



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1983

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. George Braden, Hon. Tom Butters, Mr. Curley, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Kilabuk, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Sibbeston, 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 for Tuesday, September the 6th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Kilabuk.

ITEM NO. 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Kilabuk's Reply

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My reply will not be very long. You probably all know, in May, in the springtime, I was unable to be here. There were reasons for which I could not attend, as some of our relatives passed away at that time, and I am sorry that I could not make it for the last session, Mr. Speaker.

We have gone through a lot of things in the year of 1983, here in the Legislative Assembly. At this time, my father is very ill, and that is one of the problems that I have had. However, life is like that, and things always work out for the best. That is the first thing that I wanted to say.

I have had a lot of help from this House, and I have tried my best to return the favour, mainly to my constituents, and I think I should mention these here at the last session of this Assembly. I have been a Member of the Legislative Assembly for seven years, and I have been working with you as the government for seven years. We have had a lot of discussions and I appreciate very much what the government has done for the constituents that I represent. We have been working more closely together, as I have been able to bring them to this House and keep them up to date.

In the Northwest Territories, there are a lot of different things that exist between the Western and Central Arctic as opposed to the East. We have all had time to think about that. The culture is different for the coastal and the inland people. The culture that we have now -- we are getting into new things and new things have been introduced to us. For this reason, I see that the future is going to be much better than the past.

Constituents' Requests Granted

All of the requests that I have brought to this House on behalf of my constituents have been answered, although some of them were difficult to get. I must say that I am very appreciative toward the government, because some of the major things were not easy. The government must understand that communities in the North are able to get things going by themselves. What each is trying to do is something that has to be widely understood. On one project, there was a company involved, and the cost was over a million, but they were able to reduce the cost to half a million. We will have to be doing more of this kind of thing in the future, so that private individuals can get things going themselves.

The other thing too that I have thought about very greatly deals with the requests by the communities for money so that they can carry out their projects. These are very major things that we have to work toward, and sometimes our requests are totally denied. I have thought about this for quite some time with regard to the government staff. When the government staff request something from the government, they seem to get it right away. I say that that is something different from what we have done, and we as the MLAs representing the people have to see that things get carried out in the future. At the last sitting of this Assembly, there were a lot of things that have gone into existence. The NWT Housing Corporation -- they do a lot of help for the communities. For this reason, I can see in the future that it is going to be a lot better than what we have now at this time.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I mentioned that I was not going to speak very long. The MLAs here, since I have been elected, have been working with you. I will not be running again this year; I just wanted to let you know that, that I will not be running. Because I am not running, you may be wondering why. I have too many things to do and I am mainly worried about the family that I have. Mainly regarding our culture, some of the younger students do not even know how to speak Inuktitut, and these are the kinds of things that I would like to be getting into -- cultural programs.

At the 10th Assembly, whoever is going to be the Members, I know that they will be working very hard, and there will be a lot of things that have to be done, because there are going to be 24 MLAs now. It is very useful to negotiate, and after negotiating we come to agreements, and there are quite a few things that we have achieved. There will be more things that will have to be negotiated in the future, and the things that we are trying to get at this time have not been settled, but I can see that in the future they will be negotiated and come to an agreement.

More Participation By Aboriginal People

Mr. Speaker, everything that I have said and all those people who will be the new 10th Assembly, I would like to see them working as hard as we have done with the government. Only if we work together in the Northwest Territories can we achieve more. Primarily the aboriginal peoples will be more in charge, and will participate more actively in the North. All the things that we have requested have not been settled, but they soon will be because there are a couple of things that I have requested. The local education authorities and hunters and trappers will have to get to a better stage so that they can be representing people more strongly. For the 10th Assembly, I know that they will be working hard on these things so that requests that I made can be carried out.

On finances -- the MLAs, I would just like to say that I am very grateful that we have had time to work together and negotiate with the staff that we have. I am not able to speak English, and I am very grateful to the interpreters that we have, that we have been able to understand what you guys are saying through the interpreters. As I said, I do not have very much to say. The people in Yellowknife, the places where we stay -- I am always very happy that we have had a lot of help from the city of Yellowknife, and the people of Yellowknife. I would just like to say that I am very grateful that you have done these things for me, and in the future I may be able to see some of you again.

In the future, for Inuit culture, I would want to see that more involvement by the aboriginal peoples takes place and that their requests get answered. That is about all I have to say. I would like to say thank you very much to all the MLAs and the staff. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk, the honourable Member for Baffin Central. Are there any other replies to make? There do not appear to be any further replies. Item 3, oral questions. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 30-83(2): Copyrights On Inuit Art

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. For a long time now, I have been trying to get a copyright for the arts the Inuit have. Recently, I have heard that the ITC and the Government of Canada have said that

they wanted to get the copyrights on the arts. I would like to know what has been taking place. What has been done to the copyrights? Is this government involved, and if so, how?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and I will provide a reply at a later date.

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

Question 31-83(2): Establishment Of NWT Science Institute

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. Earlier this year, we had tabled in this House some recommendations from the Science Advisory Board toward the establishment of a science institute for the Northwest Territories. I would like to ask the Minister what has happened since that time, whether he is assessing the recommendations, and whether he has determined to do anything specific with respect to them.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 31-83(2): Establishment Of NWT Science Institute

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I thank the honourable Member for giving me notice of the question. I would just like to indicate to the Member that the chairman and staff of the Science Advisory Board have held three meetings with the federal government on establishing a science institute in the North. They are developing a proposal which will be submitted to the Executive Council for approval and at that time we will be able to establish some concrete solutions with regard to establishing the science institute in the Northwest Territories. Further to that, they will be meeting in the very near future to discuss a draft proposal on establishing a science institute. It is the second draft. However, that draft proposal has not come to the Executive Council for final approval.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. If, when you are speaking, you would turn the volume down on your receiver, we will get rid of the chickadees or canaries that we get in there. Oral questions.

Item 4, written questions. Are there any written questions for today?

Item 5, returns. Are there any returns?

Item 6, Ministers' statements.

Item 7, petitions.

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

ITEM NO. 9: TABBING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 10-83(2), Annual Report of Territorial Accounts, Fiscal Year 1982-83. That is for the year ended March 31, 1983, and by way of advertisement I would mention that never before has this government -- and I doubt has any provincial jurisdiction -- completed and tabled its financial statement so soon after the end of the fiscal year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Members will recollect that usually this document is not tabled until January or February in the winter session, some 10 or 11 months after the year end.

AN HON. MEMBER: What happened to the computer?

AN HON. MEMBER: They were working.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further tabled documents? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I wish to table the Final Report of the Task Force on Implementation of the Special Committee on Education Recommendations. Mr. Speaker, I have some remarks I would like to make in that connection. Would I be permitted to speak briefly to it?

MR. SPEAKER: It is not usual to speak to a tabled document. Do we have unanimous consent to go back to Item 6, Ministers' statements?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Patterson, under Ministers' statements.

ITEM NO. 6: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On The Report Of The Task Force On Implementation Of Recommendations Of The Special Committee On Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I will be tabling the Final Report of the Task Force on Implementation of the Special Committee on Education Recommendations. The establishment of this task force to implement the recommendations was recommended by the special committee on education in its report to this House and endorsed by the House sitting in Inuvik in May, 1982. The task force was appointed in June of that year and has worked hard to complete their final report this August. The final report and its recommendations have been considered by the Executive Council and I am pleased to report that its main recommendations have been endorsed by the Executive. Having said that, however, I must observe that the recommendations of the task force for the longer term, in such crucial areas as headquarters administration, secretariat for learning, centres for teaching and learning, Minister's advisory council, autonomous divisional boards of education, extension of grade 10 to district schools, continuing education, special services or special education, language programs, and the Arctic College all require further action and money to implement. Recommendations which call for increased funding for special education, continuing education and indigenous language programs were endorsed by the Executive Council but sources of such new funding have yet to be identified.

Much work in that regard can and will be done following this last session of the Ninth Assembly, now that the Executive has endorsed the main thrust of the task force report. I see the full implementation of the recommendations of this Legislative Assembly for reforming education as a major task for the 10th Assembly and their Minister of Education. This is the third and final report of the task force. Their second report recommended the establishment of divisional boards in the form expressed in Bill 3-83(2), given second reading by this House last Thursday.

I would like to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to thank the hard-working members of the task force: Mr. Brian Lewis, chairman, and deputy minister of Education; Ms Lavinia Brown from Rankin Inlet; Mr. Mark Cleveland from Frobisher Bay; Mr. Joe Handley from Winnipeg; Mr. Ed Oberst from Yellowknife; Mr. Bill Stapleton from Fort Smith; and Ms Ethel Townsend from Fort Providence; and groups which made valuable presentations to the task force: the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association, the Dene Nation, and the Baffin Region Education Society. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The more proper place for that report would have been under Item 8, reports of standing and special committees, at the conclusion of which you could have tabled the document. It is just a matter of procedure. Item 9, tabling of documents, Mr. Patterson.

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now I wish to table Tabled Document 11-83(2), Final Report of the Task Force on Implementation of Recommendations of the Special Committee on Education, dated August, 1983. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any further tabling of documents? Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 12-83(2), Seventh Annual Report, The Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories, a summary of activities for the year ending March 31, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Braden.

ITEM NO. 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 6-83(2): Special Committee On Division Of The NWT, Dissolution

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, September 8, I shall move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Western Arctic, that this Legislature dissolve the special committee on division of the Northwest Territories.

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

Notice Of Motion 7-83(2): Power Disconnections In NWT Housing Corporation Housing

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I am going to give a notice of motion. On September 8, I shall move: Now therefore, I move, seconded by Joe Arlooktoo, that this new program be delayed until the houses are renovated and the people are more prepared.

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

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Mr. Wray.

ITEM NO. 12: MOTIONS

Motion 5-83(2): Agreement Between The Government Of Canada And The Frobisher Inn Ltd.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories took over the agreement between the Government of Canada and the Frobisher Inn Ltd.;

AND WHEREAS this agreement has been renegotiated and does not terminate until the year 1990;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories is obliged to pay sums of money to Frobisher Inn Ltd. annually for rooms not occupied to meet the terms of the agreement;

AND WHEREAS northern-owned businesses are suffering because of restrictions placed on territorial government employees as to where they are allowed to stay when in the community of Frobisher Bay;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Pine Point, that this Legislative Assembly recommends to the Executive Council that it immediately investigate the termination of its agreement with Frobisher Inn Ltd.;

AND FURTHER, that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Executive Council the handing back to the Government of Canada the said agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, Mr. Wray, and if your seconder will get back into the House, we can proceed. Thank you. You may proceed, Mr. Wray.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be very brief about this because the motion really explains the crux of the whole problem and most Members are aware of the situation that exists in Frobisher Bay, but for those who are not, basically this government has tied itself into an agreement for the next seven years whereby they have to pay the Frobisher Inn X amount of dollars for a service that is not being rendered. In other words, if people do not stay there, this government is obliged to pay the Frobisher Inn for that privilege. Now, that in itself is fairly insane, but what makes it even more insane is that the sums of money we are talking about are substantial. Over the next seven years a minimum of \$630,000 will be paid to that

establishment and if they increase their level of service, in other words, bring up the standard of their service which has been fairly poor in the past several years, the cost to this government could be somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$1.3 million. So as a method of saving government money, the fact that we have to pay this large sum of money to somebody for not doing us a service seems sort of stupid. But what makes it even more ludicrous is that the federal government were the people who landed the territorial government in this mess.

Basically the status now is that any territorial government employee going to Frobisher Bay is required to stay at that establishment, at the Frobisher Inn. If they do not stay there then this government will not pay their expenses. Now that hurts in several ways. First of all, it means that this government is directly subsidizing a southern business in competition to a northern business. It means that many of the government employees from the communities, particularly the native employees who prefer to stay with relatives in Frobisher Bay, can no longer stay there, or they can stay there but they cannot get any money to give their relatives for food and accommodation which they could have previously. Thirdly, if it continues, we could in effect eliminate all competition for the Frobisher Inn in Frobisher Bay basically by this agreement. And I guess the kick in the head is that now that the federal government has gotten rid of the agreement, they do not require their employees to stay at the Frobisher Inn. They only request that their employees stay there but there is no forcible way to make them stay there, and we are the ones who are forcing our employees to stay at the Frobisher Inn.

I just think the whole situation is intolerable, particularly the fact that we are paying for a non-service. If we were paying for something that we were getting I could see it, but we are paying for nothing. I guess the other problem is that a lot of people do not like staying at the Frobisher Inn. This agreement was never brought up by that establishment until quite recently, and it was brought up only because competition did enter into Frobisher Bay. Government employees preferred to stay at other establishments and the Frobisher Inn started to hurt, so now they are squawking. This government has recently had to make a payment to them and as I say, over the next seven years we will probably pay them between \$600,000 and \$1.3 million.

