



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1983

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Tom Butters, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. MacQuarrie, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Hon. Don Stewart, Hon. Kane Tologanak

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Thursday, February the 3rd.

Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address. Item 3, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 1-83(1): Inmates Working On Pipeline, Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Social Services, Mr. Tologanak. The Minister may be aware that there are some five inmates from the South Mackenzie Correctional Institute working at a contractor's camp in Fort Simpson, working on the pipeline right of way tiering. In view of the fact that I have been advised this morning by the Canada Employment Centre in Simpson that there are 100 men in Simpson alone looking for jobs, could the Minister take steps to have these inmates removed from the work camp in Simpson so that these jobs, five jobs that are presently held by these inmates can be made available to the unemployed people of Fort Simpson and area?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the question as notice and provide a thorough answer tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Deputy Commissioner could be brought into the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that Mr. McCallum is looking after the Department of Public Works.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I did not catch the question. May I ask the Member, through you, sir, to repeat the question?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. There was no question. He was asking for the Deputy Commissioner to be brought into the ropes, but I believe you are answering for that department. Would you proceed with your question, please, Mr. Arlooktoo?

Question 2-83(1): Funds For Water Pipeline Maintenance, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is concerning Cape Dorset. There were a lot of problems when the water pipe was broken. I wonder if the Minister responsible for DPW could set aside funds for water pipeline maintenance for the residents of Cape Dorset. Can I have an answer on that, please?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and follow with a reply later.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 3-83(1): Winter Roads To Trout Lake And Nahanni Butte

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister responsible for Public Works or anyone answering on behalf of the Deputy Commissioner. A couple of weeks ago when I was in both Trout Lake and Nahanni Butte, requests were made by the people there to have a winter road pushed through to their communities and this request was taken by Mr. Braden, when he was with me on that trip. Can the Minister advise me whether the government will be able to respond positively to these communities' request to, in fact, have winter roads this winter?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 3-83(1): Winter Roads To Trout Lake And Nahanni Butte

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the winter road in Trout Lake is now being built and I think as well in terms of Nahanni if there are further responses that the Member would want. I will file a more full or complete reply at a later date, tomorrow or the next day.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Item 4, questions and returns. Written questions.

ITEM NO. 4: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. Patterson.

Minister's Statement On Federal-Provincial Meeting Re First Ministers' Constitutional Conference

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish on behalf of the Leader of the Elected Executive and the Hon. James Wah-Shee to report very briefly on a federal-provincial meeting I attended with them January 31st and February 1st in Ottawa. Due to poor weather in Ottawa Messrs. Braden and Wah-Shee could not make it here today. The meeting was on the subject of aboriginal constitutional matters and a working agenda has been developed with aboriginal rights issues categorized into four priority areas for the First Ministers and the Prime Minister to deal with, March 15th and 16th, 1983.

Consensus On Four Items

It was agreed, at the conference we attended, that four items would be recommended to the Prime Minister and the First Ministers for early constitutional resolution. These are items on which it was felt there was consensus which could lead to early resolution of the problems. The first item is a commitment to amend the constitution to continue aboriginal rights discussions beyond the March conference. This was a high priority for the Government of the Northwest Territories and native leaders so we are pleased that consensus was reached early in this meeting on that issue. The meeting also recommended that the issue of consent for aboriginal people for constitutional changes affecting them be an item for early constitutional resolution by the First Ministers, along with the issue of rights of native women. I am particularly pleased to report that the fourth item recommended at this meeting for early constitutional resolution is the repeal of section 42(1)(e) and section 42(1)(f).

---Applause

We will most certainly be providing more information about this meeting to the Legislative Assembly for its consideration but I wanted to briefly give this report today, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Are there any further returns or reports by Ministers?

Item 5, petitions. Item 6, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document, Tabled Document 2-83(1), Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Council of the Northwest Territories, on the audit for the year ended March 31st, 1982, on "any other matter" arising from this examination of the accounts. While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to table Tabled Document 3-83(1), Annual Report of Territorial Accounts, Fiscal Year 1981-82.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further documents for tabling? Item 7, reports of standing and special committees.

ITEM NO. 7: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mrs. Sorensen.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have the standing committee on finance and public accounts report to the Legislature concerning the main estimates. However, Mr. Butters will be giving us the budget speech later on on the agenda and I will seek permission to come back to reports of standing and special committees to give my report after Mr. Butters has spoken.

MR. SPEAKER: To facilitate the operation of the House, does anybody have any objection to this procedure being used today? Fine, then, we will handle the matter in that fashion then. Reports of standing and special committees.

Item 8, notices of motion.

ITEM NO. 8: NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion 2-83(1): Re Bill 1-83(1), Appropriation Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice at the appropriate time, I would move that Bill 1-83(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1983-84, be added to the order paper on the same day that it receives second reading by this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. 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. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 3-83(1): Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1983

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 3-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Butters, if you have several of them, go through them, will you, Mr. Butters?

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 4-83(1): Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, I have one further. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 4-83(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds and Make Loans to Municipalities or Other Persons in the Northwest Territories During the Financial Year 1983-84, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 5-83(1): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, 1983-84

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 5-83(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to Borrow Funds, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Tologanak.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 6-83(1): Medical Profession Ordinance

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 6-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Medical Profession Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 7-83(1): Gas Protection Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 7-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Gas Protection, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-83(1): Limitation Of Actions Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 8-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Limitation of Actions Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 9-83(1): Lotteries Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 9-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Lotteries Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 10-83(1): Council Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 10-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Council Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 11-83(1): Civil Emergency Measures Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 11-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Civil Emergencies in the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 12-83(1): Travel And Tourism Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 12-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Travel, Tourist Establishments and Outdoor Recreation, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 13-83(1): Intestate Succession Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 13-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Intestate Succession Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 14-83(1): Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 14-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Tologanak.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 15-83(1): Child Welfare Ordinance

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 15-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Child Welfare Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 16-83(1): Business Loans Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 16-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 17-83(1): Landlord And Tenant Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 17-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 18-83(1): Territorial Parks Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February the 7th, 1983, I shall move that Bill 18-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Territorial Parks Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Are there any further notices today? Item 10, motions.

ITEM NO. 10: MOTIONS

Mr. Butters.

Motion 2-83(1): Re Bill 1-83(1), Appropriation Ordinance, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker:

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 1-83(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1983-84, be added to the order paper on the same day that it receives second reading by this House.

MR. SPEAKER: If you wish to proceed with this motion, it will require unanimous consent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Butters.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Notices of motion. Item 11, introduction of bills for first reading.

ITEM NO. 11: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS FOR FIRST READING

Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would like consent of the House to proceed with first reading for a number of bills.

MR. SPEAKER: Those are bills that you have just given notice of as of today, I presume. No? Which bills were you referring to, Mr. Butters? Mr. McCallum.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the House Leader might explain the situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, we would like to get unanimous consent to move first reading of Bills 3-83(1), 4-83(1), 5-83(1), 6-83(1), 7-83(1), 8-83(1), 9-83(1), 11-83(1) and 12-83(1).

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. There is unanimous consent being requested for Bills 3-83(1), 4-83(1), 5-83(1), 6-83(1), 7-83(1), 8-83(1), 9-83(1), 11-83(1) and 12-83(1).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Proceed.

---Agreed

First Reading Of Bill 3-83(1): Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1983

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River that Bill 3-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 4-83(1): Loan Authorization Ordinance No. 1, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta that Bill 4-83(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds and Make Loans to Municipalities or Other Persons in the Northwest Territories during the Financial Year 1983-84, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 4-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 5-83(1): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, 1983-84

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 5-83(1), An Ordinance to Authorize the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to Borrow Funds, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 5-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. Tologanak.

First Reading Of Bill 6-83(1): Medical Profession Ordinance

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 6-83(1), An Ordinance to replace the Medical Profession Ordinance, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 6-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 7-83(1): Gas Protection Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 7-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Gas Protection, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 7-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 9-83(1): Lotteries Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 9-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Lotteries Ordinance, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 9-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 8-83(1): Limitation Of Actions Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 8-83(1), An Ordinance to Amend the Limitation of Actions Ordinance, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 8-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 11-83(1): Civil Emergency Measures Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 11-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Civil Emergencies in the Territories, be read for the first time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 11-83(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, that would conclude the number of bills we want for first reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 12, second reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 12: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 1-83(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Frobisher Bay, that Bill 1-83(1), An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service for the Financial Year ending the 31st Day of March, 1984, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for expenditures for the public service for the next financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: To the bill in principle. Mr. Butters.

Minister Of Finance's Budget Address

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, this is the first occasion on which a Minister of Finance of this government has risen in second reading to speak to the budget placed before the House. It reflects, I think, a slow evolution and a slow movement toward the public accountability and responsibility which we as government Members attempt to carry out and carry forward. I have this morning met with the press, as is the practice in other jurisdictions, and provided them with information on the budget. I have not bought myself a pair of new shoes because, after you hear this budget, I do not know whether I will be able to afford a pair of new shoes. The budget framework that is put before you is very tight. What the Government of the Northwest Territories could afford last year is no longer possible. We are in for a hard ride and it is crucial right from the start that everyone throughout the Territories clearly understands that message. It is not my desire to paint a picture of monetary doom. Rather, I am taking this occasion to indicate in the strongest possible terms that stringent fiscal management is the only vehicle we have to ensure that the excellent programs and priorities set by this House and the Executive Committee survive.

Mr. Speaker, the main estimates I am placing before the House this afternoon call for a total voted expenditure of \$474 million, an increase of 11.5 per cent over the 1982-83 budget and a level that has been cut significantly to match our limited projected revenues. Simply stated, we are not in a position to action any new programming ideas or requests for financial assistance at this time unless Members wish to take the political accountability of identifying which programs they want to eliminate in order to acquire the necessary funding. The budget total reflects Ottawa's determination to hold this government to its six and five per cent restraint program and, I regret to report, it comes at a time in our history when the need for additional financing is crucial to ensure that directions already set in motion in the North are managed in a manner that is primarily of benefit to our citizens.

It has been stated that the Northwest Territories has been riding along almost oblivious to the recession being experienced in the rest of Canada. That is simply not true. Unemployment, particularly outside of the territorial capital is increasing. Consumer and investor confidence have not turned the corner, and we are experiencing an extreme degree of economic uncertainty.

Economic Climate

Mr. Speaker, the reasons for this situation are not difficult to understand. Territorial finances are to a very large extent dependent upon major economic developments which in turn reflect our close relationship with the federal government and the national economy. More specifically, because of the fact that over 80 per cent of our funding is obtained from the federal government, our budget is obviously impacted by what happens nationally. As we all know, the federal government deficit is running in excess of \$22 billion. In addition, the popularity of the governing party is extremely low, and the ensuing political pressures from constituencies across the country are severe, particularly following the result of last week's turmoil in the ranks of the official opposition. As a result, it should be evident to all of us that the relative importance of frontier governments is minimal against this economic and political backdrop. In effect, our rate of growth in respect to federal contributions and priorities has been restricted.

Compounding the situation is the fact that the economic hardships do not automatically reduce the demand for government services. Health programs must take care of public needs, education systems must still educate and enhanced social assistance programs become increasingly significant. In the NWT, major tax increases -- the kind that are required to assist in provision of such services in times of economic difficulty -- are not an acceptable option, as they would place an additional burden on northerners, and in so doing, create further hardships on the economy.

Mr. Speaker, this was the kind of environment in which the territorial representatives recently conducted negotiations at the intergovernmental committee on finance meetings with their federal counterparts. The process did not lend itself to reaching an appropriate level of funding, and we continue to be ranked financially along with other federal departments, rather than as a separate government. Hopefully, the process of formula financing sought by this government and recently supported by Ottawa will provide the opportunity for us to break free from our departmental status at the negotiating table, and afford us much greater flexibility and planning in the shaping of our budgets. While such financing carries significant risk, it is a necessary step in the establishment of the financial accountability of this government and of this Legislative Assembly.

Much work remains to be accomplished in this area in determining an adequate budget base and appropriate escalators and territorial revenue and tax positions. Officials of my department are committed to full development of the arrangement, in addition to the new federal policy direction concerning distribution of discretionary revenues. As the Hon. John Munro indicated, such revenues would be over and above the normal transfer payment and could be used to cover major upfront costs to prepare for the impacts of resource development projects. However, for the time being, Mr. Speaker, the federal government is still calling the shots.

During my recent discussion with federal Finance Minister Marc Lalonde, it became abundantly clear that the viability of northern development and production will be the key factor in determining the direction of our northern economy. That direction, as we all know, is indecisive at this time, particularly in the area of non-renewable resources. The lowering of crude prices by the OPEC nations and by the USSR could have serious implications not only on oil producing provinces, but on the North as well. Downward jiggling by OPEC could impact large petro projects, such as the Arctic Islands and the Beaufort plays. At the very least they could result in re-examination of new federal energy policy and the Canada-Alberta energy pact, all of which is bound to impact on the northern resource sector.

Budget Strategy

The message that should be clear by now to all of us, Mr. Speaker, is that any optimism about the North's immediate future must be a guarded optimism, one that recognizes the continuing adjustments in international and national influences. The strategy for the 1983-84 main estimates reflects these factors. The only option open to us was to place any real budget increases on hold, to attempt to protect our hard-won base and realize that new money beyond that which is identified in the 1983-84 budget is not possible during the remaining life of this Assembly.

The budget that is placed before you today was prepared after a rigorous review of our priorities to ensure that existing programs continue to serve valid objectives. It is advanced for your consideration with the understanding that any new initiatives or funding requests can only be handled by trimming or eliminating existing programs to fund them.

The 1983-84 budget aims to:

- 1) incorporate the priorities of the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee;
- 2) ensure that the necessary adjustment to current economic circumstances is shared fairly by all northerners;
- 3) provide economic stimulation and create employment, particularly in those communities and sectors of the North hit hardest by the recession, and
- 4) maintain, as much as possible, the quality of public services currently being provided by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, those are the aims or objectives we have attempted to meet in the 1983-84 budget. In order to allow for them, a number of departments had to be held to increases below the six per cent level, and in order to make it work, every organization in the Northwest Territories that receives government support must co-operate by reviewing and lessening their demands, separating the essential from the non-essential, and by practising equally strong financial management principles. There is just no other way to manage the current economic situation.

It was this approach that resulted in a redirection of \$7,690,000 within the budgetary base to fund the priorities established by the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee. Later in the session my colleague, the Hon. George Braden, will address the House on the process and decisions involved in the development and implementation of the priority directions given the Executive Committee by the Assembly. Generally, the nine priorities define the direction of a

responsive government. Taken individually, each priority recognizes the importance of local control and individual responsibility and the importance of education to enable more northerners to participate now and in the future. Participation into the future will depend on how well all of us, as well as Members of the next Assembly, manage our limited financial resources over the next two years and on how well we are able to make representations to the federal government for financial commitments that fall outside our existing budgetary base.

