what those positions are. I think if this Assembly would like to get a detailed, clear picture of where the Inuit stand on that constitutional conference, the thing to do would be to invite the two chairmen. It is unfortunate that Tagak Curley is not here. As you know, he is the co-chairman of that committee. Even though I cannot respond to you in detail as to what I think of that paper, I do not have any major problems with it. As far as the conference is concerned, I think the people to give you the proper answer would be the chairmen of the ICNI.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Any further questions? There being no further questions, could we thank the witness? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

---Applause

This matter being concluded, I will report progress and go back into formal session. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF TABLED DOCUMENT 25-82(3), ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND THE CONSTITUTION

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Tabled Document 25-82(3), Aboriginal Rights and the Constitution, and wishes to report this matter concluded.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Fraser. I would like at this time to read into the record a wire just received. It is addressed to the Speaker of the House. "I would appreciate an opportunity to make a major announcement on constitutional development in the Northwest Territories at the current sitting of the Legislative Assembly. I expect to be in Yellowknife on Friday, November 26th, and would be grateful if I could address the Assembly at 8:00 p.m. on that day." Signed by the Hon. John C. Munro, Minister.

---Applause

I think probably in circumstances such as this, that the Speaker should have the authority to extend and set up the hours. This is my opinion on a matter of this nature and if there is any disagreement I would like to hear it now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Orders of the day for November the 25th. Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address.

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

This, I presume, will be the last day, because I conclude that tomorrow will be the final day of sitting and with the regulations that we have proposed there are no replies to the Commissioner's Address on the last day. Mr. McLaughlin.

Mr. McLaughlin's Reply

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So far the Northwest Territories has been sheltered from the national economic hardships that the rest of Canada is suffering and this is because of the vast amount of people up here that are involved with the government and the fact that in the Northwest Territories we happen to be dependent on a mining industry that happens to be mining the right minerals. For example, the mines in Yellowknife are gold and Echo Bay, silver and fortunately, in Pine Point, in Polaris, the lead-zinc mines, although there is not much demand for their product, are operated by Cominco Ltd., which is one of the largest processors of lead-zinc in the world and they are able to share the demand for their product throughout all their operations and, thus, Pine Point mines and Polaris are able to keep operating.

Yesterday I supported in this House the six and five restraint measure which our federal government is pursuing, not because I did believe it is going to solve all the economic hardships that Canada has or "the Liberal hardships", as my seat-mate said at the national Liberal convention...

MRS. SORENSEN: Glad to hear you were listening.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: ...because I think that what this is, really, is window dressing. The unfortunate circumstance our country is in is that about the only movement that the federal government has left in the area which they can control is to take out economic measures against their employees, because last year approximately 25 cents on every dollar of federal taxes went to pay the interest on the national debt. This year some people estimate it may be as high as 35 cents of every dollar the federal government spends that will go to pay off that interest on the national debt and people have to remember the national debt itself is not being decreased; it is increasing every year. However, because it was obvious from the Ministers in this House that the federal government expects us to toe the line, I, for the time being, have to support such a measure because I think that I would hate to see our government in a situation where our negotiations with the federal government for funding for this government would be in jeopardy because we did not toe the six and five line. I would like to tell the Ministers of this government that I think that we can make a good case for the funding that comes to this government.

You have to remember that education, for example, in the Northwest Territories is funded for native people, and in southern jurisdictions, in most cases, directly by the federal government and that we are doing that job up here for them. Members will remember that the special committee on education has said a few times in our various debates and reports that something in the order of 40 per cent of this government's business is delivering education to northerners. On top of this, the Department of Health, Department of Economic Development, Department of Personnel, Department of Finance have an awful lot of their efforts directed in the area of education and in other areas that the federal government often does directly with native groups in southern Canada. So what I am trying to say is a tremendously large amount of our budget and our deficit grant is because we are carrying on programs for the federal government which they might carry on in other jurisdictions. So we should not feel ashamed when we, as a government, ask Ottawa for our deficit grant every year. I do not think that we should be ashamed that we get a deficit grant each year, because everybody knows that when federal taxes are redistributed amongst the provinces, that the Maritimes benefit by equalization.

NWT Should Benefit From Resource Development

So I would like to say to our Ministers and our Executive Committee that they really have to address this situation to the federal government, that we have a right to develop and share



funding on a similar basis to the provinces and they should pursue even harder a revenue sharing arrangement with this government for the Northwest Territories so that we can receive benefit from resource developments that occur up here. Here we have a Norman Wells pipeline being developed -- and I am in favour of the development in Norman Wells, but it has to be for the benefit of us. What other jurisdiction in Canada -- if Manitoba or New Brunswick found vast amounts of oil -- light, high-grade, crude oil like we have at Norman Wells -- would let it be piped out to Alberta, of all places? The amount of oil that is proposed to be piped out is approximately the amount of crude oil that we need each year in the Northwest Territories to fuel our own demands for heating and transportation. What benefits are we going to get in the long term? Nothing yet; there is no commitment, only some jobs to maintain the pipeline.

This House passed a motion in the last session that asked that the federal government recognize our needs for some sort of revenue sharing. We want to gain directly from resource development, especially of non-renewable resources which will leave this territory forever and never return, like fuel -- and guarantees of low fuel prices and gas prices, so that people in the Northwest Territories can have some real, honest, long-term benefits from these developments.

What we need in addition to that is to set up some sort of a fund for this government so we can diversify our industry up here. If we are going to pump our resources out of the Northwest Territories, we should be able to take a share of that revenue that the federal government collects right now, and develop some sort of a fund so that we can begin to pursue in the Northwest Territories some alternatives, through our Economic Development department, to really establish some other industries in the Northwest Territories -- other than government, and other than resource development industries which are short-term. I would like to see this government, in the rest of this Assembly, pursuing that as a major priority, along with the continuing pursuit of the constitutional aboriginal rights issues that we are working on. We cannot serve the needs of the people of the Northwest Territories in the end if we only pursue those issues at the expense of guaranteeing that these resource developments that go on serve our people.

Another example of the poor attitude that we have toward development is the attitude that some residents of the Northwest Territories are taking toward the Slave River hydro development project. I think Members have to realize that the project is going to go ahead -- that there is going to be some arguing between the Alberta government and the federal government, but that dam is going to be built. One of those sites is in the Northwest Territories. If that site is developed, the dam has an awful lot more potential for hydro-electric generation. That power could be used, and transmitted down the Mackenzie Valley, so we could eliminate our high cost of using diesel fuel. Instead of fighting against this development, which is bound to take place on one of the three sites in Alberta, if we fight the development, we should be fighting to make sure that development is in the Northwest Territories, so that we can control what is going to happen to our resources. If there is going to be a dam built there, there are going to be downstream consequences, there are going to be low water tables in the Slave River, there are going to be low water tables in Great Slave Lake, there are going to be low levels of water down in the Mackenzie Valley, and in the Mackenzie Delta. But it is going to happen anyway. So what we should be doing is getting in there and having a hand in making sure that when it happens we have a control on it, and the best control we can have is to have that dam built in the Northwest Territories.

#### Future Of Pine Point

While I said that we have been sheltered from a lot of the economic hardships that this country has, I would like to say that -- representing Pine Point right now -- the people there are all very nervous. There have been pretty well six or eight months now of rumours. Is the mine going to shut down? Is it going to keep going? One of the saddest things of all in this development as far as Pine Point goes is that the federal crown corporation, Northern Canada Power Commission, introduced a 19 per cent hike in the prices for energy to Pine Point mines. This, more than anything else, is going to be a contributing factor to that mine having to at least slow down operations. Pine Point mine has good, long-term, rich ore reserves, but due to the present demand of that product in Canada, Cominco is just barely able to keep their mines operating without having to shut some of them down entirely.

Pine Point, despite what people are saying, is not a dying community. Last year I pointed out that 78 per cent of the people who are on the list of electors in the municipal election -- their names appeared on the list of electors for the plebiscite, where a three year residency was required. That was higher than Yellowknife, and higher than Frobisher Bay, for example. This year I noted that the municipal list of electors in Pine Point has gone from 908 to 1000 or more -- I think it is exactly 1000 on the list, but apparently it has been revised and a few more names added recently.

So the short-term future of Pine Point is suffering right now, and it is suffering because of a federal crown corporation, and it is also suffering because this government does not have any kind of a policy for long-term development in the Northwest Territories. The reason we do not is because we do not have any sort of resource revenue sharing. I believe that what is going to happen in Pine Point, unless things can perk up immediately within the next month or so -- and I cannot see the economy turning around like that; even some federal government people are telling us that it is going to be a long, hard winter -- so obviously, in a place like Pine Point, one of the scenarios could be the shut-down of the concentrator there in order to save power. What is going to happen with the NCPG rates then? Right now, Pine Point pays 120 per cent of the operation of the Taltson facility, and then on top of that their charge for the actual energy which they use at the mine in the way of electricity was just given a 19 per cent hike, despite the six and five program that the government is supposed to have. So, like I said, that program of six and five for employees is just window dressing. It does not address the real economic problems this country has, which is the development and maintenance of jobs.

So what I would like to ask this government to do as a priority next year is to really pursue some sort of revenue sharing, so that when we develop resources up here, and when we develop communities up here, they are going to be able to continue on into the future, so we can have some sort of other industry. The situation in Pine Point, if the worst thing happens in the short term -- if there is a total closure of the mine for two or three years -- they are going to have 50 or 100 families there who are not going to leave, families that move from Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, Hay River, other communities, some from Yellowknife, who do not know of any other place to call their home except the Northwest Territories. There are approximately 50 government houses there, and I am going to be pursuing later with the Commissioner and Members of the Executive Committee, to make sure that the federal and territorial houses there will remain in use and be turned over as public housing, if it is necessary, for people that live in Pine Point that have children still going to school, to make sure that they do not have to be uprooted if something does happen.

So, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Commissioner, as the Chief Executive Officer of this government, and the rest of the Executive Committee, to really address this issue with the federal government during their current negotiations, because all the development up here is not going to help the people in the Northwest Territories in the long run, if we have things happen like happened in the Yukon. We have been lucky here so far, but we cannot stay insulated, I think, from the economic repercussions that are going to happen in all of Canada through the winter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Replies to the Commissioner's Address. I made a statement that this would not be on the orders of the day tomorrow. That was in error. I have been corrected by Mrs. Sorensen that although we are considering this, it has not been passed by the House as yet, so the replies will appear tomorrow on the orders of the day. Item 3, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question 110-82(3): Response To Question 64-82(3)

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to ask a brief question regarding Question 64-82(3), to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I am wondering when he can respond to that oral question I had given to him?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: If the Member will give me a bit of time, I have a whole bunch of returns here to give today, so maybe one of the returns is to the question that he asked.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 111-82(3): Opinion Regarding COGLA And Spokesman For Northerners

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Energy, the Hon. Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Minister, a few days ago it was confirmed that the sole spokesman for

northern people regarding socio-economic conditions -- by that I mean jobs, business opportunities, training -- and the environment, under the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act, and specifically, its administrative body, the body known as COGLA -- the sole spokesman was to be the Department of Northern Affairs and the government would have to go cap in hand to a bunch of tired, disgruntled, out-of-date ex-teachers, ex-RCMP, ex-armed forces and ex-northerners now working for Northern Affairs in Ottawa with our plea for a better deal for people -- people that we represent as elected people. Now, I find this outrageous -- no doubt you do too -- because we are the representatives, the elected representatives of the people of the North. My question, Mr. Minister, is: What is your opinion of this situation and what measures are you taking to rectify this very serious problem?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 111-82(3): Opinion Regarding COGLA And Spokesman For Northerners

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I thank the Member for giving me notice of the question. I think it is one question that Mr. McCallum, my colleague, and I have to respond to jointly. However, I would like to indicate to the Member that we do have some very serious problems with regard to the working relationships we have with the federal government, particularly since COGLA has been established and there is now in existence legislation that gives them authority to pursue negotiations with the oil and gas industry on particular Canada Lands. We have indicated to the federal government our concern. We have indicated to them that we do still retain, even within the NWT Act, a certain amount of responsibility for the people of the Northwest Territories and as elected representatives in this House and elected representatives on the Executive Committee we do, in fact, represent some major concern and major ideas that have been given to us by the people of the Northwest Territories. I have expressed my concern with the Minister of Indian Affairs with regard to that particular working relationship. Hopefully, the new resource development policy can, in fact, allow us to address in a more positive manner our working relationship with the people in the particular regions in the Northwest Territories and, as well, to outline a working relationship with the federal government. I think that is basically the whole intent behind our resource development policy and we intend to ensure that that works.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 112-82(3): Transfer Of Responsibility Through NWT Act

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Minister, I am pleased to see that you have begun talks with Minister Munro with respect to our taking on the role for socio-economic responsibilities in the Northwest Territories. It is my understanding that we can do that under paragraph 13(z) of the NWT Act. So if the Minister is agreeable he can, by letter, give us that responsibility with no change to the NWT Act. Are you pursuing that section of the act with the Minister in order to have him transfer that responsibility to us immediately?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 112-82(3): Transfer Of Responsibility Through NWT Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, a further response, in that I would like to indicate that Mr. Munro did indicate to us that we, as a government, had a certain responsibility. What has arisen since Mr. Munro indicated to us that we did have some responsibility in that particular area is that there seems to be some question as to the level of responsibility that we do have. There is no doubt in federal legislation that the Department of Indian Affairs has been given a certain mandate in that particular area. However, its relationship to Bill C-48 is questionable now and I think that more discussions need to be held to indicate to us a clear idea as to the responsibility that Indian Affairs now has, COGLA now will assume, and to what extent our resource development policy will affect our responsibility in that particular area.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 113-82(3): Meeting With Industries Lobbying In Ottawa

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Minister, you have raised the issue of the territorial government's resource development policy. I have been reading in the newspaper recently that certain industries, particularly those involved in the oil and gas industry, have been actively lobbying in Ottawa against the resource development policy of the NWT government. I wonder if you are aware of that strong lobby and whether you intend to meet with industry to explain our concern and why we have developed the policy and how we wish to soon take on the responsibility. So we are not talking about dual socio-economic hearings, we are talking about taking on the responsibility from Northern Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 113-82(3): Meeting With Industries Lobbying In Ottawa

HON. RICHARD NERYSO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, just to indicate to the Member and to Members in this House, I have already held meetings with corporate bodies that are involved in the oil and gas industry. I have held meetings with members of the mining industry to explain the resource development policy. I have extended an open invitation to all those that are associated with those two industries to invite me to speak on the resource development policy. I think one of the things that I have indicated, both in my speech and to industry itself, is that I am prepared to make changes where necessary to accommodate some of their major concerns. However, I think that industry has to accommodate our responsibility as well and so does the federal government. There is no doubt in my own mind that I do not wish to challenge the responsibility of the federal government, nor do I want to impose upon industry an additional hurdle that is not necessary...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. RICHARD NERYSO: ...and I think it is very important that we indicate to industry and to Members in this House that that is our intention and, again, it is further my intention to indicate to industry, to the federal government, that this government and the Executive Committee have to play a more important role and a major role in the development of our resources in the Northwest Territories...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Well said!

---Applause

HON. RICHARD NERYSO: ...and I think that it is even more important, as I indicated in my speech, that we do, in fact, require some assurance that the issue of resource revenue will have to be dealt with in a positive manner more than in a negative manner. The issue of my resource development policy has been a hurdle. I do not think that is a reality from my perspective. I think it gives us, as a government, a direction by which we can deal with resource development in the Northwest Territories.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had a question for the Minister responsible for Housing, and I see that he is not here. I wonder if I could ask if the Deputy Commissioner could come in to answer the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner, would you please join us? Request for the Deputy Commissioner. Thank you, Mr. Pilot. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 114-82(3): Mortgage Assistance Plan

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his response to a written question I had asked, the Minister responsible for Housing stated that a mortgage assistance plan had been developed by the implementation group of the Government of the Northwest Territories. I realize it would be a territorial-wide plan but because there is a serious housing shortage in Yellowknife, and I and others have been trying to see just what could be done, I am very interested in that plan. I am wondering if the Deputy Commissioner would be in any position to say what the essential proposals were with respect to that plan or at least give whatever details he feels he is able to give at this time?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pilot.

Return To Question 114-82(3): Mortgage Assistance Plan

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PILOT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The mortgage assistance plan which has been referred to is on the agenda to go before the Financial Management Board and to the Executive Committee for consideration. I do not have with me the details of the plan, so that I could

speak to them at this time, but it does entail expenditure of funds, or an allocation of funds, which would have to be made available to whatever department within the government was going to handle the mortgage program. Therefore it would have to be reviewed by the Financial Management Board to indicate whether those funds are indeed available to put into the fund. Basically it is a second mortgage program, and it is to be established in a manner which will allow anyone within the Northwest Territories to take advantage of a program of having up-front money, I guess they would call it, available to them so they can get started in a housing project.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pilot. Supplementary, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 114-82(3): Mortgage Assistance Plan

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, could I ask then, as it is on the agenda already, is it likely to be dealt with in the very near future?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pilot.

Further Return To Question 114-82(3): Mortgage Assistance Plan

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PILOT: Mr. Speaker, I believe the topic should be coming forward within the next few weeks. I cannot recall exactly where it is on the agenda paper, but it has been sent in for review and should be coming forward.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Thank you very much, Mr. Pilot. Item 4, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Ms Cournoyea.

Question 115-82(3): Assurance To Dene Nation Regarding Slave River Dam

MS COURNOYEA: I was asked to present a question to the Leader of the Executive Committee or to the Minister of Economic Development. The Dene Nation would like to have assurance from the Minister that the assessment and review process with regard to the Slave River dam, will be allowed to proceed independently of political pressures and prejudgment based on political reasoning rather than socio-economic and environmental facts.

MR. SPEAKER: It is very difficult to understand how that is a question, but you did manage to get it into the record. Do you understand?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: I understand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, fine. Are there any further written questions? Returns? Mr. Nerysoo, do you have returns for today?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I have a number of returns, and I wish to stand to present all returns.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

Further Return To Question 73-82(3): Increase In Polar Bear Quota, Hall Beach

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: This is a return to oral Question 73-82(3), asked by Mr. Evaluarjuk, on the issue of Hall Beach polar bear quotas.

The Department of Renewable Resources recognizes that the people in that area have been requesting studies for some time, so that the polar bear quotas can be assessed. Unfortunately, our budgets and manpower are limited, and until the present studies in Baffin Island are completed, we do not have sufficient resources to start another. The honourable Member may rest assured that studies will begin as soon as resources are available. In the meantime, I am reluctant to arbitrarily increase quotas without the results of a research study, because there are already more than 120 bears per year being killed in the Foxe Basin area, and because such an action would contravene the terms of the international agreement on the conservation of polar bears. In addition, the polar bear enjoys a high profile among conservation groups, and if we are perceived by them to be irresponsibly managing polar bears, they will press for laws prohibiting

the importation or sale of polar bear hides. As you know, this has already happened to the sealskins, and another similar economic blow would be disastrous to the hunters depending upon revenues from the sale of the hides. So, in the best interests of conservation of polar bears and of the hunters of the Northwest Territories, I cannot at this time support any requests for additional quotas, including Hall Beach.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Congratulations.

Return To Question 37-82(3): Extension Of Polar Bear Season

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: A return to Mr. Kilabuk for written Question 37-82(3), extension of polar bear hunting season in Clyde River. The season was originally delayed from the 1st of October to the 1st of December in 1979, with the concurrence of the hunters' and trappers' association. This was done so that they could receive three more bears on their quota, since we know that a population can sustain more hunting if pregnant females are protected. Pregnant females are protected by delaying the season, since most of them have dened by the 1st of December, and are inaccessible to hunters. If the season is put back to the 1st of October, then the quotas would have to be reduced accordingly, as was agreed when the quota increase was negotiated. An additional concern is that the Department of Renewable Resources is presently conducting studies in the Clyde River area and although the studies are not complete, there are indications that the population of polar bears around Clyde River is overhunted. If this is true, then protection of females by delaying the season is even more important. Unfortunately, for these reasons, I cannot change the season unless the hunters and trappers wish to give up three bears and return to their previous quota of 42.

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

This is a return to oral Question 48-82(3) asked by Mr. Evaluarjuk on November 12th, with regard to Igloolik and the outpost camp. This letter from the president of the Igloolik Hunters' and Trappers' Association has been answered in detail and a copy has been given to Mr. Evaluarjuk. The question was, in effect, the hunters' and trappers' association would like to have the Agu Bay outpost camp included in the same management zone as Igloolik in order for the polar bear hunting season to be the same in both places. The problem is that we believe that the polar bears in Committee Bay are from a different population than the bears in Foxe Basin. Studies are planned for the Foxe Basin area during the mid-1980's. Until the studies are completed, it is important that we manage the harvest of these bears separately.

Return To Question 46-82(3): Financial Assistance For Caribou Meat

A return to written Question 46-82(3), asked by Mr. Kilabuk on November 10, financial assistance for caribou meat. A grant of \$3000 was given to Broughton Island last year for an organized caribou hunt. The hunt was successful. This department will make available up to \$3000 again this year for an organized caribou hunt. This department would appreciate the community's co-operation in collecting specimens for research purposes. Our department will be in contact with the community regarding the caribou hunt shortly.

Return To Question 35-82(3): Polar Bear Quota At Pond Inlet

A return to written Question 35-82(3), asked by Mr. Evaluarjuk, with regard to a polar bear quota increase at Pond Inlet. Studies have shown that the polar bears around Pond Inlet are part of the population of bears also hunted by Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord. The total quota for those settlements is 106 and our studies indicate that we have reached the maximum number that can be taken from the population without overhunting. I must, therefore, decline your request to increase the Pond Inlet quota by 10 bears. Reducing the number of bears will not prevent loss of meat caches because as long as there are any bears in the area, they will raid caches. The solution is to cache meat inland, away from the areas normally travelled by polar bear. I know this is less than a satisfactory solution, but given the economics and the cultural importance of bears to Inuit and others, it is essential that we maintain healthy polar bear populations.