I think that this government should get right back out of that agreement and give it back to the federal government and say, "No, you negotiated the agreement, you have it." Then we would not be placed in the position of contradicting this Assembly's policy which is the support of northern business. But what the government is doing is absolutely subsidizing a southern business, not only in competition to a northern business but probably over the next two or three years it will drive one -- if not more -- northern business out of the market because while the summer trade is good for those establishments, the hard fact is in the Eastern Arctic that unless the hotels, particularly, get government trade in the winter they have a hard time making ends meet.

We have basically said to the town of Frobisher Bay and the Government of the Northwest Territories staff there, "You cannot stay anywhere else other than the Frobisher Inn, and if you do, we are not going to pay you for it." So I would just like to say let us get out of this agreement. It is a bad deal. As a businessman, if I was on the other end of the stick I would be rubbing my hands if I had a deal like this, but I had no hand in it in the Keewatin. They never came around with a nose bag a few years ago. I guess Baffin got it lucky. From a business point of view it is a great deal, but from the government point of view it is a terrible deal and we should just get right out of it. There is no other way to it. That is all I have to say, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Mr. McLaughlin, the seconder.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just briefly, I have seconded the motion and I am in favour of its intent. I am fully aware of why we are in the situation to start with; that the original deal was with the federal government, trying to encourage the development of facilities in Frobisher Bay, so that their people could travel and stay in the North in comfort. But the fact that we have inherited this deal now from the federal government, I do not like at all. I especially do not like the fact that the federal government employees are not obligated to stay in the facility as well. So it seems to me it is something that the federal government got themselves into and it is something that we should give back to them. They should try to get themselves out of it, not us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to say, as the MIA whose constituency is involved, that I have no partiality whatsoever for the Frobisher Inn. In fact, the records of this House will show that I have on several occasions, I believe, spoken against the way

the Frobisher Inn has been managed, particularly with reference to their responsibility as a liquor licensee. I would like to make it very clear, in speaking to this motion, that although I greatly sympathize with the intent behind the motion, there is another side to the question that has been explored by the Executive Council, and by myself as a Member of the Executive, in trying to grapple with this very difficult issue.

There is nothing that I would like better than to be able to hand the agreement back to the Government of Canada. I agree that it is against all principles of fairness, and that basically the Frobisher Inn is an absentee landlord type of corporation, the kind of company that we are not trying to encourage in the Northwest Territories. I will go further than the Member and say that employees do not want to stay at the Frobisher Inn for good reason, that it does not have a good reputation as a hotel.

Legal Position On The Agreement

However, I would like to point out that we, the government, have extensively researched the question with legal advisers and other consultants, and we have concluded that there is no way of just handing back this agreement without paying a substantial amount of damages. I would respectfully suggest to the mover of the motion that our legal position is either we pay the Frobisher Inn through the renegotiated agreement or we pay probably a much greater sum through damages through breach of contract. So it is not quite as simple as just handing the agreement back. This government, with our precious public funds, is going to pay either way, is the information that I have.

Renegotiated Agreement Is Less Expensive

Furthermore, I also understand that this government has been able to renegotiate this agreement, so that at least we are paying a lot less than we would have been called on to pay by the original agreement which we inherited, I believe quite unknowingly, from the federal government at the time. It is only recently that with competition, as the Member says, the issue has come forward.

Funds Sought From Federal Government

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out to the Member that I am aware that this government is seeking to make the federal government return to this government the costs that we are going to bear in honouring an agreement that we were not a party to in the first place. We are appealing to the federal government to replenish the funds that we must pay in this manner through the negotiations for our budget. If successful, at least that would alleviate what appears to be an unproductive expenditure of funds from this government.

So in sum, Mr. Speaker, although the agreement is just as repulsive to me as it is to the Member, and although I certainly hold no brief whatsoever for the Frobisher Inn -- in fact I feel very uncomfortable standing here defending an agreement which gives them a precedent -- I do feel, Mr. Speaker, that this government is a victim of an agreement that was inherited many, many years ago. We have done our best to negotiate our way out of it and to minimize the costs; we are doing our best to recover the sums from the federal government. I am not sure that there is any real evidence that the competition in Frobisher Bay has suffered from this agreement. I think it is a bit too early to tell. I have certainly met with at least some of the competition in Frobisher Bay on this issue, and heard from them, and I think that at this point, at least, no one can say that anyone is going under as a result of the preference that is given to the Frobisher Inn -- probably because most people who have the choice do not stay there.

So for all these reasons, Mr. Speaker -- although, as I say, I feel somewhat difficult in doing this -- I must decline to support the motion. I feel that this government has done the very best it can do to get out of what is admittedly a very difficult and even embarrassing if not unfair situation; but it is a situation that we did not invite, and it is a situation not of our own creation.

I would also point out, as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, that the motion is not correct in that it cites an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Frobisher Inn Ltd. The agreement is between the Government of Canada and Frobisher Developments Limited, which also owns the hotel in which we are meeting, I believe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just briefly, Mr. Speaker, to indicate that the item will be appearing in the supplementary estimates, and possibly if we talk it out now it will not get so much go around on that occasion. I just found the mover's words, as did my colleague, misleading and incorrect, and I think that any Member who does put motions before the House should take as much care as they can to ensure that the words that they are using are factually correct.

Position Of Government

The Member, in speaking to this motion, also said that this government has tied itself into an agreement. Well, he knows very well that this government did not tie itself into any agreement. He knows very well that this government was assigned an agreement by the federal government, which the federal government had made with not the Frobisher Inn but with Frobisher Developments Limited, many, many years ago. He is aware of that.

The second "whereas" clause indicates that the agreement has been renegotiated. I do not think that the agreement has been renegotiated; I think there have been negotiations on the amount of financial obligation that this government would pay over the past months when the occupancy rate fell below the formula that had been developed in the agreement.

But with regard to the motion, it just asks that the Executive Council immediately investigate the termination of its agreement with Frobisher Inn. Well, again, Frobisher Developments, I guess it is. As the Member for Frobisher Bay indicated, the government has pursued an attempt to terminate this. We have had legal advice on our ability to get out of the arrangement, which was not at any time developed with us or by us or through us, or whatever. It was assigned to us.

My honourable colleague has very clearly indicated to you all exactly the results of those investigations. So we have done that, and we would be willing to pursue it again, because I do not think that any of us on the Executive Council like having to pick up an old obligation which seems to be unfair in terms of the reality of today.

The more operative aspect of the motion is that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Executive Council the handing back to the Government of Canada the said agreement. I certainly would accept that recommendation, and if it could be done I would be glad to do it. As Mr. Patterson has indicated, we will be attempting to seek reimbursement from the federal government for the amount that we will be having to pay out to the Frobisher firm. We are hopeful that the federal government will see its way clear to meet that obligation when they receive it.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the motion. To the motion. Mr. Wray, you have the right to conclude the debate.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Seeing as how I am being brought to task on my semantics, the agreement that we were given was that the agreement was between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Frobisher Inn Ltd. and that is what it states quite clearly at the top of the agreement, the one that we were given in the finance committee. The original agreement, I agree, was made between the Government of Canada and FDL, but the new agreement states it is between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Frobisher Inn Ltd. So I may be faulted in some of my research, but not all of it. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 5-83(2), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes the debate. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion, please raise their hand. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I believe this concludes motions for today.

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters.

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

Bill 11-83(2), Bill 3-83(2), Bill 12-83(2), Bill 13-83(2), Bill 1-83(2), Bill 8-83(2), Bill 2-83(2), Bill 5-83(2), Bill 6-83(2), Bill 10-83(2). We will resolve into committee of the whole with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 11-83(2), BILL 3-83(2), BILL 12-83(2), BILL 13-83(2); REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Bill 11-83(2), Wildlife Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now this committee will come to order. We are going to be dealing with Bill 11-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. As Members can see, there are a number of amendments that are being suggested to the Wildlife Ordinance: one to allow wildlife officers the ability to administer oaths, which would improve their ability to provide some of the services and functions that are required by hunters and trappers; the second is to remove the power to cancel and prohibit the issuance or the renewal of a licence or permit from the superintendent of wildlife and to give that responsibility to the courts; the third part of the amendment to the Wildlife Ordinance is to allow persons who are not employed by the department, other than through a contract or other means, who are not permanent employees of the Department of Renewable Resources to have access to private lands where it is necessary to carry out certain research on behalf of the Department of Renewable Resources. This is presently not provided for in the Wildlife Ordinance, and when we do contract individuals or organizations to do work for us, there may be a situation where they can be charged for entering private lands to do that particular research. The fourth element is to increase the limitation period for commencing a prosecution of an offence from six months to one year. It is clear from our past experience that six months does not seem to allow for proper procedure, and, in fact, there were times when people have indicated long after the six month period that there have been breaches of the Wildlife Ordinance and because the time period was not long enough we could not commence with any type of prosecution at all. We have found the limitation of six months to be not helpful at all, and in fact to cause us some problems in trying to prosecute. That is basically the intent of the bill itself. Further, the chairman of the standing committee on legislation will indicate that there was a request for an amendment to the bill. I have that amendment with me and will be introducing it as we go clause by clause through the bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation did review this bill and there was a fair amount of discussion on it generally. In the end, we had just one amendment to recommend to the government, and I will refer to that in a moment. I think we want it noted particularly that the clause that makes it an offence to interfere with lawful hunting -- it is clear from our legislation that the word "hunting" includes trapping -- that it would be an offence for anyone to interfere with lawful trapping as well as hunting.

Quite a bit of discussion involved the clause that would increase the limitation of prosecution from six months to 12 months. Some Members in the committee were reluctant to see that period extended, feeling that the possibility of a charge should not be pending over someone's head for such a long period of time, that it should either be laid with dispatch or not be laid, but after a fair amount of discussion it was recognized that special circumstances prevail and the committee agreed that the extension there to 12 months was reasonable.

The one area where the committee recommended a change was with respect to the situation where a superintendent has the power to suspend someone's licence. The bill originally submitted to us then said that that person should have the right to appeal the suspension to a judge; specifically, that meant the judge of the supreme court of the Northwest Territories. Yet we noted in another clause that a justice of the peace could have the power to cancel a licence or prohibit the further issuance of a licence, and Members felt that a justice of the peace would be competent to deal with an appeal where a superintendent had lifted or suspended a licence for a period of time. The committee recommended that change to the government and I understand from what the Minister has said that he will, in fact, make that amendment to the bill. So, with that one amendment the committee agreed that this bill should be referred to the committee of the whole.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, just prior to going clause by clause I would like to indicate one other amendment that was brought to my attention by the chairman of the standing committee on legislation and it has to do with an offence for interfering with lawful hunting. As you are probably aware, there have been a number of occasions where organizations or individuals have interfered, in the southern areas, by preventing individuals from proceeding with hunting when it has been lawful to do so. We are now including a new section in the ordinance which will allow for the Department of Renewable Resources to charge any individual or organization, depending on who might be involved, to be charged for interfering with those people that are lawfully hunting in the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: (Translation) I would like to point something out about subsection 15(1). I guess I would like to ask you a question first. Licencees only can go out hunting and trapping. They have to have licences nowadays and we only allow people to go out now with licences. Previously there was a law and even if they did not have a licence, they could go out. Up to now there is no Inuit nor Inuit people who are treated in this way. I would like to ask this question on subsection 15(1). If they can suspend a licence, as in the old ordinance it says that a superintendent should suspend the licence if the hunter has been unlawfully hunting, is it really going to affect the general hunting licence? Can they stop their general hunting licence? I would like to know more about this.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I just want to indicate under the present ordinance the superintendent has the ability to cancel and to prohibit a renewal of a licence, and it includes those people that hold general hunting licences as well. What we are now doing is withdrawing that authority and that power and giving it to a decision of the courts or the judge to handle that. In the case of a suspension, the suggestion that was first provided to the standing committee on legislation allowed for an appeal to the judge and that was a judge of the supreme court only. The amendment which I will introduce will indicate that the appeal can also go to the justice of the peace in a community. So on recommendation by the standing committee on legislation we are trying to reduce the number of stages that an individual has to go through. Now, the present ordinance allows for that authority to be held by the superintendent of wildlife and we are reducing his authority.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Any more general comments? Does this House wish to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay. Clause 1, administering oaths, etc. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 2, suspension by superintendent. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 3, appeal. Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion To Amend Clause 3, Bill 11-83(2)

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I move that Bill 11-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Wildlife Ordinance, be amended by removing clause 3 of the bill and substituting the following: Marginal note, "appeal". Clause 3, the ordinance is further amended by repealing subsection 15(2) and substituting the following: Appeal. (2) The person referred to in subsection (1) may appeal to a

justice who may direct the superintendent to lift the suspension, if the superintendent fails to establish that there was any such contravention, or to reduce the period for any such suspension, and a decision of the justice may be appealed by the superintendent or the person referred to in subsection (1) to a judge who may confirm, vary or quash the decision of the justice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. I think it is going to be better for us to have a copy of those amendments. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, I agree we should have a copy of that particular amendment. It is rather long to try and keep track of it; but I did have a proposal that I wanted to introduce at clause 2, on subsection 15(1), and I indicated my hand but you did not see it at that time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, do you want me to proceed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Let us take a few minutes break to have those copies made up and come back. There was a motion on the floor.

