



COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES DEBATES

58th Session

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Official Report

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1976

Speaker David H. Searle, Q.C.

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1976

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Lyaal, Mr. Butters, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Barnaby, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Searle, Mr. Nickerson

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

THE SPEAKER (Mr. Searle): Turning to the order paper, Item 2, questions and returns. Are there any written questions? Mr. Nickerson.

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

MR. NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a written question but unfortunately I have not had time to write it down yet.

MR. SPEAKER: That is an unusual written question.

Question W29-58: Water And Sanitation Policy

MR. NICKERSON: But if I might be permitted to give the question and write it down afterwards, I would be most pleased, sir. The question is that in the first report to December 31st, 1974 of the Mackenzie basin intergovernmental liaison committee, which is Information Canada catalogue number 86501-75, on page 28 under the heading "Water and Sanitation Policy" it reads as follows: "The policy established by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to provide guidelines for proposed water supply and waste treatment facilities in the Northwest Territories received approval in principle. The policy dealing with facilities estimated to cost \$73 million calls for levels of water service based on population and will involve about 20 communities within the basin."

This is the only reference I can find to this \$73 million scheme and I wonder if the administration could give us further information on this, where exactly the \$73 million is to be spent and why apparently is it being done by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development instead of ourselves?

MR. SPEAKER: Any further questions? Mr. Pudluk.

Question W30-58: Street Lights In Resolute Bay

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I have received a letter on the Resolute Bay street lights and the settlement wants street lights installed in Resolute. At the moment there are only seven lights. The project manager, Mr. Chester West, said that this was because there were no light poles. However, there are at least 25 poles at the townsite and Northern Canada Power Commission apparently have the lights. I just wondered if this work could be speeded up, if at all possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further questions? Are there any returns, Mr. Parker?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: No returns. Item 3, oral questions?

Item 4, presenting petitions. Mr. Lyall.

ITEM NO. 4: PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petition 1-58: Residents In Spence Bay, Radio And Television Service

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a petition signed by 25 residents of Spence Bay, Northwest Territories, dealing with the earliest possible time to use the Anik satellite to receive radio and television. I now sign this petition and will table it in Council.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Are there any further petitions to be presented?

Item 5, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 6, notices of motions? Any notices of motions?

Item 7, motions.

ITEM NO. 7: MOTIONS

Mr. Clerk, how many have we dealt with? Up to Motion 4-58? Is there only Motion 5-58 left?

THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL (Mr. Remnant): Motions 4-58 and 5-58.

MR. SPEAKER: Motions 4-58 and 5-58. Motion 4-58, Mr. Nickerson.

Motion 4-58: Public Control Over Northern Canada Power Commission

MR. NICKERSON: Motion 4-58, dealing with public control over Northern Canada Power Commission.

WHEREAS it would appear that the Northern Canada Power Commission has not always operated in a way completely acceptable to the people of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Canada Power Commission is exempt from the requirements of other public utilities operating in the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that it be a recommendation of this Council that:

- I. The Northern Canada Power Commission Act be amended so that Northern Canada Power Commission becomes subject to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board, and,
- II. The head office of Northern Canada Power Commission be moved to a location north of the 60th Parallel.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by Mr. Nickerson and does he have a seconder? Mr. Pearson. Is there debate on the motion? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I do not really intend to say very much about this self-explanatory motion. Over the last few months it has become quite apparent that Northern Canada Power Commission takes a very cavalier attitude towards its responsibilities to the people of the Northwest Territories with no intention to operate in a way that is more acceptable to us. I can see no reason whatsoever why the Northern Canada Power Commission should be exempt from the requirements of any other public utility, having to submit its case to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board. This board, to an extent, is comprised of members appointed by the territorial and federal governments, so it does not really have a great deal to say and it can always be told what to say by the federal government presumably, but at least it is a step in the right direction.

I think quite possibly the Deputy Commissioner might like to say a few words about that.

The second resolve here, that the head office of NCPC be moved to a location within the Northwest Territories, or the Yukon, seems quite a reasonable and realistic suggestion. Why on earth should it be in Edmonton, Alberta, in the first place? Presumably there should still be a purchasing office or something of that nature located in a southern city, but as far as head office operations, management, design and engineering are concerned, I can see no reason whatsoever why that should not be carried out in Yellowknife, Hay River, Whitehorse or another northern location.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any further debate? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, I second the motion and I think it will be the third or fourth such motion I have seconded on basically the same content, as I believe very strongly that NCPC should be more responsive to the North and move north. I am sure other Members will recall in the past few years there have been several motions to this effect, that NCPC establish themselves in the North and also the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as another.

MR. BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

Legality Of NCPC Answering To Council

MR. PEARSON: I am not too sure of the legality of the aspect that NCPC answer to this Council. The NCPC is also responsible for the provision of electricity in the Yukon and I wonder if we could get some legal advice on this aspect of the motion?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pearson, I do not think that that would be appropriate at this time because we are in the middle of a debate on the motion.

Certainly as the law now stands, NCPC is not subject to the Public Utilities Board prescribed by ordinance of this Council, simply because NCPC is a creature of the statutes of the parliament of Canada, but that does not mean to say that it could not be changed, that the law could not be changed, both in parliament and here, if necessary.

If Mr. Nickerson's motion were accepted in principle by the Government of Canada, then the answer to your question therefore is, that as the law stands, no, it is not responsible to the Public Utilities Board, but that does not mean to say that if the Minister agreed with the intent and purport of this motion that the law could not be changed.

Is there any further debate? Do you wish to close debate, Mr. Nickerson?

MR. NICKERSON: No, Mr. Speaker.

Motion 4-58, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: That brings us to the question. Are you ready for the question? The question. All in favour? Eight. Contrary? No contrary votes. The motion is carried.

---Carried.

Motion 5-58, Mr. Ernerk. As your motion reads, it is not acceptable. Where you say: "Now therefore I move..." etc. this house of course has no jurisdiction over the CBC. If you used the words similar to those used by Mr. Nickerson, "Now therefore I move that it be recommended that..." then you would be in order.

MR. NICKERSON: A point of order, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that Mr. Ernerk altered his motion on Friday so it would now comply with the requirements of our rules and regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, I stand corrected. The Clerk advises me that on Friday you inserted the words "be asked to provide..."

MR. ERNERK: Yes, sir.

Motion 5-58: Inuit Television Service

Mr. Speaker,

WHEREAS television service through Anik satellite has been introduced to some parts of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS in some Eastern Arctic centers, Rankin Inlet for example, television service has been in existence for over a year now;

AND WHEREAS only three-quarters of an hour of Inuit programming is provided on a once a week basis;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation be asked to provide an improved Inuit programming service by increasing the hours of native programming.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by Mr. Ernerk, is there a seconder? Mr. Pudluk. Is there any debate? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I really do not have too much to add to this particular motion as I feel that it is self-explanatory as well, except to say that I think that television is good in a lot of ways. It is like when radio programming or radio Inuit programming was introduced a number of years ago and the people did in fact listen to a lot of the Eskimo programming at that time. They learned a lot from it, especially from the news reports, as well as public affairs programs and later on when television was introduced to places like Rankin Inlet, as I said in this motion, over a year ago, that the people started watching television and learning from the news and public affairs programs.

I really do feel that the CBC itself should be providing improved services by increasing the hours of Inuit programming, perhaps to once a day, or even 15 minutes once a day. People in the Eastern Arctic communities would then be better served if this type of program could be introduced to the Eastern Arctic communities. Mr. Speaker, I really can not add anything much more to it at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion? Mr. Pudluk.

More Television Programming Desirable

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support Mr. Ernerk in his motion. I would just like to say that in the High Arctic we do not seem to have enough Eskimo programming on the television service. They used to have a program in Eskimo on radio but we could not get it all the time, but when it was on we used to listen to it from beginning to end, from early in the morning until at night. If they would just put on news, say on television, then it is possible that we would know more even than what we learn by listening to the radio. That is really all I have to say.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further discussion? Mr. Nickerson.

More Local Programming

MR. NICKERSON: I would like to support this motion. I find not only in the Eastern Arctic but also in other parts of the Northwest Territories, the television services give us a steady diet of southern broadcasting. I can see no reason for instance, why in Yellowknife we could not have a lot more programming in say the Dogrib and Chipewyan languages, etc. I can not see why local programs could not be produced and all you would need would be a couple of thousand dollars' worth of video tape equipment and then these locally produced programs, whether in native languages or English, why these could not be inserted into the programming we receive right now and maybe cut out something which is of interest to people in Edmonton, Montreal or Toronto and have our own local programs.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Further debate? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, I do not think anybody is going to be against this motion, but I would just like to make it clear for the record that I support it very strongly. I think it was two years ago that I attended a Canadian Radio-Television Commission hearing on the question of the CBC licence and appeared as a witness before the Board of Broadcast Governors or whatever they are called and said my piece. Whether it has had any effect or not I do not know. Whether this motion will have any effect on that blockheaded outfit I have my doubts but I think every little ounce helps. There has been some attempt by the CBC to meet to a very, very limited degree the needs with this program Tarqavut and its replacement -- I forget the name of it, but it is produced in Frobisher by a National Film Board project and the film that they produce is videotaped and played on the air once a week. The amount of time that is given to native programming, both in the Eskimo and Indian languages is a national disgrace. The CBC should be severely criticized. They have a very, very poor approach to northern television. One only has to spend some time in Yellowknife to appreciate the kind of programming you poor, unfortunate things have here with late shows at one o'clock in the morning and the national news at midnight and it is unbelievable. I am surprised the people of Yellowknife have not protested this in the strongest possible terms, so I support the motion very, very strongly.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion? Mr. Butters.

Communications Advisory Boards Proposed

MR. BUTTERS: Just to repeat, as my colleague has, that the thrust of the motion is one that has appeared at past Councils. I would like to add another suggestion too, which I think would ensure that the momentum continues between sessions, and that is that the CBC do as other federal departments and agencies and corporations have done, and that is attempt to decentralize their responsibility to the field. I feel that as the other agencies have done, it would be very good to involve the people of the North, or possibly set up a communications advisory board made up of northern people who could advise and direct the corporation regarding the matters and the type of service that it is providing. It seems to me the CBC has been very loath to involve people and I might say this would be a very good first step setting up these communication societies not only in the centres as in Yellowknife but in the smaller communities as well.

Motion 5-58, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Any further discussion? Are we ready for the question? Question. All in favour? Down. Contrary? No contrary. Carried.

---Agreed

That appears to end Item 7, motions.

Item 8, tabling of documents.

Item 9, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Is it your wish, Mr. Parker, that we go on to Bill 4-58 again?

ITEM NO. 9: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Council will resolve into committee of the whole to resolve Bill 4-58, Appropriations Ordinance.

---Council resolved into Committee of the Whole for consideration of Bill 4-58, Appropriations Ordinance, 1976-77, with Mr. Nickerson in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 4-58, APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE, 1976-77
Local Government, Objects Of Expenditure, Summary

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): The committee will come to order. I think we have now progressed to page 6.15. We were dealing with the estimates for the Department of Local Government. On page 6.15 there is a summary of the objects of expenditure. This appears to be just a summary and does not require a formal vote. Are there any comments on page 6.15?
Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment on the whole item which is the total budget and that is that just before the Department of Local Government was considered, a circular was passed around which related to the fish and wildlife service, Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs. Am I right in concluding that that department's estimates are closed?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): I do not know, Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: As you are aware, there have been changes in the responsibilities of various departments and money moved from one group to another. I would be very grateful if when the other chairman comes back there might be still a couple of questions that could be entertained on that department as I was not aware of the responsibility it apparently has.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): I imagine that would be quite possible. Another chairman was dealing with that particular subject and I personally prefer to complete this one and hand the chair back to someone else. Back to 6.15, are there any comments on the summary on this page?