Return To Question 68-82(3): Hook Lake Bison Herd

A further return to written Question 68-82(3), asked by Mr. McLaughlin, on the Hook Lake bison. The Hook Lake bison herd, which numbered an estimated 1000 animals in 1975, has decreased to approximately 320 as of March, 1982. We estimate 50 bison are harvested annually over the last

four seasons. Our efforts to date to manage this herd include: a) In 1975, bison-wolf interaction studies were initiated. b) In 1977, the continued decline of the herd resulted in resident sport hunting being terminated. c) A wolf control program and an agreed upon voluntary quota of 25 bison was initiated in the winter of 1977-78. Wolf control was terminated after two seasons, as there were few wolves remaining and the general hunting licence voluntary quota was being continually exceeded.

At present there are still few wolves on the bison range. General hunting licence harvesting continues and the herd size is still declining. Diseases such as brucellosis, tuberculosis and anthrax compound the problem. A proposal from the Fort Smith Hunters' and Trappers' Association to establish a disease-free herd on a managed portion of the range is presently being considered. Further, the hunters' and trappers' associations of Fort Smith and Resolution have indicated that they will meet in the near future to discuss suggestions to me, as Minister, for solutions that we can implement. Further, our department will continue to monitor the herd.

Return To Question 66-82(3): Hunting Regulations In South Mackenzie

A return to written Question 66-82(3), asked by Mr. McLaughlin, on the hunting regulations in the South Mackenzie area. My department sees the need for regulations controlling the hunting along the Mackenzie highway from the Fort Providence turn-off, north to the end of the road and along the Liard section. The proposed action is supported by the chiefs in the region and, indeed, was initially proposed by them. My staff will be consulting with the newly formed Northwest Territories Fish and Game Association on the matter this weekend. I spoke to some of this group about the problem last fall in Pine Point. I will consider the results of the meeting this weekend before any action is taken. If I decide to proceed with controls, the chiefs and the association will be involved in drafting the details of the regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. Patterson, do you have returns for today?

Return To Question 36-82(3): Matonabee School Hookup To Fire Alarm System

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am replying to written Question 36-82(3), asked by Mr. McLaughlin on November 8th, of myself and the Hon. George Braden, concerning Matonabee School hookup to fire alarm system. The Matonabee School fire alarm system was connected to the town of Pine Point's alarm system in July of this year. Delays had been experienced, as the town was considering replacing its present alarm system, which would have required a corresponding change to the school alarm system. Also, a full 10 months was consumed in efforts to purchase the equipment once the government decided to install special equipment which would connect the present school and town systems. The connection that was made was a temporary one to accommodate the possible town system replacement and is not considered obsolete. An electrical component which failed in early November causing the interlock system to be inoperable will be replaced. Reconstruction of the school called for reuse of the existing fire alarm panel. However, it was subsequently determined that the panel was inadequate to operate both the fire doors and the ventilation system. The consultant did advise the contractor to tie in the fire doors rather than the ventilator system as a temporary measure only. The building fire alarm system will be replaced and will have capacity for both functions as soon as possible.

Return To Question 96-82(3): Interpreter Trained In Sanikiluaq Dialect

I have another return, if I may, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 96-82(3), asked by Mr. Appaqaq on November 18, about an interpreter in the Sanikiluaq district. An interpreter who speaks the Sanikiluaq dialect is a recruitment priority of the language bureau, particularly its Frobisher Bay regional office. The position was advertised in Sanikiluaq and northern Quebec from May 10 to June 11 without success. As a result, the competition was extended an additional two months and has still failed to achieve any results. The executive officer of the Baffin Regional Council was advised of this lack of response prior to the October session of BRC. The Department of Information and this government appreciate the honourable Member's concerns in this area and will continue in its efforts to interest a suitable candidate for the position. At the same time, Mr. Appaqaq should feel free to recommend anyone whom he may think would be interested in the job. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 69-82(3): Government Air Charter Services

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, on November the 15th, Mr. MacQuarrie asked written Question 69-82(3), and the major question in the request was as follows: Whereas the government of the

Northwest Territories should surely support the legitimate aircraft industry in the Northwest Territories where chartered aircraft are required and thereby support safety in the air, will the Minister responsible for Government Services indicate what measures our government takes to ensure that its employees do not hire what are commonly called "chisel charters"?

I believe the common conception or definition of the word "chisel charter" is a firm or individual hauling passengers or goods for profit without the proper licences and certificates. As the central contracting authority for aircraft charter services, the Department of Government Services contracts only with companies which hold valid operating certificates issued by Transport Canada's civil aviation branch, defining the minimum requirements under which the company may operate. Each charter company must also hold certificates and licences issued by the Air Transport Committee, which specify what types of aircraft the company may operate. The Department of Government Services requires that each company file its current tariff and does not contract with a carrier whose tariff is not on file. The civil aviation branch of Transport Canada advises the department immediately if there is any change in a charter company's status. So, I would assure the honourable Member that the Government of the Northwest Territories does support the legitimate aircraft industry in the Northwest Territories, and safety in the air.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further returns for today? Any further written questions? Item 5, petitions. Are there any petitions? Mr. Tologanak.

ITEM NO. 5: PETITIONS

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have received a petition from the residents of Spence Bay. There are 85 signatures.

MR. PUDLUK: Only...?

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Only? How many have you got in Resolute? Petition 3-82(3) is a petition to lobby against the European ban on sealskin sales. Am I required to read the prayer as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any further petitions?

Item 6, tabling of documents.

Item 7, reports of standing and special committees. Item 8, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Ms Cournoyea.

Notice Of Motion 44-82(3): Waste Disposal In The Mackenzie River.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on November 27th I will move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Great Bear, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that a formal policy be adopted and measures instituted to improve the existing standards and practices with respect to waste disposal, and to discourage or indeed prohibit new projects from following this traditional neglectful practice. Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time I will be asking for unanimous consent to proceed with this motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further notices of motion? Item 9, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 9: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Mr. Sibbeston.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 26-82(3): Deh Cho Bill, Private Member's Bill

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on November 27th I will be giving notice of the following Private Member's Bill, Bill 26-82(3), Deh Cho Bill. The bill is titled, "An Ordinance to Amend the Council Ordinance," and I want to indicate that I may be asking for unanimous consent at the appropriate time.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Good luck.

---Laughter



MRS. SORENSEN: Hiss, hiss, boo, boo, ho-ho.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Good luck.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Motion 19-82(3). Mr. Curley is absent. Motion 21-82(3), Mr. Pudluk.

Motion 21-82(3): Funds For LEA Employees' Benefits

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Motion 21-82(3), Funds for LEA Employees' Benefits:

WHEREAS LEA employees sometimes do the work as government employees;

AND WHEREAS these LEA employees are never given benefits as all government employees are given benefits;

AND WHEREAS it specifically says in section 21(3) of the Education Ordinance, "Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(k), the principals, teaching personnel and non-professional staff appointed by a community education society shall be employed in the public service of the Territories";

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the Member for Foxe Basin, that this House recommend to the Executive Committee that funds be made available for the LEA employees' benefits and that these funds be made available by April 1, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, proceed, Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to make some brief comments about this motion. For this reason -- the policy number 20 that we have talked about yesterday, that it was written in third reading. The LEAs are very concerned about teachers, and also the committees are very concerned about what they have to do, and also the subcommittees for education. That was a great concern of the communities too. The local education authorities are starting to work more for the education systems. I do not think the education systems will be stopped at all, to be worked at. We were also working on Bill 12-82(3) yesterday. I heard the Minister saying, regarding the bill, that he would be going to the communities. That is all I have to say, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Evaluarjuk, as seconder of this motion, do you wish to speak to the motion? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said yesterday when we were discussing certain bills which have a bearing on this issue, I will be working with my colleagues on the Executive Committee to attempt, at least in part, to respond to the direction given by this motion should it be passed, and so I have no hesitation in supporting the motion. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Do you wish to terminate the debate, Mr. Pudluk?

MR. PUDLUK: I was just going to call for the question.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to say a few words in support of the motion. I can tell the House here that the LEA in Fort Simpson has been interested in obtaining more funds from the Department of Education to support or provide more funds to the LEA secretaries. I can tell you too that I expect in the next couple of years, with the interest that there now is in education, in setting up divisional boards, and so forth, that there is going to be much more activity and more work done by the LEA committees, I believe throughout the North. In Fort Simpson, I know that there has been a recent surge in interest in the LEA. Just as an example, in the upcoming LEA elections, there is something like 12 or 14 people that are running

for a LEA position -- as opposed to in the past, it was very difficult to even get enough members to be on it. This is the result of the education committee report and the prospects of local people taking greater responsibility over education in the community. So I do think that this government will have to provide more funds to prop up and support the LEA committees and their staff. So I support it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 21-82(3), Carried.

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

---Carried

I understand that Mr. McLaughlin would like to call a caucus meeting at this coffee break, so if everyone will get their coffee -- Kat A is closed off, we do not have the use of that room this afternoon, so if you will get your coffee and come back here, we will clear the chambers and have a caucus meeting inside the Assembly.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: I call the House back to order. We are on Item 10 of the orders of the day, motions. Motion 32-82(3), Mr. Kilabuk. He is not present. Motion 37-82(3). Mrs. Sorensen is not present. Motion 39-82(3), Mr. McLaughlin. I presume, Mr. McLaughlin, you wish to withdraw your motion?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, I do. I will withdraw Motion 39-82(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 40-82(3), Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, Mr. Wah-Shee, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. James Antoine be appointed to the electoral districts boundaries commission, in the event that such a commission is established by the Assembly.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, is there not a rule about anticipating motions or legislation in this House, prior to it taking place?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, there is. Just one moment, please.

Speaker's Ruling On Motion 40-82(3)

I am sorry. I understood that that particular bill, Bill 24-82(3), was out of committee of the whole, and had had third reading -- and now I understand it has not. So I would have to agree with the point Mr. Patterson brought up. The motion is an anticipation, and as such is out of order at this time. To facilitate the situation, Mr. Sibbeston, I would be prepared to allow you to leave the motion on the books, and handle it maybe tomorrow -- when possibly Bill 24-82(3) is out of committee, but at the present moment I think it is anticipation.

Motion 41-82(3), Mr. Patterson. Are you sure now, Mr. Patterson, that you want to continue with yours at this time?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, no. I concede that your ruling would apply to my motion as well. Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: The white ball in the left corner, I think. Motion 42-82(3). Mr. Curley is not in the House. I understand that some Member wishes to ask for unanimous consent to proceed with a motion. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed with Motion 44-82(3), which has been distributed.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Ms Cournoyea.

Motion 44-82(3): Waste Disposal In The Mackenzie River

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the Mackenzie River system is the life line for many communities along it with respect to the production of food and drinking water;

AND WHEREAS it has been a practice to use this same waterway to dispose of untreated community and industrial wastes into this great river system without regard for the communities downstream;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Great Bear, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that a formal policy be adopted and measures instituted to improve the existing standards and practices with respect to waste disposal, and to discourage or indeed prohibit new projects from following the traditional neglectful practice.