Mr. Speaker, there obviously will be a number of financial agreements or understandings for this government to seek with Ottawa in the new fiscal year. One of them involves the work that is necessary to convince the federal government to reconsider its decision regarding taxation of northern allowances and to recognize the significant costs of living facing residents of the NWT. As Minister of Finance, I consider this issue to be of utmost importance because of its effect on the northern taxpayer and upon this government.

Budget Framework

Mr. Speaker, in applying restraint measures to the 1983-84 main estimates, we have attempted to be fair and to spread the responsibility equally among all northerners. In addition, we have emphasized the effective delivery of programs so that we can do as much as possible with less discretionary resources.

In the first instance, the restraint program employs an overall six per cent limit on expenditure increases by the territorial government, municipal governments, school districts, hospital districts and other territorially funded organizations. While flexibility is necessary in certain instances, we will meet these guidelines. In the second instance, the restraint program includes the Compensation Restraint Ordinance which legislates compensation limits to all territorial public sector employees, but at the same time allows for the collective bargaining process. Allowance has also been made for special circumstances such as improved productivity performances or skills shortages. In the third instance, the restraint program contains certain measures to create jobs and provide economic stimulus. Incentive for job creation was a considerable factor in the allocation of the capital budget.

Mr. Speaker, it is our view that the northern public expects a lean government structure that is efficient and which can get the job done with its available resources. Let me assure you that everything will be done to see that this expectation is met. Throughout the government, action has been and is being taken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of all programs and their administration. The provisions of the Financial Administration Ordinance implemented in 1982 will provide new and improved approaches to financial management and control. The review by the standing committee on finance and public accounts will stimulate further improvement in public accountability.

The budget framework I am presenting today projects a cash-book balance that is expected to be less than the revenue collected by the Territories in one week. If actual revenue or expenditure vary to any great extent in an adverse manner to the budget plan, the result will be serious. We must be prepared to act quickly to rectify problem areas as soon as they are identified. Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories can live with total expenditures of \$474 million as a budget as long as the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee make no significant program changes or additions during the 1983-84 fiscal year, and that there are no economic circumstances or pricing decisions that are outside the federal assumptions used in determining federal contributions to this government.

Budget Considerations

Mr. Speaker, the work involved in producing the main estimates is considerable, and it involved many difficult decisions and long hours of agonizing. Without the support and the co-operation of my fellow Ministers, the Financial Management Board and staff, and the Commissioner, it would have been impossible. Integral to this process has been the incorporation of the program priority direction provided by this House and translated into expenditures by the priorities and planning committee of this government.

Members will recall the Department of Economic Development received extensive scrutiny during the last budget exercise, and I am pleased to report will enjoy very significant financial benefits and incentives resulting from the recent conclusion of the first economic development agreement between Canada and the Northwest Territories. That agreement and the consequential subagreements are the first to be signed between Canada and any provincial or territorial jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, it was during the current fiscal year that the Assembly's special committee on education tabled its final report, which was then debated by the House. A task force, funded by a \$40,000 reallocation within the department, is now preparing a plan to implement the committee's recommendations. The first stage of the plan proposes that the government establish, through policy, Arctic colleges, centres for learning, and interim divisional boards. The task force plans to have legislation prepared for the fall 1983 session of the Assembly, and it is hoped that the additional financial resources to implement the committee's recommendations will have been identified by that time.

As the funds required to implement a number of the recommendations contained in the special committee's report do not exist within this government's fiscal framework, special submissions will have to be made over the next few months to the federal cabinet committee on social development that falls under the purview of Senator Jack Austin.

Mr. Speaker, basic to the social well-being of all residents of the NWT is the availability of adequate housing. To further encourage individuals to buy or build their own homes, the Executive has approved a \$1.5 million increase to the home-ownership programs of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation beginning in 1983-84 for three consecutive years. Through these efforts and others, your government plans to increase home-ownership in all regions.

Mr. Speaker, the economy of the Territories is based on primary resources and is a mixture of industrial activities and traditional harvesting. Of the two, development of the non-renewable resources is the mainstay of the economy, but it is subject to boom and bust fluctuations. Recognizing this reality, the government has established a resource development policy that provides for creation of development impact zones, and a level of funding to regional groups to address and make recommendations regarding the impacts of such development. In recognition of the importance of activities such as trapping, fishing and forestry, the government is attempting to forge a new relationship with resource harvesters by involving them more in the decisions made on the management of these resources. In 1983-84, we will provide an increase of \$150,000 for fur inventories and management plans with the hunters' and trappers' associations.

In Economic Development and Tourism, the focus will be on provision of short-term stimulation of employment, consistent with building the long-term economic base of our territory through such programs as the estimated two million to be provided under the federal employment related initiatives. Finances for the economic development agreement, referred to earlier, are not included in the main estimates document pending completion of the various subagreements which could occur as early as March 14th. That agreement, announced jointly by the Hon. John Munro and the Hon. Arnold McCallum in Yellowknife recently, will provide \$21 million from 1983 to 1987. About half will be used to develop local businesses and tourism, a further \$5.6 million will be put into training programs for northerners to encourage participation in the workforce, and four million dollars will go to development of the Territories' fishing, lumber and forestry industries.

Mr. Speaker, in some program areas the government commitment to vital services can only be met by expenditure growth in excess of restraint guidelines. Police services and corrections are such areas with increased costs of 23 per cent and 26 per cent respectively. Availability of financial resources required for the provision of police services has been clouded by uncertain federal commitments for the RCMP contract. This government will be delivering a special submission to the federal Treasury Board to provide funds for such critical non-discretionary programs in order to maintain existing safety and protection for NWT residents.

The maintenance of high standards of health care is an area that concerns us all. Members will be pleased to learn of the completion of the transfer of the Frobisher Bay hospital from the federal government effective December 4th, 1982.

---Applause

An agreement was signed recently by the honourable Member for the Central Arctic as the Minister of Health and Social Services. The finances for this program are not included in the main estimates document, pending final determination of the 1983-84 hospital budget, and will be voted by supplementary expenditure.

The entire health care delivery system of the Northwest Territories occupied a great deal of time of the Minister and of the Financial Management Board during the past year. During that process, it became obvious that residents may not realize and appreciate the full extent of health services that are now offered to residents of the North. For example, supplementary health care

expenditures have increased 88 per cent over last year. Medicare costs have increased 60 per cent. Medical transportation expenditures have risen 41 per cent and Territorial Health Insurance Services expenses have increased 19 per cent. Such increases, unless funded through special Treasury Board submissions for non-discretionary increases, are funded to the detriment of other programs. In any case we have undertaken to maintain the integrity of health care in this period of restrained fiscal growth by placing special emphasis on increasing levels of financial management.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to restate that economic leadership throughout the Northwest Territories will be the key factor in making this budget work, and as a government we have imposed financial disciplines to make it work. There can be no free rides. There must not be one dollar spent carelessly. If anyone is aware of savings that can be made, I personally welcome and solicit their suggestions. All northerners must pull together in the same direction. Mr. Speaker, while the national six and five program would appear to be working, we still have a long way to go. However, I am confident that together we can handle the task in a manner that will ensure a continued and a controlled growth of our territorial economy. Thank you, sir.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Bill 1-83(1) in principle, Mrs. Sorensen.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance, Budget Session 1983

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that I will not have to go back to Item 7, reports of standing and special committees. I can speak to the principle of the bill. Mr. Speaker, I will first give an overview of the budget as the standing committee on finance and public accounts found it. We met December 15th to the 19th, 1982 with the respective Ministers, deputy ministers, and senior officials of each department to conduct a detailed review of the proposed 1983-84 main estimates. Mr. Speaker, for the first time, the regional directors were present for all the reviews, and they participated during the discussions of each department's budget, and our thanks to the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Pilot, for arranging to have the regional directors in Yellowknife so close to Christmas. In addition, your committee was assisted by its independent financial adviser, Mr. Bill Mearns of the firm, Adams, Mann and Hinchey.

The preparation of the estimates that we are about to review during this budget session began in December of 1981, more than a full year ago. As Mr. Butters outlined, intergovernmental meetings took place as in the past, and for the first time our officials had a five year forecast to use in the negotiations with the federal officials. Mr. Speaker, there still remains a very serious problem with the way the territorial government's operating dollars are negotiated with the federal government. Having to deal with Treasury Board through the officials of the Department of Northern Affairs continues to be a source of great irritation, and the cause of serious delay in the development of the estimates for the early review by the standing committee in the fall. Each year, Mr. Speaker, we find ourselves reviewing the estimates in late December which is, in our opinion, far too late.

The committee understands, however, that there has been the need to prove and demonstrate that this government, under ministerial government, is fiscally responsible when it is being guided by an elected Minister of Finance. Mr. Butters, we must remember, has only been in his position as Minister of Finance since 1981. The committee accepts that this government is in an evolutionary process, and it commends Mr. Butters for the way in which he has been demonstrating to the federal government this government's ability to be fiscally responsible. As you know, it is only when the elected representatives of the people take full charge that increasing power and responsibility will be transferred from the federal government, and financial responsibility is the very basis of good government.

Main Estimates Reflect Mood Of Restraint

The 1983-84 operating and maintenance main estimates were developed using a gross expenditure of \$395 million. This represented a significant reduction of what our requirements indicated, but was realistic from the perspective of generated revenue and the federal operating grant. It is your standing committee's opinion that these main estimates do present us with a restricted budget, and they do reflect the mood of restraint. There will have to be skilful management and vast internal controls if this government is to successfully deliver its programs and services in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, the capital planning exercise has made considerable headway during the past year. It has been out of step in the past with the federal system, and this has caused our government some difficulty, but this is slowly rectifying itself under the able management of the Deputy Commissioner. The Treasury Board has received our overall capital planning organization and process with a favourable response, and compared to the very first review that the committee had away back in 1979, we must say that we have noticed quite a change for the better in the capital planning. The capital requests, however, far eclipse the anticipated capital grant, but through the planning processes the needs have been prioritized and are presented in these estimates as a total of some \$78.5 million.

Mr. Speaker, before I go into some of the detail of O and M and capital, the finance committee would like to make it quite clear that it is aware as we go into this budget review that this country is in the midst of the deepest post-war recession known; that over 30 million people who want work in the leading industrialized democracies of the world cannot find jobs; and that over 1.5 million of those unemployed are Canadian. We are aware that the ordinary working person is very frightened, particularly about job security, and many of those people who are frightened are frightened for the very first time in their lives. Ironically, some Canadians are even beginning to say that the new elite of this country are those who hold jobs. We are hearing more and more about job sharing, and we are hearing more innovative schemes being brought about just to keep people working.

Throughout it all, on the surface at least, the Northwest Territories has been somewhat insulated from the devastating impact the recession has had on Canadian families, Canadian businesses and Canadian communities, but the bubble is beginning to burst. Pine Point and Canada Tungsten mines have closed, and the recent inability of Cadillac Mines to pay its outstanding bills is of major concern. In addition, recent press announcements that Giant Mine plans some layoffs spread the problem throughout the southern Mackenzie, a place which has ordinarily been a busy place in the past. Spinoff effects to this very serious mining industry problem will be widespread. The difficulties this will present with respect to territorial revenues and expenditures could be significant, and the finance committee, quite frankly, would like a serious evaluation done immediately on the state of the territorial government's expected revenues. How solid are these figures? Are we facing huge increases in social assistance payments? Is this government going to be faced with its own layoffs? Are we tightening our belt enough? Is there still waste and inefficiency in our departments? Are our present programs serving the needs of the people to whom they are directed? Those are the questions that must and will be asked by MLAs of their Executive during this review.

Operations And Maintenance

The detail now. The total increase for operations and maintenance is shown in your budget as some \$43.6 million, or a 12.4 per cent increase from the approved 1982-83 main estimates. Mr. Speaker, this is nine million dollars less than last years increase, and as we indicated in our 13th report of the standing committee, referring to the 1982-83 main estimates, and I quote, "This clearly indicates the lack of flexibility in this years main estimates, and the major reason why your committee has recommended a base review."

Mr. Speaker, those comments are still appropriate. The increase, if viewed as growth, is misleading in relation to what dollars the government can actually have influence over as far as program delivery and reaction to new directions or priorities is concerned. The approved volume increase represents the real area of flexibility in the preparation exercise, and this is only 4.8 per cent of the estimates. How this small number of dollars has been used and distributed to enact priorities of the Legislative Assembly will be specifically outlined to you during the detailed departmental reviews. Your committee found that in many instances the government is attempting to respond to the priority areas which both your committee and this Legislature and the Ministers have articulated. The Departments of Local Government and Public Works have completed major reorganizations to reallocate resources within a constrained budget to deliver their programs in a manner which will respond to demonstrated needs and stated priorities, and we commend them for doing that. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is undergoing a reorganization, and we would request that they listen intently to comments and directions which this Assembly will continue to make during this budget review to ensure that their programs are developed and delivered in response to the wishes of the Assembly.

The major new programs or responses which are provided in this budget would appear to be: First in Education, especially for indigenous peoples' language development and for grants to school districts and local education authorities. We were also told, and I believe Mr. Butters

mentioned it as well, that the department is planning to present a special submission to, I guess, the social development committee and from there to Treasury Board for the implementation of the education committee report. The second area is Public Works. There has been additional expenditure of money for highways and marine operations. The third area that we have looked at as being an increase is in the whole area of Health for the physician recruitment program -- a program which by the way appears to be working quite well. The fourth area is for the Department of Information for its expanded Dene languages program, which was a direct result of debate that has taken place in this Legislature.

Capital

Under capital, the major items of capital expenditure will be seen in the areas of schools, water and sanitation, recreation facilities, highways, government works and buildings and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. There is growing concern over the cost of facilities and again we emphasize the need for community consultation and combining of facilities for joint use.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the 1984-85 forecast is already under development which will form the basis for the 1984-85 main estimates. This Assembly must be on record as supporting our Minister of Finance and his officials in their fiscal negotiations with Ottawa. Mr. Butters has already told you that our cash position has been eroded. We feel it is because of a lack of commitment of funding from Ottawa, and this has to be rectified. We recognize that we must show and have restraint while at the same time develop and improve our revenue situation. It appears this is being done, but our funding from Ottawa is continually being adjusted, in their favour, if we improve our own position with respect to revenue.

This committee is considering getting involved in reviewing the forecast figures prior to the main estimates development. This would enable a more influencing review of reaction to priorities, enable the department to respond to recommendations and concerns during their estimates preparation, and instil a political voice into the fiscal negotiations while they are occurring, not when they have been finalized.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes the remarks of the standing committee on finance and public accounts. Thank you very much.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Bill 1-83(1). To the bill as a whole.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 1-83(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

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

The appearance of CBC witnesses; Tabled Document 1-83(1), report of the standing committee on rules and procedures; and Bill 1-83(1), Appropriation Ordinance, 1983-84, as per Motion 2-83(1) of today's date. We will resolve into committee of the whole with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MATTERS CONCERNING THE CBC; TABLED DOCUMENT 1-83(1), FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES AND PROCEDURES

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I see we have some new faces here at the front table, so in order to familiarize myself with my new assistants here, we will take a 15 minute coffee break, and then come back.