Travel Budget

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, the thing that I find most disconcerting in all of these documents, with all of these departments, is the incredible travel budget. Vast sums of money like half a million dollars, three-quarters of a million dollars for travelling in the course of a year. I do not believe that the government or an administration the size of this one can spend so much money on travel. I appreciate the vast distances we have to cover, but one sees so few of the headquarters staff in the regions, other than, say, municipal affairs in the last few months who have been running back and forth to Frobisher very necessarily, but the travel budgets for this department and all the others are so outlandish.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you.

MR. PEARSON: I wonder, you know, if the people in the regions have some responsibility, then surely they could perform the functions without doing all the travelling. If the communities had some responsibility there would not need to be this fantastic travel budget.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, for the information of Members, this particular travel allotment under administration also includes a fair amount of the transportation budget for councillors, that is, municipal and settlement councillors attending meetings of a regional nature which they have themselves asked for.

The second point is that a very substantial amount of the travel is by the regional officers themselves. They do have functions which are under their control, as Mr. Pearson has asked, and they must travel. A very substantial amount of the travel is for them to get out of regional headquarters and into the communities and certainly this is one department that can not do its business unless its officers get into the communities to offer help and assistance and training.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Barnaby.

MR. BARNABY: Where is there money for holding these regional conferences, is that under travel or under grants?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the money for holding these conferences shows under the travel vote and the transportation and communication vote, it is mixed between the two.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Butters.

Delegation Of Responsibility

MR. BUTTERS: Two questions. In reading the debates of Friday, I did not see that there was any breakdown requested comparing the head office staff in this department, which would be the Yellowknife staff and the staff which is serving in the field. My belief has been and continues to be that the people who are providing the most important service in this area are serving in the field, or should be serving in the communities and subsequent to that, or supplementary to that, I would be interested to hear from the Commissioner where the debate now stands regarding the future of the regional office? Has the department determined to let it go out of business and centralize its function in Yellowknife or does it feel that the delegation of responsibility should continue to the regional offices so they can support the communities?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Mr. Chairman, in answer to Mr. Butters' question, I am just thinking out loud at the moment. I agree that there has to be a greater degree of understanding between the Department of Local Government, particularly the research and development division, and the regional offices. There are sharp differences of opinion which, to some degree, are understandable and to another degree are not.

In an endeavour to bridge this issue and to get a closer working relationship and understanding, particularly if we are to put into operation the changes that the executive see in the communities, some way must be found to mould the government into one single unit so that it functions much more efficiently and effectively.

Assistant Regional Director's Position Under Consideration

One way that I think, and this is under consideration, of doing this would be to create another assistant regional director and that position would go to the present superintendent of local government in each region. It would seem to me that this would permit a lot better communication between the director and Local Government in pursuing his goals and objectives and putting into effect his, or the government's policy, and at the same time being able to get the kind of support, regional support which, if this is to be effective, has to be done.

The only way, it seems to me, that the sort of things that Mr. Butters and other Members of Council talk about, certainly the administration-- to be successful at it everyone must be going in the same direction and so this is one idea that is under consideration at the moment and I think, if finalized, it will contribute much to solving this problem.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Barnaby.

Regional Conferences.

MR. BARNABY: I would like to get back to the regional conference thing. We asked to have two of these regional meetings a year and I would like to ask if there is enough money in here for this?

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, we would have to look at the request and I do not think it is possible to answer it at the moment off the top of our heads. There is on the surface a large travel budget for this department, but it is no bigger, as a matter of fact, it is not as large as Natural and Cultural Affairs, but I think that we will have to look at it. If the holding of regional conferences twice a year seems to be a good idea, then we will look at the funds and see how they work out.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Lyall?

MR. LYALL: Mr. Barnaby, perhaps could you just give us an idea of who is going to be at this conference? I would like to know.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Would you be willing to answer that question, Mr. Barnaby?

MR. BARNABY: Yes, it is the people from the settlements, from Wrigley, all of my constituents really. The first one that was held included Fort McPherson, Arctic Red River and the last one was just in the other regions, and those were the ones that were invited, including Norman Wells.

MR. LYALL: Does this include local settlement councils, or what is it?

MR. BARNABY: Yes.

MR. LYALL: It is?

MR. BARNABY: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Commissioner?

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, this present fiscal year, I reported at the opening of Council that we have now received an additional \$4 million, but that certainly is not enough to cover all the problems we face as a result of the expenses of the government. So what happened is that last May we asked each department to identify what things they could live with in the way of cuts and there was some money identified for regional conferences, if they were held. That is the reason why there was a slight cutback. This year we have budgeted for one. We have not budgeted for two because we were not aware that that was under consideration, but as I say, we would have to look at it and see what we can do and if we can do it, and if it is thought to be a good idea, then we will do it. If we can not do it, or if we see that it does not make sense, then we will just have to tell you that we can not do it.

I have explained to you that sometimes trying to respond instantly to requests of Council, is not possible, it sometimes takes a year to do it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Are there any more comments on page 6.15? Mr. Pudluk?

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, on the second line from the bottom where it says loans \$5,150,000, could you please explain what that is for?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): I think we have already dealt with loans, but possibly a member of the administration would like to answer your question. I think we have, in fact, already dealt with it.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, that is true, the loans are shown in some detail on the previous page, page 6.14 and they are loans to municipalities.

Objects Of Expenditure - Activity 2020, Administration

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Perhaps we could now turn to page 6.16 and page 6.16A, which is activity 2020, which deals with the administration activity of the Department of Local Government. The figure we are dealing with here is shown on page 6.16 and it is the sum of \$909,400. Are there any comments on page 6.16 and 6.16A? Mr. Pearson?

Further Discussion On Travel Budget.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect, my head is still in the clouds, so to speak, on this travel matter and I am not convinced in my own mind that such vast sums of money are needed to be spent by this organization or any other organization within the territorial government on travel. It is \$378,700 and that enables 378 people to spend \$1000 each on a trip. I mean 378 trips at \$1000 each. To my mind that is a tremendous amount of money and whilst I applaud the wishes of the administration that they will travel more and go and see more people and have more conferences and all the rest of it, I do not see any indication from the past that this is going to happen. I have not seen any improvement in the quality of life in these settlements in the past six years, or five years, I have served on this Council, but we are continually approving the budget of this organization of this government, approved, approved, approved, agreed, agreed, agreed for millions of dollars and this year we are at \$200 million and next year will probably be \$250 million and it will go on and on and on. What is the point? What is the point of me coming to Yellowknife, sitting here for three weeks trying to outwit these guys, when it is all done and it is there in black and white?

The impact that we have on this is infinitesimal. The scrutinizing ability of this Council does not seem to have become any greater than it was five or six years ago. We see figures in here and we are told they do not mean anything and we have figures where they say "Oh, that is for this over here because we have moved over there and brought this around there", but it is still \$200 million and it goes on and on and on. What is the point in me sitting here and wasting my time for three weeks or wasting the administration's time, or all these people sitting here in the back row playing their cat and mouse game?

Format Of Estimates Presentation

If things are going to be in the budget and we are going to discuss them, surely it should be on an honest basis so that they appear under the heading that they are supposed to appear under. If there is an item of \$378,000 for community conferences, then there should be a heading "community conferences" showing \$378,000, not "travel" or some other devious phrase that one has to try and figure out what is going on.

Surely, with all due respect to the administration, if we, the Councillors, are to do our job then these are the kinds of things we must examine, these are the kinds of things we must get answers on and this standard form of printing out casual wages, travel, transportation and communications, they are all the same, all through the book.

Now, as an example, 6.17A, research and development, \$127,400 shown for travel and that is under headquarters, and under the regions, nothing, not a cent. Research and development, the same amount, \$127,400. Administration travel costs -- and so it goes, but when we question one of these figures, someone over there says "Aha! That is for bus fare from so and so to so and so" or "That is for Joe Blow's trip and he must go there because his wife is sick" and so it goes on and it is misleading. It is confusing. I am fed up with it. What is the point in going through every one of these budget spendings and taking another two weeks in doing it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you very much for those most interesting comments and I think the Commissioner would like to say something in reply.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Pearson, a couple of those were low blows, as you well know. You have been sitting around here for six years saying the same thing, so either we have not learned anything or you have not. It has to be one or the other.

The second thing is one low blow deserves another. You are on the finance committee and it is in the finance committee that you learn these things, but if you do not come to the financial meetings you can not blame me or you can not blame the administration. I do not think that these fellows here who are sitting around in the back as you call them are trying to put anything over on you. They are here at your disposal to answer any question you want and the Council has decided this year not to let them speak, but that is not their fault. You asked that Mr. McCallum and Mr. Ernerk and Mr. Parker essentially answer questions and that they will do.

MR. PEARSON: That was not my idea.

THE COMMISSIONER: Just a minute. If you want the details of the expenditures of this past year in travel, we are quite happy to give them to you. If you want the details of what we think they will be for this year, the estimates in detail, we will have to give you that, but I remind you that you can sit here day after day, week after week debating the arithmetic as long as you want and I think it would be a question of not being able to see the trees for the bushes. It is the policy that is the important thing.

N.W.T. Government Provides More Detail Than Most

We give you more details than any other government in North America, believe me. If you look at the blue book you get from Ottawa, it is lumped on one page. If you look at what the provinces give you, it is the same thing, but we try to give you as much as we can. Maybe we give you too much. Maybe the Deputy Commissioner should rework this book.

When I joined the territorial Council in 1964, the budget was \$2 million. Now it is \$200 million. Of that, 90 per cent is Canadian taxpayers' money. Ten per cent is Northwest Territories taxpayers' money. I would not want anyone to think that anybody is wasting, or is part of some conspiracy, some financial conspiracy to the people of Canada. I think that, you know, you make some broad, sweeping denunciations. We are prepared to sit down and discuss any aspect of it.

Course Of Action Open To Council

If you do not want any more travel expense, do not vote for it. It is as simple as that. If you do not want the staff to grow next year, then move a motion. Let the staff be exactly the same and we will do our very best to stay in line with what you want, but in the last 12 years that I have been associated with this Council they have passed over 2000 motions and they have made over 5000 suggestions and to put them into effect would cost a billion dollars a year, a billion dollars a year. If you want me to produce that record I will do it. It would take me probably a couple of months with no travelling expenses because it is all here. I think you have to be a little fair about it.

Activity 2020, Administration Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you very much. Perhaps, gentlemen, if there are no further questions of a general nature we could discuss activity 2020 contained, as I said before, on page 6.16 with a summary by regions, shown on 6.16A. The amount is \$1,009,400. Could we have comments specifically on this allocation? I take it there are no comments on activity 2020. Are we agreed on the amount shown? Agreed?

---Agreed

We have agreed on the amount of \$1,009,400 on activity 2020.

Objects Of Expenditure - Activity 2021, Research And Development

Turning now to 6.17 and 6.17A, activity 2021 in the amount of \$828,200 for research and development within the Department of Local Government. On page 6.17A a summary by region is shown.

MR. SEARLE: I have several questions to ask here. Firstly, how many people are involved in this group here at headquarters?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, could Mr. Searle go on and pose another question while we are just dividing up the numbers on the question he just asked, please?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Let me just go a step further. The reason I asked that question is because if you look at page 6.13, you will see that there are 35 positions and we have already been told that many of these are the settlement secretaries, as I recall it. This section appears to spend the most amount of money of any of the sections in the department when it comes to travel. You see they spend \$127,400, but if you look at the detail on page 6.17A, you will see that that is shown as being spent solely at headquarters. There is nothing spent in the regions.