The motion is seconded by Mr. Fraser.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Your motion is in order. I note that it is not exactly as printed, but it is as you read it into the record this morning. You may proceed.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will not talk for a long time on this, because I feel that the Mackenzie River system is well known to many people here, and it being the longest and largest distributary to the Beaufort Sea, and to the coastline, everyone understands the importance of this motion. It is not necessarily putting the Executive Committee in a position where they will have restraints when it comes to the expenditures of funds for those communities. However, I believe that it is important enough that each Member should support this kind of direction given to the Executive Committee, because there are presently projects going on, and being planned. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Nay.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, it has been the practice, in the last few years, by the local government or whoever authorizes these sewage disposals there, to run them into the river. Their story is that the river is big enough to support any sewer going into it, and the sewage dissolves within a mile. That is not the question. The question is that people living downstream are aware of this -- and not only the Beaufort, as the honourable Member mentioned, but the people in Norman Wells are having problems now, in the late winter, February and March. Our water supply runs out. The creek that we are taking the water from dries up in January and February. That has happened and we have to go to the river for water too. Our pumping station is below the sewer outlet. Therefore, we have to go upriver a couple of miles to get water.

I understand that the NWT Water Board has looked into this situation, and are not going to reissue a water permit. Esso Resources have offered to help the territorial government build a proper lagoon, but because of money restraints, nothing has been done. They have not got an answer from the territorial government. The Commissioner is aware of this situation in Norman Wells. He has been told about it several times, but no action has been taken, and I only hope, Mr. Speaker, that this motion does something, not only for the people living down the river from there, but for people up the river as well. If they decided to run all the sewage disposals into the river, we would be like the United States. We would have to buy water. So I fully support this motion, and I urge Members to do the same. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 44-82(3), Carried

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

---Carried

Is there any further business under motions? We are on motions. Motion 37-82(3). Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion 37-82(3): Registered Nurses Association Of The NWT

MRS. SORENSEN: Sorry, Mr. Speaker. I was called out of the House.

WHEREAS the NWT Registered Nurses Association is a self-regulating professional association;

AND WHEREAS one of the prime functions of the association is to ensure that high standards of nursing service are maintained for the benefit and protection of the NWT public;

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the consumer of health care in the NWT that all nurses practising within the NWT comply with the Ordinance Respecting the Nursing Profession in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS federal government nurses, under the federal classification and selection standards, need not comply with the NWT ordinance which requires that nurses be registered with the NWT Registered Nurses Association;

AND WHEREAS this policy is in direct contravention of an NWT ordinance;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that all registered nurses working in the NWT be registered with the Registered Nurses Association of the NWT.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Well, basically, I have trouble with this motion because it is almost the same as saying in your "now therefore" clause that every automobile should have a licence plate on it, because the legislation is in place. The nurses association itself should be doing their own policing and insisting on bringing charges. I am not sure to whom you are directing your "now therefore" clause, because everything is in place to do it. It is the matter that the nurses themselves have not been bringing charges against those people that are operating incorrectly. Basically your motion, I suppose, is in order, but it is rather frivolous in one manner. But go ahead, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not feel it is frivolous. The nurses have made representation to the federal government and to the territorial government asking the government to enforce its ordinance. They would like support of this Legislature in that and have contacted myself, as an MLA in Yellowknife and, therefore, I have seen fit to seek the support of the Legislature in asking the government to enforce its own law. Perhaps the wording is not entirely saying that, but certainly that is what the intent is. Can I proceed? Mr. Speaker, I really do not think I need to say much more. I think that everybody basically is in support of that.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

MRS. SORENSEN: I do have a long speech here, but I do not think that is necessary, so I will...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Laughter

MRS. SORENSEN: ...I will sit down and just ask for the support of this motion. Thank you.

MR. FRASER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. If "frivolous" does that much, I will have to use that word more often. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do want to speak to it, because we have a problem where there is an ordinance that is not being enforced and I would like to urge the Executive Committee, and particularly the Minister of Health, to pursue the enforcement of this ordinance, for two or three reasons that I would like to outline and hope that they are persuasive.

MR. FRASER: Agreed.

#### Territorial Ordinance Not Binding On Federal Employees

MR. MacQUARRIE: One of the problems, Mr. Speaker, is that the federal government, in its communications with the nursing association, insists that the federal public service is not bound by restrictions imposed by provincial authorities with respect to the qualifications of its employees and, therefore, does not feel that our ordinance is binding on their employees. They

cite a court case in their communications and say that it is, you know, wrapped up -- decided -- and I just fear that the Minister, looking at that reference, may agree too readily that that is the case. Arguments can be mounted as to why that is not the final decision in this matter and one of the things, Mr. Speaker, is that...

MR. FRASER: Yaaawwnn.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...it would be understandable where you had federal employees employed precisely in federal institutions, such as a federal engineer working in a federal building, say, in Edmonton or something like that. If the federal government says that they want certain qualifications for that engineer then, in a sense, it is nobody else's business and their standards ought not to be interfered with, but the fact is that in the Northwest Territories federal nurses are not nursing strictly and precisely within federal jurisdiction. In many of the communities of the Northwest Territories they offer the only nursing services and therefore they are providing nursing services to the community at large and that unquestionably makes it a matter for the concern of this Legislature and particularly for the Minister of Health to ensure that in that case, then, these nurses are registered with the NWT Registered Nurses Association.

There is also another point that can be made and that is that perhaps in a very strict legal sense the statement that the federal government has made in relation to this question may have some validity, but I would say that there is precedent right here in the Northwest Territories that offers good reason as to why federal nurses should be required to comply with our ordinance. That is because in the case both of lawyers and of doctors -- there are federal government lawyers working in the Territories and federal government doctors and this was an issue with respect to both of those professions -- it was resolved in favour of Northwest Territories ordinances in those cases. Federal doctors and federal lawyers must enrol in their respective professional associations and I say that if that is the case, it should be the case with nurses too, even if they do not have as much clout as doctors and lawyers might. The principle still obtains and they should be able to enforce their ordinance in the same way that these other professional associations do.

#### Legislative Powers In The Northwest Territories Act

To support that even more strongly, it is very clear from the Northwest Territories Act, section 13, paragraphs (e) and (x). Paragraph 13(e) says that this government is empowered to license any business, trade, calling -- which is another word for profession -- industry, employment or occupation in order to raise a revenue for territorial, municipal or local purposes. Paragraph 13(x) says that this government is entitled to legislate, generally, all matters of a merely local or private nature in the Territories. There is good reason why this ordinance should be upheld and I would ask the Minister to take vigorous steps in order, first, to encourage the federal government to co-operate in ensuring that their nurses are registered -- perhaps even going so far as to pay the registration fee, if that is the problem, in order to ensure that they are registered.

If the Minister is unable to get that kind of co-operation, then I would ask that he seriously think about prosecuting under the ordinance, where it is obviously being violated. I think it is important for us to uphold our ordinances, especially so when just last week I agreed, in respect to the Mining Safety Ordinance, that if this kind of situation developed -- I was assured -- I felt assured by this government that if there were violations by managers with respect to workers' refusal to work, that this government would take it seriously and do something about it. Well, I am hoping that they will demonstrate in this case that they take that sort of thing seriously and will do something about it. So I urge Members to support the motion and I urge, if the motion passes, that the Executive Committee take vigorous steps to enforce that ordinance.

---Applause

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, just to say briefly that I have been approached by the nurses association in Fort Simpson to take steps to remedy the situation that the association feels it is in, with respect to noncompliance or nonregistration of nurses that are employed by the federal government, so I would gladly support the motion in question. I was going to say, when I had looked at the motion, that definitely the motion ought to have been more direct, more certain

in terms of steps that this government ought to take. The sort of thing that I had thought ought to have been said is that the Executive Committee assist the nurses association in attempting to convince the federal government that it ought to have all its nurses registered or, failing that, to simply ask the RCMP to lay charges against all those nurses in the North that are not complying with the Nursing Profession Ordinance. I do feel generally that it is proper for all nurses in the North to be registered with the nurses association. It is much like any other professional group that functions in the North. We have established groups or provisions for lawyers to have their own association, and we adopted the Society of Management Accountants Ordinance, I believe, in the last few days. There are more and more professions in the North that are becoming self-regulated. We have provision here for the nurses to be self-regulating, to have registration of nurses and so forth, so I think it is time that this government does assist the nurses in having all nurses in the North comply with the ordinance.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Very briefly, Mr. Speaker, we ran into this problem with federal doctors about a year ago and had to come down pretty heavily to make sure that they registered under provisions of law in the Territories, and I am sure the Members in the House will take a similar course of action with respect to federal nurses who do not register under NWT law.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. To the motion. Mr. Tologanak.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister of Health for the territorial government, not for the federal government, I will be in Ottawa over the next week, and I will attempt to meet with my federal counterparts in order to address this question. I might add that most of these nurses who are not registered with the nurses association are basically those nurses who are working in the federal nursing stations in the communities. I will address this question very seriously with my colleague, as committed; we will look into it very seriously, and I will consult my counterparts in Ottawa. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen. You will conclude the debate.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. MacQuarrie took the words right out of my mouth, so please support the motion. Thank you very much.

---Applause

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yay, Lynda.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 37-82(3), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 37-82(3). All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion passed unanimously.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: That would then conclude motions for today.

Item 11 on your orders of the day, introduction of bills for first reading.

Item 12, second reading of bills.

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

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

Bill 12-82(3), Education Ordinance; Bill 24-82(3), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance; Bill 25-82(3), Guarantee Authorization Ordinance, 1982-83; 17th, 18th and 19th Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance; Tabled Document 20-82(3); Tabled Document 22-82(3); Tabled Document 23-82(3); Motion 35-82(3); with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 12-82(3), EDUCATION ORDINANCE; BILL 24-82(3) ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ORDINANCE; BILL 25-82(3), GUARANTEE AUTHORIZATION ORDINANCE, 1982-83; 18TH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE; TABLED DOCUMENT 20-82(3), STATEMENT ON GOVERNMENT'S LAND VALUATION POLICY

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order. Bill 12-82(3). Mr. Patterson.

Bill 12-82(3), Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amendment is a companion amendment I believe, to Bill 6-82(3) which amends the Public Service Ordinance which we concluded discussion on yesterday. The intention of the bill, again, is simply to clarify the government's position on the question of who is included in the public service of the Northwest Territories. It is not the intention of this bill to affect or change anyone's current status. This government has consistently treated non-professional teaching staff as members of the public service -- that is, classroom assistants, for example -- and this treatment will continue.

However, the section being amended was always intended only to apply to principals, teaching personnel and non-professional teaching staff. Various other types of non-professional staff have never been treated as the government's employees. The persons to whom this bill is directed have never actually been considered employees of this government, and no changes are proposed. So this legislation, in effect, only applies to persons who have never, in fact, been public servants. Anyone who claims his treatment has been affected by this bill will be free, under the Public Service Ordinance, to apply for an exemption. The bill will ensure, Mr. Chairman, that community education societies are not interfered with unduly by this government, that they will have the freedom to hire and select and fire and discipline their own employees.

