

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
7TH COUNCIL, 49TH SESSION

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TABLED ON JUNE 15, 1973



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Tabled June 15, 1973

GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CANADA

TD #12-49(1973)

REPORT OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES NO. 1

15 JUNE, 1973

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

On June 12 and 13 your Standing Committee met to discuss 1973-74 Supplementary Estimates No. 1 being additional Charges and Expenses of the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1974.

Supplementary Estimates amounting to a total of \$776,000 in Operation and Maintenance, \$6,421,700 in Capital and a reduction of \$140,000 in Loans were called for by the Executive Office, Local Government, Public Works, Social Development, Administration, Industry and Development, Education and Public Services.

Department Supplementary requirements were reviewed item by item. The document which was used as a working paper for this review is attached to the official minutes of the Standing Committee on Finance, which is in the keeping of the Clerk of the Council. As well, each member of the Committee was issued with a copy of this paper at the time of the review. All items contained in the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 were agreed to by the Committee for furtherance to the Council of the Northwest Territories. Items of particular concern are detailed as follows:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Executive Office, Activity 1010: All members were in full agreement on this item which is to provide an interim grant for the operation of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Public Works, Activities 3033, 3034 and 3035 all reflect increased prices for gasoline and heating fuels by the Oil Companies. Councillor Parker informed members that these items were a must in that they had to be recognized now in order for the Administration to have the increase reflected in 1974-75 Main Estimates which will be discussed in September with D.I.A.N.D. and Treasury Board officials. All members agreed.

Public Services, Activity 8082 required additional funds for an Electrical Inspection program. While members were in agreement with the principal of the program concern was expressed that it might become too restrictive. The point was made that a lot of northern buildings while they may be safely wired, would not pass a strict electrical inspection and this, if carried too far, could be a hardship for a lot of northerners. While giving acceptance to the additional funds it was made clear that the comments made by members must be considered.

CAPITAL

Local Government, Activity 2021: Regarding the additional funds required for the water supply system at Cape Dorset, Councillor Pearson asked that a paper be prepared indicating the total amount appropriated for this project and spent to date. The Director of Local Government promised to provide this information.

Local Government, Activity 2023: This item concerned Public, Senior Citizens and Single Person's Accommodations. Councillor Trimble reiterated earlier statements of his that the Territorial Government must start doing more in the area of housing. As an example he cited the case of Inuvik, where it is impossible to get housing or serviced land on which to put housing. The Director of Local Government stated that his Department was working to solve housing problems in areas of rapid expansion such as Inuvik, Fort Simpson, etc.

The question of Single Person's Accommodations was raised by Councillor Pearson and a general discussion followed wherein all members stated that such accommodations need not be so extravagant. i.e. rather than one bedroom apartments, bachelor apartments would be more than adequate. The Director of Local Government stated that in most cases bachelor apartments were being called for. As well he stated that his Department was presently working on a paper covering Single Person's Accommodations and when completed this paper could be presented to the Standing Committee on Finance.

Local Government, Activity 2024: This item dealt with Town Planning and Lands and resulted in a general discussion on the Administration's approach to town planning particularly in the area of utilidor. Councillor Adams pointed out problems experienced with the Rankin Inlet utilidor and Councillor Pearson pointed out problems with the one in Frobisher Bay. It was generally agreed that the Administration must get tougher in dealing with contractors who do not meet project standards be they a utilidor project or any other project.

Administration, Activity 5053: This item was requested by the Department of Administration to complete a program to provide adequate fuel and gasoline storage tanks in all settlements as well as providing the necessary dispensing vehicles. The program is tied directly to the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund that was approved during the January session of Council. This was agreed by all members as a means of reducing the high cost of fuel oil and gasoline in the more remote settlements.

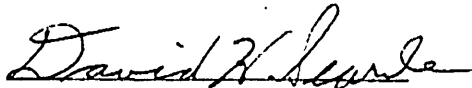
Education, Activity 7071: The request here was for additional funds to complete the 1972/73 school construction program. Due to higher material and shipping costs projects were all coming in above original estimates.

This concluded the review of the 1973-74 Supplementary Estimates No. 1.

Councillor Searle informed members that the next sitting of the Standing Committee would take place sometime in late October when they would be reviewing 1974-75 Main Estimates.

The meeting then terminated.

Certified at Yellowknife, N.W.T. this 14th day of June, 1973.



David Searle, Chairman