My question, therefore, is trying to find out how many people there are at headquarters; to find out how that \$127,400 is spent from headquarters.

Staff Of Research And Planning Division

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There are ten persons in the headquarters side of research and development and there are 23 field positions, each of them being a settlement secretary. If I could just add, perhaps, by way of explanation, the regional staff such as the regional superintendent and the regional development officers are and have been traditionally listed under the administration side and they are listed as if they were paid out of headquarters.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Searle?

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, coming back then to this question of \$127,400 in travel, that appears to be totally out of headquarters, does that represent travel costs of the ten headquarters staff people?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, no, that travel is for both field and headquarters, but it is accounted for by pooling it in headquarters so as to get better flexibility in the manner in which it is spent, but it is used at the director's discretion by the headquarters element and the field element and, furthermore, a certain amount of it is used for these regional conferences which are attended by the members of settlement and hamlet councils.

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, what I am having difficulty understanding is if you look at the actuals for 1974-75, you will see that this same section somehow managed to spend only \$33,600

in 1974-75. That was only last year. This current fiscal year they are spending \$127,400 and they are asking for another \$127,400. I suppose we should have been more alert last year. Having missed it, I do not recall having questioned it. Putting it simply, there is nearly an increase of \$100,000 in one year between 1974-75 and 1975-76 which they propose to repeat for another \$100,000 next year, so there has been a dramatic increase in spending there and I am extremely skeptical about the total value that this section has done.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SEARLE: If there is some value for money, instead of giving them extra money, take it from the 33 people that they have already got.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Do you wish to comment on that, Mr. Deputy Commissioner?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, between the years 1974-75 and 1975-76 the settlement secretaries were transferred from the administration item to the research and development item and, of course, the travel funds went with them. I realize the frustration of Council Members dealing with this budget on a line object basis. Every year when we put the budget together we swear that we should not even present the line objects because that is simply a means of us accounting for dollars. We have to, for our own purposes, use standard objects so we can compare from year to year, so we can maintain controls.

Operations And Maintenance Budget More Descriptive

There is no question but what it is very difficult and frustrating for Council Members to examine the budget in this fashion and that is why I, although I realize it is not my part to give advice, still feel that you are better off going through the operations and maintenance budget on page 6.09 where there is a description, brief though it may be, of the function of each of these items and then look at each of them in the context of the other, that is, the total program. It is very, very difficult for any legislature to look at these line items and really get the picture from year to year. When it comes to travel, I think a few years ago we put together a very major report which showed just exactly where all the travel was taking place. Now the Council Members at that time may not have particularly endorsed the level of travel or not, but at least at that time they saw exactly where it was and how it was built up. It seemed to satisfy them. Now, we would be glad to do this again, appreciating the fact that this is a new committee here and they have not seen how this travel budget is put together.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Well, Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that we are getting down to it now. I take it then that your 23 settlement secretaries would account for approximately \$100,000 of that travel allotment of \$127,400?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, Mr. Chairman, I would not like to claim that they account for that much of the travel budget. We can make a breakdown and give you a figure, but I would not want you to be misled, to think that it would be \$100,000.

MR. SEARLE: Essentially, Mr. Chairman, what I am trying to get at, and I would hope that my friend Mr. Parker does not think I am being devious, but I am trying to find out how that \$127,400 is spent. I am trying to find how it is built up, how it is split up between the ten people in headquarters and the 23 people in the field that we have been told of, and that is what I want. I suspect, and I will even go further, but if you go back to the objectives set out on page 6.10 on the capital page, you will see there: to develop political and social awareness. If you look at the objectives set out for this particular group on page 6.09, you will see: to encourage independence and participation in the decision making process.

Control Of Travel Budget.

I suspect that there is a high level of travel. I suspect there is a high level of political activity in this group, I suspect it is largely uncontrolled and undirected and there is only one way to keep them in line and that is to control their travel and that is to control the expenditure of the \$127,400. I am interested in finding out how it is spent and how they are directed and how we can better direct them to spend less.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Barnaby.

Budget Made Up At Regional Level Suggested.

MR. BARNABY: I disagree with that. I think by politicizing people you can save a lot of money. This budget is made up at headquarters and I think if it came from the communities through regional councils or through the settlement councils you could cut out a lot of the frills and a lot of the spending that is done...

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. BARNABY: ... in Yellowknife, or at the regional offices. This is sort of backwards I think, it is made up by the government and we must approve it and it should be made by either the councils or the communities and then presented to the government.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Butters.

Commissioner's Appearance On "Focus North"

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, on the same item, but more generally, I have a question. Recently the Commissioner appeared on a local radio program, I believe it was "Focus North" with Kelly Crichton and on that program I believe he said, or he quoted this from a document, "The basic thrust of the development division since its inception has been that of creating political awareness at the settlement level of the Northwest Territories. This thrust is no longer valid in that a good level of political awareness has been achieved, and the thrust must then be changed to look beyond this basic development." It goes on further and says, "The role of the development division, the Department of Local Government, should be changed from developing political awareness to that of providing technical support to settlement and municipal councils in the Northwest Territories. This technical support would include such areas as finance, personnel, community planning etc. The implementation of the recommendation would require reorientation of the entire development division, both in terms of philosophy and organization."

I would anticipate that if this is what the Commissioner is planning on doing, that some of the money possibly would be required for the settlement people or maybe he could correct me on that and, secondly, maybe he could answer the question as to whether or not the document he quoted from has been seen by Council or is it available to Council?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Would you care to comment, Mr. Commissioner?

THE COMMISSIONER: As I said the other day, that is the problem of intergovernment correspondence leaking or getting out, because they are part of a program that has not been finalized, or one side of a situation. Now, what appears in that letter is a report that was submitted to the Executive by a subcommittee of the Executive. The Executive supported it and it is part of the new approach that we are trying to take. It seems to me that when you reach a certain level in your progress, you then decide where you go from there.

Categories For Budget Increases

As Mr. Butters pointed out, this we feel we have, and there is no more money going to be voted in any of the departments for 1976-77, unless they are under the following categories: one, because it is something this Council has asked for which we want to implement; two, something we forgot and for some reason during recession we do seem to forget something; three, something in regard to inflation or costs that are out of control or contracts which came in higher and essentially this is the budget and we would limit it.

So, to answer Mr. Butters' two questions head-on, any changes that we are implementing will come from this budget and, two, I have no objection to making available, or have Mr. McCallum table the report of the committee, as there is nothing wrong with that and I would be happy to do that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner.

Are there any more comments on activity 2021? Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: I think Mr. Parker may have the answer to my question now.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I just wanted to indicate that I will have shortly and will let you know when I have it, the breakdown of the travel that the Member asked for.

Activity 2021, Research And Development Deferred

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Are there any other comments on activity 2021, otherwise we can stand that aside for a few moments or until after coffee and move on to activity 2022. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Objects Of Expenditure - Activity 2022, Municipal

All right, setting aside the amount of \$828,200 and turning to page 6.18, which is the municipal activity of the Local Government, activity 2022, and with this also on page 6.18A is also a summary by region. The sum of money involved here is \$8 million--I am sorry, \$7,759,000. Is there any discussion on activity 2022? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities at its annual conference in Yellowknife on October 1st to 3rd passed the following resolution: "Be it resolved that approved municipal capital funds by territorial Council be turned over to municipalities."

The reason for this resolution being that apparently in the budget under capital items there will be an item which would suggest that the money would be spent in the communities and then for some reason, as the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities says these funds have been unilaterally withdrawn and applied to other projects. I am just wondering if the Deputy Commissioner or some other member of the Executive might determine what has been the answer of this government to that resolution?

Scheduled Meeting With N.W.T. Association Of Municipalities

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we are scheduled to meet with the Association of Municipalities for what I guess we would call our annual meeting with them on the 17th of February and at that time we will determine a little more accurately just what they had in mind here. I imagine that we can come to a reasonable arrangement. The problem is, of course, that we must maintain a certain level of flexibility. If the municipalities could foresee their expenditures very, very accurately and if each of them were to come forward with the same level of accuracy and need, then we could make our votes very much firmer. They have the same problems with budgeting as any other government or any other level of government and that is that they are only estimates. They can not be certain of the costs of what they are going to do, particularly in these inflationary times, and therefore, when it comes to the point of spending the money, a degree of flexibility must be maintained, because what had been forecast may not then be required in one municipality, but an additional expenditure may be required in another one. However, having said all that, we are anxious to meet with them. We have the meeting set up and will try and determine just exactly what we can do to more readily satisfy their requirements.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: In view of the Deputy Commissioner's answer and in view of the fact that my colleague Mr. Pearson and I are also Members of the finance committee, I wonder if the administration could make available to Mr. Lafferty, the chairman of that committee, the results of the discussion between this government and the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities and advise us of the results so we may be able to act on those results?

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Did you wish to comment, Mr. Commissioner?

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, we will do so.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Are there any more questions concerning the \$7,759,000 in activity 2022? Mr. Butters.

Progress Of The Municipal Division

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just by way of information, our colleague who is absent this morning, Mr. Stewart, in his role as mayor, was very, very highly complimentary of this division and it is a division that is under the guidance of Mr. Ilorm Macleod I think, a man whose talents I too have been impressed with over the years. I wonder if the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner could give us some indication of what this division is doing and how it is increasing its services to the municipalities and some idea of its progress?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the municipal division is gradually taking steps forward to meet the requirements of the municipalities. An inspection division has been formalized within the last 12 months. We were carrying out this work, in a less organized fashion perhaps, and now we do offer an inspection service to municipalities, whereby we offer advice and assistance with accounting and all of their systems, within the capability of the relatively small numbers of people we have. We have gained a great deal of experience in our assessment branch and are getting along very well with that work now, getting even almost up to date with assessments in the Northwest Territories, although that certainly is a very demanding and ongoing task.

We feel that the level of services offered to municipalities continues to improve, and that under Mr. Creery and under Mr. Macleod, we enjoy very good relationships with the municipalities. That in itself is a very, very important feature because it means that the municipalities more and more will seek the advice of this unit and this unit has the effect of standardizing the approaches that the municipalities are taking to many of their problems and the work they must do.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): It would appear that there are no further comments on page 6.18 and page 6.18A. Is that correct? Agreed?

---Agreed

Activity 2022, Municipal Agreed

Could we now have agreement on the total of \$7,759,000 on this activity? Are we agreed?

---Agreed

Objects Of Expenditure - Activity 2023, Northern Airports And Facilities Program

Before coffee in about seven or eight minutes, perhaps we could deal with activity 2023 contained on pages 6.19 and 6.19A. I am sorry--just on page 6.19, which is the northern airports and facilities program of the department of Local Government and the amount involved is \$75,300. Are there any comments concerning the \$75,300 for the northern airports and facilities program? Mr. Butters?

Transportation Subsidies

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, it is difficult for one to get a chance to speak on a topic so I will use this item here as the subject. I believe that this item finances individuals within the department who are presently working very closely with the Northern Air Transportation Agency and my understanding is that both these individuals, through a motion in the summer session and the agency itself has been seeking an approach to the federal government to work out some way in which northern residents could receive transportation subsidies as outlined by the former minister of transport, Jean Marchand.

I wonder if either the Deputy Commissioner or any of the members of the Executive might be able to advise as to the progress being made by both the members of the Air Administration section and of the Air Transportation Agency for the North to develop such subsidies or a policy in the North to reduce the very high cost of transportation to northerners and the attendant costs of freight and air express?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the only area of real success is the one before you and I must say it is a very major step ahead. The federal government has, through the Ministry of Transport, arranged a joint program with the territorial government for the construction and operation of airports of various categories all across the North. This is the first time that this kind of activity and requirement has been given the attention that it deserves. It is the first time that there has been a firm program for construction of these facilities.