---SHORT RECESS

To start off, we would like to go back to clause 2. Mr. Curley put his hand up at that time and I did not see him. That was my fault. This House has to agree to go back to clause 2. Maybe we will have to deal with the motion first and then we will go back to clause 2 after that. Mr. Nerysoo, we have the copy now. To the motion.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The suggested amendment was a recommendation from the standing committee on legislation. I have responded by introducing the amendment to address the recommendation as it was proposed to me. I realize that it still allows for an appeal by both the superintendent and the person who has had the suspension to a judge if further appeal is necessary.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Amend Clause 3, Bill 11-83(2), Carried

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

---Carried

Clause 3 as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now, does this House agree to go back to clause 2? Agreed. Mr. Curley.

Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 11-83(2)

MR. CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I had intended to raise a point of order because I did raise my hand to move an amendment to clause 2. As a result of your suggestion I agreed to proceed with a motion by the Minister on clause 3, but now given a chance I would like to move a motion for an amendment to clause 2, on subsection 15(1), the fifth line, right after "any licence" to add the following words: "except holders of general hunting licences".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. I believe the way it would now read is, "any licence except general hunting licences". Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I want to make this clear. I am not trying to give a particular exemption to any person who is charged or contravenes any of the conditions of a general hunting licence to be prosecuted. That is not the intention at all. The intention is that sometimes those people who have no other means of economic opportunity in the North can only try to stay alive and have the means to survive through hunting and trapping full-time; that is their livelihood. We are fortunate our livelihood, for those of us in this House, involves more than just hunting and trapping. What I am trying to do here is to try and at least give an exception to the general hunting licence being terminated or suspended because if a liberal judge were to come into a community in the Eastern Arctic and charge a person who has been found, possibly, guilty of breaking certain conditions with respect to a licence, if the judge were to find that it should be suspended -- because that is what we are going to do to them if my motion fails -- should be suspended of his licence, he would have no other source of livelihood at all because he probably would not be educated. He probably would not have a job, so as a result he would lose all means of his livelihood.

So I am trying to give protection to that, in view of the fact that there may not be many people who have careers, positions and jobs in the government or industry, but there are many hunters and trappers whose only interest is the hunting and trapping and pursuing a livelihood from the country. So I therefore would ask the Members to give a special consideration to those individuals who have been provided with a general hunting licence. I said before that I was not giving them a special privilege or trying to give them one. I am trying to say let us allow them to hunt and trap. If the judge finds them contravening the regulations in this ordinance, he may fine them or whatnot, but not suspend the licence of those holders of general hunting licences. So that is what I am trying to do, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I would just like to indicate that while the intent of the Member is not to have general hunting licence holders not be able to be charged, the reality is that the amendment does suggest that general hunting licence holders cannot have their licences suspended and cannot, in fact, have their licences removed even at the suggestion of the hunters and trappers association. There have been some suggestions that upon recommendation from the HTA, or suggestions of laws that have been recommended by regional councils or regional hunters and trappers associations, that if breaches of those laws or regulations occurred a licence would still be able to be held by the GHL holder. I think that would mean that they would not be able to have their licence suspended until a charge was laid and I think that might cause some additional problems that the Member may not be aware of.

In particular, there have been a number of recommendations by HTAs that licences be suspended because there has been an indication that breaches of law have in fact taken place. In the cases of regional councils or organizations making suggestions through regulations -- the Dempster highway regulations, where we have a corridor and in that corridor there are certain restrictions on hunting; the establishment of a new corridor on the Liard highway; the Mackenzie highway from Providence to Simpson where there is a restriction on hunting moose, big game -- we could have some very serious problems in those types of areas if that suspension could not occur, particularly upon recommendation of those particular areas and groups. So I think it could cause some additional repercussions and I find it very difficult to support.

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

NWT Act Provision For Protection

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you. I appreciate the concern of Mr. Curley. I must say though that the NWT Act does provide a certain amount of protection for aboriginal people because in section 14, subsection (3), it does provide that nothing in the powers given to the Commissioner in Council shall be construed so as to authorize these people to make ordinances restricting or prohibiting Indians or Eskimos from hunting for food on unoccupied crown lands. So this really does mean that any native people, Inuit and Dene people who are hunting for game on unoccupied crown land can do so, and this Council, this Assembly, cannot in any way take away that right; so as long as that is recognized.

I appreciate the concern of Mr. Curley because, theoretically, with the amendment that is suggested by Mr. Nerysoo, if a general hunting licence holder, let us say, does something of a minor nature, let us say he shoots ducks close to town or out of season right close to town, or does something lesser than that, the question is whether the superintendent can take away his general hunting licence for that. Technically one could say yes, but in law the superintendent would not be able to do so because of these provisions of the NWT Act. Maybe if this provision in the Northwest Territories Act was put into our Wildlife Ordinance it would remind the authorities that are here that despite all their laws and so forth, native people do have certain rights that are given as a result of being aboriginal people under the general term of aboriginal rights and also that in the Northwest Territories Act they did provide for this, they did provide for native people being able to hunt game for food on unoccupied crown land. So I just wanted to point that out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? Honourable Member for Deh-Cho.

MR. SIBBESTON: I just wanted to hear clearly what the amendment was and know what we are voting on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): In Clause 2, on subsection 15.(1), the fifth line, right after "any licence" to add "except general hunting licences". To the motion. Mr. Wray.

MR. WRAY: Mr. Chairman, a point of clarification. Given what Mr. Sibbeston has told us, could we put a section of law into the Wildlife Ordinance which actually contravenes the NWT Act? Will we be contravening the NWT Act by putting this section in or does the NWT Act override all of our ordinances?

LAW CLERK (Mr. Fuglsang): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Sibbeston is correct in what he stated in terms of the NWT Act and it does in fact override local ordinances or ordinances of this Assembly, should the Assembly attempt to pass things beyond its jurisdiction or beyond the jurisdiction allowed it by the NWT Act. The Legislative Assembly can pass ordinances which regulate game and that sort of thing, but only to the point where it does not infringe, as Mr. Sibbeston pointed out, on the right of an Indian or Eskimo hunting for food on unoccupied crown lands. In other words, that basic right cannot be taken away from them by any ordinance of the Northwest Territories and I do not think these ordinances, it would be my opinion that these ordinances, or this ordinance that is being dealt with here today, the Wildlife Ordinance, is attempting to do that. It is attempting to regulate hunters by licensing in that process. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Let us take a 15 minute short recess. I still have two speakers. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

Now this committee will come back to order. To the motion to amend clause 2, subsection 15(1), by adding "except general hunting licences". Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you. I wanted to speak to the motion. When you are a native hunter, this motion is very good. As some of the Inuit know, we know some of the people do not follow the regulations but this amendment will be very good for the people that follow the regulations. So I would like to support this motion because if I support this motion I will be supporting the people I will be representing, my constituents. This is all I wanted to say. So I will be supporting this motion. Thank you.

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

Provision For Protection Of Livelihood

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to point out that a little further on in this amendment, in clause 5, a repeal of subsection 15(5), which is on page two of our bill, I do note that a person who has his licence suspended or cancelled can appeal to a judge, and I do note that the judge must consider how serious the offence was and also whether or not suspension of the licence would seriously affect the hunter's livelihood. So I do believe that the concern Mr. Curley expressed is at least partly addressed through the appeal process, in that a judge must look at whether or not a suspension would seriously affect the hunter's livelihood. In that event, it seems to me that the proposed amendment would require the judge to lift the cancellation, suspension or prohibition. So it seems to me that that concern is taken care of a little further on in the bill. Thank you.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I can see that. I certainly agree that for those of us who can read it and understand the rules and regulations and the ordinances, that it is possible to appeal any conviction or any suspension of licence right through the Supreme Court of Canada, but I am not sure that the average holder of a general hunting licence is able to afford it or is prepared to go through all that legal process.

What I am trying to do is to give a special, I think a meaningful recognition as well, to the aboriginal people. I believe that this government at one time had a wide open application in terms of ordinances and regulations that the native people were allowed to hunt and trap and be granted general hunting licences in any area in the Territories. In 1966 that particular privilege was changed and expanded to include not only the native people who are now allowed general hunting licences. So I think that I can see that we have a problem not only for the native people but for other individuals, non-native people, who hold general hunting licences.

Unintentional Contravention

A general hunting licence, in my view, is a special licence and really should be treated as a special licence for those individuals who have no other opportunities to pursue their livelihood. There will always be people who are in this situation because it is so easy to contravene the set of ordinances and wildlife regulations in the Territories for a person who has never studied them or is not even aware of regulations. For instance, a guy can kill a grizzly bear in my area in protecting his property and he contravenes that ordinance and regulation and therefore, rightfully, any judge can suspend that licence. He may not; he may be understanding. But it is possible that if more than one offence has been committed by, for instance, a holder of a general hunting licence, any judge may decide one day or the crown prosecutor may argue that that person's licence should be suspended because he has contravened the set of ordinances and regulations. So what I am trying to do here is to give protection to those people; let us not ever completely deprive that person from his economic pursuit which most of the time for those non-educated people means hunting and trapping. That is what I am trying to protect. There are all kinds of ways that he can be punished for breaking a regulation, but let us not deprive him of his economic means. Thank you.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, I would just like to say a couple of things. Firstly, it is not the intention of this government to take away the right of the hunter and the trapper to pursue his traditional way of life. In fact, what we are doing in the second amendment to the ordinance is reducing the possibility that that individual would in fact have his licence cancelled, or that he would not have the ability to have that licence renewed. We are giving it to an authority that is much higher than just the superintendent. Regarding the definition of the superintendent in this case it happens to be the superintendent of wildlife and not the regional superintendent. So I think that we are trying to make it somewhat difficult for that individual to lose his licence.

I indicated earlier that it could cause some very serious problems if you have the amendment included in a section where, if the regulations were such that the hunters were in fact breaking the law without taking into consideration the regulations, then I think that that is something, or if they were at least ignoring the regulations. In some cases, as the Member indicated, where there is a situation where you are defending your property or your life, I think that the Wildlife Ordinance, in fact, does allow you to do that.

I know there are certain regulations in the sense of reporting where the incident happened and in returning the hide, with the suggestion and the strong encouragement of the Member, that we in fact introduce an amendment so that instead of going to the department it would now go to the regional organizations. I know that he was a little more insistent that it go to the local hunters and trappers association, but we went as far as to suggest that it go to the regional organizations. Now, as I indicated earlier, that could cause some very serious problems. I think, as was pointed out by my colleague, Mr. Sibbeston, the ordinance itself recognizes the livelihood of the Inuit and the Dene in pursuing the right to hunt for food and life.

Appeal Process Further Protects Livelihood

The other section is under the appeal, where Mr. Patterson pointed out that there is a clause. I do realize that there are times when the appeal process seems long, but it may be that such an

appeal process may, in fact, in law protect even further the right of the Dene or the Inuit to continue to pursue their livelihood such as was the case in the arms restriction decision that the individual who was charged could not -- under the firearms legislation, if you are charged with an act of using firearms -- the law of the supreme court said that that gentleman could, in fact, after release from jail, get his gun back, rather than being restricted to the five year limit that has been suggested under the firearms law.