I might just add, Mr. Chairman, that I recognize that there are concerns that honourable Members might have about benefits payable to staff of community education societies and I agree that there is some cause for concern -- representations have been made to me, most recently from the Baffin Region Education Society -- but I think the way to address these benefits is by grants to provide the necessary funds so that the societies can improve the status of their employees themselves, and not by making them public servants working for the Commissioner instead of the local authorities. That is a general introduction to the bill, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): General comments. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the standing committee on legislation reviewed this bill, it was pointed out very clearly that it was non-professional staff that would be removed from subsection (21)(3), and that did not include teaching staff. There was another important distinction that was made that was not at first obvious, and that is the important distinction between education committees and education societies, and this refers to education societies.

During the review, the committee was advised by government witnesses that the legislation does apply only to non-professional staff such as janitors and secretaries who are employed by education societies, that non-professional employees appointed on the recommendation of community education committees to the public service will not be affected by this, that they would still retain their status as public servants, and, having noted those items, the committee agreed to refer the bill to the committee of the whole as it is presented.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. General comments. Do you wish to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We will now report the bill ready for -- Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Can we have a recorded vote on that, please?

Recorded Vote On Bill 12-82(3)

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): A recorded vote requested. All those in favour of Bill 12-82(3), ready for third reading, please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Tologanak, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Butters, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Braden, Mr. McLaughlin.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Opposed, please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Ms Cournoyea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Abstentions, please stand.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The bill is now ready for third reading.

---Carried

Bill 24-82(3). Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, I would like Mr. Lal to come in to assist me on this, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lal. He does not even need help. He knows his way in. Bill 24-82(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance. Mr. Braden.

Bill 24-82(3), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The current ordinance is still law in the Northwest Territories. However, it is what I guess I could describe as inoperative, because of the wording of subsection 19(1). What we have proposed here is an amendment which will in fact make the

ordinance operative and in effect again, and the amendment basically states that within four months of the date on which the commission is established the commission shall complete its report. I will have Mr. Lal explain or make any further comments, if he feels that it is necessary.

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

MR. LAL: Mr. Chairman, I believe at this stage no further comments are required. The Minister has just explained what the purpose of the bill is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lal. General comments. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee reviewed this bill and noted that it was a direct response to a motion that had passed in the House and agreed to review it, and upon listening to the government's presentation agreed to recommend referral of the bill to committee of the whole, as it was presented.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, what happens if the work of the commission is not complete in four months, and there are more requests for the work to go on? Does that restrict the commission to putting a report in without completing their requested hearings?

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

MR. LAL: Mr. Chairman, the proposed provision in the bill is what is normally referred to as a mandatory provision. In other words, there is no discretion left to the commission to extend the period within which that report would be submitted. The law states that within four months of the establishment of the commission the commission "shall" complete its report. It is very explicit. So they will have to complete their report. Otherwise they would be in contravention of the law.

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

MS COURNOYEA: So in fact, if the commission was indeed established, and they were not able to carry out some hearings or hear from people who wished to be heard from, if they would not be able to do so, they would have to have a report without completing all the representation that has been asked for. Is that fair?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lal.

MR. LAL: Mr. Chairman, if the commission is not able to complete its report, it would be contravening the statute. The wording of the statute is such that the commission will have to complete its report, and if it is not able to complete its report the only way the commission can be excused is through an amendment to the Electoral Boundaries Commission Ordinance at that stage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lal. General comments. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Is four months a set time that is mandatory across Canada?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lal.

MR. LAL: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, I do not have that information. The four month period was what was given under the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance in 1978, and that period is repeated here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I have stated my views at length in this House on this proposal to establish an electoral boundaries commission. I think it is badly timed, and unnecessary, and I will not be supporting this amendment.

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

Motion To Amend Clause 1 Of Bill 24-82(3)

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, one of the concerns that I did have in regard to the commission is that it would not be able to complete its work in the time that we had, and I would like to make an amendment that the commission be allowed to complete its work within six months rather than four.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Ms Cournoyea, is that an amendment?

MS COURNOYEA: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I understand your amendment is to change "four months" to "six months". Is that right?

MS COURNOYEA: That is right.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The amendment is in order, Mr. Chairman, is it?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The amendment is in order.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: It requires additional expenditure.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters, I am informed that the amendment is in order, because the commission could come back within two months, or three months, or four months, or six months. Ms Cournoyea, to the amendment.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I need not again express my concern that in their work, the commission or any kind of group that we set up in this Legislative Assembly have time to deal with the people who would wish to make representation. As you know, we are heading into a winter session, and it appears that there is general agreement here that if necessary we can have another session to deal with this important issue. I believe that there will be a lot of people who would want to make representations, and with weather conditions and cold periods of time, as well as a trapping season coming in, I do not believe that it is necessary to have a restriction that would possibly close them off.

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

Four Months Adequate For Adjustments

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Taking a look at the calendar once again, in the attempts made during the discussions and the talk at length of when the electoral boundaries commission should come in, and when the election should be called, when we might have a special session, I think we finally narrowly defeated those concerns, and four months I believe is adequate. We are not talking about 10 seats, we are not talking about six seats, as was the previous session. We are talking about inconsistencies and adjustments that may have to be made, or maybe an increase of one or two, so I believe the commission will have not that hard a time, because basically most Members seem to feel that their constituencies are well established, well set up, in their own areas. I believe there are still some constituencies that need a second look, and those have been expressed indirectly and directly at some point, but four months I believe is adequate. So I would urge all Members to vote against six months.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I really have all along been concerned about the time available to do the work that is required and I would point out that it appears very clear to me that the last commission, which operated under the four month time constraint, barely had time to do its work. I will just quote from the report of that commission. They said in their report: "It should be pointed out that the commission held sittings in the local communities whenever a request was made. However, the time constraints imposed by section 19 of the ordinance did not permit any sittings to be held after September 30, 1978." Now, hearings were held by the last boundaries commission, Mr. Chairman, in only eight communities, and most of those communities, with the exception of Norman Wells, were in the eastern part of the Northwest Territories, where travel difficulties are considerable. I am including Spence Bay in that description, although

some Members may disagree. No hearings were held in the western communities. There were no hearings in Mr. Sibbeston's constituency. There were no hearings in any of the major municipalities in the Mackenzie Valley or Yellowknife because hearings were not requested. Now, suddenly, the Members from the West are interested in this boundaries commission exercise and I predict that there will be widespread requests for public hearings in all parts of the Northwest Territories. The last boundary commission was hard pressed to do its work holding eight hearings in the Eastern Arctic largely, and we are being assured by Members that this boundaries commission is going to be able to do what I am sure will make a much greater demand on its time in the same time. I would be very much happier -- although I am generally not convinced of the need to establish a commission -- if it were to be given more time and I would like to say again, because my message apparently has not gone through to the honourable Member for Kitikmeot, we are not talking about tinkering with one or two seats. We are talking about reviewing all electoral boundaries. If this exercise is going to be designed...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Will you stay to the amendment, Mr. Patterson?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, first of all, you let Mr. Tologanak make the point about one or two seats being involved within this work without calling him out of order.

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

#### Review And Hearings Throughout Northwest Territories

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We are not talking, Mr. Chairman, about tinkering with one or two seats. That is precisely the fear I have had all along -- that this exercise is being promoted by certain Members with a view to getting changes made in their constituencies and it was suggested that there is satisfaction on the part of other Members with their constituencies. I say if we are going to have a boundaries commission to change the Legislative Assembly from 22 to 23 seats, let alone from 22 to 25, we have to review the entire population shifts and trends, and hold hearings in all parts of the Northwest Territories, not just Mr. Sibbeston's constituency, not just Mr. Tologanak's constituency, not just Yellowknife. I do not even know what the evidence is now, but I suspect that there have been significant population changes in various parts of the Northwest Territories which -- and the reason this is to the amendment, Mr. Chairman, is that all this work is going to take a massive amount of time, particularly considering the obviously heightened degree of public interest that the debate here has proven. So I feel that we should take the necessary time. We should not bind this commission. If they can report in four months or three months, great -- nothing will be different. But if they take longer and if they find that there are calls for public hearings in all parts of the Northwest Territories, then surely we do not want legislation to prevent them from doing an adequate job.

I think what we should do is increase the time that we allow to this commission and, if necessary, make adjustments in our schedule otherwise. Indeed, we may even have to hold a special session in the spring and we may even have to, as I have said earlier in this debate, reconsider the precise timing of the 1984 election. I think this is far too important an issue to impose time constraints on the commission. I think it is as important as the election itself. So I will support the amendment to six months. I agree that is a time constraint, but I think it is more reasonable and if the commission can do its work earlier and I am wrong about the time required, then I will be happy. If it cannot do all its work, then it is going to be in a very difficult position. It is going to have to be in a position of deciding which communities should not be heard from and I have a terrible feeling that this time it will be constituencies in the eastern part of the territory, that are far away and hard to get to, that may suffer as a result. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Tologanak, to the amendment.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Member quotes from a previous commission's work. He mentions how difficult the travel was. You know, in the last few years we have an east and west connection to the far East and I am in the middle East, as some people may call it.

---Applause

We do not have any oil. Mr. Chairman, I do not want to talk out of context to the amendment. I believe -- and I reiterate again, that I believe that this commission is not dealing with 15 seats. We are dealing with 22 seats now and they had to work with six seats. The majority of

the communities that were dealt with were in the East and when the report came in adjustments were made to the South and the concerns that were expressed by previous Members. Apparently they are satisfied. So I believe six months may be too long. I still say defeat the amendment.

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

Ordinance Could Be Amended In February

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bill which is before us now already gives a little bit more time than the previous commission was allowed, because the previous ordinance stated within four months of the bill coming into effect. This time we are allowing four months after the establishment of the commission, so there already is some additional time being given. The other point is that we will be meeting here in February and if the commission wanted to make an interim report advising this House that they are having difficulties, I am sure then we could amend the ordinance to allow them the extra time necessary. So I am going to vote against the amendment to make it six months at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask Mr. Lal through you if it would be possible for the commission to make an interim report, under the proposed ordinance, along the lines Mr. McLaughlin has outlined?

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

MR. LAL: Mr. Chairman, although the ordinance does not specifically refer to an interim report, it does, under section 18, give to the commission all the powers of a board appointed under the Public Inquiries Ordinance, and it would appear to me that if the commission wished to file an interim report it would not be contrary to the ordinance, though if the amendment were adopted, they would still be bound by the original obligation of filing a completed report within four months unless, of course, the ordinance was amended.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Amend Clause 1 Of Bill 24-82(3), Defeated

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

---Defeated

Clause 1. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make an amendment to section 22 of An Ordinance to Amend the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Your amendment is out of order, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. Just trying to see whether you are on your toes, Mr. Chairman.

---Laughter

If we are dealing with clause 1, I would like to move an amendment to clause 1...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie, clause 1. Go ahead, it might go through.

MR. MacQUARRIE: This is an amendment to clause 1, which I will distribute. The translation is not down yet, but I have the other copies. It is fairly short. I will distribute them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We will take a 15 minute coffee break and coffee today is up in room 211 for Members.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I call the House back to order. Mr. MacQuarrie, your motion is out of order. Your amendment is not in order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: May I...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Move it. Go ahead, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Amend Clause 1, Bill 24-82(3), Ruled Out Of Order

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that clause 1 of the bill be amended by placing a comma following the word "report", in subsection 19(1), and adding the following words: "and the Council, once having received the report, shall approve or reject the proposals of the commission, but shall not amend them."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We have reviewed the amendment, Mr. MacQuarrie, and your amendment is not in order, as your amendment is in conflict with another provision in the ordinance. The intent of the bill before the House is to set the time frame for reporting. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause by clause. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

AN HON. MEMBER: Recorded vote.