The provision of these facilities in itself constitutes a level of subsidization to the northern resident in that with the small populations the investments are very much greater on a per capita basis than they would be in any other part of the country. Of course, we would say that is the way it should be because we are not served with a road network, except for a very small part of the territories.

Information Item To Be Presented

With regard to any moves toward further, or other transportation subsidies, we have no real progress to show. This Council last June moved to request a change in the airport tax so as to remove the discriminatory action that existed as between the use of DC-3's and Twin Otters for scheduled runs. The answer which will be tabled before you shortly as an information item was "No". They are not going to change that.

However, it was pointed out, or will be pointed out in this information item that the tax is limited to a maximum of eight dollars a trip, regardless of how far you go, which frankly is rather cold comfort. We have not made notable success in that area beyond this one for the provision of facilities and operating costs, which has to be seen as a very major step in itself.

Activity 2023, Northern Airports And Facilities Program Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. Are there any more comments on page 6.19? I take it there are no further comments. Could we therefore have agreement on the sum of \$75,300 for the northern airports and facilities program? Are we agreed?

---Agreed

I understand that coffee might be a couple of minutes late. I wonder if the Deputy Commissioner could tell us whether the information requested by Mr. Searle on activity 2021 is now available?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, I am sorry, it is not. I guess it will be just a few more minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I have one question and I wonder if there might be the indulgence of the committee? As Members of the former Council remember, I believe the grants to organizations and communities used to come into this portion of the budget under recreation. The Deputy Commissioner will agree.

My question was being held for that portion and I did not realize that it had gone into the Natural and Cultural Affairs Department. I want to pose my question here and it is not argumentative and does not require a great amount of research.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Certainly, go ahead.

Inuvik Friendship Centre

MR. BUTTERS: In Inuvik there is a building under construction called the Inuvik Friendship Centre. By plebiscite in December there was a request that an interest free loan of \$50,000 be given to the Friendship Centre organization to complete the building of this structure. It is situated in the west end of town and will provide service to many of the long-term residents. Unfortunately the plebiscite to the town was turned down by one or two votes and what I was wondering was if the administration might consider developing a similar arrangement for their Friendship Centre, that is an interest free loan of \$50,000? All I ask is consideration.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it makes it a little more difficult for us to do this sort of thing when the people themselves turned the plebiscite down. However, we can look at it. The chances of responding in this coming fiscal year are pretty slim. We can not ordinarily consider making interest free loans. However, we might put it in our forecast and test it before this Council. We will, though, look at it, if that is the desire of this committee, and see what steps might be taken to assist the Friendship Centre. We would, though, have to come back to this Council.

We have a problem on our hands at Inuvik because there are a number of recreational facilities and the cost of supporting all of them is very great. That is a local problem, I admit, but we have made fairly substantial grants for recreational facilities at Inuvik in the past and I do not think that there is any due to them at the present time. However, to conclude this, we will look at the possibility of offering assistance and report back to Council.

MR. BUTTERS: Consideration is all I require of the administration.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Searle.

Man Years Compared With Budget Increases

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, this is a fairly general question. I wonder if the administration could start working on the answer for it because I suspect it can not be given simply and it is this: On the one hand we have a \$40 million increase in expenditures over last year. On the other hand, the summary of man years required purports to show a decrease of people by 113.5 this year over last year. I suspect that is not very accurate. That is shown on page 0.06B and I can not for the life of me figure how we can have a decrease in the total public service of 113.5, yet an increase in expenditures. I suspect that there is an actual increase somewhere and that, looking at some of the departments, particularly highways, there is some contracting out being done. This is the sort of area of inquiry that I know Mr. Pearson is particularly interested in.

If you look at the budget, it really does not, on the face of it, say but in fact it is happening. My question is simply: What is the actual increase? That is, assuming again that there is an actual increase, not an actual decrease.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the problem came in here because we did not get from Ottawa the final figure for highways, where you realize we act as contractors, but the staff involved is regular territorial staff. The proper figure for highways has been used on page 0.06C, and I believe that Members will note the new figure of 3286 as being the proper figure. This does show a small increase from previous years.

When we were working out the budget in the fall, we held ourselves to a man year increase of about 113 which is, of course, a very minor increase in this day and age. You will see the final figures on page 0.06C. Is that what Mr. Searle was looking for?

MR SEARLE: Well, that shows, does it not, a decrease of 165 people?

THE COMMISSIONER: An increase of 160. My book shows for 1974-5, 2932 and for 1976-77, which is the year we are coming into 3133 and it shows a decrease of 169.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Searle must be dealing with 0.06B and that is corrected on 0.06C with the addition of the highways people.

MR. SEARLE: Yes, sorry.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): In view of the hour perhaps we could adjourn for coffee for about 20 minutes or so. The committee stands adjourned.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Gentlemen, it would appear that we now have a quorum. Would the committee please come to order.

Revert To Activity 2021, Research And Development.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner, I wonder if you now have available the figures which were requested by Mr. Searle regarding activity 2021?

Travel Budget In Detail

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have. Under the travel allotment of \$127,400 there is a figure of \$80,000 which represents the travel for settlement secretaries, hamlet settlement managers and staff training. I am sorry, I should have prefaced those remarks -- that the sum of \$80,000 is for travel related to training. Therefore, it covers travel training for settlement secretaries, hamlet secretary managers and any staff training that is engaged for any officers of the whole Department of Local Government. That is \$80,000.

The headquarters travel is \$27,000 for research and development, and there is \$20,000 for settlement and hamlet council workshops. The persons who attend those workshops are settlement secretaries and councillors. That adds up to \$127,000. If I could also add, under the next item of transportation and communications there is a figure of \$45,500 covering regional conferences of settlement and hamlet councils. That would be partly travel and partly their accommodation and other expenses.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that one effective approach in coming to grips with this particular division, and I would like to maybe suggest this and see what the Commissioner's reaction would be. If I can get the Commissioner's attention for a second, that would be to -- I wonder what the Commissioner's reaction would be to this suggestion, as an attempt to come to grips with the research and development section, and that would be to suggest that those positions that we have been told, of the 23 field positions and their travel, their O and M money etc., be transferred from this section to, say, the municipal division. That way you would only have the nucleus of the headquarters group to watch. It seems to me that you would get the direction of the people working in the settlements that you badly need.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

Different Approach In Dealing With Local Councils

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, in fact the settlement secretaries will, in the new year, come very much more under the control of the local councils that they are set up to serve. I think that any directions given to them can still be given to them through this division, because as the Commissioner has advised you, he has conducted a very detailed and deep review of the activities of the division, and we are now confident that the work they will do will be very much in support of the total effort of the department. There has been, as you know, somewhat of a realignment, part of it of course because as time passes people have to take different approaches. The people they are dealing with on the councils across the Northwest Territories have become politically aware, and now we have ensured ourselves that there will be a different approach taken.

Transfer Of Control Of Field Staff

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I know that when it comes to reorganization that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner do not object in principle to reorganization. The suggestion I am making is that simply those 23 field people be transferred, or at least I would think that they would be better directed, that is under the municipal division. Regardless of how you cut it, if you have got these people in the field being paid and directed through this particular section, it seems to me there is much more control over them by that particular section. If you do not have them reporting through that particular section then it seems

to me you would get better control through the municipal section. However, it is a thought that I have. If you take the people away, essentially, in the field, and you keep them doing what they should be doing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Commissioner?

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, at this time I think about the only thing we could say is that we are looking at this whole question and whatever changes are necessary to do the kind of things that this Council wants to do, and what the administration wants to do and we will have a look at that along with other suggestions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you, sir. Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Would it assist the Executive if they had a more formal expression of this Council's view, such as a motion recommending that this be examined?

THE COMMISSIONER: No, I do not think so. I do not know how to answer it sitting right here, but I will give you the assurance that we will look at it and we will not play games with the Council on it. We will have a good look at it. It never entered my mind, frankly, because I believe everybody agrees that the settlement secretaries' positions be given to the communities, and the money turned over to the communities, and I had not thought that we would be directing them to do anything. I would think that they would decide themselves, the communities, what they would want done. But, if it is the vehicle or the instrument that is used to channel information to them, to channel funds, if that is something we should look at, then I think we will look at it. There probably will be some other suggestions from others as the session wears on.

Activity 2021, Research And Development Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Are there any more comments on activity 2021 on pages 6.17 and 6.17A before we come to the vote on the total for this activity? Could we therefore have formal agreement on the sum of \$828,200 for activity 2021? Are we agreed?

---Agreed

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, may the record show a negative vote by myself on the matter of principle?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Yes, sir, I think the record would be able to show that.

MR. PEARSON: Two of them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Perhaps it could be written into the record that disagreement was expressed by Mr. Searle and Mr. Pearson on this particular item.

Objects Of Expenditure - Activity 2024, Town Planning And Lands

Now, we are turning to the last vote, activity 2024, which is found on page 6.19A, the activity of the Department of Local Government for town planning and lands, and the figure we are involved with is \$426,200. Are there any comments on this particular item? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Just a general comment, sir, and this is relative to the concept of extraordinary funding. In replying to a question that I posed earlier in the session, the Deputy Commissioner by written reply noted that one method for accommodating that request was to defer capital spending and interest moneys owing on the capital borrowings required. Is the department considering any other items which might be termed extraordinary funding, or would such fall into an application sense, that is that the municipalities requiring such funding would apply directly to the department?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Deputy Commissioner?

Extraordinary Funding For Municipalities.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the municipality involved would apply directly to the territorial government for funding, and if they could possibly identify their requirements -- well, I should say that they should at all times try to identify their requirements as far ahead of time as possible, which then gives us a much better chance to respond.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Are there any other comments on activity 2024? Mr. Pearson?

Construction Of Housing In Frobisher Bay

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, the question of town planning and lands, this particular branch, I have a question or two, and that is this fiasco which occurred in Frobisher Bay last year where the Housing Corporation was able to deliver to the community 30 new houses, but, unfortunately, it was unable to construct the 30 houses and in fact it could only find pads for 11, or rather for ten of them, and that was only because a lot of them were to be built in Apex, the satellite community of Apex, three miles away.

The thing that concerns me is that here we have a branch within the government of town planning and lands, and surely this kind of thing should not happen if all elements within the government organization were working together to one sort of conclusion, and that they provide leadership and incentive to these communities to enable them to assemble land, and get the lots ready so that when these houses come in, it would be a simple matter, with 30 houses and nowhere to put them. So, 20 houses are sitting on the beach, covered in snow, and of course Frobisher has a very acute housing problem.

Now, there are many elements, of course, in the fight, it was not just simply in the hands of local government, there was the community involved and there were all sorts of other agencies, including the Housing Corporation, but surely there has to be some way we can co-ordinate the activities of the government. I mean, you know, co-ordinate the activities of the government so that this kind of thing can not possibly happen. It is inconceivable that it could happen, but it did, and yet we have another department that gets \$40,000 for travel, and a total budget of half a million dollars.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you.

MR. PEARSON: I guess everybody agrees with me.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Does the administration have any reply to Mr. Pearson?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I did not hear a question. I just heard comments.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Thank you. Are there other comments or questions? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, you know, I do not want to appear to be dragging my feet, but can I get some indication from the administration that this kind of thing can not happen or will not happen again? Is this department prepared to get off its backside and go into the communities ahead of time and go into the communities and organize so that when the houses come in they will be built?