---Laughter

---SHORT RECESS

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

Appearance Of CBC Witnesses

We are dealing with a motion passed by Mr. Dennis Patterson to have the CBC appear before the Assembly, and we have Mr. Doug Ward, director of CBC Northern Services; Mr. Nick Ketchum, director of television; and Mr. Bob Rhodes, area manager, South Mackenzie, specialist in radio. I wonder if the Sergeant-at-Arms could see that these witnesses are brought in. Is the committee agreed that we bring these members in? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I would just like to remind the witnesses that we have the interpreters here; speak clearly and slowly for the Inuktitut Members, and I believe Mr. Doug Ward has a presentation. Continue with your presentation, Mr. Ward.

Presentation By Mr. Doug Ward

MR. WARD: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank all the Members for this opportunity to appear before you and to discuss our developments in television, and I might even stray into the area of radio, since it is such an important part of our work.

Mr. Chairman, while the issue that sparked our presence has been resolved, I believe, to the mutual agreement of both sides, the CBC and Nunatsiakmiut, I think it is appropriate to appear here, if only because it has been three years since I was before this committee and there have been quite a few changes in our television service. It seems to be the wish of this committee that this be discussed and provide an opportunity for Members of the committee to ask us questions. We have prepared a document outlining the development of our television service, and I believe it has been circulated to all Members of the committee. I am not sure if that is true. Thank you. I knew I would not have enough time to give a document of that length verbatim, so we thought we had better write it out. If anybody wants the full story, it is in that document.

Problems In Area Of Funding

I would like to say a few things about our television service and the first thing is that it did not get started the way our radio service got started. When we started the radio service in 1958, we were taking over staffed radio stations, and since that day we have been able to increase our budgets against those stations to the point where today we are one of the better financed radio operations within the CBC. When television came to the North, however, money was provided only for transmitters and not for distinctive northern programming and we have been playing a game of catch-up since that day. We have not yet been adequately funded in television to do a decent northern regional service. Even though the CBC planned for northern programming, we were told by the federal government that we should seek our funding through a special cabinet committee, and then that cabinet committee never was able to find the money, so not only did we not get money from the special committee, but we were not allowed to put money for northern television into our own budget in those years in the 1970s, and so we, as I say, have been playing catch-up, and not very well, since then.

Experiments In Television Production By Northerners

However, with bits and pieces of money, and with money redirected from radio and from other CBC activities, we have been trying in the past years to at least get something started, to do some experimentation to find out what TV service might be most appropriate for the Northwest Territories and Yukon. We did have a major session with northerners a few years ago, and out of that came the plans for a northern production and packaging centre. Unfortunately, it was one experiment that did not work awfully well for us, but, again, the basic reason for that was financial. We had enough money to do part of the recommendation, which was to set up a very small centre, eight people in Yellowknife, that would do some production; it would also do some training and packaging of freelance contributions. But we simply did not have the funding to do the kind of training that was needed or the funding to continue to procure lots of programming.

Then we found out, over the next couple of years, that the heart of a TV operation is an operation that has its own staff and is not just buying materials from other people. This we have learned in spades from the interesting experiment and now institution in the Eastern Arctic, the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, which does all of its programming with a staff and none from a freelance basis.

So we went through I would say some very troubled years, as we tried to find out what was our appropriate role in television, never having been funded to do the kind of regional job that CBC television does in all of the regions in southern Canada. In the last couple of years we decided to make some quite substantial changes, to pull together the resources that we had and to try to do a couple of things well and stop spreading ourselves out too far.

The environment in which broadcasting goes on in the North is changing. With satellite technology and the licensing of Cancom, there is at least the possibility of many signals in television coming into northern communities, and with the government appearing to be more positive toward funding native communication groups, it looks much better; that native organizations will get the funds they need to do their particular specialized job of broadcasting for their constituency.

Present Focus On News And Northern Culture

So, within that kind of changed environment we had to decide what was important for us to do and we decided that the most important thing for us was to broadcast news and current affairs programming right across the North, to do pan-northern programming so that one part of the North would know what was going on in another part, through translation, through getting stories shared across the whole North, so that we would be the bridge linking the various parts together. Especially at a time of rapid social change as you see in the North, we thought that was our job and so, again, without getting very much new money but by redeploying and redirecting funds, we have started a new show this year called "Focus North". A number of you have already appeared on it. It is a show that tries to deal with the major issues of change in the North today. However, we do not wish to leave the question of the distinctive cultures of the North out of that, so we have also another series called "Northlands" which is the successor, really, to "Our Ways" and that series tries to do documentaries that affirm northern culture and life and that series is put together both by our own producers and by our procuring material from other northerners, independent film makers.

So it has been this change in our focus that caused the problem that was the genesis of our presence here because we realize that if we are going to narrow down our mandate and do one or two things well, then we have to have any money we spend concentrated on those series. Fortunately, there was a way of sorting that out that I believe makes both the Nunatsiakmiut contribution and our own complementary, and will make the system work. But I have to say that the confrontation that arose over that issue arose because both Nunatsiakmiut, as an independent film organization, and Northern Service, are experiencing the same kind of financial constraints that your Minister of Finance was talking about just before our appearance. We are all trying to do the most important jobs with either the same money, or even less money, and times are getting tighter and tighter. I would hope that we will continue as we did in this case to find better ways to compromise and to co-operate, so that we can get, at least, the important jobs done.

Money For Production Most Important Need

Now the future of television, for us, is still very much up in the air. We would very much like to have a production presence in the Yukon; we would like to have a production presence in the Eastern Arctic. We would like to be able to send our programs to the satellite from Yellowknife. We still have to put our programs on a tape and ship them by airplane to Toronto to deliver them to the North and, in an age of satellite technology, that is a very inefficient way to do it. However, the cost of having a satellite up-link is about \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year. We are not allowed to own our own satellite up-link at this stage under Canadian law and that kind of money, if we could find it, I would simply have to put into production at this stage because that is the most important need. We need that money to get it on the Twin Otters and get it into the settlements and get the stories out of there.

So, I think that the main thing to be said, then, is that in television we have gone through quite a soul-searching to decide what is our most important task at this stage in the North, and we have decided that it is a weekly current affairs program that allows a large number of people to see and to discuss the key issues that are being debated throughout the North. We hope that is the right choice; the feedback we have had is very positive about that program and I would look forward to feedback from this committee, both on that program, "Focus North", and our documentary show called "Northlands".

NWT Government And Legislative Assembly Coverage

Now, while I was asked here to speak largely about television, I would like to mention a few things about radio because we have not been standing still in radio either. One of the major changes since I was here last is that we have assigned a person full-time to covering the Northwest Territories government and Legislative Assembly.

---Applause

Thank you very much. The reason we have done that is that we came to the conclusion that we were covering this Assembly as if it was a phenomenon that happened and then it died and then it was resurrected again, a few months later, whereas government goes on and on, and the consequences of government go on and on. So I think that by having Doug Earl, who is the person doing that job now, and the back-up that he has from our newsrooms and our reporters and journalists from across the North to come in to cover these sessions, we are able to provide a consistent and comprehensive coverage of what is going on in both government and the Legislative Assembly.

Training For Native Language Programming

Another change in the last three years has been a substantial increase in native language programming in all four of our Northwest Territories stations and in native-related programming in the English language. Tied to that has been considerable increase in training broadcasters in native language, largely in Inuktitut, initiated by José Kusagak, but also now extending to Dene broadcasters. We have seen the need, not only to do training in English, but in native languages, so that people whose languages preceded English and French on this continent can use the airways as a tool for the maintenance and progress of their own culture.

Another change in the last few years has been that in order to provide better coverage in the South Mackenzie, we have put two journalists south of the lake, in Hay River and one into Fort Simpson. Again, in neither of these cases did we have new money to do that. Rather, we have reduced the size of our Yellowknife operation and put people out into the field and I would hope that Members will have seen that as a positive step in order to insure that we are not just a capital city dominated operation.

Ottawa Bureau

We have added an Ottawa bureau and some of you have visited that bureau when you were in Ottawa lobbying for the aboriginal rights aspect of the constitution. We had a small operation in Montreal and we have moved it to Ottawa because Ottawa is still important as, again, I heard from the earlier parts of your meeting this afternoon. We want to make sure that you and all people in the Northwest Territories know what is going on in Ottawa that touches on the North. That Ottawa operation, which has Inuktitut language and English language reporters, has been able to provide, I think, a more effective service and lets you keep in touch with all of our political masters and colleagues in Ottawa.

We have taken the step, also, in the last few years, of providing access for native broadcasting organizations that do not have distribution facilities of their own. The Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, for example, now broadcasts five hours a week on the main CBC television channel and I think that is a success story that is unparalleled in northern communication, to see the work that is being done by the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation. We are proud that we are able to provide time for them on the CBC satellite channels, even if it is not the prime time that they would wish and we would wish for them -- something that we would hope would be possible in the future if more funds become available. In this area the Native Communications Society is broadcasting programs on our Mackenzie network on radio.

These are just a few of the new innovative projects that we have taken on in radio since I spoke to you last. In addition is the daily broadcasting of news and current affairs on all of the issues of life and death and the key issues, such as land claims, economic development, constitutional development, changes in education. One only thinks of the issue of division and the fact that when you Members were in Frobisher Bay during that first major debate on division, we made a spur of the moment decision to go live to the northern network and carry that full debate. From there we provided extensive coverage of the plebiscite, and the night of the plebiscite returns we had a northern program in eight different languages and dialects. I can assure you that we will continue to cover these major issues as long as our energy and our resources allow us to do that.

Just in case you think that we are only interested in the serious things, I should mention that Northern Service is the service that brings you the "Mom Show" and the Saturday night request show out of the correctional institute, or from Inuvik or wherever. It is the service that sets up talent shows in different communities and puts programs on the air about them. There will be fiddlers coming from the Northwest Territories into Whitehorse in February and March for the northern fiddle contest championships. We have been becoming more active in producing northern artists' broadcast recordings and one of the reporters covering this meeting is William Tagoona, who is the artist whose most recent record we put out this year. We have the annual "True North Concert" which, this year, is being held in Rankin Inlet and I would recommend that you all reserve

your seats ahead of time. We continue to cover the Arctic Winter Games with radio and television and the Northern Games, and we have such venerable northern personalities as Trapper, who continue to get on our airways from different points in the Delta.

Recruitment And Hiring Of Northerners

With regard to the future, and this is my last point, there are a few things we see continuing to change and I would appreciate your comments here. We, last year, did a major study on our recruitment and hiring and came to the conclusion that we have to get a lot smarter about hiring northerners. We have got to hire northerners and provide better career opportunities for them. That way the North will be able to be reflected by its own people and we will not go through the disruption of having more southerners come through the service. We want a mixture in the CBC of people from the area and from outside, but our goal now is to have every area in the North -- the CBC staff should fairly reflect the population of that area and we have set up a five year recruitment and hiring strategy to try to achieve that goal.

Basic Education Should Be Sensitive To Employer's Needs

We are, however, going to need the co-operation of this House, this committee, for that kind of objective, because we cannot do the basic educating that is required to have people with the skills to arrive at our door for jobs. We can do the broadcast training after they come in, and so with things like the initiatives that you are taking in the area of education, we would hope that you would be sensitive to the needs of an employer, like ourselves, in terms of the courses and job skill training opportunities that you set up.

We have just established good relations with Radio Greenland and are now providing a news exchange between Greenland and Frobisher Bay. This we see as another step in trying to provide all of you with more pan-Arctic information so that your deliberations and your work can be informed more by what is going on in other countries and regions of similar concerns.

I have mentioned the question of co-operation. There have been some very interesting areas of co-operation between the government and ourselves in past. The most obvious one would be the excellent work that your Department of Information has done, at your request, in getting transmitters into the communities that have a population below 500, communities that we have not been able to cover. That is another important success story, and it has made the Northwest Territories one of the very best covered areas of the country for the national service. We are probably going to need to co-operate with you further in that regard. As the satellite technology becomes more complex, it may be important to put some more equipment into those communities so that their system remains flexible and agile so that it can continue to get the important channels.

Co-operation With Government Departments

But there is another area that I would like to finally talk about with regard to co-operation, and that is this. While we are largely a journalistic operation, and in that we cherish our right to do that work ourselves, we are not just a journalistic operation, and given the developmental opportunities in the North, given the important work that needs to be done in adult education and in health education and in helping equip people for dealing with change, it may very well be true that parts of your government have money to work in those kinds of areas. We do not, but we have the media, and it may very well be appropriate for the government and for Northern Service to get in bed together on some projects that help to equip northerners to deal with the radical changes that are going on in this society, by doing some adult education programming, for example. We would be interested in talking to any parts of your government that have those kinds of concerns, whether it is nutritional education that could be in one minute spots, something like commercials. Or whether it would be something like the development of a soap opera that had northern characters in it, and a continuing show that dealt with the problems and struggles and joys of life in the North, and was a way to introduce issues and concerns and get them out to a broad audience. We frankly do not have the bucks for that kind of a grand program, but we have a very expensive distribution system and some highly skilled broadcasters. Maybe you have some money that you were going to put into print or into other media or other ways of delivering programs that we should consider together, maybe do something in a co-operative way; because as I listen to your Minister of Finance talking about the constraints under which you live and I listen to my president and my boss talk about the constraints under which we are going to be living, I think we are all, as people using the taxpayers' money, going to have to account for it very carefully and make darn sure that we are doing whatever we can to co-operate where that seems appropriate.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those are the only comments I wish to make. Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Ketchum and myself will be pleased to answer any questions that committee Members might have. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. I am not going to limit the Members to any questions. Seeing this is Mr. Patterson's motion, I am going to let him speak first. If you wish to ask any questions of the witnesses, we have Mr. Ward, Mr. Ketchum, and Mr. Rhodes; you can direct your question to whoever you wish. Mr. Patterson.

Future Arrangement With Nunatsiakmiut

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to express my thanks to the witnesses from the CBC who have welcomed the opportunity to appear here. We appreciate that. I would just like to touch on the issue that was of particular concern to me earlier this year when I moved this motion that you appear here, and that is the decision which had been made to no longer purchase or air the Nunatsiakmiut program, which had been produced in Frobisher Bay in Inuktitut for some six years and purchased by the CBC. Now I understand that this issue has been resolved and I would like to say that I am very pleased that this has occurred, but I am not at this moment entirely satisfied that the issue has been concluded. I would specifically just like to get an explanation from Mr. Ward as to precisely what CBC northern television service plans to do with reference to the concerns of Nunatsiakmiut, for the record, if you would, please. Thank you.

