



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1983

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day, September 1st.

Item 2, Members' replies. Item 3, oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 13-83(2): Increase In Maximum Claim, Small Claims Court Procedure

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Leader of the Elected Executive. Mr. Braden, three years ago this Legislature passed a resolution calling for an increase in the maximum claim, under the small claims court procedure, from \$500 to, I believe, \$2000. Due to inflation and northern higher costs, it is my impression that the maximum should now be \$3000, yet it is my information that the maximum remains at \$500. Can the Minister inform the House of the status of that resolution, and when can we expect an increase from the \$500 maximum that exists now?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for giving me notice of the question. However, I have not had time to examine the issue in sufficient detail to give an answer, so I will have to take it as notice. Thank you.

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

Question 14-83(2): Communications From Western Constitutional Forum

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development in his capacity of being the Executive Member on the Western Constitutional Forum. My constituents, and particularly the town council of Pine Point, are concerned about the communications coming out of the WCF to the western municipalities and the general population. I would like to ask the Minister what has been done recently to rectify these problems, and what will the WCF do between now and the new year, when the Assembly is not seated, to make sure that residents in the western area of the Northwest Territories receive these communications from the WCF?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 14-83(2): Communications From Western Constitutional Forum

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, the Western Constitutional Forum, in co-operation with the special committee on constitutional development, have co-sponsored a series of research projects. The seven projects have been completed, and the research has been published and has been made available to the public. For the information of the Members, I will just briefly indicate what research has been done.

One has to deal with the guaranteed representation of aboriginal peoples in institutions of public governments. The second one is the residency requirements. There are two parts to that, part one dealing with the residency requirements, limiting voting rights to permanent residents, and part two of that research deals with the statistical analysis of residency and mobility patterns in the Northwest Territories. The third one deals with the protection of aboriginal rights. The fourth one deals with regional government, and the fifth one has to do with the liberal-democratic government, principles and practice.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: What about Conservatives?

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: It has nothing to do with party politics ...

---Laughter

... it is providing good government. There is one research that we are still working on. It has to do with a WCF constitutional workbook, a guide to laws, institutions, powers and finances. What we would like to do, is to have an information or educational package for distribution in the communities. This is being done at the present time, because most of this research is fairly technical in nature.

What we wanted to do was do a summary of all of these researches and put the information together for distribution in the communities. So throughout the coming fall and winter, we want to hold workshops in the communities, and we would like to get feedback in regard to the various areas in which research has been done. Also we have to do a review and analysis of all the current research that has been done to date, and so we hope to sponsor not only workshops, but regional meetings, so that we can encourage the communities to take a look at what research has been done. Once this phase has been completed, we hope to reach an agreement on principles for political evolution in the western territory. Before we can do that, we feel that we have to go into the communities and make sure that they are aware of what kind of work has been done to date. So that is basically our tentative plan in regard to our future after the session is over. Thank you.

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

Question 15-83(2): Increases In Social Assistance Rates

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Could the Minister advise us if there are any anticipated raises in the social assistance rates, when they are going to take effect, and how much those increases will be?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden, will you take that as notice and turn it over to your colleague?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 16-83(2): Measures To Counteract Anti-Trapping Lobby

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. In the spring, Members of this Assembly were very concerned about the anti-trapping forces that were stepping up a lobby. We recognize that it could have a very severe impact on trapping and the fur industry. Would the Minister provide us with an update of what his department has been doing to counteract that anti-trapping lobby? What budget allocations are planned, what programs planned and so on?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 16-83(2): Measures To Counteract Anti-Trapping Lobby

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the honourable Member for giving me notice of the question. I would like to indicate that it has been an ongoing concern of the Department of Renewable Resources that the anti-trapping element has been a major factor in whether or not the native people can pursue without question their traditional lifestyle. I would just like to indicate to the Minister that over the past few months my colleagues have been supportive of me in increasing the amount of money allocated to the issue of improving the well-being of trappers and to try to offset some of the criticism, particularly in the research

area. My colleagues approved, for the trapper education program, an additional \$20,000. They increased the research ability by \$5000 and have given me authority to give to the Fur Institute, which will in fact be the research facility which would provide assistance to hunters and trappers across this country, some research ability to deal with some of the questions that are directed toward them, particularly in the area of the manner in which animals are taken and trapped or harvested. That, to date, has been the commitment that my Executive Council colleagues have given to me and to the hunters and trappers in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. A supplementary, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 16-83(2): Measures To Counteract Anti-Trapping Lobby