Recorded Vote On Bill 24-82(3)

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): A recorded vote being called. Will all those in favour please stand? The bill as ready for third reading.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Tologanak, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Braden, Mr. Butters, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Sibbeston.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Opposed? Please stand.

CLERK ASSISTANT (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Arlooktoo.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Abstentions?

---Carried

Bill 24-82(3) is now ready for third reading. Bill 25-82(3). Mr. Patterson.

Bill 25-82(3), Guarantee Authorization Ordinance, 1982-83

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This ordinance is designed to allow the Commissioner during this current year to guarantee a loan or a line of credit, up to a maximum of \$50,000, to support the student union of Thebacha College. The background to this, Mr. Chairman, is that it had been recommended to the board of governors of Thebacha College by the student union that they should be allowed the necessary funds to establish themselves to run the student activity centre in Thebacha College on their own, managing it independently, with their own funds, in keeping with the way student unions in colleges and universities in other parts of the country manage their own affairs. The board of governors supported this request from the student union, but could find no way of loaning or otherwise providing them with the necessary funds. Therefore I have taken this request to this Assembly, because our approval is required in order to approve a loan guarantee.

I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am assured by the board of governors that the student union will be given full assistance from the faculty of business administration at Thebacha College, and also from the Department of Economic Development, to ensure that they use the funds which they will borrow from a bank with the help of this loan guarantee, wisely and in a businesslike fashion, and they anticipate that the bank loan can be paid back within a period of 18 months from revenues derived from activities of the student union.

The bill is somewhat urgent, Mr. Chairman, in that we would like very much to allow the student union to undertake this operation while the school year is still young. So I would mention, for clarification, Mr. Chairman, if it is required, that this does not actually involve an expenditure of public funds; it is rather a guarantee. I am fully satisfied that it would be a very, very remote possibility that the government should be called on to make good on this guarantee, but it has been requested by the particular bank that has agreed to make this loan, and it will allow the student union to get off the ground. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Is it the wish to go clause by clause? Mr. MacQuarrie, I am sorry, the chairman of the legislation committee.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The standing committee on legislation found this fine and agreed to recommend referral of the bill to the committee as presented.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Clause by clause. Clause 2, authority to guarantee. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 4, Commissioner in place of creditor. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Clause 5, power to implement obligation and rights. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Schedule 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We can now report the bill ready for third reading. Could we report the 17th report of the standing committee on finance concluded? Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is the committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The 18th report of the standing committee on finance. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: I am ready to proceed with that on behalf of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mrs. Sorensen, proceed.

18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, under reports of standing and special committees I did read the entire report, because at that point it had not been translated, so I do not feel that it is necessary at this point to read the preamble to the recommendations. Suffice to say, however, that this report is the culmination of a two year research project that the standing committee on finance undertook with respect to accountability of the Legislature, and in particular the standing committee on finance, and a two year consultative process with the Auditor General's office with respect to how best to recommend to the Legislature the establishment of a public accounts committee. We are the only Legislature in Canada which uses public funds and does not have a body which looks at funds and government accountability after those funds have been spent. We do, I think, a fairly good job of setting priorities as a Legislature and reviewing the main estimates, but we have not proceeded to that third stage, the stage that looks at government expenditures in a rational way. This report, then, seeks the Legislature's support in establishing that kind of a body. I would then, with your permission, Mr. Chairman, unless there are general comments of the Members, go directly to recommendation one on page five.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is it agreed? Is the committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Proceed. Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Accept Recommendation One, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: Recommendation one of the report is that the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislative Assembly that there be an expansion of the mandate and terms of reference of the standing committee on finance to include the functions of a public accounts committee, and that the committee be renamed "standing committee on finance and public accounts".

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the preamble has explained the reasons why the standing committee on finance feels so strongly about expanding its mandate to that of a public accounts committee. I said earlier that we had examined the possibility of recommending the creation of another committee of this House, but when we took a second look at how many Members there actually are, and how many standing committees we already have, we felt that it probably would be better to recommend that we have a dual responsibility within the one committee. So we decided in consultation with the deputy auditor general to recommend that we simply expand the mandate of the present committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried



Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Two, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the functions of the standing committee on finance and the functions of a public accounts committee are somewhat different, and I have explained those functions. In order to keep those functions separate in the public eye, and in the eyes of the civil servants, the standing committee on finance has recommended that there be co-chairmen, and therefore recommendation two has been made. I will read it: That the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislature that co-chairmen be appointed to chair the committee; one to handle the affairs normally handled by the standing committee on finance, and the other to handle the responsibility for the public accounts.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. Your motion is in order. To the motion.  
Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Just simply that we felt it important, as I said, to keep the distinction differently, and when the committee sits as a standing committee on finance there would be one chairman who would be responsible, and when it sits as a standing committee on public accounts there would be another chairman responsible. This has somewhat to do with how the public views the committee, but also both responsibilities entail a tremendous amount of work for the chairman, and I think that that is a responsible way of handling the work -- to have dual chairmen doing it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation three, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Before I go into recommendation three, as a point of interest, we are recommending that the membership on the committee remain at seven, and the quorum remain at three. We did discuss the possibility of expanding the numbers, but after discussion felt that we should leave it at seven and three, which is what all our standing committees are now established at.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Three, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

Recommendation three, then, Mr. Chairman, is the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislative Assembly that there be an automatic and permanent referral to the standing committee on finance and public accounts of both the territorial accounts and the auditor's report, as soon as they become available.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, research revealed that in small Houses such as ours, where the Legislature does not sit constantly, it becomes very difficult if a report such as the territorial accounts or the auditor's report has to be tabled in the Legislature and then referred to the standing committee on finance and public accounts. The recommendation of the smaller legislatures was that we seek permission of the Legislature to have these reports come directly from the government once the government is finished with them. We are talking about a final report, where the government has added its comments and it is ready to be discussed -- that those reports come directly to the standing committee for its review. This will allow the committee to get on with its work, and will also allow the committee to table its recommendations at the same session where the report is tabled. Now, in order to make sure that all MLAs have the report at the same time that the committee would have it, it would be understood that at the time that it is tabled by the government or the Auditor General with the committee, it would also be given, in a translated version, to all MLAs in the Legislature, so that the committee would not be privy to information that other MLAs did not have as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation four, Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Four, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That this standing committee on finance recommend to the Legislature that the standing committee have at least one full-time researcher assigned to it, beginning with the 10th Assembly.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, our experience reveals that there is a need, even now, for a researcher, someone who has expertise in the whole area of accounting and finance, and the standing committee on finance presently has been hiring a consultant to assist it each fall with its review of the main estimates. When the expansion to take on the mandate of a public accounts committee occurs, that need will be further expanded, and we feel that it is important that in order to do a good job a researcher be made available to the committee. Now, we have made sure, as a standing committee, that in next years budget there is money available for a consultant to be hired by the committee, so that that will get us through the next year, but we feel very strongly that with the 10th Assembly, that the new committee that is established does have access to a full-time researcher. This has also been recommended by public accounts committees across the country who do now presently have one, two, and sometimes three researchers available to them. They say that they are kept very busy, and they do recommend very strongly that we start off with that kind of expertise assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation five, Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Five, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: That the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislative Assembly that meetings of the standing committee on finance and public accounts shall be closed to press and public when it sits as a finance committee. Meetings of the standing committee on finance and public accounts shall be open to the press when it sits as a public accounts committee, except when in the opinion of the committee it is not in the best interests of the public to do so.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, when the standing committee sits as a finance committee we are reviewing, for the most part, the main estimates of the government and these are considered secret until they are tabled in the Legislature at the budget session. There are various reasons for that and the Minister of Finance can certainly speak to those, but until that situation changes -- until that main estimate document becomes a public document in the eyes of the government, the finance committee is under the same obligation to keep it secret. Now that does not prevent the finance committee from commenting after the meetings on different recommendations it plans to make or whatever, but certainly the document itself is considered secret and, therefore, it is important that the meetings be closed to the press and the public at the point that the discussion of the main estimates takes place.

Now, there are other times when we sit as a finance committee when we have been open to the public. For instance, when we were in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, the community was certainly invited to drop in and watch us in action. We took a number of press people with us and they were certainly invited to sit in, but when we discussed anything such as these recommendations

that we are now presenting, we asked the press and the public to leave. So there are times when we sit as a finance committee where the meetings are open, but for the most part, because of the nature of the discussion that takes place, they are closed.

On the other hand, when the committee would sit as a public accounts committee, because it is dealing with accountability with government and because the public accounts committee is established to assure the public or to try to assure the public that government is acting responsibly with the money that the people entrust to it to operate the government -- it is important that all review of public accounts be done in the public eye. Therefore, the work of the public accounts committee would be done in public and the press would be invited to attend. There are exceptions, of course, to every rule, and the committee would like the option in a very sensitive issue, and I cannot think of one right now, but it would like the option of closing its meeting, particularly where the best interests of the public are at stake. That would seem to be the exception to the rule and would not, in my opinion, at least, happen that often. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation six, Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, there are those that might be wondering why the committee is bringing this forward into the Legislature -- but we are doing it mainly for the public record. We want it clearly established with the public and with the press, what the difference is between open and closed sessions, in case we ever get ourselves into a situation like the western constitutional forum did recently, where they were criticized for holding private sessions, and because it has not been clear to the public as to which sessions should be closed, we took that as part of the reason why we thought we should have it clearly established in the public's eye what we meant by closed and open sessions.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Six, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

Recommendation six, then, delineates that for that very reason that I have just expressed, and it is this: That the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislature that meetings for planning future work, briefings, reviewing progress, and drafting reports be closed to the public and press. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation seven, Mrs. Sorensen.

Motion To Accept Recommendation Seven, 18th Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Carried

MRS. SORENSEN: Recommendation seven, Mr. Chairman, is: That the standing committee on finance recommends to the Legislature that a verbatim transcript of the standing committee on public accounts committee hearings be prepared and published promptly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, when a committee holds its meetings and its hearings in public, it is important that a transcript be provided in order that any problems that arise as a result of misunderstandings of which side said what be dealt with through reviewing a transcript. This is the situation with all public accounts committees in southern Canada, and certainly is the situation with the committee in the Yukon, and this was the recommendation, very strongly, of the material that we reviewed, that there be a transcript prepared, and that it be published. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Does this committee wish to report the 18th report concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

---Agreed

Does the committee wish to report the 19th report concluded? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

Does this committee wish now to go to Tabled Document 20-82(3), a statement by Hon. James Wah-Shee regarding the government's land valuation policy. Is this agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tabled Document 20-82(3), Statement On Government's Land Valuation Policy

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the committee if I could have my deputy, Mike Moore, and Richard Ashton to appear before the committee as a witness to answer any technical questions that may arise.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is the committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I would like to welcome the two gentlemen who just came into the House. I know Mike Moore. I did not get the other name. Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, it is Richard Ashton. He is a land specialist within the Department of Local Government.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a brief comment in regard to the land valuation policy which I tabled in this House on November the 16th. Members will be aware that the previous land valuation policy did create a problem in the communities in regard to prices of sales and leases of Commissioner's land. These prices are only in reference to the block transfers that have taken place between the federal government and the territorial government, which is called the Commissioner's land. Since we have come up with the previous policy, a number of complaints have been made from the communities, particularly in the non-tax-based communities, and so, in response to the request being made, the Department of Local Government decided to do a review, with the idea of coming up with another formula which would lower prices of Commissioner's land, which would be made available to the general public.