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

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I think, with respect, I will not go into the details of the contract that is being negotiated between Nunatsiakmiut and ourselves, since I do not have the permission of the other body, and we have nothing signed between us. So it is not yet a public document, but if this will satisfy Mr. Patterson, I would say this; that Nunatsiakmiut programming will begin next week on Northern Service and we are planning on an arrangement whereby this year and for the foreseeable future we will be continuing to carry their programming. It is a somewhat different contract. It is something in which there has been some compromising on both sides, but the main goals for Nunatsiakmiut, which included making sure that their series got on-air, and that there was money provided, have been concluded positively. So the series will start a little late this year, but it will begin next week.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one supplementary to that, if I may. Is the CBC Northern Service committed to paying \$26,000 to Nunatsiakmiut, as was done in the past? Thank you.

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

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, the answer to that is an unequivocal yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Any further questions? Mr. Sibbeston.

Programs In Dene Language

MR. SIBBESTON: I would just like to ask the witnesses from the CBC about Dene programming, I guess, particularly in TV. To this very day there is not one second or one minute of any TV programs that are made by, or that are in the Dene language. It is something that has concerned me. I have said this before and years seem to pass by and it does not get any better. I appreciate that in the case of the Inuit people, I guess maybe they have done it themselves. They have the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation and they have this Nunatsiakmiut program which originates out of Frobisher Bay. So there is something happening there, and I think it is wonderful for the Inuit people; but for the Dene, either we are not as aggressive or not as bright, or we are not as -- something seems to be lacking, anyway, that there is no Dene programming. So what is the problem? Is it the job of the CBC to provide Dene TV programs and the CBC is not doing it, or is this something that is left to the native people, the Dene people in the West here to take the initiative and more or less do what has to be done if there is to be any Dene TV programming?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I would be delighted if we had the resources in TV to be able to provide substantial Dene television. We do not have the resources to provide substantial television in any particular language or culture, and so I would have to say that until a number of us have been able to make that point with the organizations that have the money, that there is no easy solution. My understanding, Mr. Sibbeston, is that the Department of Communications is developing a policy

that would provide funding for native communications societies, similar to the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation. If that is the case, then the Dene would be able to apply for such funds and develop their own broadcasting organization, but again this would be federal money and there is a question of whether the funds will be provided.

With regard to our own contribution, as you know, we are translating "Focus North" into at least one Dene language, so that we are trying to bridge things that way. We also are having some discussions with the Native Communications Society, which is right now concentrating largely on radio programming, with the thought that if we can scrape some dollars together, we might be able to do some co-operative programming with NCS on television, as early as this summer in terms of preparing those programs; but I do not have very much optimism at this stage in terms of saying we can do a lot more than we are doing. I would foresee no major changes in the amount of Dene language programming on TV until there is a fairly major change in funding, either for us or for Dene independent broadcasting organizations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Supplementary, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Yes. I really feel that whoever is responsible ought to do something, and I would like to hear from CBC as to whether they feel this is something that the Dene people themselves have to take the initiative upon, about, and make happen. I guess I am beginning to realize in many ways that you cannot expect white people to do things for native people, that in the end, it is native people that have to do things for themselves, and the Inuit people seem to be managing pretty well. I do not know whether the federal government or the powers that be -- be it CBC or the Department of Communications or whatever -- are more responsive to the Inuit people than the Dene, but something is wrong, obviously, because there are no Dene TV programs at all, nor even one second of it. I would like to hear from CBC whether they feel that it is really up to the native people, up to the native organizations, to take the initiative and make these Dene programs possible. I do not mind hearing from CBC if they truly feel in their hearts that it is up to the native groups, or native people to do it. I would like to hear that, because we in turn then can maybe put pressure on Dene Nation or Native Communications Society, but somebody ought to do something, for goodness sake, so we would have a bit of Dene TV programming like other native people in the North.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Ward.

Direct Funding To Native Groups

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I will answer on a very practical level Mr. Sibbeston's question. While I would love to say that it was our responsibility and stick with us and all that, that expression of good will and 25 cents would get you the proverbial cup of coffee. On a practical level, we have a million dollars for northern television production. The government has provided the Inuit with two million dollars a year for television production. Those figures say something to me; they say to me that at this stage the federal government finds it more attractive to fund native groups directly for television than it does to increase our funding. Now, I would then from that, Mr. Sibbeston, draw the conclusion that the Dene people and Metis people would be well advised to make their proposals directly to the federal government for funding because the recent history is that the money is much more likely to come to native organizations than to ourselves.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Mr. Sibbeston, have you a supplementary?

MR. SIBBESTON: A final question, Mr. Ward. Have you been aware of the efforts of the Native Communications Society or any native groups, Dene or Metis groups in the North, trying to get funds from the federal government? You say there are two million dollars that have been provided to native people in the North for broadcasting. I am not aware that any of that has gone to the Dene and Metis people in the western part of the North, or if it is, it is not materializing in anything you see on TV. Were you aware of the efforts made by the Dene or Metis people to have TV broadcasting? If not, again, I would like to hear from you whether you feel that maybe the Dene or Metis people are not aggressive or not taking the initiative -- certainly not doing very much to get broadcasting for their people. I do not mind, Mr. Ward, if you are frank about this, because if it is not the CBC's responsibility, foremost, then it is the native peoples' responsibility and I just think time has come really for someone to do something about it because, you know, it is just a crying shame that there are not any Dene programs on TV and maybe somebody has to account for that void.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Ward.

Television Communications A High Priority Among Inuit

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I will give a partial answer to that. I think the reason why the Inuit have received two million dollars is because Inuit leaders have established communications as a very high priority. Maybe that is because the Inuit communities are so widely spread out across the North that they decided that political communication, social communication, was not going to work if television was not conscripted for this purpose and so the Inuit have had a fullfledged television operation really for about five years now. So, I think rather than it being a question of one group being more aggressive than another, I think it probably reflects the fact that it has been a higher priority among Inuit leadership than Dene leadership to develop native communications, at least television communications. For example, the Dene have a more highly developed print medium than the Inuit do; that maybe reflects another priority. So, I would suggest that the federal government is probably as amenable to overtures by the Dene people but the Dene would probably have to put the same kind of political pressure and brief writing into it that the Inuit have been doing for some years. I do believe that the Dene have been quite successful in the last year, at least, in getting federal funds for training Dene broadcasters and this is the same route that the Inuit took five or six years ago. So, maybe the process has started.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Mr. Tologanak.

Regional Radio Station For Kitikmeot

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I represent the Kitikmeot region. For many years we have been pleading with the CBC and asking the CBC -- I do not want to stray into the radio business -- for quite some time my people have been asking for a regional radio station to cover the only region in the Northwest Territories that is not covered by a regional radio station. Once again, I raised this question when you appeared before the committee of the whole and I raise that question again because people are still asking. We are receiving signals from Inuvik, we are receiving signals from Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay and at odd times, different times and different time zone programming, and most of my people speak a different dialect from the languages that are being spoken in these other regions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Tologanak. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I am a strong sympathizer with Mr. Tologanak's concern. There is nothing we would like to do more than get a production centre in there. As Mr. Tologanak knows, we were able to put a production centre just a couple of years ago into the Keewatin and the Keewatin population is just about the same size as the area he represents. We would very much like to have a centre there. However, the Keewatin centre was made possible by the redirection of resources from Churchill and that was the end of the major resources we had to redirect. It is an objective of Northern Service to have a radio centre there. Under the current funding constraints we do not see any way that we can do that. We would hope that this year our coverage of the Central Arctic will improve but it will not be in the substantial terms of a production centre. Maybe what we should do is have a talk with Mr. Tologanak to see if there are ways that we can put together some of that political clout that we might need in order to get special funding. However, under the budget conditions that we have -- I hear you have an 11 per cent increase, CBC has less than a six per cent increase -- I do not envisage this happening. I think it is just one of those things for some years down the line. If the Members have any advice for me on how we might put a fire under this issue, I would love to hear from them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Supplementary, Mr. Tologanak.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only clout you have is five foot three and it is sitting right here. Perhaps we could discuss it further but I am concerned as well, perhaps a regional reporter of some sort -- I notice you have one in Hay River -- or something like that. You know, perhaps a regional reporter covering the Central Arctic, as many activities do happen in our region as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. WARD: Briefly, we will take that under consideration. That would be a valuable first step and, in fact, we are considering it right now, to see whether we can spring somebody from one of our operations to be a regional reporter in the Central Arctic. Thank you.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am a great hockey fan and I particularly like the Oilers and I want to know why we do not get the Wednesday night Oilers' games.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, the usual complaints about CBC are that we carry too many hockey games. We carry more sports than any other network in North America and while I sympathize strongly with Member Sorensen, I am not sure that I have the wherewithal to change the network Oiler games, but I will be happy to take her concern to the exalted levels of the corporation and argue her point.

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

Commendation Of "Focus North"

MRS. SORENSEN: No, not to that question. Mr. Chairman, I would like to commend CBC for the television program called "Focus North". I like the program very much. I think that it certainly has a lot of growing up to do; I think as the people that are involved gain more experience, we will see a continuing improvement in the program. As I understand it, when you are faced with the problem of only having a million dollars and deciding what you are going to do, you have to pick your priorities. I certainly do support the fact that you have chosen a news magazine type of format. I support the fact that you are providing the people across the North with information-type programming, because I think that that is what is very much missing on television for the people of the North, at least from the travelling that I have done and the public meetings that I have been involved in. People want to know what is happening with current events, particularly with respect to the economy, with respect to constitutional development and they want to see that on television about the North. They get it about the South but they have not been getting it about the North, and certainly we are seeing much more of that on "Focus North".

With respect to the language, I guess again, when you are restricted in the amount of dollars and you have to prioritize, you have to choose the language the majority understands. Right now, that certainly is English and I do support the fact that you are providing the majority of the show in English, at this time, fully understanding that CBC, if it did have the dollars would go to much more of the Inuktitut and Dene language programs, if they could.

If I have one grave concern, it is that the program is not seen often enough. Once a week certainly is not often enough and I would like to see that expanded if possible, and I would also like to see reruns of the programs. There have been programs that I, personally, have not been able to see and I would like to see, so I hope you are thinking, if you are closing down for the summer, of putting reruns of some of the better shows over the summer.

I have a question, and it concerns the comments that Mr. Ward, Mr. Chairman, made about getting into the bed with the Department of Information. First of all, that is my prerogative, I will let you do it too, once in a while. For the record, the deputy minister of Information is my husband, for those reading the Hansard.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Here we go again.

---Laughter

Relationship Between Territorial Government And CBC

MRS. SORENSEN: I am glad to see that CBC has come to realize that not all the things that the territorial government wants to put on the radio are categorized as propaganda. I know that there have been problems in the past, and CBC has wanted to maintain its virginity. Because of the downturn in the economy and because of the problems that CBC is now experiencing in financing, I can see that perhaps there will be opportunities where our government can work together hand in hand with CBC to get some of the programming onto the airwaves. I think you know, Mr. Ward, my feeling, because I have talked to you about the fact that this is an oral society and radio and television are perhaps the only way that we can get a message across to the people of the North until we have a better education system and until we have more graduates from our schools who are more interested in reading newspapers, and until we have more newspapers. So I would wonder if you could not expand for me on how you see this relationship developing between yourself and the territorial government. Do you see the government just basically turning over dollars to you, or do you see government helping to develop the actual programming hand in hand with CBC?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mrs. Sorensen. If you can get a question out of that, Mr. Ward, maybe you can answer it.

MR. WARD: I got a lot more than a question out of it. I am still wondering about my oral culture and maintaining my virginity and getting into bed with the Department of Information.

---Laughter

However, if I could sort that out, I think my answer would be that we would be prepared to work with the government. Perhaps it would be the Department of Information, but it might be another department altogether; Local Government, Education, some other area that had a concern about delivering a service, a message, that did not have the right medium, and we might well co-operate. I am just saying that it would be wide open. It would be a negotiated arrangement, all the cards on the table. "Here are the resources we have and the concerns we have," and the other side saying the same thing. I would hope we could go into that without the usual concerns about being government and a broadcaster.

I identify this as very different from our journalistic role. We do not want to get into bed with anybody with that, but we are more than a journalistic broadcaster, and there is a possible developmental role. We are open to any kind of scenario that we think fits with our mandate.

If I could also, just as a last word -- this is an historic occasion, Mr. Chairman, for me. It is the first compliment that our television service has received in the seven years that I have been appearing before this committee, and I would just like to recognize that and thank the committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well, we are not through with you, yet.

---Laughter

Mr. Patterson, do you want to follow up on Mrs. Sorensen's comment? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would just like to respectfully disagree with Mrs. Sorensen that English language is a priority of the majority of residents of the Northwest Territories, or even the first language of the majority of residents of the Northwest Territories. It clearly is not. As a spoken language, it may be nudging or slightly over 50 per cent, but this Legislative Assembly has made a reversal of that process one of its very first priorities.

I, too, would like to indicate that I support "Focus North" as well. My only concern about the program from the beginning was that it was being established at the price of precious gains that have been made in the Inuktitut language production area, and in no way should my criticism of that program be interpreted as anything but a criticism of the CBC's apparently reordered priorities. I say if the price of expanding English language production is to erode the progress that has been made in native languages, then even though current affairs television is important, it is not worth that price, but I am very pleased that CBC has managed to find a way of meeting both those important priorities.

Level Of Resources Compared With Southern Canada

I would like to also, if I might, Mr. Chairman, just follow on a comment made by Mr. Ward, and ask for a little more detail. He said, Mr. Chairman, that CBC Northern Service was never funded to do the job CBC television does in southern Canada. It seems to me that if we have a grievance against the CBC, and if we are developing problems in meeting the tremendous demands for native language programming in television in the North, that really we ought to scrutinize just why the North has been neglected as a regional television operation. I would like to ask Mr. Ward specifically, if this was a region in southern Canada -- and God knows the Northwest Territories alone probably easily encompasses the area of many southern regions -- but if, say, the NWT or even the NWT and Yukon were a region in southern Canada, what level of resources would we have? Would we have a regional television news service like "Here and Now" that we get in Frobisher Bay that we get out of St. John's, Newfoundland? I would like also to ask Mr. Ward, if he is answering, if he might tell us whether the Applebaum-Hébert Report addressed that issue at all with reference to northern television.

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

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, each region of the CBC has quite a different operation, and not all of them are as well funded as other ones. It seems to me that the more recent ones to come on board are the poorer ones. There still are two provincial capitals that do not have any kind of a CBC television presence, even as much as the Northwest Territories has; Fredericton, New Brunswick and Victoria, B.C. So it is not as if every southern region has a fullfledged service. The problem has been that the cost of inflation each year has risen so much, and the government's other priorities, that in recent years there simply has not been the money provided to the corporation to do the kind of expansion of production facilities that was once available for the original regions that got their service, and I think that it is not likely to come from within the current priorities of the corporation. I feel that we are probably going to have to raise this as a special issue outside of, or in addition to, the regular funding of the corporation because the cost of doing business in the North is so high.