MR. MACQUARRIE: It still seems to me a rather small response. At any rate a related matter. About one month ago, CBC National News made a decision that their reporters were not going to be allowed to appear on television wearing fur coats, and I wonder whether this government took note of that and responded in any way. I think that it should have if it did not.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a very peculiar question, Mr. MacQuarrie. Any further oral questions? Have you an answer, Mr. Nerysoo?

Further Return To Question 16-83(2): Measures To Counteract Anti-Trapping Lobby

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I guess I should not wear fur trims on the parkas as well. The reality is that I just want to indicate to the Member that we have a wildlife ministers conference coming up September 13 and 14 in Winnipeg, at which we will be dealing with issues that relate to the fur industry specifically, so that we can begin jointly to address some of the major issues again that relate to the fur industry in this country. It is not only an issue that relates directly to the Northwest Territories, but the issue has caused problems throughout this country. What we are trying to do is develop a joint position of the provinces and the federal government which can deal adequately with some of the issues that not only arise from people in the Northwest Territories who are against the taking of furbearers, but also from individuals that are not residents of the Northwest Territories but have a major effect on the lifestyle of the people in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Wray.

Question 17-83(2): Deficit Position Of Municipalities, Keewatin Region

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Local Government. As the Minister is probably aware, it has come to light in the last couple of weeks that the majority of municipalities in the Keewatin region are in major deficit positions which have led to layoffs and to, in some cases, four day work weeks by some of the municipalities, severely limiting their ability to provide the essential services that hamlets carry out. I wonder if the Minister could inform us as to the status of this problem and what his department is doing to try and correct the situation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to have the reply for the honourable Member tomorrow on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. You are taking the question as notice. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 18-83(2): Allocation Of Extra Funding, Separate School District No. 2

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I regret that I have been unable to notify the Minister of Education of this question because it just in the last half hour came to my attention. It is to the Hon. Dennis Patterson and it concerns the fact that the kindergarten children in St. Pat's and St. Joseph's are not being bussed and a mother has brought this to my attention because she is very concerned. I am aware, of course, that the Minister does not wish to get involved in Yellowknife's bussing problems since both school boards are elected boards; but my question concerns the fact that I am aware of, the fact that we have as a government given additional moneys to St. Pat's school board. I am wondering whether there were any conditions attached to that additional money being given to the school board which would prohibit them from providing that money toward bussing of the kindergarten children, at least, to and from school all year round in Yellowknife.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 18-83(2): Allocation Of Extra Funding, Separate School District No. 2

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Member is correct that I do not think it is appropriate for myself as Minister to get directly involved in the affairs of school boards, which are essentially autonomous. The answer to the question is no, there were no strings attached to the recent extra moneys that were made available to those boards, no conditions attached at all. It is up to those boards to decide how they wish to set their priorities and how they wish to allocate those newly available funds. Thank you.

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

Question 19-83(2): Planning Of New School, Fort Liard

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education. The Minister is aware that certain moneys were provided in this years budget for planning a new school in Fort Liard. It has come to my attention that there has been absolutely nothing done by this government toward planning a new school in Fort Liard. I just wonder if the Minister can advise what is happening in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 19-83(2): Planning Of New School, Fort Liard