Many Units Involved In Housing

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No and yes. No, I can not guarantee it will not happen again, but yes, of course the very best possible effort will be put out. As Mr. Pearson said earlier in his remarks, in his comments, that this problem in Frobisher Bay could not be laid at the doorstep of any one unit. There were many, many actors on the stage. The territorial Councillor himself, the local council, the Housing Corporation, the Department of Local Government. It was a regrettable situation from Local Government's standpoint. They felt that the lots were there and available and pads could have been constructed on those lots earlier. When you examine the budget for the Housing Corporation, perhaps the Corporation will not agree with that. I can not say for certain. I certainly must say that it was a most regrettable situation and that we will make every effort to ensure that it does not happen again.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): I trust that the Honourable Member for South Baffin is thoroughly satisfied with the reply by the administration. Are there any other comments on page 6.19A, town planning and lands? Mr. Butters.

Liaison With Regional Planning Group

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just a very short question, sir. Can I be assured that there is some liaison between members in town planning and the new group that is being formed in Mr. Elkin's office related to future developments in the Mackenzie, that is, the regional planning group? Am I to be assured that these two groups are communicating and getting together?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, yes, most certainly they are. There are and will continue to be very close relationships between the planners in the regional planning group and the planners in this unit.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Lafferty.

Housing Budget

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, under capital here in the budget that we have been going through right along, in every department in the summary there appears under capital a certain amount for housing. Does this mean that each department is responsible for its own building, or is there a department within the government which is budgeted for a total territorial government housing program?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, all of the staff housing requirements of the territorial government are voted under the Department of Personnel and the only other housing that we enter is through the Housing Corporation.

Activity 2024, Town Planning And Lands Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nickerson): Are there any other comments? There would appear to be no more comments. Therefore, gentlemen, could we please have agreement on the sum of \$426,200 for activity 2024? Are we agreed?

---Agreed

That brings us, as far as I can ascertain, to the end of the O and M budget for Local Government. I can find nothing in the book under the "B" level budget for this department. I take it there is no "B" level. Therefore, gentlemen, we have completed both capital and O and M for the Department of Local Government. Is it your wish that we report progress?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Council will come to order. Mr. Nickerson.

Report of the Committee of the Whole of Bill 4-58, Appropriations Ordinance, 1976-77

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Bill 4-58. The section on the appropriations for the Department of Local Government has been completed and we wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: What department do you wish to deal with next, Mr. Parker?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I would recommend proceeding with Social Development, which is the next program department in the book.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, do you have any strong feelings as to why you might wish to chair Social Development?

MR. BUTTERS: No, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Council will go into committee of the whole to continue consideration of Bill 4-58 with Mr. Butters in the chair.

---Council resolved into Committee of the Whole for consideration of Bill 4-58, Appropriations Ordinance with Mr. Butters in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 4-58, APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE, 1976-77.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): The committee will come to order to continue its examination of the budget. We are now on the Social Development budget action beginning on page 9.01. Before proceeding with this budget I would like to suggest that we consider at some length the objectives of the department which are those, the main objects for the department's existence and the main programs which this department carries forward. Following that we will consider the capital items because it is upon these capital items that the programs and personnel are based and then we will move on to consider each individual program offered by the department later on in the section. Mr. Lafferty, as chairman of the finance committee, do you have any particular recommendations that you wish to make to the committee before we begin the discussion?

Finance Committee's Views

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, no, I have no particular recommendations on Social Development but it was the direction of the committee at last November's meeting, certain areas of the Social Development program be reviewed and some ideas were expressed as to increasing money toward alcohol research and also in view of this my own personal view is that we should be looking at some of the type of alcohol awareness education programs that can be introduced.

Presently I do not think there is any money budgeted for that area, so I will not comment further on that. I will leave that type of review of the Social Development budget to caucus study.

Executive Committee Member For Social Development Answers For Department.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. I will then call on the Minister of this department, recognizing the historical significance of this moment as this is the first time in the history of this Council that an elected Member who is responsible for a program department will answer for his department and provide us with some indication of where he sees his department going in the future. Mr. Ernerk, if you wish to address a few comments in opening, you may do so.

Department Of Social Development's Programs Outlined

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I will not go into the objectives of the department. I think, Mr. Chairman, they are very clear in the objectives on page 9.01. If I could briefly explain the department, going into the Social Development activity memorandum, I think you will see here where the money will be spent in terms of services to the communities in the territories. Under the corrections program this year -- before I do that perhaps I might briefly explain where we stand at the moment. Going back to my speech in the replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address, I mentioned at the time that we are going into the area of community based correctional services under the correctional services program, rather than getting the individuals to pay fines, for example, or that the offenders be imprisoned. We are looking at community services in this area.

Under child welfare services, the department's objective is to provide counselling services to parents and children and a large amount of money will be spent in this area to meet those needs.

Under medical services and special care program, the objective of this department for this particular division will be to develop a broad range of services to meet the needs of persons with special problems across the Northwest Territories.

Under the alcohol and drug program, I can only go back to my comments that the people in the communities in the Northwest Territories have asked for some assistance from this department for some funds in terms of seeking their own solutions to their problems, and in future, as I said during my opening speech, we will continue to support the settlements who come to us for some assistance or who come to us seeking some assistance in this area.

Under the social assistance program, the objective here is to provide adequate levels of financial assistance to persons in need and to offer such other services as may facilitate the individual maintaining or attaining the highest level of personal independence of which he is capable.

The department has looked at various areas where some changes could be made, in the areas of changing the present policies within this particular area; that is, to try and see if in fact we could provide better services in terms of trying to get the employables employed, or seeking employment for unemployed people in the settlements throughout the Northwest Territories.

I really do not have anything to add to that at the present moment, Mr. Chairman, unless there are any questions that we may have from the floor.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Minister, for giving us a rundown on the various programs we will be considering.

Now, if we could go back to page 9.01, and if there are any questions of a general nature related to the objectives of the department or the performance of the department, the Chair would welcome these at this time. Mr. Searle?

Dual Role Of The Department

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I notice in the objectives a greater emphasis, I would say, on the dual role of this department. Prior to this, I think the emphasis would have been almost

completely on social development and I notice that everywhere there is also health care services included. If you read the three objectives you will see the first one says to promote and improve the general health and social well-being and health is put first there. The next one says to develop, integrate, co-ordinate systems of social and health care services, the reverse there, but the two do appear and finally, the last one says to provide social and health care services. Now that means to me that what we presumably are developing here is a well rounded and complete department of social and health services.

Health care services, however, or health generally is still, to my knowledge, under the federal Department of Health and Welfare. The development of these objectives, however, suggest to me that we must be getting close to taking over that health care responsibility and my question, therefore, of Mr. Ernerk is whether I could have an up-to-date report on where we are at with the federal Department of Health and Welfare in integrating the health service into our Department of Social Development and health care.

Takeover Of Health Care Services

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, so far the departmental officials, along with the federal authority, the Department of Health and Welfare, have been holding discussions on this particular issue and, in fact, discussions on the transfer of responsibilities to the territorial government have been discussed. I understand that the Minister of that department, the Department of Health and Welfare of Canada, is in fact in favour of this. However, a date has not yet been established as to when the transfer of responsibilities would take place just yet.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Searle, is there anything further?

MR. SEARLE: I am wondering if it is something that we might reasonably expect within the life of this Council?

MR. ERNERK: The only thing I can say at the moment, Mr. Chairman, is that we do not have any indication as to when this would take place, other than to look at the Mackenzie River Health Services Study which was done some time ago and one of the recommendations in that was the fact that discussions concerning this should be undertaken.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Any further questions? Mr. Searle?

MR. SEARLE: I do not want to dwell on it too long, Mr. Chairman, but since this Council has not really had anything to do with this matter of health services, I think it is important to point out that the previous Council certainly took the view, and I believe we are on record through several motions, that this health responsibility presently being carried out by the federal department should be transferred to the territorial government.

Now the reason they did is because that is so clearly in the area of social development, speaking generally, and using that term generally, if there is to be any attempt to argue that we are carrying out provincial-type functions here, then this one just has to be transferred and, of course, why it has not been done in the past is a mystery to me. How you can get social development on the one hand, education, local government and have the health services reside back firmly in the federal hands is one of the great mysteries of the North.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SEARLE: That is surely one of the obvious ones where even the most heartened advocate of the need to settle land claims surely will admit that that one is one that can proceed and progress and occur without affecting land claims. Now surely we can agree to that, can we not?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Searle. I wonder whether we could have some kind of indication of an answer to Mr. Searle's original question. Although the federal government may not have told us as to a transfer of these responsibilities, but perhaps the department has a critical path and has a date which it can foresee when such a turnover of responsibilities might occur?

Activity 4040, Buildings, Work Or Land

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Any further comments? We are looking at the first item, buildings, work or land and the item is \$14,000. If there are no questions, may we have approval of that item, please, if Members are agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4040, Equipment And Furnishings

The second item, equipment and furnishings, vehicles, various, \$52,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Could we have a description of where these vehicles are for?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk, is this available from your department or does the Deputy Commissioner have it?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, nine cars -- pardon me. There are nine cars and seven cars -- pardon me, and nine snowmobiles.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Where are they?

MR. ERNERK: These are in the communities throughout the territories. There is one in Frobisher Bay under vehicles; Fort Smith, two for Fort Smith; one for Fort Simpson, Hay River, Inuvik; two for Inuvik and one for Akudlik. Under skidoos there is one each for Cambridge Bay, Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung, Igloolik, Baker Lake, Coral Harbour and Eskimo Point.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. Mr. Pearson, does that satisfy your request?

Need For Vehicles Questioned

MR. PEARSON: That does not satisfy me. I am appalled to see that this branch of the government would be in the process of buying another vehicle, particularly one for Frobisher Bay, because at any time of the day or night one can go to the W.G. Brown building and see government vehicles, brand new vehicles with virtually no miles on the clock at all lined up in a row and sit there day after day. The elite of the organizations are given an opportunity to get the key and go driving around or whatever it is, or go to the airport and pick up their food that they fly in on the aircraft.

The need for these vehicles I think is ridiculous and unnecessary and every year we see it in the budget, more vehicles, more vehicles. What the hell for? \$52,000 would be the salaries of a couple of probation officers who would do a hell of a lot more good than more vehicles and more maintenance and more costs and more gasoline. I mean one would not mind if there were a team of drivers who drove these vehicles around, or if they sat in the back and acted like executives or something like that, but there are no benefits at all. It is just costs and nothing going back to the communities. Social Development seems to be developing along automotive social development lines.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Pearson, the charge seems to be directly at the administration as a whole, so rather than asking Mr. Ernerk to reply for his whole department I imagine, Mr. Pearson, you are referring to the policy of purchasing vehicles throughout the department?

MR. PEARSON: You can take it piecemeal or take the whole thing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I think the Deputy Commissioner heard the comments of the Honourable Member and he might reply.

Possible Date For Transfer Of Health Care Services

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I would agree with the remarks of Mr. Searle. However, at present the situation stands that this particular matter of transferring the responsibilities from the federal government with respect to health, to the Northwest Territories rests in the hands of the Minister himself at the moment. However, you are no doubt aware of the fact that discussions have taken place with the move of the northern health area from Edmonton to Yellowknife, and the indication that I got was that it would take place around 1976, at the end of 1976, or possibly as late as 1977. Now what we are seeing within the department is the fact that the transfer of responsibilities should take place prior to the move.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, sir. Any further general comments on page 9.01 relative to the objectives of the Department of Social Development? I take it from the silence of the Members that there are no general questions.

Then may we proceed with an examination of the capital items? We will be coming back later to detail, as Mr. Ernerk pointed out. When he provided his opening remarks he did indicate in the program section, the responsibilities and we will be coming back to that page later on and we can discuss more specific responsibilities at that time.

May we then go on to page 9.02? Capital. Agreed?

---Agreed

Social Development, Capital - Activity 4040, Buildings, Work Or Land

The detail of capital, administration, activity 4040, buildings, work or land for \$14,000 estimated for 1976-77. Are there any comments or questions on this budget item? Mr. Nickerson?