So I think there are ways in which we can try to protect the interests of the hunter with the general hunting licence but there is also a situation where you have to protect those people who are abiding by the law. You have to at least utilize the law to protect those, or to ensure that there are certain ways in which their livelihood can be pursued without a lot of problems. It is not our intention to make it difficult for those people that are pursuing their livelihood and it is noted in the legislation, as I indicated earlier, that the authority of the superintendent is reduced. That is our intention. It is certainly not, as I indicated, our intention to make it more difficult, rather to reduce the opportunity for the superintendent to in fact suspend or cancel, basically I should say cancel and prohibit a renewal; and that is where we have a certain problem.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I regret seeing Mr. Curley once again bring what amounts to a very significant amendment to an ordinance at the last minute, to the floor of the House. He certainly, as with all Members, has the opportunity to attempt to persuade the government to bring about desired changes in legislation in the months between sessions. If he has done that and been unsuccessful, he has the right, as other Members do, to appear at standing committee on legislation meetings, to try to ensure the changes are brought about there, so that they can be investigated in all their ramifications before they come to the floor of the House, as it is very difficult to deal with something like this at the last moment.

Personally, I cannot support the motion because it would set up a situation which is absolutely discriminatory, in that holders of general hunting licences would not be subject to suspension by superintendents, whereas holders of sport hunting licences would be. I know that general hunting licence holders already have extraordinary opportunities for pursuing their livelihood, hunting and trapping and so on, over and above those of sport hunters. In that sense, I think they have a more serious obligation to abide by the few regulations that do exist.

Powers Of Superintendent

But notwithstanding what I have said, I see that the real issue is not what has been raised here today, but the real issue is as to whether a superintendent should have that power at all, to lift anybody's licence or suspend it arbitrarily. The answer to that may be that no, they should not. Perhaps other Members can enlighten me, but I believe a peace officer, for example, does not have the right arbitrarily to lift a driver's licence.

AN HON. MEMBER: What if he is drunk?

MR. MacQUARRIE: He is able to, for a prolonged period of time, until the driver is sober. At any rate, the lifting of licences arbitrarily is a serious matter, and in most cases it would go to a court. So it is possible that the government should review this entirely and maybe decide to get rid entirely of the right of superintendents to suspend licences. But that could not be effected simply here, right now, and until the government comes forward with some legislation that would effect that, I would hate to see it just changed partially because, as I said, it really would set up a discriminatory situation and be an affront to sport hunters in that case.

Myself, I would ask the government seriously to consider this whole question as to whether superintendents should have that right. But in the meantime, I would feel that I would have to vote against the particular amendment that has been brought to the floor.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, first of all, as a Member of this Legislature, I have the privilege, I believe, to introduce, vote against, support legislation introduced by the government and sanctioned by the chairman of the standing committee on legislation. If he believes that I am contravening my privilege here, he should state so. I made it clear that I am not attempting to give a special privilege to those individuals in terms of punishment and the justice giving them a fine for contravening such laws and regulations. What I am trying to do is for those individuals who were originally granted general hunting licences to pursue their economic livelihood. You call it traditional, it is not just traditional. It may be traditional, so is any economic means, any job that we have. These are all traditional privileges granted from us, from our civilization.

What I am trying to say is that there is a lot of difference between sport hunting and people who pursue their livelihood hunting and trapping. For instance, the government does not ever enact such laws that would deprive employees of a company or the government, suspend them from a job, for contravening certain ordinances of this government. We just do not do that. We do not allow the government to ever deprive a person, even if he were fined, for instance, for giving favourable treatment in the government for granting of a contract or whatnot. Even if they were fined for a conflict of interest, we just do not allow the government to deprive them and suspend them of that right of employment, because that is their economic pursuit, and I am trying to give a parallel type of comparison here for holders of general hunting licences. Their economic means, their bread and butter, is the hunting and trapping and fishing. So I am trying to protect that from a superintendent, or a justice of the peace. So that is all I am trying to say, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 11-83(2), Defeated

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

---Defeated

Clause 2, suspension by superintendent. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We have finished clause 3 already. Clause 4, power of justice upon conviction. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 5, appeal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 6, restriction on suspension. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 7, transmittal to superintendent. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 8, liability for trespass. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 9, interference with lawful hunting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 10, limitation of prosecution. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is Bill 11-83(2) ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 3-83(2): Education Ordinance

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now we are going to go to Bill 3-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance. Mr. Patterson, do you have any general comments or opening remarks?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to briefly comment on this amendment before we proceed to clause by clause discussion. The first thing I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, is that this amendment does follow from the work of the special committee on education and the task force on implementation. I think it should be seen as the first step in orderly reform of the education system. There have been some comments that this legislation does not go far enough. I would like to observe that the divisional boards which will be permitted by this legislation will have significant powers in such areas as recruitment, selection and designation of education personnel in the education division. They will have control of discretionary funds in the school division. They will be able thereby to set priorities for the education program beyond the core curriculum. If the legislation does not go as far as some would have it, it is only because we have simply not had time to prepare for the full implications of autonomous divisional boards. We have not yet had the opportunity to work out all the necessary details required to have the divisional boards become employers of teachers, and we have not yet been able to work out the necessary details required to give divisional boards responsibility in areas such as the ownership and maintenance of schools. These subjects, I am confident, will be further explored and I anticipate that the powers of divisional boards beyond what is given in this ordinance will be strengthened as the education system in the Northwest Territories evolves.

One point I would like to make very clear to the members of the public in introducing this amendment is that the existing Education Ordinance remains intact, and particularly I would like to emphasize that existing local education authorities, the committees, the societies and the school boards -- there are only two school boards in the Northwest Territories at present -- all these education authorities will remain in place with their present full powers and privileges and responsibilities unless and until they petition to become a divisional board. So this amendment, Mr. Chairman, in sum introduces a new category of local education authorities which is designed for areas which do not necessarily have the financial or human resources to establish a fullfledged school board, but in no way is this new category of local education authority -- in no way should this new category of local education authority be seen as a threat to the existing local education authorities at all levels. They must petition if they require a change of status. Otherwise their privileges will remain as they are now in the Education Ordinance.

Just in closing, Mr. Chairman, I will say that although public consultation could have been more effective, between the time this government and myself received the recommendations of the special committee on education as approved by the Legislative Assembly and the task force that was commissioned to follow up on those recommendations, I have had a chance to meet with local education authority chairmen in most regions of the Northwest Territories and I am quite satisfied that despite some earlier apprehensions that this amendment will be well received by local education authorities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee notes that this bill generally is a response to recommendations from the special committee on education and therefore, in principle, has accepted the bill all along. There was a fair amount of detailed discussion on the bill as it was proposed to us initially. In our consideration of the bill we also had reference to input from the Hay River Community Education Society, the Baffin Region Education Society and Yellowknife Education Districts Nos. 1, 2 and 4, all of whom sent written responses to a request from myself earlier in the summer not only to them but to all educational authorities across the Territories, to let us know of any concerns that they had. So our deliberations were conducted in the knowledge of this information and in my own case I also had access to minutes from a meeting that was held in southern Slave in May, I believe, which the Minister attended and which the honourable Member for Pine Point attended as well. So there was quite thorough discussion and generally speaking the bill was acceptable. There were some changes that the standing committee on legislation recommended and I think that rather than list those now I will simply note them as we go through the bill clause by clause. The Minister seems to have responded favourably to the vast majority of recommendations that the standing committee made and so in the light of that the committee has recommended this bill to the committee of the whole.

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

Status Of Yellowknife School Boards

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, for general comments just as a Member for Yellowknife, I am particularly concerned about the boards of education in Yellowknife. I heard what the Minister said earlier and I would just like to be very clear on that, so if I may spend about one minute just reiterating what I believe I heard the Minister say, just so that I have a clear understanding. It is my understanding, Mr. Minister, that you said, and I am particularly concerned about boards of education, that they have held traditionally certain powers and been enabled to conduct their business in a certain way, and I understand your saying that this bill is not intended to and does not in fact diminish the powers of those boards nor alter their accustomed methods of operation. Did I understand that correctly, Mr. Minister?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can agree completely with what the Member for Yellowknife Centre says about the powers and privileges and duties of the present school boards in Yellowknife not being in any way affected by this amendment. In fact, the provisions respecting the establishment of school boards in the Education Ordinance are not in any way dealt with by this amendment. No provisions are repealed or amended dealing with school boards and, indeed, the same is true with all other local education authorities presently in place in the Northwest Territories. Indeed, I might just go a little further and say that I would think that it would be very unlikely that -- I have heard some people saying, "well, is the option of divisional board status open to the school boards in Yellowknife?" I would say to that yes, it would certainly be possible for a school board to petition to become a divisional board, but in fact the present Yellowknife school boards have more powers than this Education Ordinance amendment would give to the divisional boards. They are indeed employers of teachers, whereas the teachers would continue to be employed under the public service under a divisional board. The school boards do own and manage school premises, whereas the school premises under divisional boards would continue, at least for the time being, to be owned by the government and maintained by the Department of Public Works. So in no way do I see the powers or privileges of school boards being affected by this amendment, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. General comments. Are you ready to go clause by clause? Mr. McLaughlin.

Loss Of Local Control

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one general comment I would like to make that I think has individual concern for some of the communities in my area, and maybe some other areas as well, is regarding the issue of local control over education. I have addressed this personally to the Minister and in the committee as well, but I would like to get it on the record that education is very important and the local education authorities already have powers given to them, especially in the case of societies. At the same time, the government is introducing another piece of legislation, the Regional and Tribal Councils Ordinance, and they are making a very good case in there to make sure that the local authorities do not lose their power. However, in this case Members should be aware that the local or the regional education board when it is created will cause the local committees and societies to have to become education councils and they will not have the same authority that a society does. I think that might be a problem with implementing this principle. I am in favour of the general principle of regional boards.

Another situation that bothers me is that generally these new regional boards will not have the same powers and authorities as the boards in Yellowknife, the main thing being the ability to collect taxes. To demonstrate this in my area, it is possible right now for communities like Hay River, Fort Smith and Pine Point to by themselves develop from committee to society and to a board, and it is reasonably possible if a community is as big as Hay River, Fort Smith and Pine Point that they could themselves become boards. But it probably would not be advisable because it would be pretty trim financially. They would probably have enough money to have an administrator and that would be about it. But I do not see why the existing three communities, for example, Pine Point, Fort Smith and Hay River could not have a regional board with the same powers as the Yellowknife school boards do and I think the legislation is lacking in that area. If it is not possible for that to happen, especially when you consider that the individual communities could go that route, why cannot three of them get together and go that route? Those are the two main areas I think should be of concern; the fact that local authorities are going to have to give up some power to this regional education board and the other thing is that what an individual community can achieve right now under the existing legislation, a group of communities will not be able to achieve and that does not seem right to me. Those are two areas I am pretty concerned about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. General comments. Mr. Curley.

Support For Devolution Of Responsibilities

MR. CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to at least give the Minister of Education recognition and support for his support with this ordinance in bringing about some changes which I think will help those areas in the Territories that are less fortunate than some in terms of administering and carrying out programs for the education of the people that we have. I wanted to state that because I think the report that the special committee has come out with has been somewhat misunderstood by many of the people in the western part of the area. Particularly, I think, Yellowknife had some, in my view, overexposed concern, as well as the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association.

I believe that unless we give some of the responsibilities and powers of running and managing schools and school boards to the community level, let alone region, we cannot, in my view, expect to have the competent people to compete for jobs and opportunities in the northern economy. It just does not go. Our people have difficulty in competing for jobs and getting promoted in jobs and employment opportunities that we could probably acquire only if we pursue them vigorously. I think one way to do that is first to improve the administration of schools for the people that are affected by them and I would like to thank the Minister for bringing us at least a small improvement in that area by bringing this ordinance to amend the Education Ordinance to allow the establishment of divisional school boards. It is a small step but I think it is a beginning. I say "beginning" because it is only a beginning of changes, I think. The Northwest Territories Teachers' Association, has to, in my view, forget about their fears that they will lose their jobs, they will lose their benefits if they would eventually become servants under the school boards in other places than Yellowknife. I do not believe that they should fear that their benefits and their careers would be in danger because of the lower standards of the other provinces or places like Yellowknife. If they do, then they in the first place, the teachers, should not belong up here, if they fear.

I would like to encourage the Members to take a positive attitude toward changes because this government, I think, is always interesting because we will not only fool around with the theory of devolution but will actually carry it out, and this ordinance, I think, is one example where we are attempting to convince people that we can devolve responsibilities from headquarters to the regions. So I, therefore, am speaking mainly in that context, that we are making progress in terms of devolution. I think a small step will likely happen again when we deal with the Regional and Tribal Councils Ordinance. I think these are the beginnings.

I am saying those things because I think there has been overexposed fear that we might have teachers that have less benefits than some areas if they would become employees of the divisional school boards. I do not think that is the case in southern Canada when school boards hire their teachers, that they receive less benefits than the other provinces. I do not think that will ever happen in the Territories because if we are going to be able to compete and establish educational institutions we are going to have to have equally competent people, equally competent teachers who are also dedicated in serving the communities and the needs of the young people rather than so much what they are going to receive in the two year period they will be spending in communities like Rankin Inlet and Eskimo Point. I am excited about these changes. I think this is a beginning and I look forward to some other implementations that possibly the new Assembly and the new Minister of Education will carry out in the 10th Assembly. Thank you.