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would advise the honourable Member that the fiscal year is certainly not concluded yet; the moneys are in the current capital plan. We do not make it a practice of consulting communities on new schools when many people are away during the summer, so I am not surprised that there has been no public activity in Liard to date. This reflects only, I think, the practical realities of the Northwest Territories. I would urge the Member to have a little more patience because I am quite confident that planning work will take place this fiscal year and it will be done when people are in the community. It will be done in the form of public consultations with the people of Liard as to how they see this facility developing. So if nothing has been done to date, I think that I am not surprised and there is probably a good reason, but certainly the money is still protected in the capital plan. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 20-83(2): Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Education. Last year he made a commitment that the new high school planned in the Keewatin, in Rankin Inlet — we would like to ask if you can tell us when will the construction start and when will the money be available for next year, and when will you be able to get the budgets ready and discussed in the House? Have you made any plans for building the high school in Keewatin?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 20-83(2): Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to answer that question as best I can. The capital plan presently has reserved the sum of, I believe, \$1.4 million for 1984-85 to be allocated to the Keewatin education centre, and a total amount of some \$16 million over the next five years toward the completion of that project. The government has relatively recently received a detailed report from a consultant retained to advise us specifically on the detailed costs of the proposed facility, and a detailed study is in our hands and also in the hands of the steering committee chaired by the Keewatin regional director. I expect shortly to receive and place before the Executive Council the recommendations of that steering committee on the timetable and the scope of the proposed Keewatin education centre. I am confident that that report will be received and considered in this current month, and I would certainly be willing to keep the Members concerned informed of our decision making on this project, between the dissolution of this House and the opening of the next session under the 10th Assembly. I hope that answers the question, Mr. Speaker. I had some difficulty in hearing the question but that is the best I can do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Supplementary To Question 20-83(2): Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

MR. CURLEY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Although I understood the Minister's response that the report is being completed, with respect to the detailed social impact, I would say the impact report of the proposed high school -- I wonder if the Minister would assure this Assembly that he would be prepared to table this particular report that he is talking about. I would also like to ask further whether or not the Minister has enthusiastic support from his Executive Council Members of the government, because if we do not make a permanent commitment to proceed it appears that we will likely not be able to proceed next year if this Assembly has not, at this moment, approved detailed plans to begin the erection of that proposed high school. So I would ask the Minister whether he foresees any difficulty in getting a capital plan totally committed beginning this session or before this Assembly dissolves.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 20-83(2): Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I certainly agree with the Member that a final decision and timetable and final allocation of funds must take place immediately in order to plan the beginning of construction in the next fiscal year. As to the tabling of the consultant's report, I frankly am not certain whether all Members would appreciate receiving a document that is an inch and a half to two inches thick on the proposed Keewatin education centre; but I do not see any difficulty with making copies of the consultant's report available to Members who might be interested.

The Member asked me whether or not I could foresee coming back to this House with a decision from the Executive this session. I will endeavour to do so but it may not be possible in light of the short time that we may meet. I was also asked if I have the enthusiastic support of Executive Members. Certainly I think this government has made a commitment to the people of the Keewatin that an educational centre will be built there as our next priority and this Executive Committee, of which I am a Member, has supported that commitment. The spending of significant funds on the consultant's report and the establishment of this special steering committee, I think, is evidence of the priority that this project holds. It would be a bit difficult for me to say more than that because there is the question of identifying the necessary funds to complete this project and the consultant's report has called for more funds than we presently have allotted in the capital plan. So it is not going to be an easy matter to resolve with the Executive but I am confident that they will do whatever they can to further improve educational opportunities for residents of the Keewatin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 21-83(2): Priority Given To Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the very involved nature of the proposed complex, with respect to the Keewatin education centre, could the Minister of Finance maybe give some insight as to what he is prepared to do, as the Minister of Finance, to try and prioritize this urgent requirement? I am pressing a bit because I find that in order to solve the problems we have in the North with respect to unemployment and lack of skilled people around, we cannot expect to have competition by our people in the North for jobs, for employment opportunities, without decent institutions. Therefore I am pressing the Minister right now as to whether he would be prepared to give special consideration, as the Minister of Finance, to try and see that the proposed high school is built as quickly as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 21-83(2): Priority Given To Construction Of Keewatin Education Centre

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would just echo the Minister of Education's response that this government is certainly committed to the early construction of such a facility in the Keewatin, and I think we have so indicated. I think the problem lies in determining what the schedule will be and the funds available. Obviously -- and I have not seen -- I may have seen a projection but I have not seen the recent one, the procedure will be that the Minister will take the schedule and the itemized funds required to the Financial Management Board and the Financial Management

Board will examine this material and make their decision on the basis of the money required and requested, I expect. And, of course, when those decisions are made, then one also considers what projects will be deferred and cut out and that will have to happen as well. The item has not been before the Financial Management Board yet for consideration, and I assume it is the Minister's intent to bring it there shortly.