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not really want to speak about the administration activity within the Department of Social Development or any one specific activity or department, but I think when we are concerned with a budget of \$200 million a year things which to any one of us personally might be an item of capital expenditure such as we have here for vehicles, when you consider it in the context of the government as a whole, that is not really a capital expenditure. A capital expenditure would be building a school or building a hospital and these are really to my way of thinking merely operating expenses, you know. When you buy a vehicle you know it has to be replaced four or five years down the road and I was just wondering whether maybe in future it might be possible to isolate these two types of capital expenditures, one a proper capital expenditure and one something which is really, as far as the government is concerned, an operating expenditure.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Deputy Commissioner, this would appear to fall more within your area of responsibility.

Different Categories Of Capital Expenditure

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I understand Mr. Nickerson's concern. There is no doubt but what there are different categories of capital expenditure. If we rent a vehicle or if we are buying something from which we anticipate only a years life from, then we would classify that as an operating expense, but for vehicles which have a sometimes lengthy and at least predictable life we feel that we must treat as a capital expenditure. We might look to a better system of identification of those kinds of items. I am sure that Council Members do not really mind which way we account for things if we have to follow a standard practice, but our purpose, of course, in addition to that is to present the material in a fashion that clearly indicates where the money is going, so maybe we could separate them out even more clearly. We do separate equipment and furnishings as a separate item in each case and they are both things, you know, with anywhere from three to fifteen years life. I would like to have a look at what we can do to more clearly identify them.

Pooling Of Vehicles At Regional Offices

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pearson is concerned with the purchase of another vehicle for Frobisher Bay. I am just seeking yet one more report on vehicles because we have reviewed and agreed to purchase at least that at the Executive level. All I can say right now is that in the area of vehicles we look at every request very, very carefully and that is an area that we are very, very sensitive about. If the possibility exists that we do not need this vehicle, then we would be pleased to withdraw it. We have instituted a system of pooling vehicles at each of the regional offices, something that has taken us some little time to accomplish. All I can do is, together with Mr. Ernerk, review this requirement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Searle. Sorry, Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I can only add to Mr. Parker's comments in answer to Mr. Pearson's remarks that the ones I have outlined under vehicles are replacements for the vehicles which we have in each of these communities which I have mentioned. I could also add that I have not seen but I have received just a short report at one time on the fact that some vehicles were not being used properly and as a result of this officials of my department are looking into this situation and as I understand it the vehicles here are replaced roughly every four years according to the government policy. The one we are replacing in Frobisher Bay is a 1968 vehicle and that is the one that will have to be replaced.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I understand Mr. Lafferty has his hand up. You too, Mr. Lyall? I am sorry, I have not had my assistant to watch for hands and I apologize for those I have ignored. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ernerk just answered my question in some of his comments, sir. The vehicles being replaced, perhaps I am ahead of myself, but perhaps it will show up later on that we get recoveries from the vehicles that are being replaced, being sold to the public? Do they appear here under this department?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

Disposal Of Used Government Vehicles

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we dispose of vehicles in two different fashions; that is, vehicles that we are phasing out, that are being replaced because of age and/or condition; one, through calling for tenders for new vehicles on the basis that the tender include a trade-in value and, secondly, if we do not do it that way, then we advertise the used vehicles for sale and the money is shown as a revenue item in the Department of Finance.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Lyall, is your question still pertinent?

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, the question I would like to ask is how come you are getting another skidoo for Cambridge Bay? You have a vehicle and a skidoo there right now. Any amount of work that skidoo does is generally when they use it for their own pleasure anyway, which is not really that bad, but I do think that if there is going to be any travelling out of town for Social Development from Cambridge Bay renting would be a heck of a lot better and they would have a proper guide if they do rent from an Eskimo.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the situation as I understand it at the moment in Cambridge Bay, is that it is being replaced, the snowmobile is being replaced. If it is not needed then we will certainly look at it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: I had a frivolous comment which might have been funny at the time but that has long gone by.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I am sorry about that.

MR. PEARSON: Let us hear it anyway.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): We are on equipment and furnishings, \$52,000 for vehicles, various. Are there any other comments?

Opposition To More Government Vehicles

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, again coming back to this question of vehicles, I am not satisfied with the answers we have been getting, not at all. I can not see the justification for these vehicles, when one considers the total inventory of government vehicles in these communities and I suspect that Yellowknife has an army of them, the same as Frobisher Bay has, the same as every other community across the Northwest Territories, or at least every large centre. I know, for a positive fact, that there are vehicles available in Frobisher Bay which sit idle doing nothing week after week, sitting outside the W.G. Brown building, with no mileage on them. Every section head seems to have a vehicle, which is parked there most of the day while they are supposedly working in their offices and then it is parked there at night because they are not supposed to take them home. Here is another branch of government which wants another bunch of vehicles and if we go through this budget methodically today we will find a whole slew of them, not just seven for Social Development or nine for Social Development, whatever it is, but a whole slew of them.

Again, where does this government spend the little money we are told we have, do we spend it on vehicles, or do we give it to needy matters such as a probation officer, as there is a serious need for one in Frobisher and I suppose also in many other communities, for people who can do things? I am sure that it is possible to get transportation in some communities. I am sure that if people tried they could learn to walk again. I am sure that in some communities there are taxis available so that this government could provide some backing for private enterprise. I am sure that if the agencies in question did not have this empire building syndrome in their modus operandi that the Department of Public Works would be very happy to allow Social Development the use of a vehicle to flip down to the airport to pick someone up who is coming in on the plane.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Deputy Commissioner, did you wish to respond? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, we are not asking for any additional vehicles, we are simply asking for replacements.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): The only thing I was going to add was that possibly Mr. Lafferty as chairman of our finance committee might take note of this conversation and possibly put it on the agenda for March or whenever we meet. Mr. Lyall, do you wish the floor?

MR. LYALL: I would just like to comment on what Mr. Pearson said. In Cambridge Bay we have one vehicle for just about every government employee except the secretaries. There are 12 secretaries in the office and they are the only ones that I know of who do not have vehicles.

MR. PEARSON: Nice, sure.

Report Could Be Prepared On Government Vehicles

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it is exactly as Mr. Ernerk says, for Social Development, they are all replacements. We would be very pleased to outline our replacement policy, but even more so, I would be very, very pleased to table a report with this Council, or with a committee of this Council if you so wish, detailing every vehicle and what it is for. In fact, we would examine what vehicles we already have. This is a very, very sensitive issue with me and I am anxious that Council see what we are doing and have a chance to give us direction, because we do not want to buy vehicles that we do not need. We do not want to use government vehicles where it makes more sense to use private vehicles. If I could dare suggest, if you would wish one of the committees of Council to examine such a report and report to the Council, fine, or if you wish to handle a review of vehicles in committee of the whole, that is entirely up to you, Mr. Chairman, but we stand ready to produce such a report and to have it examined, and in fact, of course, if you are unsatisfied with what you see in that report, then we are ready to make modifications to it.

I would rather see you do that than, as we get to each department, go through the same discussion of why we need vehicles. I do not mean that you should not ask under each department what the vehicles are for, of course we will make available to you a list that we can read out, but I think a general review of vehicles might be in order.

MR. PEARSON: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that we take the Deputy Commissioner's suggestion and have, or direct, the finance committee, as you suggested previously, to really review this, the whole question on the acquisition of vehicles, and in fact the replacement of vehicles, because I think that that is possibly the point that other speakers are making, whether in fact we have to replace the vehicles, which is a need, but I think we are questioning the need of actually replacing them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Pearson, would that be satisfactory to you before I call on Mr. Searle?

MR. PEARSON: Just to say that I not only question the replacement, but I also question why they are there in the first place. What are we replacing them for?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Searle?

Abuse Of Government Vehicles

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, vehicles have been replaced generally speaking on a formula basis, as I understand it. It may be that that formula is too generous, but the thing that disturbs me is Mr. Lyall's comment that every civil servant in Cambridge Bay with the exception of the 12 secretaries has a separate, a distinct vehicle. If that is so, generally, throughout the settlements, that would be an extremely appalling waste, a waste of capital funds, a waste of electricity when they are sitting there plugged in and a waste of gasoline when they are running.

Unfortunately these are the sorts of things that happen with government vehicles, and I am not talking about this particular government because our control I think is far better than the control that the federal agencies exercise. For instance in the summer, around Yellowknife, I have noticed vehicles of other federal departments, the Department of the Environment is one of them and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, and they seem to go around here in these great big multigeared four-wheel drive winch-mounted vehicles which have to be \$10,000, \$11,000 or \$12,000 a vehicle, for these departments. Of course on the weekends they are very handy to go out to Prelude or Prosperous and they will drag a guy's boat and preferably a government boat if you can get a hold of that. These are the sorts of uses that are bad. I have observed one person who has a government vehicle and he goes home for lunch and leaves the car running outside his house so it is warm when he finishes his lunch an hour later.

MR. PEARSON: That is right.

MR. SEARLE: He does not care because he is not paying for the gas. Now, this is not a territorial civil servant this is again someone who has a car who is working for the federal government. There are all kinds of examples of bad use of government vehicles, simply because they are owned by the government and not the individual. I do not know how you can come to grips with it, except to say that the impression I have, in Yellowknife at least, is that we, as a territorial government, have far better control than the federal agencies do. That is in Yellowknife, I am not speaking for anywhere else, but certainly that is so in Yellowknife. You seldom see territorial cars being driven in the evening for social purposes, in fact, I do not know of any, but you sure see the feds using theirs for every purpose. There is even one federal agency, if you can believe it, where the area director has a car in which there is a telephone, and if we take over health services, Mr. Torrance, please get rid of the car and the telephone because it is not needed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Searle. I have Mr. Lyall and then Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the vehicles that were in question were not Social Development's and I would like to comment that the one vehicle that they have in Cambridge Bay for Social Development has been put to very good use and they are not abusing the privilege on that part, that vehicle I am talking about. The skidoo, the one they had a couple of years ago, the one they still have, has been sitting there for a year and never used, and that was the only reason why I commented on the fact that that particular skidoo was used more for personal pleasure.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Mr. Lafferty?

Vehicles Very Necessary In Some Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, one of the problems that I see that could arise from some of the comments that I hear as to community vehicle use and departmental vehicle use, I do know that in some instances these comments are quite correct in that some departments do have too many staff vehicles. In some communities they are necessary, such as in Fort Simpson, for instance, where it is the road-head community from which it is much cheaper to serve that community by a vehicle rather than air charter. In that sense I can see the Social Development people having several vehicles in Fort Simpson to carry out the work which they do by vehicles.

Take, for instance, Jean Marie River where the roads are opening up and the people are pressing for an all-weather road and this will put a demand on that department for another vehicle. Then there is the matter of Fort Providence and the chance of other communities opening up by road. In that sense I could say along the Mackenzie corridor we should be kind of careful because there is a possibility we will be switching more to vehicle use.

I notice, too, in isolated communities where they do not need a vehicle there are two or three sitting and these are areas we should explore.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Before recognizing Mr. Pearson, I would mention, I have allowed this discussion to go on, even though it does not strictly apply to the Department of Social Development because it does relate to a matter that is very important to all the administration of the territories, and that is the use of government vehicles. Mr. Pearson.

Review By Finance Committee

MR. PEARSON: I stick to my original statements about the vehicles, that there is abuse of vehicles and where in situations such as Frobisher where they have rows and rows of vehicles and individuals who have a pressing need to use one officially have to go through the most incredible fights and arguments to get the use of one of the vehicles. I think this government, and I think this Council has said for so many years, ever since I have been on it, that there is vehicle abuse there. I do not think they have come to grips with a good policy on vehicles and you will see that the Deputy Commissioner from his comments will review the vehicles and the finance committee will keep on top of them to ensure that this thing does not become abused as much as it is now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Barnaby.