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

Further Powers For Divisional Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could just comment on some of those comments. I do not want to limit the right of Members to comment but I would like to say to Mr. McLaughlin that I do myself believe that the next step beyond this present legislation, which Mr. Curley has I think properly called the first step, would indeed be to give these divisional boards powers that would be the same as those that are enjoyed by a school board in a larger centre like Yellowknife that can support the kind of control that the school boards in Yellowknife have. And I would say certainly that I see the next step as being devising the means to give the divisional boards taxing powers, devising the means to give the divisional boards the ability to become employers of teachers and to have stewardship of school facilities. So I think there might well be something in it for Pine Point, Hay River and Fort Smith if they should petition to become a divisional board. There might well be a good possibility that they can have the type of super school board status that Mr. McLaughlin refers to.

In the meantime, of course, they could, if they petitioned, have a superintendent who is accountable to them. They could have significant control over the discretionary part of their budget and they could have significant control over who works in the particular division. I agree with Mr. McLaughlin that it is certainly not feasible to imagine that Pine Point or Hay River or Fort Smith in the foreseeable future, barring significant developments and significant increases of population, could in themselves become a school board. And I believe, if I knew my history a little better, I could probably describe an attempt that I believe took place in Hay River some years back to have school board status that faltered because of lack of population and taxation base. But I would like to make it very clear that there are no limitations on which communities could co-operate together to petition for divisional board status, and the idea that Mr. McLaughlin has suggested certainly is not an impossible one if those communities can look a little further and see the next evolution that might be available to them.

I would also like to note that I do agree that the proposed community councils created under this legislation would have a status somewhat more than the local education committees but less than the education societies. And of course if communities or societies, for example, feel that they do not want to give up the status and powers that they now enjoy to the divisional board, of course they need not become part of a divisional board, or the divisional board may, in fact, not be created. It is only going to be created where there is a will among a group of communities to co-operate together for greater benefit and greater powers to the whole division.

Finally, in response to Mr. Curley, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I believe that the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association has come out in favour of the principle of establishing divisional boards. The comments that I have received from the teachers association indicate to me that their president advocates that we move faster and that we arbitrarily state what divisions should be established. Now, I am not prepared to arbitrarily decide which communities should be

required to work together in a division. It has been suggested that it be the existing education administration. I think that the tradition of this government is not to move in that way but rather to allow communities themselves to meet together to work out the timing and the pace.

Minister Controls Purse Strings

I also have received comments from the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association that, in these proposed divisional boards, the Minister has too much control over the purse strings. I would like to make it very clear that in fact the Minister of Education does have control over the purse strings of the divisional board and also has control over the purse strings of the school boards. And this is as it should be if we are to have a system whereby the Minister of Education is accountable to the Legislative Assembly. So I have no difficulty in defending those kinds of criticisms and I look forward, if I should continue to be privileged to be involved in education, to working out some of these concerns over the next few years with the teachers association and with other communities that may wish to take advantage of this new legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. General comments? Clause by clause? Clause 1, community education council. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 2, divisional board of education. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 3, education district. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 4, education division. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 5, interim trustee. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 6, voter. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 7, administration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 11, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 12, organization. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 14 is a long clause. It goes up to page 23. Clause 14, Mr. Patterson.

Motion To Amend Clause 14, Bill 3-83(2), Carried

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. If I understand correctly, this is a very long clause. I have one amendment on page six, which really is just a typographical error but I am told that this should be amended. You will notice in proposed subsection 53.2(2), the word "superintendent" is spelled incorrectly. Therefore I move that clause 14, Bill 3-83(2), An Ordinance to Amend the Education Ordinance, be amended by adding a "t" to the word superintendent after the "n" in proposed subsection 53.2(2).

---Applause

---Laughter

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

MR. CURLEY: Question.

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

---Carried

Clause 14, as amended. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MACQUARRIE: There were a couple of other places where I think there were difficulties. If we could go back to page four, in paragraph 53.1(3)(c). The standing committee had found the wording in that paragraph to be very confusing. I believe the Minister was going to have a look at that,

to see whether it could be improved or, in fact, with the little note that I have written on the side of mine here, he might even have decided to delete that particular paragraph as the same thing, in a clearer way, apparently is stated elsewhere. I do not know. Could I ask the Minister about that? I know the standing committee had a concern with that. It was not sure of what it really meant at all.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Since the matter had been considered before Mr. MacQuarrie's committee, certain words were deleted from paragraph 53.1(3)(c), on the recommendation of the committee that it be made more clear. The amendment before you has the words "upon the recommendation of the Executive Member" removed. Those words were in the original paragraph and it was found that it was not necessary to be stated, as it is already stated in clause 44 on page 30. I think that now the wording is clearer. Thank you.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There had been another wording concern in proposed subsection 53.1(6) and that has been addressed as well, I understand. On page six, paragraph 53.3(4)(c), this is with respect to who is eligible to be elected or to hold office as a member of a divisional board of education, and it requires that someone be resident for not less than one year. The standing committee on legislation recommended to the government that it consider increasing that to two years, and the Minister has informed me that the Executive Committee would not like to do that. It is therefore open to any Member of the committee who might be concerned to introduce that amendment, if they so wish.

Since we are still on clause 14, it is not an awful long one, on page eight, I note a change. It was felt in the standing committee on legislation that a three year term was too long for community education councils. The standing committee on legislation had recommended to the government that it reduce the length of term from three years to two years. After having done that, I believe the government noted that there would then be a discrepancy. Community education council members would have two year terms, whereas members on the divisional boards of education would have three year terms, and that would cause problems with respect to co-ordinating the people who are on those boards.

I believe that the Minister in the end agreed to a two year term for community education councils but also decided to make an amendment with respect to divisional boards, and it appears as two years in proposed subsection 53.3(8) on page eight.

Also, on page 11, the standing committee had a concern with respect to notice of meeting. It was made clear that, in some potential divisions, members of a divisional board could not be notified adequately under the limitations that were imposed in the initial draft that was presented to our committee, and we recommended to the government that there be an opportunity for communicating notice of meeting by some other means in those circumstances. I note that on page 11, that change has been made.

On page 16, paragraph 53.14(f), the standing committee had felt that it was not clear in what was written. That a child entering kindergarten must reach five years of age on or before the 31st day of December of the academic year in which the kindergarten program is to take place. That change, I see, has been introduced by the government.

On page 19, proposed subsection 53.18(3), discussing eligibility for community education councils, the standing committee on legislation had wanted this section to be broadened to include all those employees who were mentioned in 53.1(6) and employees of the divisional boards of education, and I note that has been done, although there is a different reference. Can you just pause a moment, and I will just check that back. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman, I see that concern was addressed by the Minister. From the point of view of the standing committee, as far as I can see, in such a long clause, those are the concerns that were raised in the standing committee.

Basic Instructional Program

If I may just comment as an individual Member now, I note that on page 13, myself and a number of others had a concern that there be a core instructional program across the Territories and, indeed, in the special committee on education a motion was moved recommending that. For those who have

that concern, it is reflected in paragraph 53.12(c) on that page. There will in fact be such a basic instructional program for the Territories, and I am very pleased to see that as part of the legislation. And that is all that I have on clause 14.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 14, Part II.1, organization and operation of education divisions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 23, clause 15, language of instruction. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 16, language. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 17, idem. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 18, teaching of languages. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 19, ethnic variation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 20, Lord's Prayer. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 21, exception. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 22, local holiday. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 23, consultation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 24, altering length of school day. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 25, opening and closing times. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 26, eligibility for enrolment. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 27, approval. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 28, special school outside Territories. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 29, vocational courses. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 30, local study programs. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 31, private schools. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 32, idem. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 33, designation of principal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 34, assistant principal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 35, duty of principal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 36, compulsory attendance. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 37. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 38. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 39, regulations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 40, idem. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 41, idem. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 42, conveyance of students. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 43. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: In subclause 43(d) this involves the prescribing of honorariums and the standing committee had recommended here that the words "upon the recommendation of the Executive Member" be included for this as it was for a couple of other items. I see that the Minister has taken note of that so we are satisfied with that, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Clause 43. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 44. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 45, school district. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 46. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 47. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Amendments To Other Ordinances Included

MR. MACQUARRIE: Again, not as the chairman of the standing committee on legislation, but as an individual Member, I expressed concern in committee meetings and will express it here now. First of all, with respect to the practice of amending other ordinances within this ordinance, I do not like to see that practice at all. Members will note that the Municipal Ordinance and the Public Sector Compensation Restraint Ordinance and the Public Service Ordinance are all amended in this ordinance and I do not like to see that practice for two reasons, the first being that as with many ordinances there are particular individuals or particular groups of people who have concerns with respect to those ordinances because they are governed by them or for some other reason, and they like to be aware when changes are pending with respect to those ordinances so that they can examine the changes and if they want, have an opportunity for some input before the change is made. And so when the list of proposed legislation came out for this session, for example, there was no notice that there would be any change to the Municipal Ordinance or to the Public Sector Compensation Restraint Ordinance or to the Public Service Ordinance because all we see is that there is an amendment to the Education Ordinance. What that means then is that these people are caught unawares unless somebody specifically lets them know that such a change is pending.

I believe in addition to that there is also the technical problem, that tracking down amendments later on is more difficult when amendments are incorporated into other ordinances. So as an individual Member I express that concern. I think it is a serious one.

And one last point is, again, as an individual Member, upon learning that the Public Service Ordinance was to be changed, I wished to give the opportunity to the Public Service Alliance to examine those changes and express any concerns they might have because I am aware -- well, I cannot say this absolutely, so I will not say it absolutely -- I believe that the Public Service Alliance has an undertaking from the Commissioner and from this government that when changes are pending to the Public Service Ordinance, they will be given notice of that fact. They were not, and so I was very disappointed in committee when I asked committee Members at least to hold off a day on the consideration of this bill so that these people could have the chance to review the proposed changes and if they had any concerns, let us know what those concerns were, and the committee would not support me in that. So I was very disappointed in that as a Member. I deeply believe that groups that are impacted by legislation should have the chance to say what they think about it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Clause 47. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 48, exemption. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 49. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now Bill 3-83(2) is ready for third reading. Let us take 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 12-83(2), Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1982-83

I call the committee back to order now. We are going to deal with Bill 12-83(2), Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 4, 1982-83. I wonder if Tom Butters has general comments on that. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would defer at the moment to the chairman of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Wray, then I will speak after that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We are dealing with Bill 12-83(2). I believe you are chairman of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Wray.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on finance has reviewed Bill 12-83(2), Supplementary Appropriation No. 4, and we recommend them to the committee for consideration. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to add, Mr. Chairman, that the material contained in these two supplementary estimates was thoroughly reviewed by Mr. Wray's committee and that various officials and witnesses from government appeared and spoke to the various items that are contained herein. Those officials could be summoned if required, but in their absence, I will try to speak to those items that I am familiar with and know of and that other Executive Members whose departments are being reflected here would also assist me in answering any Member's questions.

There are probably two other things I should mention. One is that the accrual accounting system which was referred to during the last session has resulted in a number of items being brought forward, and the word "accrued" is usually -- not "Cruise" but "accrued" -- is usually used to indicate that this is a catch-up to ensure that the accounting for the previous year is concluded and completed in that year. There is another item which is related to the charge-back system for the computer development which will appear throughout the estimates laid before you.

Department Of Personnel

Total O And M, Directorate, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Would this House like to go to details? Supplementary Appropriation No. 4, 1982-83. Page one, Personnel. Directorate, \$7000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Systems And Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Systems and administration, \$7000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Classification And Compensation, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Classification and compensation, \$1000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Personnel Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Personnel services, \$59,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$74,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works

Total O And M, Operations, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page two, Public Works. Operations, \$238,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Highways, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Highways, \$19,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$257,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

Total O And M, THIS, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Health. THIS, \$976,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Medicare, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Medicare, \$469,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Medical Transportation, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Medical transportation, \$441,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$1,886,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this House ready to go back to Bill 12-83(2), clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 3, amount granted. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 4, purpose and effect of each item. Agreed?

SOME HON MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 5, lapsing of appropriations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 6, coming into force. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Schedule, summary of supplementary appropriations, \$2,217,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Bill 12-83(2) is ready for third reading.

Bill 13-83(2), Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, 1983-84.