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

Question 22-83(2): Assistance For Post-Secondary Students

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education. We heard in the Commissioner's Address the other day that there were more than 600 applications for post-secondary assistance this year, and I believe that that might represent an increase of 100 per cent over applications in the past. I have the concern as to whether we have the resources in place to cope with that kind of a change in applications -- financial resources, administrative resources -- so that there are not needless delays and, finally, cancelling resources when they get to the South. So could I ask the Minister whether that is adequately in hand, whether that matter is being addressed?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 22-83(2): Assistance For Post-Secondary Students

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The financial resources are in place; no eligible approved student who has applied will be denied financial aid due to budgetary problems. The administrative resources are there, although not ample, but I think we have some very hard working staff people who are coping with an ever increasing workload, with good results and improved efficiency.

As to the matter of counselling, I must report to the honourable Member that most of our sponsored students are attending institutions in Alberta and particularly in Edmonton. We do have one counsellor who is an employee of the Government of the Northwest Territories Education department, with an office located on the U of A campus. He is able to visit other institutions in Alberta and meet with Alberta students. Apart from that, we encourage our other students to seek counselling through counsellors at the institutions that they are attending. There are counselling services available at the various universities or institutes, in most cases. Also, we have made it clear to students who have any difficulties that they may call the office of the manager of student services in Yellowknife, collect, at any time, should they have any problems. The manager of student services does try to contact students elsewhere in Canada as much as possible when he is travelling on business.

The plight of students in Ottawa is a matter of some concern to me, since support has been withdrawn that was formerly offered by the Department of Indian Affairs through the vocational training section. We have been working closely with the Department of Indian Affairs in an effort to try and find a solution to filling the gap that exists as a result of this action. There are, this year, a relatively smaller number of Inuit students in Ottawa, about 11 I understand, and we are still trying to find a way of providing them at least some minimal support services. I am confident some kind of a solution can be found to offer them some contact point in Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question 22-83(2): Assistance For Post-Secondary Students

MR. MacQUARRIE: A supplementary question, just with respect to the administrative part of it. You seem to indicate that the staff is overworked. Are there plans, short term plans, to supplement administrative resources, if that is required, in order to cope with the load so that students are not faced with delays? I am not certain that they are, but it seems that that could begin to happen.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 22-83(2): Assistance For Post-Secondary Students

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are monitoring the situation closely and I think if new resources become available to the department in the forthcoming budget which we are now working on, we will certainly make sure that student services gets the necessary administrative support, if required. I think they are, at the moment, coping but they are pretty close to requiring more aid because of this significant deluge. I am not aware, at this point, of any delays in processing of applications. So at the moment, no concrete action is definitely planned in that regard. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

MRS. SORENSEN: My question is for the government Leader, Mr. Speaker. It concerns the testing of the Cruise missile. I would be interested in hearing what is the status of the Cruise missile testing. What has been the involvement of the Executive Committee in the decision to test in the Northwest Territories, and over what period will the testing be done, and of course, what safety precautions will be taken to prevent possible damage to individuals, to property, and certainly to the environment?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden.

Return To Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for giving me notice of this question. In respect to the first question, the status of Cruise missile testing, the Member is aware that an agreement was reached some weeks ago between Canada and United States to allow for the testing of unarmed Cruise missiles in Canada. I provided today, I believe, all Members with a copy of a very short statement prepared on the Cruise missile. It provides a bit of background respecting the negotiations that have taken place between Canada and United States and, as well, some of the factors which made the NATO nations consider testing of the Cruise missile. This is just a summary, Mr. Speaker, and I will give the Members my commitment that I will attempt to get much more detailed public information so that they will have it for discussion of Mr. MacQuarrie's motion tomorrow.