MR. BARNABY: I think there is abuse of just about everything. All the money, personnel, vehicles -- the only way I think we can come up with a good budget, I guess, is to do it ourselves in our communities that we represent. We just keep complaining all the time and have the same thing every year. I think everybody knows what vehicles they need, what people and how much money they need, if we could only do that.

Activity 4040, Equipment And Furnishings Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Barnaby. Have we talked out this question of vehicles? Is there anybody else who wishes to have a shot at it? If not, may I have approval for the second item on page 9.02, which is equipment and furnishings, various vehicles to the amount of \$52,000? Agreed?

MR. PEARSON: Nay.

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4040, Administration Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Summary of capital estimates on the same page, buildings, works or land, \$14,000; equipment and furnishings, \$52,000. The whole page. Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4041, Corrections, Buildings, Work Or Land

May we move on to page 9.03, corrections, detail of capital, activity 4041. The first item is buildings, works or land, landscape, South Mackenzie Correctional Centre \$2000. Construct halfway house \$150,000, for a total of \$152,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Where is the halfway house for?

Money Set Aside For Halfway Houses

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, we have not really decided where the halfway houses would be, but during our last standing committee meeting it was stated the fact that we would not say exactly where the halfway houses would be. However, the department has not proposed or received any proposals from any community. The purpose of this particular one was to set money aside to see if any one in the territories would make a proposal to the department and see if they do wish to set up a certain place in their community. What I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is that we have not decided where the halfway houses would be but the money is there and set aside for that particular purpose.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk, if I may ask a question from the chair, you could buy 3000 square feet with \$150,000. You could only accommodate eight or ten people. Is that correct?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, it would accommodate eight to ten people.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I find it a little disconcerting when I see an item as large as this, \$150,000--bang--no messing around, but we do not know what we are going to use it for. It seems to me that this area of the halfway house concept is to meet the needs of offenders coming out of correctional camps and I guess prisons, mental institutions, to help them readjust into their community.

I would have thought that if the Department of Social Development is on the ball, so to speak, it would be aware of where these needs are. For example, Yellowknife must have a tremendous need for a halfway house. I do not know if there is one. Inuvik must have a tremendous need for a halfway house. Hay River must have a tremendous need and it is a concept which is accepted, not only in the Northwest Territories, as worthwhile, a worthwhile approach to assisting the offender when he comes out, but it is universally accepted.

So, therefore, I am somewhat alarmed that the department has not taken the initiative and encouraged communities and people to go this way. The amount of money that is allocated here for a halfway house, as you mentioned yourself, this would accommodate some eight or nine people. If this were built in the traditional territorial government style of hot and cold maids in every room, flush toilets, carpets, we have a receiving home in Frobisher Bay that is absolutely magnificent. I do not know how much it cost, but it has wall to wall carpets, drapes, absolutely a beautiful thing, two ovens in the kitchen, the kitchen alone would cost \$10,000 or \$15,000, dishwashing machines and God knows what. In a large group home you need a dishwashing machine, but do you need a dishwashing machine in a halfway house? Do you need hot and cold maids in every room, flush toilets? Is it not conceivable that such halfway houses could be built in a similar fashion to the homes from whence the offenders came? In other words, the typical Northwest Territories housing, plywood shack, without too many fancy amenities and a honeybucket and those kinds of things so that with \$150,000 this department could build and could instigate the construction of the building or the development of already existing buildings into halfway houses in many centres, not just in one whenever the people in that community suddenly get a whim that they need a halfway house?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Pearson. Mr. Ernerk, do you have any response you wish to make to Mr. Pearson's comments?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, just going back to this particular item again, the only thing I can say is that the situation developed a couple of years ago and as a result of that, the department has decided to give some feedback.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, what I assume from the remarks by the Minister of Social Development is that we are here being asked to approve an estimate of \$150,000 and we do not know what will be built for this money, we do not know where anything will be built. We do not know whether anybody has yet requested such facilities be built. The whole thing is extremely nebulous. Personally I can not see how we can be asked to approve something when we do not know what it is for.

Operation And Maintenance Costs Of A Halfway House

Also, I have been going through the estimates here trying to find out how much operating and maintenance expense will be involved after this halfway house has been constructed. So far I have not been able to find where the figures occur and I would be interested to know, if we spent \$150,000 on this particular structure, how much operating expense will we then be stuck with?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Mr. Ernerk, could you reply to the comment as to the propriety of this Council approving a capital structure which has not been located yet and the second question related to the maintenance of the structure when it is erected, and the staffing operations?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the only thing I could add to that, or answer to that, is that we are trying to look down, at least five miles ahead, and if anybody from the communities, one of the communities, or one or two communities, in the territories in fact comes to us and says "We need a halfway house" we would like to be able to respond to it and it is just the fact that here is what we want to do for it, if such a proposal comes up to us that is. In terms of operation, it would cost at least \$40,000 to heat and so forth and the people who are using it would be expected to pay for some of it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Speaking again from the chair I feel quite sure that the Inuvik community, as my friend Mr. Pearson has suggested, would be interested in such a structure. Mr. Searle?

Support For Halfway Houses

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I do not think it is quite fair to say that we should not approve it simply because there is no firm decision on exactly where to locate it. There is no doubt as to what it is used for. There is no doubt I do not think either that there is a requirement for such facilities in more than at least one location. The question has never been that we have too many halfway houses looking for places to be built. I have always understood it to be entirely the opposite, which is that there is a requirement at Inuvik, there is a requirement I very much suspect in Frobisher Bay, and at Hay River. It seems to me that just about every place where you put a correctional institution, or at a correctional camp, there is likely a good argument to there locate as well, as and when you have the money, a facility to which the prisoners go, once they are released, or where they can be released to prior to the end of their term of imprisonment.

Now, as to where it is reflected in the O and M, it appears there are a couple of positions shown in addition on the O and M side, under corrections. I think the answers are really there and when you are talking about building for next year, it seems to me that leaving the question open, and I suggest this is the only question that is open, where it should be built, is not a serious defect. Is it not simply a question of assessing the needs and requirements of several competing areas and putting it hopefully in the judgment of our man in charge of this department as to where it is best needed, that is either at Inuvik, Frobisher Bay or Hay River? Assuming he will exercise good judgment, I for one am prepared to approve of the allotment in the hope that (a), he can build it for as little as \$150,000 and (b), that he will locate it where it is best needed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Searle, for your contribution. Mr. Evaluarjuk?

Facility Needed At Cape Dorset.

MR. EVALUARJUK: I think it would be a good idea to put in this \$150,000 now I have heard an indication that there would be this type of building erected at Cape Dorset. Now, there was an indication to me by letter that the facilities there are heavily accommodated and could not handle it. They have indicated to me that when these prisoners or inmates, or the prisoners in the cell, whenever they get out of the cells there is no supervision after they come out of the cells. It seems that they have also indicated to me that when the prisoners come out of the cells the same ones seem to be going back the following week. Now, the alcohol committee in the community of Cape Dorset wrote a letter indicating to me that these inmates should not be looked after by the local Royal Canadian Mounted Police and when these prisoners come out of the cells there is no supervision by anyone and in this way there is no supervision of any kind after they come out of prison.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. EVALUARJUK: With this in mind, this information from Cape Dorset, I would like to utilize this sum of \$150,000 for Cape Dorset. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, again, I think that when we met, the standing committee, we discussed this item at that time, and I know that there are various communities who are asking for these kinds of facilities. I think Mr. Searle put it in its proper perspective in saying that on the part of the department, it is asking for these funds in order to meet demands from other places. Now, Mr. Evaluarjuk has beaten everybody to the punch so far, but I am sure that there are other areas which require these kind of services. I know that in Fort Smith there is a group dealing with juveniles, a facility there run through the Social Development department and is working very well, and I think again that that kind of thing is a response to the kind of planning that the department is going through in trying to meet a need for various social services, and I think this is one. Now, there are other areas, and not just in Coral Harbour but other communities as well. So, I for one again would not be hesitant, even though I know at the standing committee I questioned this, but I am not hesitant about agreeing to this kind of expenditure.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Nickerson?

Money Available To Interested Groups.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, the complaints that both myself and possibly Mr. Pearson have, are not on the fact that the government wishes to spend \$150,000 on halfway houses, I do not think we quarrel with that too much, what we are probably concerned with is the way that it is shown in the estimates. Originally, I was certainly given the impression that these funds had been estimated properly and there was a halfway house which had been designed for a particular settlement, or something of that nature, whereas I think it would be a lot more honest and give Council a better idea and the public who read these estimates and want to know what we are doing a better idea, it would be better to put this figure in a column headed: provision for contingencies, money available to the public should they wish to apply for it, this sort of thing. The whole impression that the estimates give here is wrong, it should be made more clear what this money is actually for and the fact that it is available to interested groups.

MR. PEARSON: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Ernerk?

MR. ERNERK: I wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Nickerson. Here we are, for the first time, trying to set aside some money for something like this, which we have not received in terms

of proposals. I can go back and say to Mr. Nickerson, that for example just a matter of a couple of years ago, not even a couple of years ago, ten months ago, when I was first elected to the territorial Council, the community of Baker Lake asked me to speak on their behalf for some funds for a day care centre in Baker Lake. I went after the government at the time, and I was a Councillor at the time, and really there was no money for it, and later on some money was made available for it. However, I am not saying I disagree with Mr. Nickerson or Mr. Pearson at all on this particular issue. The thing is that we are trying to set aside some money, and here we have it, and if a community or any interested group in the community asks for some funds, then we can say to them "Well, yes, we might be able to find some funds for you." This is the whole purpose of the \$150,000 which we are setting aside at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I think we have gone over this subject quite well, but Mr. Lafferty is on the list and I would like to give him an opportunity to comment again.

Views Expressed At Finance Committee Meeting

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, you will recollect in our finance committee meeting there were a lot of views expressed on some of the items, and to refresh your memories with some of the things that were discussed at that time, one of the things that was brought up although it was not really recorded, and sitting here listening to the comments refreshes my memory, there was a sort of preference on the part of the finance committee that we should be looking at the areas where, or in which, there are moneys being spent which are perhaps a little behind the times. I meant to put this in my report, but I did not, because I had reserved it for our next finance committee meeting, but the fact remains that there are some areas where we should be prepared to cut back and open up or transfer this money into other areas of expenditures such as this halfway house which is now in question. I wholeheartedly agree with every viewpoint that has been expressed here and a halfway house is something which I see as a definite need in the northern communities, however differing they may be from region to region.

Now, why do I see a halfway house as a definite need? Again I will bring your attention back to a review of the corrections system and we have found that we spent a large sum of money on correction services, and our jails are overcrowded at the local level, and that the large portion of these incarcerated people or detainees, whichever they are, are native people. If you look at the statistics you will see that 100 per cent of the total native population in the Northwest Territories has been through the jail system.

MR. PEARSON: What was that?

MR. LAFFERTY: One hundred per cent.

MR. PEARSON: Of...

MR. LAFFERTY: ...of the total native population.

MR. PEARSON: Has gone to jail?

MR. LAFFERTY: Has gone to jail.

MR. PEARSON: Oh, shame.