Now we are going to go to Supplementary Appropriation No. 2, 1983-84. Page one. Mr. Butters, do you have a general comment?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I defer to the chairman of the standing committee on finance, who may wish to speak first. The chairman appears to be satisfied with the presentation today. I would just like to add that I have an amendment to make to this bill in the section of Local Government and I will leave that amendment until we reach the Local Government section. This was a last minute item approved by the Financial Management Board just within the last few days, and as Members know, the new Financial Administration Ordinance requires that any changes made by the Financial Management Board must be brought to the attention of the Legislature as soon as humanly possible. So this is the reason the amendment is being made to include that item in these supplementary estimates. So I will make that amendment under Local Government.

There are two other items which I will try not to forget as we proceed. One is the Liquor Control System revolving fund -- increasing it another \$2.5 million and the public stores revolving fund. Reference to both of these items is found on page (ii) of the booklet. I do not know how you wish to deal with that; we could deal with it first, or we could deal with both those revolving funds within the context of the department in which they function, Government Services.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this committee wish to go to page one?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Executive

Total O And M, Executive Committee Secretariat, Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Executive, Executive Committee Secretariat, \$90,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Regional Operations Secretariat, Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Regional Operations Secretariat, \$43,000 surplus. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the second item on the Executive Committee Secretariat is a transfer to the Department of Government Services to fund the overhead portion of computer operations. These costs were previously included as part of the system's charge-back -- \$4000. I draw this to the committee Members' attention because this type of item will appear on a number of occasions throughout this booklet and what this refers to is a change in the fiscal management of

our computer services and charge-back operation. Hithertofore, the indication was that we would allocate to each department the funds required to operate their portion of any computer system that they were involved in or using and when systems and computer services did work for them, they would be billed against their allocation. This has not worked out too well. We have had to adopt a system whereby there is an operational pod at the head which is called the overhead portion, which we are not allocating to departments; we are voting that section as an ongoing expenditure associated with the operation of computers. There is a large charge-back element in the operation in that the departments will still be paying for the services they initiate and advise that they require. So that \$4000 is a transfer back to Government Services to fund the administrative core, the overhead portion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Butters. This \$43,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Energy, Mines And Resources Secretariat, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat, \$125,000. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would we be able to be apprised of where the study would be done? Would it be in a particular location? What are the parameters of the study?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I will ask Mr. Nerysoo to respond as it is carried out by the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, the studies will be done in two particular regions, that of the South Slave or Fort Smith region, and the other being the Mackenzie Delta/Beaufort area. Basically, in the area of natural gas the actual propane study was being included, but the final decision or the final agreement has not been signed between myself and the federal Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, but will be concluded hopefully within the next week or so.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would the study be done as part of the government, or would this be contracted out? And has there been an outline of what the studies have to include?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, the outline for the studies and the parameters of the studies are now being concluded with the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources of the federal government and the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat. Upon completion of that we will, in fact, be going to a contract and that will be concluded as soon as I indicate that the agreement or the study parameters are signed between myself and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat, \$125,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$172,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Financial Management Secretariat

Total O And M, Financial Management And Analysis, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Financial management and analysis, page two, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$60,000. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like the Minister to maybe give us some information about what is involved in providing travel and contract funding for the performance measurement and evaluation system project team. Could he elaborate a little further? Does that involve promotion of the metric measuring system and whatnot in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, Mr. Chairman. As Members know, we operate an accountabilities-based budgeting system and one of the ongoing requests I have received from the former chairman of the standing committee on finance was to implement the final element of that accountability system. This is the performance measurement and evaluation part of the budget system, and this will be placed and should be concluded by the time this Assembly's term is over.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the Financial Management Secretariat, it was my understanding during the whole discussion on upgrading the process of computer systems, that many of the people that would be needed in order to man the facility would be retrained and there would be no further requirements necessary to go into the operation of financial control. I notice that we have dealt with a similar position, plus it appears that this position for a word processor operator is a new position as well. I am wondering, was there a breakdown or a miscalculation of what was required to run the financial controls of the Northwest Territories government?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, there was not. In fact, I believe the position has been placed in the secretariat's program forecast for a number of years. The work is currently being done or has been done by a term position and the workload of the secretariat in preparing all the documentation for our negotiations and for developing budgets just requires that we need a full-time position for this secretariat. As I say, it has not been an oversight; it is just that we have not had that position recognized and filled before, but now the workload and the urgency is such that it is recognized as being a priority position by the Financial Management Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Finance

Total O And M, Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page three, Finance, administration, \$100,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Comptrollership, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Comptrollership, \$138,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$238,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Personnel

Total O And M, Systems And Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Personnel systems and administration, \$12,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$12,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Justice And Public Services

Total O And M, Court Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page five, Justice and Public Services. Court services, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Legal Aid, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Legal aid, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Safety, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Safety, \$43,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Museums/Heritage Division, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Museums/heritage division, \$15,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$133,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Government Services

Total O And M, Directorate, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Government Services, directorate, \$100,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Systems And Computer Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): System and computer services, \$416,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Communications, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Communications, \$3000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Freight, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Freight, \$2000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$511,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Maybe we can go to page (ii) of the document and look at the two revolving funds and get approval for the changes being recommended in both of those revolving funds.

Liquor Control System Revolving Fund, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): That is the second page, Liquor Control System revolving fund, \$2.5 million. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: In terms of increasing the money allocated for the Liquor Control System revolving fund and the areas where this is needed and required, could I have an explanation of that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: It just reflects the increased costs that we are experiencing when we purchase liquor. The amount of money available in the revolving fund is now insufficient to buy adequate inventory to stock the various outlets and agencies.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I can have an answer as to whether it is a responsibility of the government to increase funds to make sure that everyone has the total amount of liquor they wish to purchase or are we able to say, "You do not have enough to supply the liquor you require" and like a lot of other things when they run out, they run out?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: It is a matter of just meeting a constant demand. As the price goes up your revolving fund has to increase so that you can increase your inventory. We are not voting any money; we are just voting authority to increase the upper limit of that revolving fund so the expenditure can be made by the system.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, then what I understand is that the increase is required for additional costs, not for additional amounts.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That is my assumption. It is based on the increased cost of the product.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Liquor Control system revolving fund, \$2.5 million. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Public Stores Revolving Funds, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Public stores revolving funds, \$175,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works

Total O And M, Operations/Repair And Upkeep Of Buildings And Works, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page seven, Public Works, operations/repair and update of buildings and works, \$240,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Operations, Accommodation Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Operations, accommodation services, \$113,400. Mr. Wray.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I should inform the Assembly that when this item came before the finance committee I removed myself from the chair because of my disagreement with the basic principle of the whole idea of paying money out. However, with the passing of the motion this morning and the clear direction going to the government, I will reserve my judgment until the next time it comes up in supp's if I am here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question on an item that was a negative item "to reduce energy management program salary funding". I would like to know where that program salary has been taken out, and exactly which existing staff is going to be taking care of the matter that was programmed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, although the Minister is here I will try and speak to that. I may ask him to assist me. The energy program is one that is concluding at the end of this fiscal year. It was a joint program developed between the territorial and the federal governments, and in effect there was to be a position established in each region to work toward effecting savings in energy consumption.

The Financial Management Board examined the request last year in the fall and at that time approved it; but recently when the positions were advertised we took another look at it in view of the very severe cutbacks we have experienced when approaching Ottawa for funding. We took a look at those positions that we had developed and decided that we would forego the use of them and request that the energy program be carried on as it has been in the past in the regions under the direction and guidance of the regional engineers. So these are not ongoing positions. They were to be new positions, jointly shared, which we would take over fully in 1984-85. Our determination was that we could not afford these positions and we could get the same results and as good results by using regional engineering staff.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Operations, accommodation services, \$113,400. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Highways/Maintenance Operations, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Highways/Maintenance operations, \$33,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$159,600 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Local Government

Total O And M, Directorate, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Local Government, on page eight, directorate, \$10,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Sport and Recreation, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Sport and recreation, \$130,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$120,000. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just on a point of procedure, I have this motion. Would you wish that we leave this item open, and come back to it and make the amendment at the end, or would you wish the amendment to be made now. Why I mention this is that it reflects on one item which I believe would fall under operations and maintenance, and then it would amend and change the totals that reflect on this bill. So would you prefer I come back and make the amendment later, or do it now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We can defer that if the committee wishes to have a copy of this amendment. It has been circulated? Maybe it is better for you to do it now, instead of deferring it.

Motion To Add New Clause 6 And Amend Schedule, Bill 13-83(2), Ruled Out Of Order

HON. TOM BUTTERS: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that Bill 13-83(2), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1983-84 Financial Year, be amended by renumbering clause 6 as clause 7, and by adding the following section immediately after clause 5. It is described as the "write-off of debt". It reads "6. The Commissioner, pursuant to section 14 of the Financial Administration Ordinance, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of the Northwest Territories, directs that the following debt owed to the Territories be written off the territorial accounts. The town of Hay River: \$436,886.46."

I further move that the schedule to the bill be amended by 1) deleting the amount \$120,000 in respect of item 12, Local Government, and substituting the amount \$557,000; 2) deleting the amount \$5,592,200 in respect to the total amount for operations and maintenance, and substituting the amount of \$6,029,200; and 3) deleting the amount \$5,112,300 in respect to the total supplementary appropriations, and substituting the amount \$5,549,300.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters, I did not know that there was going to be a motion like this. I think it is an inappropriate time with this bill to move that motion. I just know that I am not prepared for this motion at this time. It is going to come up at the end. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I understand that Members are all in possession of a new item on Local Government operations and maintenance, which includes municipal affairs and the amount relative to the Hay River municipal debenture of some \$437,000. If that is so, possibly that could be considered at this time, and my motion accepted at the end of the discussion. By way of procedure, Mr. Chairman, do you want this whole new item read into the record? Would the Law Clerk suggest that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes, I think this is the appropriate time to do that for this item, municipal affairs. Yes, read it.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: All right, Mr. Chairman. The new item would follow the heading directorate, and under the activity would be the words "municipal affairs". In the column headed main and supplementary estimates no. 1 would appear the figure \$25,108,000. In the column headed supplementary estimates no. 2 would be the figure \$437,000. In the column headed total appropriation is the figure, \$25,545,000. The explanation for the item, Mr. Chairman, is "To provide funding enabling the principal and interest accumulated to date for municipal debentures no. 29 and no. 31, regarding land development in Hay River, to be written off."

Total O And M, Municipal Affairs, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this committee agree on this new reading and new figures, or do you need more explanation?

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe the Minister of Finance already stated that, but since the estimates say that we have been paying before, I was just wondering if the increase of \$89,000 was significant of people moving in there in addition to what has already been paid by the Northwest Territories government.

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

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: The health facilities and all the services that were being provided by Canada Tungsten -- since we are also legally responsible for some of those residents now, since Canada Tungsten will no longer pay and look after some of the dependants of the workers. As well, other residents who may be in that community not working for the mine also came under our responsibility, and so what we are doing is we are cost sharing some of those costs for the health services. I can also provide some further information in more detail if my colleague wants me to. I can provide what agreements we are coming to with Tungsten concerning the services we are providing to Tungsten.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. NWT share of health services, \$89,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Medicare, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Medicare, \$27,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$26,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Social Services

Total O And M, Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 10, Social Services, administration, \$32,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$32,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

Total O And M, Directorate

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Economic Development and Tourism, page 11, directorate, \$2,080,800. Ms Cournoyea.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Sport and recreation, \$130,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$557,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

Total O And M, Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page nine, Health, administration, \$36,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, NWT Share Of Health Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): NWT share of health services, \$89,000. Ms. Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, may we have an explanation of what health services the \$89,000 entails? It says \$89,000, but why the increase or why the unexpected expenditure?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, it is a recognition by this government that we are responsible for the children and dependants of the employees of Tungsten. Hithertofore, I believe the health services being provided in that community saw the total cost paid for by the company. What this does is recognizes our responsibility to those individuals for whom we are responsible in the case of health.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the real question that I may not have made clear, is that there was already a budget, and I was wondering why the increase was there. Is it because someone else was taking care of the cost, or was it because there were more people brought into Tungsten? That is the question.