Funding Compares To Prince Edward Island

We probably have as much money for TV as Prince Edward Island, and we have fewer people than Prince Edward Island, but the job of doing a program in Prince Edward Island, where with one mobile vehicle you can hit every community just for the price of gasoline -- you are dealing with one language, a relatively homogeneous culture -- we have got about that kind of money. You have to argue it on the basis of these northern regions being expensive but being vital to Canada's future, and at a vital stage of their development, where information services are essential. I do not have much more to say than that. In terms of how the money comes forward, it is a vote of the government. Our funding is not even keeping up with inflation at this stage, and so I am not optimistic about major changes, and if we can find other ways, I would love it.

The Applebaum-Hébert Report, suggesting that CBC get out of production in everything except news and current affairs, had some nice things to say about the Northern Service. It suggested that the CBC board of directors consider putting more money into the Northern Service. I can assure you that I flogged the death out of that brief scrap in the report and maybe we can use it for some good. But it seems to me that given the recession, given the pinch in government funding, we are not going to see any major new initiatives in northern CBC for some time unless we find ways to convince the government that this is a special case; and I shall be making those cases, and I shall probably be asking you people for support.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Mr. Kilabuk.

Channels In Lake Harbour And Other Communities

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I do not have a big problem, but I just want to get a clarification concerning what we see on TV around the Lake Harbour area. The people that just got TV have two channels. I wonder why my area, which is bigger than the others, only has one channel and some of the smaller communities have two channels. Can you tell me why we only have one channel?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Ward, could you clarify that?

MR. WARD: Mr. Kilabuk's question, I believe was why does Lake Harbour get one channel of television when other, smaller communities get two channels.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): That is right; that is the question.

MR. WARD: I do not know; they are not getting two channels of CBC, so they must be getting a channel from some pirate station or some licensed other operation. I do not know what communities are getting two channels. If he could tell me, maybe we could pursue this.

AN HON. MEMBER: Do not tell him.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I understand. Did they have an agreement to have two channels in some of the communities, or do you have to have an agreement with different people in order to have more than one channel? I guess this is the reason why they have more than one channel, while other communities that are larger than this one have just one channel. There must have been some sort of negotiation between CTV and the CBC in the past, or recently, so that some of the smaller communities in my constituency can receive two channels, because I have had some questions raised on that issue. Are there any plans in the future for CTV and CBC to negotiate to show an extra channel in the larger communities in my constituency or in that area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. I think you were just told that you will not have two channels for very long. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, there are no plans for CBC to work with CTV to bring another channel in. That would be for other people to do, not for the CBC, and, in fact, CTV is now on the satellite and is available to communities that wish to receive it. It is just a matter of money. I guess it is also a matter of a community deciding that it wants another English language television service coming into that community. I know that some Inuit leaders and Inuit organizations have felt that it might not be a good idea to bring in more southern channels before there is more northern television. Thank you.

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

Transmitter In Resolute Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to speak in Inuktitut. I would just like to thank these people for appearing in front of us, they are very informative. We have had problems in our area, the High Arctic. On February 26th, 1982, I made a motion regarding Resolute Bay's antenna. I waited for some action for about a year and there has not been any action taken to this date. I think someone from Frobisher Bay called to inquire if our service was up to par. Our reception is good if there is an antenna on the houses, but without the antennas, the reception is not very good, and there is no picture and a lot of times there is no sound if there is no antenna. I have asked CBC if there is any possibility of upgrading the dish or the transmitter. That transmitter is not high enough. It is okay for the people of the MOT, and they can see clearly with this, even though they do not have an antenna. This is my first question. I would like to hear about what has been happening to date about this, and then I will ask another question afterwards.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Ward, Ludy is from Resolute Bay, by the way, if you are familiar with the question. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do not remember being told about the concern in February, 1982. It may be that it was not communicated from this Assembly to us, or it may be my fault; I may not just remember it. We just heard about a month ago about the trouble that Mr. Pudluk is talking about, and we were quite surprised, because we had not heard of any complaints from Resolute since that transmitter went in. We are now going to look into it. We will visit the community and do tests to see whether the transmitter strength is adequate for that kind of installation, and if it is not, I hope that we will have the resources to fix it.

I have to say that in a community with that spread, and with the dish being where it is, we sited it near the MOT because the dish is there and it cuts costs for everyone, but it does mean that on the edge of the coverage area, it might be necessary for people to have outside antennas; but that, I think, has to be a responsibility of the set owner. We cannot always guarantee, certainly not in the city of Toronto, that the average person who uses CBC can get CBC without having an external antenna or cable. It is just a reception problem that we cannot guarantee over a distance. So we will go into the community, Mr. Pudluk. We will do tests of the strength, and if it is a problem we can fix without spending vast amounts of money, we will fix it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. I think that is very kind of you to say you will go in there or you will send somebody in, because we were down there last summer and we saw the situation, so maybe if you could send somebody in, I think Ludy would welcome you. Mr. Pudluk, do you have a supplementary?

Time Lapse In Informing CBC

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, before I go back to the other subject, I should like to get a clarification from the Executive Committee. In the motion that I made on February the 26th, 1982, I moved, seconded by the honourable Member for Hudson Bay, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that it replace the existing antenna beside the receiving dish in Resolute Bay as soon as possible. Now, I would like to ask the Executive, I wonder why it takes you so long to inform the CBC.

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

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am advised that we passed on this request or this information regarding the problem at Resolute Bay to technical people within the CBC. I cannot right today say exactly who it was, but I am assured that it was passed on to them. I cannot account for the breakdown of communication that may have occurred within the CBC.

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

No Service In Grise Fiord

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speak in Inuktitut again. When I get angry, I will speak in English. I also made a motion regarding Grise Fiord on November 13th, 1982. If the community of Grise Fiord could get television and radio service, because they are so isolated, and they are not informed about current affairs or other activities, and about the activities up in that area, it would be informative to that community if there was some sort of service, because there are going to be a lot of activities in that area and in the Canadian Arctic. Their community is located at the highest point. We have tried to protect them from activities in that area; the environment around Grise Fiord would have been -- they are so close to Greenland and knowing that there are a lot of activities in Greenland. They can travel by dogsled to Greenland and they do travel across to Greenland by dogsled. Perhaps they would even hunt in that area, polar bear hunting, for example, in the Canadian Arctic Ocean area. I know that they would not want to relocate the community, but because they are so isolated and because there is no radio or television services, I feel that they should get the service. Perhaps if you can answer my question on what action you will be taking, I would really appreciate it.

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

Population Of Grise Fiord Under 500

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that there is any action that the CBC can take, with regard to Grise Fiord, even though we in the Northern Service identify it as a community with great communication needs. The reason has to do with the population of Grise Fiord which is under 500 and the government has not given us money to provide radio to communities below 500. There is, of course, a program of the Government of the Northwest Territories which is under the control of this committee, this Legislative Assembly. I do not know whether that program is finished but if it is still open and if its lower population limits are able to be stretched, then maybe Grise Fiord could be covered by that and, perhaps, with respect, Mr. Chairman, the Commissioner or someone else responsible for the Department of Information could speak to that.

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

Intent To Service Grise Fiord This Year

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we are certainly well aware of the motion that Mr. Pudluk put at the November session and I would like to advise him and other Members that, as Members know, the territorial government had a program for servicing communities with populations between 150 and 500, because the CBC servicing stopped at populations of 500. We have now completed all of the communities in that group and we are turning our attention to communities with populations of less than 150 and Grise Fiord will most certainly be at the top of the list. We have not yet been able to fund the program for the communities in this bracket, but it is the intention of the Executive Committee to seek means to service Grise Fiord this year, if at all possible. The cost will be approximately \$50,000 and we hope to identify this money early enough in the fiscal year to order the equipment and proceed to have it installed. It will mean that we will have to look at our capital budget and try and find some area in which we have already made plans to spend money, to reduce the spending in that area. So, what I am saying is, by rearranging the budget and through very careful planning, we hope -- and I think I should say expect -- to service Grise Fiord this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. The next speaker I have is Mr. Appaqaq.

Changes In Programming In Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to base my questions on the same matter, television. I have been asked by the residents of my community if the program which is called "Ishimavut" which is operated from Montreal -- I was asked to present this question to the CBC officials, asking why this program is no longer running and because of this reason; for the fact that most of the people, usually at their own homes, and also the people from the coast of Hudson Bay and the Labrador Inuit people, usually phone in on the radio shows and inform each other. We would like to know if this program is going to continue or not, if you could give an answer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Appaqaq. The program decisions for Inuktitut radio are made by a subcommittee within the Northern Service, called the Inuit service committee, which is staffed by our Inuit managers. It was on their recommendation that we started a new program out of Rankin Inlet at noontime, which replaces "Ishimavut" four days a week. I believe "Ishimavut" is still carried on Friday. The reason for this was that "Ishimavut" is largely a northern Quebec program, and the only major program that northern Quebec people have for phone-in shows. The Friday program is a time for Inuit from all across the North to pass messages from one to the other, and so the Inuit service committee decided to keep that program, but for the other four days of the week to replace it with a program from the Keewatin. I will carry the concern of Mr. Appaqaq back to that committee. We have had both kinds of reaction to the new show, some people who said they were glad we changed, because "Ishimavut" was too much rambling on and some people seem to get control of it and it was not a good program. Other people have said that they have grown used to "Ishimavut" and they would like to have it every day. Every time we change a program, every program has its following and some people are disrupted and upset by it. This was at least a program change that was made by the Inuit programmers themselves, with the purpose of putting in a new program to provide an additional service for the Inuit listener. That was their idea, but I will certainly pass on the concern of Mr. Appaqaq about that. It is not our intention, at this stage, to change our mind again, but to give this new show time to iron out its bugs and gain its own audience.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Supplementary? Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a further question. I have been informed by other people in my community that this information program that we had once listened to is no longer available. If there are current affairs activities going on and special occasions, it was always nice to get this information by listening to these programs when they were being broadcast. I would like to know if the CBC is going to change any programs that are on. It would be nice to be informed ahead of time if the programs are going to be changed. For the residents of Sanikiluaq, CBC has not even made an attempt to inform these people as to why they are changing these programs, and we would like to be informed ahead of time if this kind of occurrence is going to arise in the future. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: I think that is very good advice. My understanding is that our programmers in Rankin did go on the air to prepare people for the change, but that would only have been in the last week or two weeks before the change, and it may not have been enough. I think it is very good advice from Mr. Appaqaq that we prepare people for change and I will pass that message on to our programmers.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just following on that concern of Mr. Appaqaq's, I believe Mr. Ward has acknowledged that the consultation with Nunatsiakmiut about the proposed cancellation of the long-standing arrangement was also very poor. It was a letter with no prior warning, and very short notice.

Communicating Information From Ministers Of The Government

However, I did wish to raise another question, Mr. Chairman, and that is to follow on the exciting prospect of closer co-operation between the territorial government's departments, who are concerned about giving information to people in a live media such as television and radio -- the possibility of us working with the CBC. I know that this is not a new idea and, I believe even some three years ago when Mr. Ward appeared last, here, there was some discussion of the possibility of free time political broadcasts and other means of having the government communicate with the public. I would like to say that in exploring these avenues with CBC myself -- and I have been interested in the field of education in finding ways of informing the public about the importance of sending children to school, and the importance of the school system -- that we seem to run into very serious obstacles about the interpretation of rules prohibiting political content on northern broadcasting, or the CBC. You know, I think it is possible to interpret almost any message from government in a political manner, if one wishes -- indeed, life is politics. I would just like to express this frustration that we seem, in exploring these possibilities, to have run into that obstacle. I would like through you, Mr. Chairman, to ask Mr. Ward if it is possible that CBC can look at those guidelines and be a little more flexible? For example, I particularly wonder why the rule exists that a Minister of the government cannot appear on an information

program, with a message of a factual nature, or otherwise. It seems to me that if the government is to communicate an important message to its constituents that it might very well be appropriate that the Minister of a certain department, in a non-political way, offer information or express concerns. However, that is not really my question, it is rather a more general question. Is it possible that CBC has interpreted its responsibilities, under the Broadcasting Act, a little too narrowly in this regard? Thank you.

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

Free Time Political Broadcasts

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, this is the grey area, and I have no final words to say to Mr. Patterson in it, but I can offer a few suggestions. First of all, with regard to free time political broadcasts which would allow Members an opportunity to say anything political they wished, that is an offer that we made years ago to the government, and it has never been taken up by you people. It is an offer that you have not done anything about, so I do not have a lot of enthusiasm for continuing to knock on your door and offer you this free time, but if you wish to take it, our offer still holds. We have heard from one Member -- Mrs. Sorensen, in fact -- and that is the only Member of the Legislative Assembly that has expressed any interest to us in using free time political broadcasts to the constituents. So that offer still holds.

There have been a number of other areas where we have co-operated with the government. Our first experiment was in the area, I believe, of an educational campaign about saving energy, and it was worked out between the Department of Information and ourselves. It was not worked out exactly as we would have liked it, because most of the materials were prepared before we got into the act. However, we worked on it and we ran the spot information items, and all I can say is that it worked. I do not know whether it was considered effective by the government. There have been some other areas where we have done that. Anik Info is a clear example of co-operation between ourselves and the government when the government has information that it wishes to put on.

Now, with regard to the rules about political control, the corporation, I think, is still smarting from an occasion this fall when the Prime Minister -- even the Prime Minister of the country asked for access, and did it over a series of evenings, presenting his state of the nation address. We have to be very careful as a public broadcaster, because that is immediately where we get into the difference between access and politics, and we had to make sure that the time was made available to Members of the opposition, the Leader of the Opposition, to ensure that we were being fair to our listeners. Now, that is a lot trickier in a House where there are no parties. If Mr. Patterson or if the leader of the government wished to make a statement, it would be tricky for us to know who to put on as representing another point of view. But I think that I can say this, that if there was an emergency, we would find ways to get somebody on the air. If, on the other hand, a department has a program that -- and it makes sense for us to co-operate on that -- I am just saying that I think the gloves are off and the rules are set aside. Let us look together, and if there are useful ways to co-operate -- if it is going to compromise our journalistic role, we probably are not interested; but if it is complementary to our journalistic role, if it is part of our mandate that talks about the enlightenment as well as the informing and entertaining of people, we will try to shoehorn it in, so I would look forward to co-operating with the Minister in that area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. I do not have any further Members wishing to speak. Mr. McCallum, we shall take a coffee break if you are going to talk.

---Laughter

Are there any other Members who wish to speak to the witnesses? There are two more speakers over here. We shall break for 10 minutes for coffee and come back.