This particular policy does not apply to the tax-based municipalities, the reason being that the Department of Local Government sells lands within these tax-based municipalities directly to the municipalities. The tax-based municipalities in turn sell developed land to the general public at prices which are set by the tax-based municipalities. I may add that this is also a source of revenue for the tax-based municipalities. This is one of the ways in which they raise revenue as part of their general overall operation. The new policy I feel is a fair policy. It is consistent right across the Northwest Territories, and this is another effort on the part of Local Government to support home-ownership. The document has already been made available to Members, so if Members have any questions that they would like to ask, I am sure that my officials would be more than pleased to answer any questions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. General comments and questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Reimbursement Of Moneys Paid

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, what is the process for people who have already paid a very large price for a lot? Maybe, Mr. Chairman, we could also take note on what are the tax-based communities, but I would like to know, in the non-tax-based communities, what is the process of recovering what you have already paid under the past policy?

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, we have kept a careful record of the transactions that have taken place already under the old policy, which is about a year old, and the people who are leasing or who have bought land from the territorial government during that period will be reimbursed. We will do it automatically. They will not have to apply. We will approach them, and reimburse them the money they paid that is no longer due under the new policy.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Moore. Any further questions? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: On your categorization of raw land, would that only be land that would be Commissioner's land within a block land transfer?

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

MR. MOORE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It is only Commissioner's land, and the policy essentially applies to Commissioner's land. However, the Department of Local Government, by arrangement with the federal government, does handle leases and sales of land which is federal land. Where that applies we use this policy as well but essentially it is directed toward Commissioner's land, where there has been a block land transfer.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in terms of areas of land, what would you say the comparison of this new land valuation is, compared to the one that you had? What are some of the monetary returns that people will be getting?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Moore.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I will ask Mr. Ashton if he has some examples from about four or five communities. If Members would like us to, we can give you the prices under the old policy and the prices under the new policy. Those prices are for both sale of land and for leases. So, as much as you would like us to, Mr. Ashton will give you some examples.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ashton.

Comparison Of Prices Under Old And New Policy

MR. ASHTON: Thank you very much. I would like to give some examples of the difference in cost of land comparing the new policy with the old policy. I have examples that we put together from several communities. Perhaps, to start with, I could look at Tuktoyaktuk, and although there is a very limited amount of Commissioner's land in that community, that amount of land would be the land assembly area. We estimate from our costs in the land assembly area at Tuktoyaktuk that the previous sale price would have been in the order of \$30,000, and now we are looking at it being about \$15,000. If you are looking at a lease instead of a purchase, previously the lease fee would have been \$1500 a year, and it now would be reduced to \$750 a year.

In some of the other communities which are part of the block land transfer, an example of a developed lot in Frobisher Bay which would have had a value of \$10,000, would be down to about \$6000 under the new policy. That means that the lease fees would be reduced from \$500 a year down to about \$300 a year. For an undeveloped lot in Frobisher Bay -- and by "undeveloped" I mean one that has no services to it -- whereas the price would have been \$10,000 before, it would drop down to the raw land value of \$1000 plus the survey costs, which would make it about \$1300, and lease fees would drop from \$500 down to \$100. I have a few more examples. Perhaps Fort McPherson, where the value of a lot in Fort McPherson under the old policy would be slightly more than \$6000, it has now dropped down to about \$1200, and the lease fees have dropped accordingly. Similarly for Aklavik, it would be very much the same figures as for Fort McPherson. One last set of examples in Norman Wells. A developed lot in Norman Wells under the old policy would be \$18,000; under the new policy \$9000. A piece of raw land in Norman Wells under the old policy would be approximately \$14,000, and it has now dropped down to \$3000 or less, depending on the size.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Ashton. General comments and questions. Ms Cournoyea.

#### High Development Costs In Tuktoyaktuk

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the cost of the lots at \$15,000 in the landfill area in Tuk, there was a great deal of effort to bring in the cheapest development cost and I am wondering if the Minister really feels that paying \$15,000 per lot in the community is, indeed, going to be encouraging home-ownership?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Well, under the old policy, I think the formula that we have suggested is high. Under the new policy I think that we have brought down the price of land and the way in which we have worked out this formula really has to do with recovering of costs that have been incurred in terms of developing these various lots. Under the previous policy where costs have been incurred to this government, we have been recovering at least about 100 per cent of the costs incurred. Under this new policy we are recovering only a portion of the costs incurred by the government in developing these lots. So I feel that we have dropped the land prices and I feel that we are supporting home-ownership in that respect.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. In the category of serviced and unserviced lots -- for example, in Inuvik a few years ago the government forgave a certain amount of money in the development of a whole series of lots -- yet, in a community like Tuk, if you are going to encourage home-ownership and since the people of that community had absolutely nothing to do with the decision to recover that particular area and perhaps could have developed another area at a lesser cost, do you really feel that there could be some concession made to that community to lower the price of those lots even further?

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, it is true and it is obvious from the comparison the Member is right, that the costs of doing the land development in Tuktoyaktuk are still giving us prices for lots in that community which are as much as twice as high as other communities. I think it is not for me to say, but I am sure the Minister and the Executive Committee will take note of the Member's comment, that there may be some grounds for a particular adjustment in that community, where, for reasons which are to do with the amount of fill that is required and the cost of that fill, developed lots are still comparatively expensive. I would like to say, though, that there are some other lots in Tuk which are not territorial lands, but when they change hands under this policy of ours they will be as low as \$2000 for a lot, but that is an undeveloped lot. The very high costs are associated with developing the lots and filling them and building the roads.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to indicate at this time that we have made a revision to the old policy and I can appreciate the concern that Ms Cournoyea is bringing in regard to Tuk -- that Tuk is a high impact area and there should be some compatibility between the price of land in Tuk and also at Norman Wells. I think that if the present policy is creating an undue hardship on the residents of Tuk, then I would be prepared to look into that situation. However, at the present time we would like to see how the policy goes and if it appears that it is creating a big problem for the residents of Tuk, then I would be prepared to look into that situation.

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

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask Mr. Wah-Shee, when he quoted prices in Norman Wells at \$18,000 on the old price, \$9000 on the new price, and at \$14,000 on the old price in the undeveloped area and \$3000, does that \$3000 include the survey?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ashton.

MR. ASHTON: Yes. Thank you. In reply to the Member's question, I could clarify the figures, perhaps. The figure of \$18,000 under the old policy is for a lot downtown, as a residential lot, and has now been reduced to \$9000. The figures I quoted for an undeveloped lot would be for our new country residential area at DOT Lake and the previous price would have been \$14,000 and is now \$3000 and that does include the legal survey.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Are there any further comments? Ms Cournoyea.

#### Serviced And Unserviced Lots

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it seems that in the category of serviced and unserviced lots, in one community you are describing unserviced lots where there is a water trucking service to the houses, and if you are a private home-owner you have to pay for that service, it is not given to you free. Yet in the calculations it basically is categorized as a serviced lot because there happens to be a road there. You take another community, such as Norman Wells or Inuvik, a serviced lot is categorized when you have a utilidor system to the housing. I felt that there should have been different categories of what constituted a serviced lot.

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I am glad that came up, because it is important to explain to the committee what we mean by a serviced lot here. A serviced lot, from the point of view of the figures we have been quoting, is simply a lot which has legal access and which has been filled so that something could be built on it. The servicing which is also talked about, but not in this context, is piped services to a lot and these figures we have been quoting do not include the cost of piped services. So, for instance, in Frobisher Bay, the cost of piped services to a developed lot is charged as a local improvement charge and is collected separately from the owner or the leaser of that lot and is collected as a service charge along with property taxes. So the comparison being made here -- the figures do not include the cost of piped services.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Where NCPC builds the utilidor, who collects that cost?

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, the cost is still levied as a local improvement charge and is collected with property taxes. The cost to the owner of the lot or the person who leases that lot -- the cost of piped services can be spread over 10 years and so the local improvement charge can be collected over 10 years. If it is, then the interest which is charged on that is six per cent.

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

MR. FRASER: I would like to ask the witnesses a question. It seems to me like they have cut the prices of lots right in half on developed lots and less than half on undeveloped lots. Is there some kind of a catch here where later on the taxes would go up to get back some of this money or are the taxes going to stay the same way?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Moore.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, there is no intention to add anything to the cost in taxes. There is no intention by the territorial government to load property taxes to make up for these reduced costs. No intention whatsoever.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you. I just thought there might have been a catch to it some place. Talk about your developed lots and undeveloped lots: if a hamlet like Norman Wells...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yaawwwn.

---Laughter

MR. FRASER: My friends are getting sleepy over here. If a hamlet like Norman Wells has committed themselves to service an area that is called Commissioner's land, they have to service those lots out on DOT Lake road. Are they forced to service those lots, or not, say with water and sewer, and power, and telephone?

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

MR. MOORE: Can I just clarify this? The Member in that case is asking about such services as water and sewer? Mr. Chairman, I think every municipality has the requirement to provide services to all its inhabitants within the municipal boundaries. I think that is the answer to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: I disagree with you, because the municipal boundary runs across the river and runs halfway up that mountain. If somebody wanted to build a house halfway up that mountain, you would give him water?

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, yes, if the municipality allows that to happen, and that is the sort of control that the municipalities have to have through their development plans; but by deciding to let people live at DOT Lake subdivision -- the country estates -- I think it would be reasonable to assume that the hamlet council has committed itself to providing services there.

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

Moneys From Improvement Charges

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, where does the money on a non-tax-based community go to? When you are collecting the knocked-down pricing on them, where does it go to? Does it go to the municipality, does it go to the regional office, or does it go to the Yellowknife territorial government coffers?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Moore.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I hope I am right in understanding about the improvement charge which is collected with property taxes. It comes into the territorial government's general revenue, whether it is collected in one lump sum or in some cases where the owner or the person leasing the lot decides to pay over 10 years. It does not go to the local council; it comes into the territorial government. What is happening is the territorial government is recovering the capital cost of putting the piped services in, and we are recovering it through the thing called the local improvement charge.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments? Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, is there any way that, if a community is able to recover this local improvement cost, it can be offset against developing other lots, say sooner than a budget would be coming out in the capital debate?

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

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I think I am right in saying not for a non-tax-based community. Nor for a hamlet. This whole process of putting piped services into a subdivision and recovering the cost, in a tax-based community, is strictly local business. It is strictly between the council and the inhabitants of that place, but in this case the funds that are being used to service those lots by pipe are territorial government capital funds approved by this Legislative Assembly, and the recoveries come into general revenue.