The second question asked, Mr. Speaker, is what has been the involvement of the Executive Council in this decision? Well, up until very recently the involvement of the Executive Council was very limited. I did indicate earlier on that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner had received some information from the federal government on the matter earlier on this year and last year. However, as a result of a direct request to the Department of National Defence, a privileged briefing was arranged between representatives of the Canadian military and the Executive Council of the Northwest Territories government. The next question, Mr. Speaker, is over what period will it be done? My understanding is that there will be a preliminary test made in 1984 and that most of the testing will be done in the Northwest Territories starting in 1985 and during subsequent years up to 1990.

The last question, Mr. Speaker, is -- and I quote, "What safety precautions will be taken to prevent possible damage to individuals, property and the environment?" Mr. Speaker, in the privileged briefing that we received from the military, a number of technical mechanisms were examined for us, or discussed with us, and I am not at liberty to present to this House the details of what the military has designed to allow for the monitoring of the Cruise missile while it is going down the Mackenzie Valley and some of the various mechanisms that they have in place to put the missile back on track if it does come off track, and other mechanisms that will be deployed if the missile has to be destroyed.

Now, in respect of some other things that the military is proposing to do, there will be briefings, Mr. Speaker, of municipal and RCMP officials prior to the actual tests as they take place in the future. In addition, Mr. Speaker, air operators will be notified of the flight path of the missile and will be told to stay off that flight path and also off some of the monitoring aircraft that

will be along for the ride. I am told as well, Mr. Speaker, that a cost-sharing agreement has been reached between the two governments if there is damage to the environment or to buildings. A mechanism is in place so that payments can be made to cover the cost of damages. I do not propose to go into much more detail at this time, Mr. Speaker. I will provide the House with that more detailed information, hopefully by tomorrow, and I think it will give Members sufficient background to discuss Mr. MacQuarrie's motion.

Now, there is one other point that I would like to make. It is not really raised in Mrs. Sorensen's question, but I think it is important for this House to be apprized of. That is the Executive Committee's position in respect of the Cruise missile. I will say at this point in time that given the briefing that we have received from the military, we believe that the various mechanisms and procedures that have been developed and which will be put in place will provide sufficient protection to individuals, property and the environment along the test route. However, Mr. Speaker, on the matter of the morality of testing a guidance system or missile system which will be used along with nuclear warheads, the Executive has taken no position. In fact, Mr. Speaker, it will be what we refer to as a free vote; that is to say, that every Executive Member can go with what his conscience or what his constituents say in respect to this particular matter. I hope that answer is sufficient, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Is there a supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen?

Supplementary To Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

MRS. SORENSEN: Yes, my supplementary is with respect to the privileged briefing, Mr. Minister. I wonder if the Leader feels, Mr. Speaker, that there is a possibility that all MLAs could receive a similar briefing if they wish. I realize that we are not here for the next month or so, but is there a possibility of approaching DND for those of us who would like to receive a briefing in our capacity as MLAs?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this subject was examined by the Executive Council and representatives of the military. My understanding -- and I will deal with the question in a more general context first -- is that if public briefings are requested, representatives of the Government of Canada, not necessarily the military, but representatives of the Government of Canada will make themselves available to provide public briefings on the Cruise missile. Now, in respect to the Member's request, I am not quite sure if she is suggesting a public briefing or a private briefing. I cannot really say whether a representative of the military would be available to meet with her for a private briefing; it may be a representative of the government who would provide the briefing to an individual MLA. I understand from the military that there are people within, I believe, the privy council office who will be designated to provide briefings, both public and private, on this particular subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mrs. Sorensen.