---SHORT RECESS

Community Input Programs

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum and we will call the committee back to order. I think Arnold McCallum was the first speaker. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think I have lost the moment when I was going to suggest it, but I would just like to make a couple of comments if I may. I do not really have any concerns. I think that the reason the witnesses are here is to deal with television, and I do not have any great difficulties, notwithstanding the kinds of programs that are now under way here -- I think they should be continued. But since Mr. Ward brought up the subject of radio and because I think that radio is still alive and well, the only thing that I am really concerned about, as Mr. Tologanak had indicated, is the business of more community input. I know it may sound facetious on my part, but the kinds of community programs that were in place back a while with the local CBC -- which outside of the other radio station in town, CJCD, is the only contact that people have. I am not trying to be funny or smart, but I think that the kinds of programs that had community input -- at least the area around the lake in the past -- for my part, I always enjoyed hearing community roundup, for example, that used to be on Friday mornings.

I am a little bit concerned as well that the CBC station in Yellowknife does not carry the kind of sports programs that it carried in the past. Now, that may be a local decision on the part of the manager or whatnot -- and I do not dispute that; that is obviously his prerogative, to manage his programs. But it seemed to me that those two programs in particular, because you had input in from other particular parts of the area around the lake, was the only way that people from my constituency for example, Fort Smith, were able to get any input. You do not have a person there, whether it is on contract or whether it is just asking people in the community to give you that kind of news service. As a person who listens to the radio a lot, I in particular miss those kinds of programs. Friday morning, even though some of the contributors may have been characters -- I do not want to start to name individuals -- but it certainly lends a flavour of the community, and the community thought of themselves as being part of the business of providing information. Even though there are some weird and wonderful things that might have happened in Snowdrift that were reported, fine -- you know -- it still was okay, and I am sure if Olive Adams were around, she would not mind my saying her name -- well, you know, I did not mind hearing the lucid tones of "Olive Ahdams frahm the gahden cahpital..."

---Laughter

...putting things across. I really do think that those kinds of programs lent a community feeling to the service that you provide. I am not suggesting that you should take that and then have your manager reincorporate those, but I really feel bad about the kind of community sports roundups that were going on. Sports and recreation play a pretty large part in the North, and I think that taking away those kinds of things have, in my estimation -- and that does not count for very much -- but it certainly has dropped a lot.

You were talking about free time political broadcasts. I was going to say, if there was a concern that you might get Dennis Patterson or somebody else on too long, we shall give you Bob MacQuarrie to give you the other view...

---Laughter

...so there would not be any difficulty there, and if you are looking for some kind of local soap opera, we will either sell you, donate to you or give to you the Hansard of this House, and you could really get a good evening or afternoon soap going on.

I think, basically, though, that things have been going well with it. There may be real concerns, as Mr. Sibbeston and other Members have on what they would like to see. I know that as in everything else, you are frustrated with the kinds of resources that you have, but by and large, I would simply indicate to you that aside from trying to get that community feeling into it, that I think you are well served with the people that you have both in radio and TV here in the Territories.

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

MR. WARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Mr. McCallum. Just a comment on that: I also feel that we are well served by the people working in radio and TV. I am very impressed with my colleagues, by their inventiveness and their ability to turn sows' ears into silk purses of budgets, and

so I just wanted to second you on that comment. I think we are all lucky to have a group of first-class broadcasters in this organization, and so I appreciate that comment. With regard to the comments about radio in the South Mackenzie, I would like to pass the buck, sir, since Mr. Rhodes is here, and put him on the spot, and maybe he could comment a bit about the two issues you raised.

MR. RHODES: I think those are the two most important things that were brought up: the involvement of the community, and in several levels, not just in the straight community report. That program on Friday morning did disappear, partly because our crack correspondent in Fort Smith moved away. I did not know you could do her quite so well -- we have a job for you if you give up this work...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I used to do the sports years ago...

MR. RHODES: ...but the idea of a community roundup as one package has certainly been changed, but those community reports are still there; in fact, we have more that we are running on Friday morning about 6:00 or 7:00. We now pretty systematically have 18, but they are spread out throughout the day, and so you might not know that. We did not replace Olive Adams -- almost impossible to replace her -- and we really have not systematically had anything of the same nature out of Fort Smith. It is in the works. You are right, that it is most important, and I think that that kind of half news, half gossip that comes out of small places is more important -- everybody picked up on that, and we are doing it a lot. We still get material out of Snowdrift; maybe we are not doing such a good job out of Fort Smith. We could do more -- but generally in the South Mackenzie, we are doing more community reports with more people, and we spread it out throughout the day so that they are not available only to people that use the radio at a certain time in the morning. It is throughout the whole schedule. We can do better, though, and I am glad you reminded me.

Sports Programs

The other thing on amateur sport, that is an important thing. It involves not only the people taking part in the sport, it is also their relatives, families -- you get a place the size of Fort Smith and you have about 60 per cent of the population wrapped up in a peewee hockey game, and we recognize that. We are a bit short of manpower and really short of money, and to cover sports properly, it becomes a really expensive proposition, tying up at least one person at our station full-time. Then often, because of the nature and scheduling of sporting events, they tend to be on the weekend, and we wind up in a situation where we are paying people time and a half and double time to work on weekends, and it is robbing from the other parts of the schedule. I think we can do a better job of amateur sport; it is on our list there, too, and we have tried various ways. I think we can do better. I do not think we have paid all the attention we can to it. We do not have any more manpower or money, but we can find more imaginative ways to do it and maybe recruit you to do that job again.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Rhodes. Supplementary, Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would be heartened by what Mr. Rhodes has indicated that it would be recognized that there is a role to play in that. We may not have a great number of outstanding people in terms of athletes and whatnot, but we certainly have a couple, and this House has recognized in particular the Firth girls, who have enjoyed considerable success this past year. However, I as well wanted to just make a comment on what Mr. Ward had indicated in his early remarks, about time to get more local people, northerners, involved with the communications, whether it be on the screen or on the airways, and I would hope that when you do that, especially in terms of radio, that you would be able to attract people, not just as operators, but as announcer/operators. I recognise, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Ward indicated that they could do the kind of training for announcers, but I think in a lot of instances -- well, that may not be fair, but in some instances -- local people are involved with the operational part of it, and not involved so much with the announcing. That may not be a fair comment but I can think back in a couple of instances where the individual who has been hired by the corporation has been put in as an operator, rather than as an announcer as well, because people, as Mr. Sibbeston I think would agree, like to hear their people talking in their languages, and being aware of particular community issues.

I recall Mr. Ward, and I am sure you do, that one time you appeared here, I suggested to you because CBC does carry a lot of sports on television, that you should have picked up one of those channels for just sports alone. Then you would not be concerned with, or Mr. Fox would not be bothered with some places such as Fort Smith and Pine Point and others getting ESP in.

You would have the all-sports channel yourselves, and you would really have Canadian content. You would not have to be watching, notwithstanding Mr. Nerysoo's affinity for the big bouncing ball, but you would be able to carry a lot more Canadian sports, rather than American basketball games.

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

MR. WARD: Mr. Chairman, there are some good comments there from Mr. McCallum, and with regard to having northerners and northern native people on air, I agree, and in fact there has been quite a development in that area. For example, six or seven years ago in Frobisher Bay, with eight announcer/operators, two of them were native and six of them were Kabloona. Now two of them are Kabloona and six of them are native, so that kind of change has occurred. In Rankin, there are three on-air people; they are all native. In Inuvik, I think it is about half and half. Bob Rhodes has just given me the figures here. There are 12 announcer/operators in Yellowknife; eight of them are local northern people and four of them are from the South. So there has been quite a transformation in those figures in the last few years.

Improving Translation Capabilities

Just one other point, I think I may have mislead this committee with regard to these two new television programs, since I said that they were in English. While they are in English, because we see this as the lingua franca for the Northwest Territories and Yukon, I did not mention that both Focus North and Northland are translated, so every show is translated into Inuktitut and broadcast in each area, both in English and Inuktitut, and they are also translated into Slavey. We would like to do more language, but that is what we can bite off at this stage. We have had some problems with the translation but I think that is being ironed out and I think we have just got to get better at it, because we have to learn to communicate across linguistic barriers. Since we see one of our responsibilities as being the organization that communicates across those linguistic barriers, we will be working to improve our translation capability.

The Slavey programs are simulcast on radio so that in a Slavey household, they can watch the program on TV, turn the sound down, listen to their radio set and get it in Slavey. For the Inuktitut, we in fact put the sound track on the TV so that it can be watched and Inuktitut listened to on the TV set. I just wanted to make that clarification.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Any further questions? Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, just a suggestion that I have since we started up to now. I think the CBC has to try and improve and think about the northern things that go on around the Northwest Territories, and to try and change their programs, and to change them from southern programs. I would like to see a program that is similar to the radio programs. I would like to see such things broadcast on TV -- to show things that are going on in the Northwest Territories, because I think there is going to be television in the whole Northwest Territories in the near future. I would like to see a program that is different from southern programs. Get it started, and I would like to see the CBC people working with different organizations to work on different programs, because I do not think the Northwest Territories will ever become like the southern provinces. I think that the programs that go on with CBC have to improve, and this is just a suggestion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Ward, do you want to answer those comments?

MR. WARD: Yes, Mr. Chairman, just briefly. I agree with Mr. Kilabuk that we have a lot to learn about northern programming. It is largely a problem of not having the money to do as much on TV as we do in radio. We do work with Nunatsiakmiut. We do work with the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, and I think we are learning from each other. I think we have the will to do more. We do not have the resources; but his advice is well taken. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to repeat briefly what Mr. McCallum said. One of the best things I felt was that the smaller communities like my own felt they participated in the North through community announcements. We used to have people in Pine Point that did the sports announcements. On the weekend they used to phone in the results of curling and fastball and stuff like that, and that does not happen any more. I am sure that the different people involved in those sports could phone in to the station with the results and they would be taken down and probably announced, but it seemed to work a lot better when there was a person in the community who just did that, and you knew who he was, and you phoned him.

The other thing was on the community announcements, you used to know what was happening in Hay River and Fort Smith and Yellowknife; if there was a minor hockey tournament, which teams were going to it, and if you happened to be there that weekend, you could drop by the arena or curling rink, and see some people you knew. But you do not even know that is going on any more. There are hardly any announcements like that. I use a radio alarm and I listen to the 7:30 to 8:30 local stuff, and you do not hear that anymore.

So I would just like to reiterate what Mr. McCallum said, and it seems to me that the person in our community who was doing that, -- and I will get back and check with him -- I think he told me that they just were not doing that any more, and that there was no funding left for it because the person, as far as I know, was still there and would still be doing it otherwise. The other thing is I believe that maybe you have to go looking for a person who has interest in that area, like Mr. George Tuccaro, who used to work for CBC. He did that, and he did an excellent job of it. So maybe it just sort of fell apart when he left.

Transmitters To Cover Highway Areas

There is this other one small thing I would like to ask you about -- and you do not have to make a comment on what I just said because you answered Mr. McCallum. The other thing I have had people mention to me, and they especially brought it up when we have forest fires in the South Mackenzie area, and people were on holidays, or they do not know about the crossing between Providence and Yellowknife -- when you get just far enough south of Enterprise, there is no radio communications you can pick up at all from anywhere. I was wondering if you would consider having a transmitter set up somewhere around the border where you have the tourist thing. Even if you just ran it in the summer while people are on holidays, they could know whether the ferries operate into the crossing and what the road conditions are, especially when we have a lot of forest fires in the summer and people do not know whether they can even get back home or not. It was a big problem two years ago. I spent five days between Manning and the border driving back and forth, staying at friends' places, waiting for a chance to get through. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: Just on that last point. While it would be very nice to have those additional transmitters to cover highway areas, I would have to say there is no funded plan to do that. You might seek some small solace in knowing that there are large portions of highway 401 or highway 11 or major southern highways in Canada, the Trans-Canada highway, where there is no CBC signal either. It is something that we would like to do. There is a problem with frequency allocation, but more than that, it is just a problem of cost. At a time when there are still communities of 500 and more that do not have the basic service, I do not think it is going to get bumped up to a position to do anything about. I thought you had better have my answer on that so I would not give you any false hope.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Supplementary, Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just, in particular in that one area, one thing I always thought might be possible would be to have the transmitter that is currently in Hay River set up at Enterprise. If it was a stronger signal, it could serve Hay River just like it does now, as well as Enterprise, and between Enterprise and the Providence crossing just about to High Level.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Ward.

MR. WARD: We will certainly have a look at that, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Ward. Any further Members wish to speak? If not, we will thank the witnesses very much for their presentation and for appearing before the Members of the Legislative Assembly to answer questions. Thank you very much.

---Applause

Tabled Document 1-83(1), First Report Of The Standing Committee On Rules And Procedures

Could we bring the committee back to order to deal with Tabled Document 1-83(1), the first report of the standing committee on rules and procedures to the Legislative Assembly? It is in your folders, I think. Tabled Document 1-83(1). Down below, I think, Mr. Kilabuk. Has everybody got their copy? Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The report contains five recommendations, and the first recommendation is in regard to amendments that are attached, and so probably it might be easier to proceed with it if we went to the appendix of that report, which is Schedule A, and went through each amendment one at a time. I do not think from talking to Members that they are willing to pass all of those amendments in just one fell swoop without discussing some of them in detail. So I would suggest that it might be easier to start with the first change in the rules in the appendix, Schedule A, which is attached to the report.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Shall we go to Schedule A of the report, proposed amendments to the Rules of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Number one. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In this case, we are just defining the word "Executive Member" clearly in the rules.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Do you want to read it out for the records, or do we have to read each one out?

Motion To Amend Subrule 2(da) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Rule 2 is amended by repealing paragraph (da) and substituting the following: "2(da) 'Executive Member' means a Member of the Executive Committee of the Government of the Northwest Territories;" Members might want to pull out their Members' Manuals, and that would help them to look at the rules in total. It would be easier if I then move number one.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I think maybe we will have to move number one and then go to number two. I think there are only nine of them, are there not?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I shall move that number one be adopted as read.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All in favour? Down.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Amend Subrule 2(ka) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Number two is an amendment. Rule 2 is further amended by repealing paragraph (ka) and substituting the following: "2(ka) 'Strangers' means any persons admitted to the Assembly chamber but does not include the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner, Members, officers or staff of the Assembly or witnesses appearing before the committee of the whole; and...."

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I would move that number two be accepted as read.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All in favour?

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Amend Subrule 3(1) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1)

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, Rule 3 is amended by repealing Subrule (1) and substituting the following: "3(1) the Assembly shall meet on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on

Fridays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m." Mr. Chairman, these rules were discussed before, and we practised those during the tail end of the last session, and so with the Members having experienced them, I think a few Members probably might have something to say about this particular amendment now. I shall move that amendment three be adopted.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All in favour? Mr. MacQuarrie.