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

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the legal responsibility for the dependants of those people who are working for Tungsten mines, Canada Tungsten, the company took a legal opinion, and they are not responsible legally to provide any medical care expenses at all to the person who is working for the mine, to pay for the expenses at all. That is why the costs to the territorial government have increased as well. It is our responsibility since Tungsten is also a recognized community.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. NWT share of health services, \$89,000. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, from the estimate costs we have here, does that conclude that the EDA agreements have been totally signed, as well as the supplementaries?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Directorate, \$2,080,800. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Minister of Finance or his colleague as to what exactly are the kinds of programs that we are actually funding through the first year of this four year agreement? Maybe it would help us to guide the government, if they want some guidance, as to what type of programs this department should pursue as a priority. I would like to have some indication as to whether or not some of the projects that we have funded in terms of the expenses that we have incurred, at all concern our part of the North. Thank you.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there are three subagreements to the new EDA agreement that we have signed now, completely signed on all parts from our government departments, as well as the federal government. We, in Economic Development and Tourism, will have a booklet out within the week, indicating to people -- individuals and/or organizations, groups -- in the Territories, just exactly what the agreements are, what can be financed through them, the kinds of proposals that can be made, how the proposals should be filled out. It is an information package that we are now getting ready. The general theme of the total agreement will be that anything and everything may very well come before it, but each proposal that will come toward the subcommittees will be gone over by representatives of this government as well as the federal government.

We have just recently set up a person in an office to take a look at these proposals. I would have thought that we would have been able to get that information package out earlier; however, it should be out within the week, to give an indication to the Member or to Members some of the things that can be looked at. They are tourist based. It can be a renewable resource, setting up stores or to buy or to sell country food, for example. There are a great number of things that can come under it. They will be detailed in the information package that will go through. That information package will be sent out to all the communities through the hamlet offices or settlement offices, to the major organizations that are people-oriented in the Territories. I do not know whether I can add much more in general than that. I would expect that each MLA will be involved with some of the proposals that will be developed because they will obviously want to assist groups, individuals or whatever in their communities to take advantage of this kind of funding.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would that person in an office be in Yellowknife? That is the first question. And number two, would there be a committee structure set up to deal with the proposals? And number three, the field officers in Economic Development within the various regions, are they prepared and educated in this new agreement so that they can work with the community and regions?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the individual that is now looking after that program will be set up in Yellowknife. Second question, whether there are committees; there are committees that will look at proposals and will determine which will be funded. Those committees under the subagreements will have a federal representative. If they deal with Renewable Resources they will quite possibly have Indian Affairs and Fisheries and Oceans. We will have our Department of Economic Development as well as our Department of Renewable Resources. In programs that deal with manpower training, we will have representatives from Economic Development and the Department of Education as well as federal departments, Manpower -- CEIC I guess it is, Employment and Immigration and Indian Affairs. Small businesses will be dealt with by the federal Department of Small Businesses and Tourism as well as the Department of Economic Development from this government. And in reply to the third question, whether in fact our regional people are aware of the program, yes they are, and yes, they will be prepared to work with organizations and individuals in the communities.

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

MS COURNOYEA: I would like to say congratulations to the Minister of Economic Development for finally seeing the agreement through and we have been waiting a long time for it. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

--Applause

Total O And M, Directorate, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Directorate, \$2,080,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Manpower Development, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Manpower development, \$612,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Commerce, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Commerce, \$213,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$2,905,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Education

Total O And M, Administration, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Education, page 13. Administration, \$19,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Schools, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Schools, \$565,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, College Programs, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): College programs, \$1,500,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Residences, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Residences, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$2,106,000. Mr. Curley.

Home Boarding Program

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on the implementation of the home boarding program. I wonder if the Minister could expand a bit more on that as to exactly what it means and what we are paying for. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, this year we face accommodation problems in Akaitcho Hall because there are many more students from the Kitikmeot and the Mackenzie Valley area who want to come to Sir John Franklin High School, either for high school or high school certificate programs or for the grade 10 preparation program which has been quite successful and quite popular. Because there is not enough room in the residence itself we have decided that additional spaces should be made available for older students to board in homes in Yellowknife. I might also mention that special arrangements have been made to accommodate some students in the Northern United Place in cluster units with a supervisor present to meet this extraordinary need for accommodation. The number of students that are now boarding in local homes or in the Northern United Place, as of today is 33, and the funds that are needed or the funds that are requested in the supplementary estimates just reflect the extra costs that result from the need to board students outside Akaitcho Hall, costs beyond what we normally budget for. Normally there are a number of students that board each year but nowhere near these numbers, so that is the reason for extra funds being required. I hope that answers the Member's question. Thank you.

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

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am surprised that the Minister has now decided to establish additional funding for the home boarding program at this time because during the budget session the government was not prepared to provide home boarding assistance to the people, like students from my riding, for instance. In fact they were told during the beginning of the last school year that if they wanted their children to go to school that they have to find their own means for boarding in places like Yellowknife. So I made a note about this because to try now to come up with additional funding for home boarding is like having a double standard -- some of you cannot take advantage of this program, it is only good for a certain part of an area. I say that because there are people that have interests in academic training in my riding, not so much vocational training as is available in Frobisher Bay. I am rather surprised that we would have to approve such an additional expenditure for that kind of program now when it is being taken advantage of only in certain regions, because to me, this is carrying on a discriminatory type of assistance. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The special arrangements for home boarding are only made for this region, because it is only this region where there is not enough room in the residence to accommodate students. I am certain that if the situation in Ukkivik or any other residence in the Northwest Territories was that there were not sufficient beds to accommodate the number of students, then I am certain that we would have sought, through this Assembly, the necessary funds to look after them as well. The only reason there is a special situation in the Fort Smith region, in Yellowknife particularly, is because it is the only region in the Territories where we have not been able to accommodate all our students in residences already provided by the government. The other thing I would like to comment on, Mr. Chairman, is that there are full academic programs offered at Gordon Robertson Education Centre in Frobisher Bay, so Keewatin students who are attending there are not being denied opportunities for academic training. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Availability Of Program To Keewatin Students

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not going to say anything about this item because I had questioned Education officials fairly closely at the finance committee meeting on it but I am having a little bit of a change of heart now because it was my understanding that students from the Keewatin could take advantage of this program if they had wanted to. I questioned them on that basis because, firstly, at the end of the last school year and during this summer when the students who were supposed to be leaving town to go out were asked -- they were not asked, they were told they were going to Frobisher Bay -- in fact it meant that we lost some high school students once again, because parents would not send them to Frobisher. They wanted to send them to Yellowknife. When Yellowknife was closed off to them they said, "Well, we are not sending our kids out period." Now, my understanding was that this program was available for the Keewatin if they wanted to take advantage of it.

Secondly, I have some trouble with the amounts of money that are involved because under this program a family will only get \$12 a day for any student that stays at their house and if any family can feed an 18 year old kid for \$12 a day I would like to know how they can do it. That is not very much money at all up here to pay for a healthy kid. I am going to ask the Minister once again, is this program available or not available to the Keewatin and if it is available, why are your officials in the Keewatin saying that it is not available and why are we not being allowed to take advantage of it? Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I will try to answer the question of rates first. Any of the 33 families in Yellowknife who are looking after students, ranging from 14 to 22 years of age, who are attending Sir John Franklin High School, seem to be willing to accept \$12 a day. I do not think it is that shameful a rate myself. The other comment I would like to make is that the only reason that we ever had to make the direction that Keewatin students should not be allowed to enrol in Akaitcho Hall is because of these tremendous floods of students from much closer to home -- much closer to Yellowknife anyway -- who want to come to Sir John Franklin. I have always taken the position that students from Kitikmeot or from the Mackenzie Valley, if I can so describe the Western Arctic area outside the Inuvik region, should be our first priority in accommodation. So this program has been primarily designed for students in the regions adjacent to Yellowknife.

Now, the Member asks, "Is this program available to Keewatin students?" In an effort to respect the strong feelings of some Keewatin parents that there is some magic in Yellowknife, that somehow the academic program in Yellowknife is different than that in Frobisher Bay, which I think is a myth that I have constantly tried to destroy, but in an effort to respect those feelings that are coming from the Keewatin, we said that if such parents could find places for their grade 10 students in Yellowknife on their own, we would cover the costs. But our priority is Keewatin students who have started in Sir John before the overcrowding problem came up, and two of the 33, incidentally are I note, Keewatin students who are in grade 11 or 12, and the bulk of the other students in this program are from Kitikmeot or the South Slave area or the Fort Smith region generally. Quite honestly, I wonder how the Member expects us to do much better than finding 33 places in the city of Yellowknife.

Believe me, the people at Akaitcho Hall worked very hard to find good homes for 33 students, and if there was another flood of Keewatin students invited to take advantage of this program, we would be putting them up in hotels, and I am not prepared to accept that that would be an adequate form of accommodation. The residence is preferable and if there is no room in the residence we look for boarding homes, we offer a rate that seems acceptable to enough people to have offered homes for 33 students, and I just do not know how much further we can go short of building major additions to the residence.

So that is my answer, Mr. Chairman. It is an unfortunate situation; it is not a situation that I welcome. I prefer to give Keewatin students the choice, but until we establish an education centre and residences in the Keewatin, I am quite satisfied with the quality of the residence and the education facilities offered in Frobisher Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Wray.

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, the Minister talks as if it is hard to find homes for 33 people in the city of Yellowknife. Well, I could find homes for 33 people in the community of Baker Lake and I suggest to you that if your department is having a hard time finding 33 homes in a city of 10,000 people, then they are not going about it in the right way. Part of the reason may very well be the fact that you are only paying \$12 a day. Most people cannot cope with that kind of expense.

Secondly, I question why Central Arctic has a priority over the Keewatin. The Keewatin is as close to Yellowknife as the Central Arctic is. What makes us so different?

Thirdly, you say that your priority is with the Central Arctic and the Mackenzie Valley to provide homes for those students, but yet if Keewatin people want to use this facility they have to go out on their own and do it. Well, why? Keewatin people are always the ones that are left or have to do things by themselves. For years we have always had to do our own thing because nobody will give us any help. And on the one issue we are very concerned about, we are continually fighting this government over it.

Now, either this program is available to the Keewatin or it is not available and that is a simple question. If it is available have your officials tell the parents of the students who are not going to school now because their parents pulled them out of school, have them tell the parents of the kids who are attending GREC that this program is available. To me, to not inform parents about this program was to mislead them and that is what is upsetting me, the fact that the parents were told that there was nothing that could be done for them, the kids either had to go to Frobisher Bay or that was it. We ended up losing students. Once again, every year now, we are losing students. Pretty soon we will have nobody to go to high school in the Keewatin so you might as well forget everything. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Frobisher Bay Education Facilities Quite Adequate

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, with all respect to the Member for Keewatin North, I think one of the reasons that parents are unwilling to send their children to Frobisher Bay is because people in leadership positions like himself are bad-mouthing the facilities, the perfectly adequate facilities, that are offered. Now, I would like to know if there are any parents who, in fact, have withdrawn their children because they were not able to send them to Yellowknife. All our contacts directly with the parents, in contrast to what we hear from the politicians, indicate that the majority of Keewatin parents, the vast majority of Keewatin parents are quite happy with the residence supervision and facilities being offered in Frobisher Bay and with the quality of education their students are getting. In fact, Keewatin students in GREC are the most successful academic students in the high school and they seem to be doing exceptionally well.

I would like to point out to the Member as well that although Keewatin might seem to be closer to Yellowknife, geographically, I am not even sure that that is true when one looks at the current transportation routes. It is easier to send Kitikmeot students to Yellowknife on NWT Air than to send them to Yellowknife and then all the way to Frobisher. It is easier to send them to Yellowknife and it is easier to send Keewatin students to Frobisher Bay.

I would also like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that I believe there is a tremendous advantage in comradeship and the ties of kinship and community that result in the residence situation where you have a large number from a particular region, and I think the Keewatin students in GREC and in the residence in Frobisher Bay support themselves and support each other through relationships of blood or friendship. The answer to the Member's question, if I did not make it clear in my first comment, is that no, this particular home boarding program is not available to incoming Keewatin students. We have had enough difficulties finding places for the regions that have been identified as being feeder regions for Sir John Franklin High School. However, as I have always said, if Keewatin parents themselves can make satisfactory arrangements with relatives, or otherwise, we will certainly be pleased to see them go to school here. But the home boarding program was not designed for Keewatin students, it was designed for the students who normally attended Sir John Franklin High School in the last couple of years when we have had an accommodation problem. Thank you.

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

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. I appreciate the Minister's extensive remarks to the House about trying to justify why he can establish a special program and assistance to students who have no other means of getting into Akaitcho Hall, when in fact it was difficult a year ago to provide the same service to the students who wished to take advantage of the Sir John Franklin High School program. I can only now conclude that the attempt behind this is, as far as the bureaucrats and the politicians like Dennis, the Minister of Education, say, that students in the Keewatin are doing so well it is a justification for continuing, possibly forever, that program to the people of Keewatin. Therefore when you look at the overall policies with respect to the proposed high school, more and more I am beginning to see the picture that there is no reason why the Minister or the government as a whole should be proceeding with the building of the high school or take it as a priority to start constructing the building because the programs offered at Frobisher are doing so well and the people in Keewatin are first rate academically in that program. That seems to be the whole reason, because I respect the government when it said last year that it was impossible to now bring in first year students to come to Yellowknife.