Supplementary To Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

MRS. SORENSEN: Further to the privileged briefing aspect of it, Mr. Speaker, tomorrow Mr. MacQuarrie will be asking this Legislative Assembly, which is a responsible body and representative of the people, to declare its opposition to the testing of the Cruise missile in Canada and in northern Canada and my concern is that there may be something in that privileged briefing that we, as MLAs, should know. I wonder if the Minister could perhaps reassure us that the nature of the privileged briefing was just what he said -- that it concerned the safety aspect to private property and individuals.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 23-83(2): Testing Of The Cruise Missile

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I assure the House that a great deal of the information that was provided on the missile related to many purely technical and logistical items of information which the military specifically requested that we not make public. However, on the

moral issue which, I believe, is the substance of Mr. MacQuarrie's motion -- I do not want to speak for him or to have the record suggest that I am speaking for him -- the Executive Committee feels that it is a matter of conscience and each Member can make his own judgment as to whether the people of the Northwest Territories should express opposition to the testing of a guidance system that will be used or could be used ultimately one day along with nuclear warheads. I will, as I said, Mr. Speaker, endeavour to provide more detailed information. I apologize that all you have received before you is a two page summary which basically was done for translation purposes because some of the other public information that was available is quite lengthy and quite technical in its terminology. So I think that once this additional public information is provided, it will give Members some of the technical and also, I suspect, some of the political decisions that had to be made by the Government of Canada in making the choice to allow Cruise testing in this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today. We have received a communique. It is from COPE, Inuvik. It is addressed to the honourable John Parker, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, Government of the Northwest Territories. "Please advise my fellow compatriots of the Legislative Assembly that I will be a few days late. The reason for my lateness is attributed to making an effort with the community of Tuktoyaktuk to re-establish pending cancelled projects for this major impact community. Thank you." Signed, Nellie Cournoyea. Are there any written questions today? Mr. Kilabuk.

ITEM NO. 4: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 24-83(2): Funding For Cultural Inclusion Program, Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education. The local education committee of Pangnirtung has been requesting funding to run the cultural inclusion program. At the present time there are no funds available for the program. In Pangnirtung four teachers have been removed, and now more and more people are starting to move back to Pangnirtung from the outpost camps. As Minister of Education, what in your power are you planning to do regarding the requests of the local education committee? Although the school year is already under way, the cultural inclusion program has not started because no funding is available. The people of Pangnirtung are not very happy about this. Will you as the Minister of Education see that these needs are met as soon as possible, so that the cultural inclusion teachers can begin? Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I did not quite get the question.

MR. SPEAKER: It was a written question. Are there any further written questions? Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 25-83(2): Criteria For Planning For RCMP Detachments

MR. MacQUARRIE: I have a question for the Minister of Justice and Public Services. Will the Minister inform this House what criteria his department has laid down for the establishment and enlargement of RCMP detachments in NWT communities so that it is clear that a process of orderly planning is in place?

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further written questions? Mr. Kilabuk.

Question 26-83(2): Reimbursement For Pangnirtung HTA

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. The Pangnirtung Hunters and Trappers Association were given a Peterhead from the territorial government, which is called "Qasigiag". Before this Peterhead was handed over to the HTA they had requested some funding for maintenance in order to upgrade the boat. Why did the Department of Renewable Resources not give any money for maintenance when they requested it? What is the reason? The HTA is presently short of funding to maintain the Peterhead. As a Minister of Renewable Resources, are you going to attempt to reimburse what they have used? The HTA would appreciate receiving a reimbursement from the territorial government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Are there any returns for today? Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM NO. 5: RETURNS

Return To Question 11-83(2): Upgrading Of Road, Lake Harbour

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to written Question 11-83(2). It was asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on August 31, 1983, in regard to the road from Lake Harbour to Soper Lake. I wish to inform him that funds are currently being identified in the capital plan for this project. The region will make available \$5000 each year for the next three years to assist the council in upgrading the road. It is my understanding that this money will be used to purchase such items as culverts and that the council will provide, at their expense, the necessary equipment, labour and fill to complete the road. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further returns for today?

Item 6, Ministers' statements.

Item 7, petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees? Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Tologanak.

ITEM NO. 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 8-83(2), Tobacco Use Among Students in the Northwest Territories, 1982.