Amendment To Motion To Amend Subrule 3(1) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Withdrawn

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not approve of the morning sittings. I will move an amendment to this motion, that Wednesday's sitting be from 12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m. -- That would give six hours with no morning sitting -- we lose one hour there -- and so that the Friday meeting be from 10:00 until 1:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Only that it is, I suppose, a personal preference. I feel that the mornings can be used for other kinds of meetings, for constituency work and that sort of thing, and that this would save approximately the same number of hours and it would be a little more efficient.

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

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I basically do not have any difficulty with the amendment, save in one area, and that relates to the amendment made by Mr. MacQuarrie that deals with Friday. I would expect that it may be difficult to sustain enough people until 1:30 -- that is, putting off a noon hour or dinner at that time. I am not going to suggest that I will be against it, but I can see that rather than meeting at 10:00 o'clock on Friday until 1:30, it might have been easier to go from 9:30 until 1:00. I think that people will stay until 1:00, but until 1:30 may be even a little bit longer. If Mr. MacQuarrie wants to make up that extra hour, I agree wholeheartedly with him about the morning sessions because of the number of committees and because of the work. Especially at a budget session, where the work of committees has not been able to take place prior to it -- that there would be more than enough time -- committees would need the extra time. I would respectfully suggest to Mr. MacQuarrie that rather than going from 10:00 until 1:30, he may find greater favour going from 9:30 until 1:00, and so I would be in agreement basically with it. I think the idea was not to delay it -- we will have breaks as well -- and I think 1:30 is just a bit too long.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. The amendment is to change the hours on Wednesday from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m., and on Friday from 10:00 until 1:30 p.m. To the amendment. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, I suppose that the appropriate procedure, then would be to withdraw and move that other amendment, so I will withdraw the initial motion.

Amendment To Motion To Amend Subrule 3(1) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

I will move from 12:00 to 6:00 on Wednesdays, from 9:30 to 1:00 on Fridays. That seems to be more suitable to Mr. McCallum, and anything to get an extra vote...

---Laughter

...incidentally, on the Wednesdays, it is not only for Members, but people putting out the Hansard, for instance, and so on. It makes it very difficult for them to have a full days session, and that is another reason which I did not mention earlier why I prefer not to have mornings as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the amendment. The amendment now is -- Wednesdays from 12:00 to 6:00 and Fridays from 9:30 to 1:00 p.m.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Motion To Amend Subrule 3(1) Of The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried As Amended

To the motion as amended.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Amendment Four. Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Add Rule 3A To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I shall move that amendment four be adopted. That amendment is intended to clarify that the Assembly will not meet on statutory holidays.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Question.

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

---Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. MacQuarrie, point of order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I ask whether with respect to this item, Subrules 10A(1) and (2) could be handled separately? There is a Subrule 10A(3) and (4) as well. If each could be handled separately, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): This is number five you are talking about?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We have not come to that one yet. Mr. McLaughlin. Amendment five.

Motion To Repeal Rule 10A, And Add New Subrule 10A(1) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1)

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, amendment five deals with Rule 10A, and it is completely repealed and I will move that 10A be substituted, firstly, by Subrule 10A(1).

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I am absolutely opposed to that amendment, Mr. Chairman. I think that in a House where there is not a party structure, where each Member individually must represent his own constituents, that we should not make a rule that prohibits one of the Members from participating as much as possible in the debates of this House. I would say that if the present Speaker wishes to make, personally, a decision that he does not wish to become involved in political issues, that that is for him to decide and he must then answer to his constituents for that, but I believe it would be wrong of this House to make a decision such as that. I think that if there is going to be an extensive revision of the rules in the future, and that is one of the recommendations, that this might be looked at more carefully, but I would not want to set any precedent by incorporating that as part of the rules at this time and I will certainly vote against this amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. It should be pointed out that under this amendment five here, there is this proposed Subrule 10A(4) which says that, "This provision shall come into force on the day this report is adopted and shall remain in force until October 31, 1983 and no longer." So it is only a temporary provision, to try this idea out.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I am aware that it is a temporary provision, but I do not want to see it, personally, as part of the rules at all. Even though it is a temporary provision, I will vote against it.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am aware, as we all are, that the present Speaker feels strongly that the office of Speaker in the NWT should be moving toward independence from the political arena, if you like, and I think that in the long run we may well, eventually, end up with a Speaker removed from the daily workings of the House, similar to the Speakers in federal and provincial legislatures. However, I do tend to agree with Mr. MacQuarrie that this should be the prerogative, for the time being at least, of whoever occupies the position of Speaker. I think if we fail to pass this amendment, fail to approve this rule, there is still nothing to prevent our current Speaker from conducting himself according to the spirit of that rule: I tend to agree also that it is somewhat repugnant as far as the right of free speech is concerned. It does seem to limit the Speaker's right to free speech, and I feel that if he wishes to do that himself that is fine, but when it appears in black and white on a rule, even with a finite term to it, I tend to feel that it is somewhat embarrassing. I suppose also that our House has evolved in a different direction historically. I believe Speaker Searle felt very strongly the opposite way, that the Speaker should be free to participate and still have the office of Speaker. So, for all these reasons, I think I will support Mr. MacQuarrie's suggestion and vote against this proposal, keeping in mind that it would still permit the present Speaker to conduct himself according to the spirit of this rule. Thank you.

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

Evolution Of House Toward Independence Of The Speaker

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the comments of the two preceding speakers. However, under the comments of the first speaker, I do not think that this is an issue of party politics at all. I think that it is an issue in the evolution of this House toward what the second speaker, my colleague Mr. Patterson, indicated, the independence of the Speaker. In the first instance, when we had our first Speaker elected or selected by the Legislature, that Speaker took the role in the first year and gradually removed himself away from it. He provided an awful lot of support to people in the House to get used to how things are going. In providing that kind of support, he could be taken to task as being more than amenable to the kinds of difficulties that some people in the House may have had. In the last while, and Members who were in that particular Legislature I think would agree with me that Mr. Searle gradually got away from being involved with the discussions or the debate, either in formal session, or in committee of the whole.

I submit, and I do not want my friend Mr. MacQuarrie to take this in the wrong vein, but I submit that Mr. MacQuarrie in his tenure as our second Speaker found himself in a difficult situation as well. On the one hand, he would have to make decisions. He was seen to be not an MLA, but the Speaker of the House who kept the decorum within the House. Then to change hats and to be the MLA, I think he found it rather tenuous. Now, he may very well disagree with that and that he knows better within himself, but I suggest that that was a difficulty.

Certainly, with our present Speaker, in the House, outside the House, the Hon. Don Stewart is looked upon as the Speaker of this Legislature. He has received criticism in, and outside the House, in committee or formal session because when he speaks on something, he does not speak as an MLA, even though he says he is. He is seen not to be speaking in that way; he is seen to be speaking as the Speaker of a Legislature in the same manner as when I attend a constituency meeting as an MLA for Slave River, I am seen not just to be the Member, I am seen to be speaking as a Minister of the government. I am taken to task, that is the government position, and Mr. Nerysoo will back that up because when we went around to talk to people about the formation of the development impact zones, we were hit with the criticism, "The government has already taken a stand because you have a Minister saying what is already going on. You have the Minister of the government being in favour of a proposed project." They are not referring to me as an MLA.

I think that the whole process is an evolutionary process and I agree with Mr. Patterson when he says that that is what goes on. I think that this is an indication that we are gradually growing up and being more responsible in the way the business of the House is conducted and it is conducted in a fair and impartial manner, and it is conducted by the Speaker, and the Speaker of this Legislature must be accorded that kind of respect. If he has issues to be taken up for his constituency, he has the wherewithal by which he can bring these things about, and I think this is simply a step in making it more of a responsible position and it adds that much more to this particular Legislature. So, I will be voting in favour of this particular recommendation.

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

A Matter Of Experimental Basis

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I will be voting against the rule. I think there is right on both sides. I feel that the case mentioned by the honourable Member for Slave River is correct, that certainly a Speaker should not have an opportunity to vote on a question in the seat, on a question which he has spoken to in the committee of the whole. If I recollect, we recognize that this problem of the Speaker in a House as small as this, does exist and concerns have arisen both here and in the previous House, but I would suggest that when we discuss the matter in caucus and we did discuss this in caucus, the suggestion was made that we try it out on an experimental basis, that for the remainder of this session our current Speaker not participate in the debates, either in the formal session or in committee of the whole, and that he would expect and hope that any constituency representations that he would wish to make would be made on his behalf through Members of the Executive Committee. That was the experimental approach that we would try and rule on when this House dissolves, so I do not think we should put it into a rule form at this time. There is a process going on. The Speaker will see whether that arrangement is going to work for him, and if it does not then we will have to work out a new rule. That is the time to establish a rule, at the end of the life of this House, not at this present time. So, I am going to vote against the rule.

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

Representation Of Constituents More Important Than Independence Of The Speaker

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. I would appeal to Mr. McCallum and others who might be thinking of supporting it to reconsider, because there is a very serious issue at the heart of matters here. If I can respond first to Mr. McCallum's point about party system: I merely meant that under a party system a Speaker's constituents are safeguarded to some extent by the fact that he generally comes from the majority party, and there is in a sense a gentleman's agreement that they will keep an eye out for his constituency, so that is a little bit of a safeguard. Apart from that, to the real heart of the issue, I agree that the independence of a Speaker is an issue. It is a matter of concern, but there is a matter of even graver concern, and that is the right of people to representation in an Assembly, and we went to great lengths in the November session -- to extraordinary lengths -- to ensure that the people from the constituency of Keewatin North would have someone to speak for them during the remainder of the life of this Assembly. I cannot, therefore, see us with justice turning around and saying the constituents in another area -- and this is what we would be telling them, without them having anything to say about it whatsoever -- that their representative will not be allowed to raise issues in this Assembly, and that would be very, very wrong.

Moreover, I do not think that this Assembly should put any Member of the Assembly in a situation where he is able to say to his constituents that he does not raise issues, because this Assembly has told him that he cannot raise issues. That is very, very wrong. I know that when he did raise issues at one particular meeting, he was publicly criticized by one of the honourable Members in the House, but I would remind all other Members that upon that matter being raised later, the Speaker was overwhelmingly upheld in his right to do so in those circumstances. It was clear that the majority of Members did not agree with that kind of criticism. So therefore, because the matter of representation for people is much more important than the matter of the independence of the Speaker, I would urge Members to vote against this.

In the matter of rulings, finally, the independence of the Speaker simply consists in his being able to demonstrate that regardless of what has gone on earlier, when a matter of procedure is finally decided, that he bases his decision objectively on the rules that have been established, and I have not yet seen our present Speaker violate that, and to me, that is all that is necessary in that matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion. Subrule 10A(1).

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question being called. All in favour? Mr. Sibbeston, we are in Schedule A, amendment five, Subrule 10A(1). That is what we are voting on now.

MR. SIBBESTON: What is the motion, please? To accept this?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The motion is to adopt this Subrule 10A(1). To the motion. Mr. Sibbeston, go ahead.

The Speaker Could Become The Most Powerful MLA

MR. SIBBESTON: Just a few comments, then. I think it is understood, I am sure, by everyone that this provision here will actually change the role of the Speaker quite a bit from what we have been used to up to now. It is all simply a matter of whether you accept the idea of having a Speaker that does nothing except be a Speaker. Some of his usual rights to speak and be involved are taken away, on the understanding that he is going to be impartial; but with this, though, comes the ability for him to deal directly with the Executive Committee, and I think that that is a tremendous, tremendous advantage, for a Speaker -- for a person of the Assembly to have access to the Executive Committee -- not to have to raise things in the House like ordinary MLA's. It is a tremendous advantage inasmuch as...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Are you going to be the next Speaker, then?

MR. SIBBESTON: ...well, you know, let me just deal with the reality here. I think that people ought to understand that inasmuch as we would be taking away his right to take part and vote, that he is not without the ability to have things done, to deal with problems that exist in his constituency, and a person becoming a Speaker would be taking the job knowing this. So inasmuch as on the one hand you would be taking away his right to participate and voice concerns, on the other hand, he in a sense is one of the most powerful men in the North. He has a prestigious position; he sits up there -- in part it is ceremonial -- he directs the traffic in here, but he has the ability to go to the Executive Committee and deal with problems with the powers that be. It is like being a Minister.

You do not hear Mr. Nerysoo or Mr. Wah-Shee talk about Dene things, supposedly because they can simply do what they want. They have the power to do what they want for their constituents and for the Dene people as it were, and the Speaker would be in that kind of situation where he has direct access to the powers that be, and it is probably understood that because he would not be able to participate that the government pretty well ought to do what he wants -- any request that he has made is given top priority, and the Executive dare not cross him up or refuse him. I mean, if he wants a new school in Hay River, if he wants a new truck, if he wants new personnel, a new government position in his constituency, you would think that the government would respond, because what alternative does he have? Because he cannot speak in the House. So I would think that they would come to an agreement with him as regards the problems in his constituency or his requests.

So I personally support this approach of having a Speaker that is not going to take part in debates, because being an ordinary Member, you are always a little bit suspicious of the Speaker, because he can sit up there and make a decision and rule and then step down and take part in the debate. So you would basically feel that he is suspicious, that he is against your point of view, and so forth, and if he participates, certainly he has to come down on one side or the other. So I do support this move to have the Speaker more independent, but do not let people think that now he is powerless without any ability to influence this government. He is the most powerful MLA amongst all of us.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, I just cannot leave lie the suggestion that the Speaker would have a clear track through the Executive Committee and everything would be granted him. I do not think that this is the case. We would certainly, I would imagine -- and I am only speaking for myself -- look at whatever representation may be brought, but I cannot see rubber stamping his requests and wishes. I must also advise the Member that the requests of every Member of this House are treated with serious concern and an attempt to correct or improve the situation that is brought to our attention.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Ready for the question? Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: I was just going to say again that life for people generally, for instance down the Mackenzie Valley, is generally the same for all people. I mean, no area of the North is without problems, but yet you never hear the Ministers say things about their constituents, and I am saying it is probably because they are in positions where they can deal with these problems without having to ask anybody. So the Speaker would be in a similar position if he would have access to the government so that he would not have to say anything.

MR. MacQUARRIE: We should try to get people out of that position rather than put more of them into it. Unless, of course...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion, Mr. MacQuarrie. Are you through, Mr. Sibbeston?

MR. SIBBESTON: Do you think I have said enough, Mr. Chairman?

---Laughter

Motion To Repeal Rule 10A, And Add New Subrule 10A(1) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion, then. Ready for the question? All in favour? Down. Opposed? The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

Subrule 10A(2). Mr. McLaughlin. Was Mr. McLaughlin defeated?

Motion To Add Subrule 10A(2) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I move that amendment five, the part referring to 10A(2), be adopted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. The question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? Subrule 10A(2) is carried.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Add Subrule 10A(3) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I will move that the new wording for Subrule 10A(3) be adopted.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes. This is similar to Subrule 10A(1). I will oppose it and without repeating all the reasons before, I think it is important that we defeat this motion as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. The question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? Subrule 10A(3) is carried.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin.