I now see other reasons why they cannot do it now because the government must justify the existence of GREC high school by putting the Keewatin students through it because the parents, through the regional educational council meeting this spring, asked the Minister to provide a similar program that it does through this fund to send students to Churchill where it is much closer. He could have easily just established a similar program for 33 possible students from Keewatin to take advantage of the Manitoba system where it is probably easier to get in and out, and provide the same type of program to them.

So that is my problem, that the government can do what it wants, but not necessarily what the people in the region want. We believe and accept the Minister's reasons for not providing boarding assistance to the people of Keewatin for Yellowknife this year because that, in fact, was the government policy, not to provide any additional boarding home program in a place like Yellowknife. So I am absolutely confused exactly what the scheme is to not give the people of Keewatin their right to choose where their children should go to school. Thank you.

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

Option Of Churchill Rejected

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to be too defensive or prolong this too long but just a couple of points. I did meet with the Keewatin region education authority on this whole issue several times this year, as a matter of fact, and in good faith we did examine the so-called Churchill option. I was prepared to look at any way of making the situation of Keewatin parents, and I am beginning to think it is the parents that are more concerned than the students themselves, but I was willing to look at any way of making the parents happier about the educational arrangements for their children. We looked carefully at the Churchill option. I sent my deputy minister there for a first-hand look and we found that the program was educationally inferior to what was offered in the Northwest Territories. I will not go into all the details. It was an inferior program with far fewer options.

Secondly, we found no satisfactory means of accommodating the students this fall, short of putting them up in one or two bedroom apartments where supervision would have been difficult, if not impossible. So the so-called Churchill option was investigated carefully and rejected, I think, for very good reasons. I would just also like to say that there is no secret plan afoot to justify the existence of GREC high school through the use of Keewatin students. First of all, the high school is expanding rapidly and the demands of Baffin region alone are soon going to see the facilities there, including the residence, taxed -- that is within the next five or 10 years. And secondly, as I told the Member on his first day of arrival in this House, this government is committed to building an educational centre in the Keewatin to meet the needs of Keewatin students to obtain further education closer to home and we are in the process of wrestling with the admitted financial challenges in order to accomplish that.

I regard any of these arrangements, sending the Keewatin students to Baffin or any other arrangements that might be discussed, as being merely temporary until we can develop a facility in the Keewatin. I recognize that Keewatin parents are not going to be happy until their students are much closer to home. Even then they may not be happy. I would like to deny the suggestion that we are trying to waffle on the educational centre proposal. It is a commitment this government has made and to the best of my ability I am going to follow that through as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

Possibility Of Boarding-Home Program For Keewatin Students

MR. WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A question for the Minister, then. Would the Minister consider establishing a similar type of program for Keewatin students? In light of the fact that this government has financial problems and we are trying to save money it would seem to me that at \$12 a day in Yellowknife it is a hell of a lot cheaper than what it is costing right now in Frobisher Bay to keep the same students, given the cost of transportation, given the cost of the residence and given the cost of supervisors and food; if you worked it out on a per student basis, it would come to a lot more than \$12 a day. So would the Minister please consider implementing the same type of program for Keewatin students to be available for the next school year? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I should remind you guys you better watch your language even if you get real mad. I wonder if Dennis Patterson would like to respond.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I am willing to look at the possibility. I have already stated that my best information from the people at Akaitcho Hall is that they were hard pressed to find this number of homes. It may seem like an easy order to find 80 or 100 homes in a city of this size, but they are looking very carefully at what kind of home environment is offered, the quality of food, the commitment of the house parents to act in loco parentis and all these sort of things, but I am willing to look at it, of course. Any reasonable suggestion is worth considering. I would also undertake to have another look at the boarding home rates. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Residences, \$60,000. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, a question in regard to the 33 students that are being boarded out. The residence itself it has a counselling service that basically takes care and watches out for the students and works in conjunction, in their position, with the hostel and the school. In the homes is there going to be someone assigned who would be keeping an eye out for those 33 students?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I am not able to answer that question. I did see Mr. Menagh, who is the Akaitcho supervisor. If the committee wishes, I am sure he would be willing to answer that question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this House agree to invite...

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Or, Mr. Chairman, I could arrange to have the information, to bring the information here tomorrow.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, if Mr. Patterson is going to bring the information tomorrow, I would like to know what process these students will be housed under, in terms of their daily activities and how the house parents will be supported in looking after these young people. Certainly there are a few that come from Holman Island within my constituency and this is the first time that they have been away from home and these are the students that I am a bit concerned about as I understood that they were going to be put into individual homes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I can certainly provide that information but I should tell the Member that the policy that has been followed in putting students into boarding homes is that the students for whom it is their first time away from home, or who are younger and at the grade 10 level or in the grade 10 preparation program, will be put in the residence. In fact the home boarding program has been designed for the older students. I have a list here. Most of them are 18, 19 and 20 and are probably more able to look after themselves in the home boarding situation. So the students from Holman Island and the younger students will all be cared for a little more closely in the residence itself, but I could bring information tomorrow on what support services are available to those who are boarding away from the residence. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Ms Cournoyea, are you agreeable that he is going to supply more information tomorrow? Mr. Wray.

Motion To Make Boarding Home Program Available To Keewatin Students In 1984-85

MR. WRAY: Mr. Chairman, I have a motion. My motion is that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that a home boarding program be made available to the students of the Keewatin region wishing to come to Akaitcho Hall for the school year 1984-85. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes, your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. WRAY: I have already said what I had to say. Thank you.

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

MS COURNOYEA: It is a question that would relate to the motion. As we have discussed in previous sessions, we talked about the program that was in Ottawa that accommodated many of the Keewatin students. I myself sort of felt that it was premature until there was an educational facility built actually in Keewatin, to close off that option to students. In closing that option off to students, were those funds that were made available to conduct that program in Ottawa subsequently passed to the territorial government to allow a greater flexibility within the Northwest Territories, to accommodate the particular students or the normal student body that took part in the Ottawa-based education facility?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer to the Member's question is no. The vocational training section of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs was shut down without any funds being transferred to the territorial government. We are still hoping that we may possibly realize some funds out of this, but so far nothing has resulted. Thank you.

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

HON. KANE TOLOGANAK: Question.

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

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Question.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Read the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Can we have a copy of that motion, please? We do not have a copy of that motion. Could you repeat your motion, Mr. Wray?

MR. WRAY: Mr. Chairman, I think my motion was that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that a home boarding program be made available to students of the Keewatin region wishing to attend Akaitcho Hall or Sir John Franklin in the school year 1984-85.

--Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Question.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Question.

Motion To Make Boarding Home Program Available To Keewatin Students In 1984-85, Carried

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

--Carried

Total O And M, Residences, Agreed

Residences, \$60,000, agreed. Ms Cournoyea.

Total O And M, College Programs

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I may be permitted to ask a question in regard to the Mackenzie Valley program courses on increased expenditure levels for those courses. It is just above; we have passed it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this House agreed to go back to college programs?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Agreed.

---Agreed

Proceed, Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the Mackenzie Valley program courses, I do not know if it was last year, or the year before, there was a cost-shared agreement between the territorial government, the Dene Nation and the federal government on increased cost in this area. Are these funds part of that, or does that come out of our regular budget, and if it does come out of the regular budget, what is happening to the additional funds that were going to be made available under this agreement?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, the Member's question is this -- these courses of instruction being offered in the Mackenzie Valley, are they part of the \$10 million Norman Wells impact funds respecting training? My understanding of the situation is that the joint needs assessment committee, which was composed of the Dene and Metis and the Government of the Northwest Territories, has had real problems, or had real problems in getting its report out, studying the training needs in the Norman Wells impact area, and recommending courses which should be offered. I believe that in advance of the recommendations of the joint needs assessment committee, and in advance of a particular response from that committee, in view of the need to start training courses to coincide with the beginning of construction of the Norman Wells pipeline, and the project, this particular initiative came forward from the Department of Education and Employment and Immigration Canada.

As to whether or not this particular program is going to be considered part of the \$10 million, I am afraid I cannot answer the Member's question, but I expect that it is to be considered part of the \$10 million training program. I could provide more information on that tomorrow if it is still required. Thank you.

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

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would appreciate that information, as well as the additional information on how much of the \$10 million has been spent and assigned to the educational requirements in the Mackenzie Valley. And how long have we got to make a decision before the funds lapse?

Total O And M, College Programs, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. College programs, \$1.5 million. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$2,106,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Executive

Total Capital, Regional Operations Secretariat, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): On page 14, Executive, capital. Regional operations secretariat, \$40,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$40,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Personnel

Total Capital, Staff Relations, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Personnel, capital, page 15. Staff relations, \$345,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$345,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Justice And Public Services

Total Capital, Safety Division, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Justice and Public Services, capital, page 16. Safety division, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Museums/Heritage Division, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Museums/heritage division, \$44,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Mining Inspection Services, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mining inspection services, \$23,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$4000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Government Services

Total Capital, Directorate, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 17, Government Services, capital. Directorate, \$250,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Petroleum products, \$823,200, surplus. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I really wanted to ask a question on \$250,000 worth of furniture.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Please go ahead, Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the \$250,000 for office furniture, could we have a breakdown on just where that is? What regions, what communities and specific purposes, for the expenditure?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The funding originally provided for office furniture and equipment proved to be inadequate due to the fact that the department absorbed \$130,000 in carry-over charges from the fiscal year 1982-83. So that explains \$130,000 of it. The other \$120,000 was to meet the demands of departments for terminals and word processors, furniture for impact areas such as Norman Wells. It therefore became necessary to increase the budget allotment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Directorate, \$250,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Is part of that expenditure directed to the new facility that is being built to house computer services, is that part of the furnishings?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I cannot answer that on my own knowledge. I can obtain the answer and provide it to the Member tomorrow, but I just do not know at the moment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I do not think so.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, in case it is on that item, I would just ask the Minister if it is his choice of colour that the building is being painted. A lot of people are looking for somebody to blame and I just wonder who it is.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I notice that Mr. McCallum's name was on that board too.

---Laughter

So the responsibility can be jointly shared, but on the matter of furniture for the building, I would say no, it does not reflect any requirement for that building, because that requirement would be built into the original projection of the building and its furnishings and be built into the budget. If I am wrong on that I will inform the House and the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Directorate, \$250,000. Agreed? Ms Cournoyea.

Total Capital, Petroleum Products

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the petroleum products and the deferral of tank farms and a question in general. It specifies Spence Bay and Hall Beach have been deferred. Some time ago we made an objective in this Legislative Assembly, I believe it was dealt with by motion, that we would try, by the end of this year I believe is the date if my memory is correct, that we would try as much as possible to have those tank farms in all the communities that require that service. I am wondering why there would be a deferral of the tank farms. What went wrong?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, I do not know that I could say anything went wrong but in the case of Spence Bay the tank farm project was related to a project of Transport Canada. Transport Canada is responsible for providing the aviation refuelling facilities at the airport. However, after the territorial government consulted with them, it was determined that they would be unable to program their construction to coincide with the completion of the bulk storage facility so had we proceeded this year we would have seen our facilities up but sitting idle until the MCT capital program was in place a year later. In the case of Hall Beach, it was a matter that the final estimate of the project was \$1.9 million and it exceeded the estimates that we voted in the winter session by some \$900,000. So in view of that overexpenditure it was recommended that it be deferred until 1984-85 and be retendered.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The time being 6:00 p.m. I will rise and report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 11-83(2), WILDLIFE ORDINANCE; BILL 3-83(2), EDUCATION ORDINANCE; BILL 12-83(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, NO. 4, 1982-83; BILL 13-83(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, NO. 2, 1983-84; REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 11-83(2), 3-83(2), 12-83(2) and Bill 13-83(2). Bill 12-83(2) is recommended for third reading and Bills 11-83(2), and 3-83(2) are recommended for third reading as amended and I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Clerk, are there any announcements and orders of the day, please?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on rules and procedures this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the caucus room.

ITEM NO. 18: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Wednesday, September 7, 1983.

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 13-83(2), 1-83(2), 8-83(2), 2-83(2), 5-83(2), 6-83(2) and 10-83(2)
16. Third Reading of Bills
17. Assent to Bills
18. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 7, 1983.

--ADJOURNMENT

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