I have a further document to table: Tabled Document 9-83(2), Territorial Hospital Insurance Services and Medicare, Annual Report for the Period Ending March 31, 1982.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents.

Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 12, motions. I do not believe there are any registered in the book.

Item 13, first reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

ITEM NO. 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 1-83(2): Companies Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 1-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Companies Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to repeal those provisions which will become redundant with the introduction of a flat incorporation fee and to provide that annual information be filed with reference to each company's incorporation date.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 1-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Second reading of bills. Mr. McCallum.

Second Reading Of Bill 2-83(2): Council Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 2-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Council Ordinance, be read for the second time.

The purpose of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Council Ordinance to allow for in-town living allowances to be set by regulation upon the recommendation of the Management and Services Board; to set constituency allowances for 24 ridings; and to assure that any future boundary changes take effect at the next general election of the Council of the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 2-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

Second Reading Of Bill 3-83(2): Education Ordinance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kitikmeot, that Bill 3-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to allow the establishment of education divisions, divisional boards of education and community education councils. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 3-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 4-83(2): Interpretation Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Frobisher Bay, that Bill 4-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Interpretation Ordinance in order to provide a definition of the Executive Council for use in legislation generally.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 4-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Tologanak.

Second Reading Of Bill 6-83(2): Medical Care Ordinance

HON. KANE TULOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 6-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Medical Care Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to authorize the inspection and auditing of accounts submitted to the medical care plan and to provide a statutory base for recovery of overpayment of claims.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 6-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 10-83(2): Water Resources Agreements Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, that Bill 10-83(2), An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner and the Executive Member to Enter into Agreements Respecting Water Resources, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to allow the Government of the Northwest Territories to enter into agreements with the Government of Canada or the governments of the provinces and the Yukon Territory in conjunction with the Government of Canada respecting the planning and managing of water resources in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 10-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Braden.

Second Reading Of Bill 9-83(2): Regulations Ordinance

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 9-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Regulations Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide a means whereby any regulation, statutory instrument or non-statutory instrument can be proved in court by filing a certified copy of same.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 9-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 11-83(2): Wildlife Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Frobisher Bay, that Bill 11-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Wildlife Ordinance to allow wildlife officers to administer oaths and perform similar functions for the purpose of carrying out their duties; to remove from the superintendent the power to cancel or prohibit the issuance or renewal of a licence or permit and to give the court these powers and the power to suspend a licence or permit; to allow persons engaged in wildlife management on behalf of the Department of Renewable Resources access to private lands to carry out their work; to create an offence for interfering with lawful hunting; and to increase the limitation period for commencing a prosecution of an offence from six months to one year.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill.

HON. KANE TULOGANAK: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 11-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move second reading of Bills 12-83(2) and 13-83(2). While these bills are in the committee process, they should be completed by this evening and I would expect they should be then ready for examination in committee of the whole tomorrow so they could go on the order paper.

Second Reading Of Bill 12-83(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1982-83

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 12-83(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1982-83 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the 1982-83 financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 12-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 13-83(2): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 13-83(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1983-84 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the 1983-84 financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 13-83(2) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. That appears to conclude second reading of bills for today. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the standing committee on legislation has reviewed four pieces of legislation that have already received second reading, and I would wonder if I could get unanimous consent of the House now to move four bills into committee of the whole today. Those bills are the Interpretation Ordinance, Bill 4-83(2); the Regulations Ordinance, Bill 9-83(2); the Wildlife Ordinance, Bill 11-83(2); and the Education Ordinance, Bill 3-83(2).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent to move into the committee of the whole with Bills 4-83(2), 9-83(2), 11-83(2) and 3-83(2). Are there any nays? So be it. Bills 4-83(2), 9-83(2), 11-83(2) and 3-83(2) are moved into committee of the whole. Are there any further second readings of bills for today? Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters. We will resolve into committee of the whole then at this time to study Bills 4-83(2), 9-83(2), 11-83(2) and 3-83(2), with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

ITEM NO. 15: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OTHER MATTERS

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 4-83(2), INTERPRETATION ORDINANCE; BILL 9-83(2), REGULATIONS ORDINANCE

Bill 4-83(2), Interpretation Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now this committee will come to order. We are going to be dealing with Bill 4-83(2), Interpretation Ordinance. Mr. Braden, would you like to make any opening remarks?