Motion To Add Subrule 10A(4) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will move that Subrule 10A(4) be adopted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Question being called. All in favour? Down. Opposed? Subrule 10A(4) is carried.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin. Amendment six.

Motion To Repeal Rule 11A And Add New Subrules 11A(1) And (2) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1)

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I will move that amendment six concerning Rule 11A be adopted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Mr. Sibbeston, to the motion.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, Subrule 11A(1) is the one we are dealing with. Is this correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Subrule 11A(1).

MR. SIBBESTON: This provides for the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to come in at the request of Members to ask questions, and the alternative, of course, is not to have him come in at all, is it not? And simply have the elected people respond or deal with the questions that are asked. I am just wondering whether at this point in time when we should have just elected people deal with questions, and I could throw that idea out. Do we need Mr. Parker and Mr. Pilot to answer questions for the government, or can we go the next step and have the elected people answer all questions about the government? I guess it depends on what you think. I think some people still think that it is Mr. Parker and Mr. Pilot that are running the government. We know that is not the case, but there are some people who think that, and I appreciate that they have some influence. Mr. Parker, I am sure, would like to say he does not have much influence.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. I would like to ask the Law Clerk to identify or to clarify something here, because 11A(1) in the amendment is the same as 11A in the...

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): Mr. Chairman, it would appear to me -- I have just taken a quick look at it -- but it would appear that this new provision is a provision that is currently done by custom. I believe the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner are called from time to time by the Speaker, but there does not seem to be a rule to make that a practice, and this is being done by custom already. I cannot see that 11A(1) is all that new -- it is done now by custom, and you are purporting to make an official rule out of it. That is my feeling on it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Fuglsang. Subrule 11A(1), Mr. Sibbeston.

Disallowing Commissioner And Deputy Commissioner In The House

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, what I am suggesting is that rather than have this provision here, either have nothing and cease the practice that we are presently using, or else have something very definitely stating that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner shall not enter or sit within the ropes, during Legislative Assembly sessions. So it is suggesting that only elected people have the responsibility -- let us say -- that is considered a privilege, to be within the confines of something that puts all elected people together. I am just wondering if we are at the point now in our history when we can in fact kick the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner out of the bounds of this Assembly, so it would mean that all questions or any business would be dealt with only by elected people. It is just something that I hope people will consider and deal with. So if we are going to do that, I would be suggesting that people vote against this and in its stead have our Law Clerk draft up something stating clearly that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner shall not ever be allowed within the confines of the ropes and certainly not be available for questions, or even that they not be sitting with us during committee of the whole. So I would like to hear what other people have to say and I know Mr. Parker and Mr. Pilot would not take this as a personal affront or setback to them. I am pretty sure that they would encourage elected people to take on greater responsibility and that the Assembly should be just for elected people, not appointed people.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It should be explained to Members, just to make it clear for everybody, that the present practice of having the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner come in to answer questions requires the agreement of all the Members in the Assembly to do that. This would allow the Speaker to let the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner in if just one Member asks; that is what the difference is, and that is what people should understand.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I wonder if the originator of these recommendations might not speak to the question raised by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Liard. I think that the point is very well taken. We will remember, I believe, that the Yukon has now embarked on its second term in which the Commissioner no longer sits in the House. At one time, the Commissioner of that day, Jimmy Smith, I recall, had a seat in the House, but the only reason he would appear was to answer questions. He had no other involvement in the debate, and at that time there was less Executive Committee responsibility delegated to the elected people.

It seems to me in the last two sessions that the Commissioner's role has diminished considerably, and he no longer has a seat in the House. I would like to hear if anybody else has some thoughts along the lines that have been proposed by Mr. Sibbeston. I think that while Executive Members of this government still do not have responsibilities for all the departments, we do have an assigned responsibility to speak for all the departments, so if the direction that Mr. Sibbeston has recommended to the House is acceptable to other Members, I think the elected Members could try and respond on behalf of the total government.

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

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I certainly support the tack that Mr. Sibbeston has been taking. I think that it is time that we claimed the Legislative Assembly to ourselves. We have had a very practical problem, however, of having the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner carrying responsibility for three departments: DPW, Personnel, and Information. When we were asking questions, we were not getting the kinds of responses out of the Executive Committee that we felt were good responses because they did not have the information at their fingertips to respond. I hear Mr. Butters telling us that since then the responsibility for these departments has been assigned to Executive Members, and I think that that leads me to perhaps support Mr. Sibbeston in saying maybe it is time that we do take on the total responsibility for all the government within this Legislature, and ask the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to take even more of a retiring position. So I would support Mr. Sibbeston's position, and I would ask people to vote against this rule.

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

Evolution Toward Responsibility For All Departments

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can support that as well. I would just like to make a small correction to what Mrs. Sorensen said. Certain Executive Members have been assigned responsibility for speaking in the House on certain departments, but not actually running those departments -- but I think that was designed to move us as close to taking over all departments of the government as we can get under the present instructions of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I think we all hope that eventually we will be able to assume responsibilities for all departments in the long run. I think the step that has been taken by the Executive Committee to make Ministers responsible for speaking in the House on those departments does really mean that this amendment is not necessary, and I suppose also that would encourage the evolution of this change.

I noted today -- and I did not really complain -- that the Commissioner answered certain questions about the Department of Information and I am supposed to be the spokesman for Information. I was grateful that he did answer them, because he obviously knew the answers, but I suppose if he was not in the House, I would make certain that I was informed enough so that I could reply to these sorts of questions, so maybe just to push us a small way along in our evolution toward fully responsible government, I would say this rule is not necessary, although I cannot help but notice that Mr. Curley is not here, and he seems to be the one who always wants to get the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner on the floor to answer his questions -- but that is his problem, not ours. Thank you.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, it is true that in our Rules of the Legislative Assembly, Rule 11A is the only provision that deals with the Commissioner as regards his seating with us during committee of the whole, and as has been stated, the practice of having him come in to answer questions is just a practice that had been adopted without any rule basis; there is nothing providing for that, it is just a practice, I take it, that has been adopted recently. Is this correct, Mr. Law Clerk? Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. The Clerk informs me that that is correct, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: That being the case, Mr. Chairman, then I shall make a motion to delete present rule...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Sibbeston, we have a motion on the floor now.

MR. SIBBESTON: And which is that, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): A motion to add Subrule 11A(1) is on the floor now. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Actually, Mr. Chairman, I moved that amendment six regarding Rule 11A be adopted, so actually, 11A(1) and (2) are both on the floor right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston, go ahead. You can amend it.

MR. SIBBESTON: Well, I think the best approach to deal with this motion, is to defeat it, and we can then deal with the present Rule 11A. As I understand it, this motion is to accept both 11A(1) and (2), and I take it the effect of defeating this motion would leave a void -- there would simply be no 11A(1) or (2) at all. Is this correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I am informed that the other rule is still there. If this one is lost, if it is defeated -- yes -- then you could bring in another motion. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Perhaps to simplify things, maybe what Mr. Sibbeston could do if he wants to attempt something would be to move to amend that recommendation by deleting part of it, if that is what he wants to do to get this procedural problem over with here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I am informed you cannot do that, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: So, Mr. Chairman, I would then suggest to people that we defeat this motion, and then we can deal with this subject once that has been done. So I suggest that everybody vote against the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question is being called. Mr. Butters, to the motion.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: A point of order. Mr. Chairman, I understand that 11A(2) is also part of the motion. If 11A(2) is already in place, why is (2) brought forward? We are only looking at 11A(1); is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right. Subrule 11A(2) will be still in effect, even if this one is defeated.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Okay. I understand.

Motion To Repeal Rule 11A And Add New Subrules 11A(1) And (2) To The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly, Tabled Document 1-83(1), Defeated

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

---Defeated

Mr. Sibbeston.

Motion To Delete Rule 11A From The Rules Of The Legislative Assembly

MR. SIBBESTON: I would then move that Rule 11A be deleted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): There is a motion on the floor to delete Rule 11A. To the motion. All in favour? Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Well, Mr. Chairman, with the motion that Mr. Sibbeston has made, I would think that what we are saying now is that the only time that the Commissioner would be in the House would be at the opening of a particular session or at the prorogation, because I do not

see that there would be any requirement for the Commissioner to be here, if in fact the motion is to delete Rule 11A. You know, I do not know how Mr. Parker feels, and I do not think it is necessary to go into that, but I think that that is the end result, that we would now have the Commissioner appear in the House to open the proceedings and to close them. The Deputy Commissioner is not at the present time seated with us at all, and now the final step would be that the Commissioner would not be seated with us even in committee of the whole.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to speak against Mr. Sibbeston's motion, because the current Rule 11A allows the Commissioner to be in here only during committee of the whole, and I think that as long as the federal government has the Commissioner responsible -- as the chief person responsible for the financial affairs and operation of this government, then he should be in here, especially during debates on the budget, because as we debated the budget in the past, we have had to ask him questions as the Commissioner, and he has become involved in some of the debates. So I think I would be in favour of that as long as the Commissioner is still the chief officer with the responsibility that he now has from the federal government. I would be in favour of the present Rule 11A. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Removal Of Commissioner From The House Is Premature

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, if we support Mr. Sibbeston's motion, what in effect we do is remove the Commissioner from this House. The Commissioner does not sit in the House during formal session, but he does have a chair in the House during committee of the whole sessions. I think that the removal of the Commissioner from the House at this time would be premature. I think that we can reflect back over the last three years and consider the number of times on which he has contributed to the debate. You could almost count them on one hand, and I think in every case you will find that his contribution has been a very valuable contribution to the discussions under consideration. So I would suggest that if the Commissioner is to be removed from committee of the whole discussions -- we should allow this to be done by the 10th Assembly. I think that the motion we have just passed is quite a major one, and that questions will now be answered by elected Members. I think it is a little bit more than a small step ahead, but I am not going to support removing the Commissioner's chair from the House at this time.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would like to ask a question first, Mr. Chairman, and then make a statement. The question is, would you please provide me with an interpretation of this: that if the present Rule 11A stands on the books, that because there is now a practice in this House of allowing questions to be directed to the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner with the agreement of the House, that that also would continue to be the situation in this House? In other words, if we do not make any further change and 11A stands, and tomorrow Mr. Appaqaq or someone -- myself -- might say, "I want to ask a question of the Commissioner", is the House agreed that he come in, and if it were agreed, would he then be allowed to come in?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I shall let the Law Clerk answer that.

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my view that if Rule 11A is removed, certainly the Commissioner can still be brought in, as he has been, by custom, through the Speaker to answer questions -- with the consent of the House. This does not alter that standing practice.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: He said even if Rule 11A were removed, so certainly if it is still in place, that could be accomplished. Well, at any rate I think I will vote with Mr. Sibbeston on this issue. Three years and some months ago, when we were elected, I would have voted differently, and I think the issue came up then, and I believe Mr. Sibbeston and I did. The reason was -- I think I may speak for him in this -- that we both felt that we did not want this particular Assembly to develop very quickly toward full status as a Legislative Assembly as long as there were still doubts within the Territories about its validity -- I will not say legitimacy; it certainly was legitimate, but a lot of people in the Territories questioned whether it was their government. Since that time, there have been some very significant events that have taken place,

and certain very important directions that have been imparted, and they are toward the resolution of the kind of difficulties that existed before. I think a momentum has been gained in that direction that will not be stopped now, and I therefore feel that it is time to take this additional step toward the fullest possible autonomy of this House, and so I will vote in favour of Mr. Sibbeston's motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. The time being 6:00 o'clock, we will report progress.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question of clarification before you leave the chair?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The question of clarification is this: we have already, now, changed the hours of sitting. Does that mean that tomorrow we start at 9:30?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right. We start at 9:30 a.m. Thank you.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: We are dealing with amendment one on page three of the report of the rules and procedures committee, and we have not approved that recommendation yet, with or without amendments, and therefore the present practice would prevail tomorrow. We will meet at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow, Mr. Chairman.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well, I am told that you could go either way.

---Laughter

So is it the wish of the House that we sit tomorrow?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is why you are there as chairman. That is why I asked you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right. Well, we will sit at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, as far as I am concerned. According to the Law Clerk, we can go either way, and maybe you will leave it to the Speaker. He is in the chair now.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF MATTERS CONCERNING THE CBC; TABLED DOCUMENT 1-83(1),
FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES AND PROCEDURES

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering a presentation made by the CBC, and wish to report this matter being concluded. Further, your committee has been considering Tabled Document 1-83(1), First Report of the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures, and wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I understand that we are faced with a decision relative to the hours of sitting tomorrow. The paper that is being reviewed, I understand, started with Mr. McLaughlin's consideration of one, two, three and so on, and that your rule with regard to hours of sitting has been agreed upon, which would be, I believe, 9:30 a.m. However, inasmuch as there was no agreement on the paper on when this would take effect -- in other words, the paper itself has not been voted on, as amended -- so I must accept the position that the hours of sitting will be the same as they have been, under normal circumstance. However, I am prepared to accept a motion of consent of the House on what time tomorrow you want to sit. I know what the intent of the paper is, but you did not deal with that section. The paper as a whole has not been dealt with. Therefore, really, it is not a part of the conclusion, but by unanimous consent I will accept a motion to sit at 9:30 tomorrow morning.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, did you say by formal motion or by unanimous consent?

MR. SPEAKER: Well, by unanimous consent, because it is a change. Is there unanimous consent to call the sitting hours at 9:30 tomorrow morning?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Is there a nay?

AN HON. MEMBER: Nay.

MR. SPEAKER: The hours of sitting, then, will be 1:00 o'clock, Mr. Clerk. Announcements. Mr. Tologanak.

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, the Department of Social Services is hosting an evening briefing session of Legislative Assembly Members of the Eastern Arctic region on the proposed Baffin Correctional Centre. Mr. Bruno Freschi, architect, will present the briefing in the caucus room upstairs right after this sitting of this House. Thank you. Other MLAs are invited to attend as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Pudluk, announcements.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to make an announcement to make some corrections. When we held the session in Inuvik, some Members went on a trip to Aklavik and that area. In this Government of the Northwest Territories Annual Report, on page 83, there is a picture on the top there, and it says there, "Hudson Bay MLA, Moses Appaqaq, and High Arctic MLA, Ludy Pudluk." I did not go on that trip. That was Joe Arlooktoo. Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We will take that point of privilege. Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Are there any further announcements? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

ITEM NO. 14: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Orders of the day for Friday, February the 4th.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to the Commissioner's Address
3. Oral Questions
4. Questions and Returns
5. Petitions
6. Tabling of Documents
7. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
8. Notices of Motion
9. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
10. Motions
11. Introduction of Bills for First Reading
12. Second Reading of Bills
13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Tabled Document 1-83(1); Bill 1-83(1)
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Friday, February the 4th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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