It does create a problem, though, in a place like Norman Wells. The cost of piped services is very high, and, frankly, we are having a great deal of difficulty in putting enough money into our capital plan in the Department of Local Government to carry on that servicing that has to be



done downtown in Norman Wells. I think we should take note of the suggestion which I think is coming from the Member for the Western Arctic that perhaps some form of revolving fund -- the money which we are recovering could be used again in that community to service more areas. We will take note of that, Mr. Chairman.

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

Executive Committee Policy On Agricultural Land

MS COURNOYEA: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have a final question. In your pricing for agricultural land -- and you did explain to us that in areas where it is outside a block land transfer that what you would be doing is stepping into the shoes of the federal government and working in co-operation with them. It seems that at one time this Legislative Assembly had a position in regard to the Dene Nation's request that agricultural land not be alienated until the land claims position had been resolved, and in your pricing policy you have indicated a price on agricultural land. I am wondering, does this indicate that the territorial government has changed its position and is now encouraging agricultural land development?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

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

MR. MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, there is nothing in this policy reflecting a change of the Executive Committee's policy on agricultural land. I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, the Minister would like to speak to that.

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, that is a political question which I should be replying to. The present policy still prevails in regard to agricultural land. However, we have put the agricultural land in there. If and when the Executive Committee decides that the agricultural land should be reconsidered, then this is the manner in which we would propose disposal of those lands, but at the present time the present policy still prevails.

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

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard the witness say, to put the utilidor in on some of the undeveloped lots would be unreal. I understand his point there, because there are three houses that they have been trying to get on the utilidor system for the last six years and they cannot even do that, so I guess there is no sense in asking for a utilidor out on undeveloped lots. However, at the last session in Inuvik I made a motion that was passed unanimously to see if we could get some gas lines, natural gas, in on the DOT Lake road. I wonder what has happened to that, if the witnesses could tell me what has happened to that motion, if they have looked into it or is there going to be any chance of getting that gas pipeline out on those undeveloped lots?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Moore.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry. I cannot answer the Member. I will get the answer for him. Gas is Government Services, I am afraid; it is not Local Government. I will get the answer for the Member, I cannot tell him offhand.

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

MR. FRASER: Could I have a written reply, then, mailed to me in Norman Wells on that motion that I made, just so I can get some reaction to act on it or do something with it?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Political considerations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Definitely, Mr. Fraser. Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, we will provide a written reply to the honourable Member.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if we could have an example of what section 8(a) of Tabled Document 20-82(3) would include?

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

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: These would be mainly the religious groups, and it may apply to other groups as well, but this is only a one-time basis. Perhaps Mr. Moore can explain a little further areas that I have missed out.

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

MR. MOORE: Just on the same question, Mr. Chairman, this is something that is not new in the policy. These concessions under this section in the policy, for religious and fraternal types of organizations have been there traditionally for many years. I think it would include organizations such as the Canadian Legion which has benefited in some communities from this in the past, and essentially it is non-profit, fraternal or religious organizations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Further general comments? Questions? If not, I would like to thank the witnesses, Mr. Moore and Mr. Ashton. Mr. Fraser?

Motion To Report Progress, Carried

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I move that we report progress.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed. Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We are checking. The motion is not debatable. To the motion -- all those in favour? Let us see your hands. Down. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 12-82(3), EDUCATION ORDINANCE; BILL 24-82(3), ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ORDINANCE; BILL 25-82(3), GUARANTEE AUTHORIZATION ORDINANCE, 1982-83; 18TH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE; TABLED DOCUMENT 20-82(3), STATEMENT ON GOVERNMENT'S LAND VALUATION POLICY

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 12-82(3), 24-82(3) and 25-82(3), and wishes to report those bills ready for the third reading. The committee also considered the 17th and 19th reports of the standing committee on finance, and wishes to report those reports concluded. In addition, your committee considered the 18th report of the standing committee on finance, and wish to report this report concluded, with seven recommendations being adopted. Your committee also discussed Tabled Document 20-82(3), and wish to report this matter concluded. I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Item 14, third reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 14: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Mr. Patterson.

Third Reading Of Bill 12-82(3): Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 12-82(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The bill has third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

Third Reading Of Bill 25-82(3): Guarantee Authorization Ordinance, 1982-83

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would like to also move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 25-82(3), An Ordinance to Allow the Commissioner to Guarantee a Loan During the Financial Year 1982-83, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 25-82(3) has had third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 19-82(3): Council Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 19-82(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Council Ordinance, be read for the third time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The bill has had third reading.

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

Third Reading Of Bill 24-82(3): Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 24-82(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Ordinance, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 24-82(3). Are you ready for the question? Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I neglected to indicate that my seconder was the Member for Inuvik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Third reading of bills. Is it the desire of the government to proceed with assent?

MR. MacQUARRIE: A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie, privilege.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I think it is a matter of privilege for the House. There is a great mystery that is unanswered and that is: whatever happened to Bill 15-82(3)?

---Laughter

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Did we have a Bill 15-82(3)?

MR. MacQUARRIE: It was, I thought, ready for third reading, and I notice that the government very vigorously defended their right to have the bill in the House, and voted for it, and yet I notice it has been dropped. That is my question of privilege: Why is it dropped from the order paper? Yesterday, the Minister said that it was going to be delayed, but it is not on the order paper. They took up the time and study of this House, and I think they owe the House an explanation.

MRS. SORENSEN: Hear, hear! Hear, hear!

MR. MacQUARRIE: If there is no explanation, I will have to conclude and assume that the government has acceded that the position of the standing committee on legislation was right.

---Laughter

So I would like an explanation, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson, do you have a point of order?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two points of order on the floor at the same time.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would question whether it is in order for any Member to discuss a matter that is not on the order paper at all.

MRS. SORENSEN: It belongs to this House.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: It is not in order to ask a question.

MRS. SORENSEN: It belongs to the government, and once it is in the House...

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not on the order paper.

AN HON. MEMBER: Assent.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you wish assent? Mr. Clerk, will you see if the Commissioner is available for assent?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent at this time...

---Laughter

...in order to accommodate Members travelling to the next session to enable them to bring their wives or their spouses with them at the beginning of the session, I would like to get unanimous consent to go back to motions.

AN HON. MEMBER: Nay.

MR. FRASER: Girlfriends, too?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested to go back to motions.

MS COURNOYEA: Nay.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a nay. I hear one nay. You do not have unanimous consent.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I feel like Charlie Brown with his football.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, there is just one question I am not sure of, and possibly you could check. When we first came into the committee of the whole, I wonder if we dealt with the motion that Mr. Sibbeston had regarding the aboriginal rights paper?

MRS. SORENSEN: It was rejected. It was out of order.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe it was dealt with, but I will check and advise you, Ms Cournoyea.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Assent.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner, Item 15, assent to bills.

ITEM NO. 15: ASSENT TO BILLS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, honourable Members, as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I assent to the following bills: Bills 1-82(3), 2-82(3), 3-82(3), 4-82(3), 5-82(3), 6-82(3), 7-82(3), 8-82(3), 9-82(3), 10-82(3), 11-82(3), 12-82(3), 13-82(3), and 14-82(3).

MR. MacQUARRIE: Bill 15-82(3)?

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Bills 16-82(3), 17-82(3), 18-82(3), 19-82(3), 20-82(3), 22-82(3), 23-82(3), 24-82(3), and 25-82(3). Thank you very much.

---Applause

MR. PUDLUK: Are we ever going to find out about Bill 15-82(3)?

Mr. Speaker's Appreciation Of Mr. Remnant

MR. SPEAKER: We have a few minutes, so I think I will at this time take this opportunity in saying a few words about our Clerk. When we are saying good-bye to a person such as Binx we are really saying good-bye in part to what has really become an institution as far as the Legislature of the Northwest Territories is concerned. Mr. Remnant has served this Assembly with skill and dedication since before any of us were even elected to this body. He has worked for this Legislature since 1963 when the Council had only two permanent staff members. He was the office boy, emptied the garbage and the ashtrays and carried Mr. Sivertz's tea to him, I think, three times a day.

In 1963 that Council was made up of five appointed and four elected Members. The Deputy Minister of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources was the Commissioner and he presided over that Council. That Council met in Ottawa and travelled to the Territories only once a year, when the weather was decent. This Assembly today is far closer to responsible government than the Northwest Territories has ever been before. We politicians generally like to take the credit for such achievements, but sometimes we forget that without the skill and hard work of our staff these battles we fight as politicians would be much more difficult to attain and in many instances I am sure we would have lost the battles altogether.

It is impossible to measure the contribution of a man such as our Mr. Remnant because part of his skill is to stay in the background and guide quietly and silently when necessary and around here, generally, it is usually necessary. Those of us who have served as Speaker -- Mr. Searle in the Eighth Assembly and Mr. MacQuarrie and myself in the Ninth Assembly -- we know how we value the assistance and dedication of Mr. Remnant. He has made our jobs very much easier.

For years Mr. Remnant was also responsible for organizing the visits of dignitaries to the North and saw to the smooth running of formal events. Most recently, he assisted this Legislature in organizing the regional conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association which was held here this summer and we all know how successful these functions have been. We will miss you, Binx, but we wish you the very best in your new position as Clerk of the Manitoba Legislature. We know that you will serve that legislature with the skill and distinction with which you have served us.

It is only fitting that I should also mention your partner, Mamie. She has always been available and has assisted wherever she could and undoubtedly burnt a lot of midnight oil waiting for you to seek your way home after everybody else has left, while you cleaned up the mess that we helped create for you during the day. So, to the two of you, the best of luck. God bless you both and thank you.

---Applause

It is my intention tomorrow, during the course of replies to the Commissioner's Address, to allow anybody that wishes to speak to Mr. Remnant or you can do it tonight. We still have a few minutes. Whatever pleases you. Mr. Butters, would you like the floor now?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, I do, but if tomorrow morning is a proper time or an adequate time, I would wait until that occasion. I think your remarks, Mr. Speaker, said it very well and we will leave it at that for this evening and we will have another run at it tomorrow morning. I have some good jokes.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to say a few kind words to Mr. Remnant. He has been pretty faithful to the Assembly, I think, in more ways than one. You phone the Assembly office at 10:00 o'clock at night and Binx answers the phone -- you phone at 6:00 o'clock and he is still there. Sometimes I wonder if he is scared to go home.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: We will proceed with the announcements, Mr. Clerk, and the orders of the day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Mr. Speaker, once again, no committee meetings scheduled for tomorrow. Orders of the day, Friday, November 26th, 1:00 p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Hon. John Munro's Statement to the Legislative Assembly
3. Replies to the Commissioner's Address
4. Oral Questions
5. Questions and Returns
6. Petitions
7. Tabling of Documents
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Notices of Motion
10. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
11. Motions
12. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
13. Second Reading of Bills
14. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature, and Other Matters: Policy statement of the Hon. John Munro; Tabled Documents 22-82(3) and 23-82(3); Motion 35-82(3)
15. Prorogation

Mr. Speaker, I did neglect to mention that unfortunately there is a meeting tomorrow morning, a caucus meeting, at 10:00 a.m., and it will be held in the Assembly chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Friday, November the 26th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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