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically, what we are seeking to do in this bill is to amend the Interpretation Ordinance to include a definition of Executive Council. The Executive Committee has been recently replaced by the Executive Council composed of the Commissioner and the Executive Members, and this reflects a further step in the constitutional development of the Northwest Territories. The definition of Executive Council is being introduced into the Interpretation Ordinance in recognition of this body and to provide a definition of the term Executive Council where it may appear in the legislation of the Northwest Territories. In clause 2, the term Executive Member is being amended accordingly. I just say in conclusion to my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, that what you find in provincial legislation are references to the Executive Council of the Legislature and, of course, in federal legislation you have a reference to what is called the privy council which is, in effect, the cabinet of the federal government. So we see that while it may be just a minor word change it does represent some significance in respect of how we name and define the cabinet of the territorial government. Thank you.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee reviewed this bill and recognized that the term Executive Council carries implications in favour of responsible government greater than the term Executive Committee, and the standing committee on legislation generally accepted and approved that there were no specific problems with the bill at all and recommended this bill to the House as it is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Are there any questions from the floor?

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does the House wish to go to clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 1, Executive Council. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 2, Executive Member. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The Bill 4-83(2) is now ready for third reading.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 9-83(2), Regulations Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bill 9-83(2). Do you want to make opening remarks, Mr. Braden?

HON GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this amendment is to allow the registrar of regulations to provide a certified copy of a regulation, a non-statutory instrument which is like an appointment of someone to a board, or a statutory instrument, such as an order of the Executive Member or the Commissioner, and to permit a court of law to recognize that the regulation, non-statutory or statutory instrument exists by the presentation of a certified copy. At the present time, Mr. Chairman, a court will only recognize these instruments once they have been published in the Northwest Territories Gazette. And you will recall, Mr. Chairman, that almost every session I tabled a number of documents relating to the Gazette. Now this amendment, Mr. Chairman, will allow these instruments to be recognized by the court during the period between their registration by the registrar of regulations and their publication in the Gazette and it will therefore be of great assistance to the courts and to private lawyers in the Northwest Territories. So unless the standing committee on legislation has any problems, Mr. Chairman, the government would recommend that we proceed clause by clause with these amendments.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation reviewed this bill and found it acceptable. There were no specific problems at all and the committee recommends it to the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Does this House wish to go to clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 1, true copy admissible. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bill 9-83(2) ready for third reading. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now we are going to go to Bill 11-83(2), Wildlife Ordinance. Mr. Nerysoo, do you have opening remarks?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: We are not proceeding with that bill.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo, I did not hear what you said. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated that we would have liked to have gone with Bills 11-83(2) and 3-83(2). It is my understanding those two bills are not ready as yet. We have no further business.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Let us take a 15 minute coffee break and we will decide what will happen after that. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

There is a quorum now and I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 4-83(2), INTERPRETATION ORDINANCE; BILL 9-83(2), REGULATIONS ORDINANCE

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 4-83(2) and 9-83(2) and wish to report that Bills 4-83(2) and 9-83(2) are recommended for third reading. I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. That then concludes the business of the day. Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a caucus meeting immediately after adjournment this afternoon, and at the conclusion of the caucus meeting there will be a meeting of the standing committee on legislation in the caucus room. At 6:30 this evening there will be a meeting of the standing committee on finance in room 211.

ITEM NO. 16: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Friday, September 2, 9:30 a.m.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Oral Questions
4. Written Questions
5. Returns
6. Ministers' Statements
7. Petitions
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Bills 11-83(2), 3-83(2), 12-83(2), 13-83(2), 1-83(2), 2-83(2), 6-83(2) and 10-83(2)
16. Third Reading of Bills
17. Assent to Bills
18. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Friday, September 2, 9:30 a.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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