Need For Halfway Houses

MR. LAFFERTY: So, this is a responsibility I think that has to fall on Social Development and the correctional institutions. Now, these types of figures should be made available to the public, and in that regard I would say that there is a need for a place where these native people can go after they are released. Now, why do I say this? It is because we are in the transition, whether some of us agree on that or not. We are a rapidly changing society in the North, especially in the major centres such as Inuvik, Yellowknife, Hay River and Frobisher Bay. I have not been up there but I can tell by the type of aircraft scheduling going up there. So, in these communities there is bound to be some kind of a problem where people must adjust. Now, take a man, for instance, out of the Fort Smith or Trout Lake area, an Indian out of Trout Lake who does not come to town very often, throw him in jail and then bring him back to Fort Simpson and he has to sit around town for a week or so before he can get back out. Now, there is really no place for him to go.

Chances are, because of the shortage of money, a man is released ahead of time on bail or personal recognizance. All these sorts of problems arise. Most native people who are jailed are also thrown in jail only when they are drinking and they seem to commit misdemeanors when they are drinking, so if this is the case, they are law-abiding people when they are sober. In their frustration they get drunk, get into jail and when they come back out they are sober and exposed to further frustration and they get drunk again within a few days. It is a difficult thing perhaps for a lot of southern people to understand because we live perhaps here in the North for ten years or 15 years and because we are the teachers and so on and many other experts and we think we understand this kind of problem. I for one, being a native, born in the community of Fort Simpson, have a hell of a time understanding the Indian viewpoint and I for one have one hell of a time understanding the white viewpoint, although I have been white educated and lived among them for 25 years. I can see that halfway house as a very important item in a society which is just emerging.

No Ethnic Or Community Control For Halfway Houses

With that view I would like to see this Council in the future make as much money as possible available to these major centres to provide halfway houses for those people who are having problems in adjustment. In my own experience in halfway houses in the South in which I played a large role, even though I was never in jail in my life, I always believed in halfway houses because I found that they helped many, many people. In the experience that I had with this type of institution there are many people who are in prominent positions in society who have gone through halfway houses. It is a very important thing. Let us not close our eyes to it and let us look at it and examine it and look at its value.

To summarize this viewpoint, although there is a need for halfway houses and institutions of that sort, they should not be left in ethnic control or community control.

Activity 4041, Buildings, Work Or Land, Construct Halfway Houses Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are we agreed on activity 4041?

---Agreed

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: The department agrees, the Minister agrees and this will be a fund established for the establishment of halfway houses across the Northwest Territories. Have we agreed to that? It does say "construct halfway houses", and they will change it; is that right, it will change?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): They will change what, sir?

MR. PEARSON: The construction of halfway houses, Mr. Chairman, I see that as the point of this whole discussion.

More Than One Halfway House Needed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): We are discussing capital and under the capital item there is only one house being mentioned and I am sure that we will be given that assurance when it comes to the program aspect, it will not only be one halfway house which will be agreed to but a series according to the wishes of the people. Is that correct, Mr. Minister?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, my answer is that we will try our best to make sure that the money goes as far as it can, or as far as it can.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): You are becoming a good Minister with your replies, most political.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I heard a lot of "agrees" concerning buildings, works or land.

Capital - Activity 4041, Equipment And Furnishings

The next one is equipment and furnishings, the replacement of equipment and vehicles in the amount of \$37,200.

MR. PEARSON: Vehicles!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): No more arguing on vehicles. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4041, Corrections Agreed

That is for a total of \$189,200, is activity 4041 agreed?

---Agreed

Now, there is a big discussion on group homes obviously coming up and would the committee wish to recess for lunch at this time, rather than getting involved? Does that meet with your approval to now recess for lunch? Can we reconvene at 2:30 p.m.?

---LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

Capital - Activity 4043, Child Welfare.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Recognizing a quorum of Council is present, may we reconstitute the committee and examine page 9.04 of Social Development? Proceeding to that page then, the first item under buildings, work and land is a group home at \$150,000, and landscaping for Hay River for the receiving home for \$5300. Are there any comments on that expenditure? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I wonder if the Minister could outline exactly what a group home is. I am afraid I do not really know, and perhaps he could tell us whether this item of expenditure is in the same category as the one we discussed on the previous page, in that you have not got a definite idea as yet as to the location and type of home you wish to construct.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. I could only give the same explanation to the group home situation as I did with the first one, the halfway houses. I think that this goes back to the social development paper, the fact that we, at least in our department, are trying to get some local participation, local involvement, and as a result of the paper itself, the direction which we are taking is to get the people in the settlements to participate in this type of program. This is why we really do not have a definite community or communities under this \$150,000. Does that answer Mr. Nickerson's question?

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, it answers the second part, but I am still in a quandary as to really what a group home is.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Minister?

Definition Of Group Home

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, a group home is a place where care is being carried out for individuals on a long-term basis. I was adding this comment to my original statement, I am sorry, and I did not hear the last question that Mr. Nickerson raised.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Do you wish to repeat your question or do you have sufficient information?

MR. NICKERSON: I am afraid I still do not really know what a group home is, what type of people would you be looking after there? I do not really want to pursue it that much right now and perhaps Mr. Ernerk would like to tell me about it privately afterwards, if he should so wish.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I would be prepared to do that and perhaps later on in the afternoon if the committee so wishes, I could have the answer to that publicly as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. Mr. Lafferty, you have the floor and then Mr. Pearson.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, the group home they have been talking about in Fort Simpson and that the Commissioner in his Address mentioned is something that is done by the community where many children that are being placed away from Simpson, have really no place to go. Instead of placing these children in homes in other areas of the country, it is a community project and I have really looked into this type of thing and this is within the recommendation of Council Members themselves.

Now, I am not defending the position of our Minister but this is one time I could truthfully say that he really followed the instructions of Council.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, the first point is that I appreciate Mr. Nickerson's concern, but I do not appreciate the fact that he only has an explanation in private, because I would

suggest to him at that time he could pass the budget in private too. If we want to vote intelligently on this then some explanation in public should be made to Mr. Nickerson on what a group home is. Surely, we can make decisions here today without it being done in private. I do not think that is too much to ask.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I said that I would get the explanation later on this afternoon about what a group home is.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): If there are any other general questions you may put them now and we will defer the item until the explanation comes forward. Mr. Pearson.

Amount Of Money Spent To Build Group Homes.

MR. PEARSON: I see. The other point, Mr. Chairman, is that again here we have a nebulous amount, I gather, \$150,000. So, the grand total from this morning is \$300,000. I do think that the department should be a little more specific in this regard. I just wonder at the sense of building group homes, if this is in fact one group home, that costs \$150,000. I wonder how realistic it is to build one of these very beautiful structures such as we have in Frobisher Bay to house young native kids who never came from a house of that sort, and are very unlikely to go back to a house of that quality and comfort. I wonder if we could not pin the department down a little more on this item as we tried to on the earlier item, because this is a lot of money.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Do you also know where the home is to be placed or sited?

MR. PEARSON: I am sure the department is capable of telling us what community requires a group home more than another community.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk, you heard Mr. Pearson's comment and do you wish to comment or reply with regard to the philosophy in establishing group homes?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pearson's comments are well taken and when I gave my other reply it was with respect to a group home. I will conclude my reply later.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Any other general questions before we move on to the next item, remembering that we will come back to this, buildings, works or land? Any further questions on this item? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, we will get an opportunity later on to discuss the principle of child care?

Capital - Activity 4043, Equipment And Furnishings.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Yes. Maybe then we will move on to equipment and furnishings and it is a matter of \$18,500. It is miscellaneous furniture and equipment replacement and are there questions on this?

MR. PEARSON: What is the furniture for, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Minister.

MR. ERNERK: Under this item, equipment and furnishings, that is for group homes in Fort Smith, receiving homes in Fort Smith, the receiving homes throughout the Northwest Territories and this is mostly some replacement equipment.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Are there further questions on this amount of \$18,500? There being no questions, may we have approval on this? Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4044, Medical Social Services And Special Care

We will return to this page. The next page is 9.05, detail of capital, medical social services and special care, activity 4044, old folks home, Aklavik and transient centre, Akudlik and \$3000 for each item. Are there any questions on any one of those items? Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister of Social Development about transient centres. The one in Cambridge Bay came under question this winter, whether it was going to be closed down or kept going. I have not seen any estimates for repairs. It was decided between Pelly Bay, Spence Bay and Gjoa Haven and I joined in meetings with people in charge of social development in Cambridge Bay and we decided that we would have the transient centre fixed up or else get a new building. I never saw any estimates for that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the understanding I have is that with respect to the transient centre up in Cambridge Bay, apparently this particular estimate was done at least 18 months ago and right now it seems that we do not have any funds to repair the old transient centre. However, as Mr. Lyall suggested that people of the Central Arctic reacted to the particular situation by saying that it should not be closed or set aside. Although we do not have any funds for it at the moment, we are going to try to find out if we could do something about it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Lyall, is Mr. Ernerk's assurance that they are aware of the problem sufficient to you?

MR. LYALL: No, we were told to find out and I did go around to each settlement and I was following right behind one of your social development people up there and it seems to us that the answer we got at that time was that they would get going as soon as possible. At the present time it is not suitable for people to be living in, but they are using it at the present time. I think that the money was allocated, some part of the \$150,000. I do not see why we could not use it to repair that building so they could use it until such time as we do get funds or at least get it going and repaired enough so the people could stay in it. There are a lot of people who go through that building from each of the settlements and I think that they deserve a little bit better place to live in while they are stuck in Cambridge.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, we will certainly take a look at it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. Mr. Lyall.

The Contribution Of The Department Of National Health And Welfare

MR. LYALL: Perhaps National Health, have they been asked to see if they could raise that jointly with you people? Apparently there was some kind of a half and half deal or something.

MR. ERNERK: The present policy which we follow, Mr. Chairman, at the moment is that when anybody from the Central Arctic communities is sent to Cambridge Bay, by the Northern Health Services, they pay for the patient or the individual and we operate this transient centre in Cambridge Bay.

MR. LYALL: The reason I want a very clear answer to this is because of the fact I will be asked that question again, whether there was anything done about it in this session. I think I should be able to be given a more clear answer than what I have got so far.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I suggest, Mr. Lyall, that the answer, as I understood it is they will look into it and you will have the assurance of Mr. Ernerk that he will see that his department does this. I think this is as much as we can ask at the present time and I feel sure that he will probably give a more firm answer when he has had a chance to investigate the matter further and hopefully before this session closes.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, yes, we will certainly look into it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: I think the question arising here as to transient centres and group homes, the appropriation of \$150,000 for a group home is a priority item.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Lafferty, we are coming back to that item on group homes later on and we are now on the item on page 9.05, activity 4044, if you would address yourself to this page.

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I thought I could get away with it, but I see you are right on.

Priority Items

Speaking to the item on transient centres, there is \$3000. I think if we look at our priority items in the department, as I indicated prior to our lunch break, there are areas that we should be looking at in committee of the whole, in caucus or in the finance committee meetings. For instance, there are some departments of government in the communities, which as I have indicated earlier, are not really a priority item, but nonetheless, we do have personnel and expenditures in that area. There are new problems arising which we have not got the money for, such as the transient centres in the communities where we only have \$3000. I think to rob our priority items for a thing of necessity arising in the communities such as a group home and taking money from it in this department, would not be the answer.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Do you wish to answer, Mr. Minister?

Akudlik Transient Centre

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, as you point out, the transient centres which we operate in communities such as Akudlik and other places in the territories are used by the patients going out to different hospitals so that they could have a place to stay while waiting to go out or to go back to their communities.

In the case of the transient centre in Akudlik, this accommodation is used and I am simply telling you that as an example it is used by the people from the Keewatin district who are waiting either to go to Winnipeg or coming back from Winnipeg to go back to their communities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Any further questions on these two items, remembering that we will be returning to the item on the group home this afternoon. Are you agreed on the \$6000? Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4045, Alcohol And Drug Program

May we move on to page 9.06, the alcohol and drug program, activity 4045, and look at the grants and special payments section, grants for detox facilities and the amount of money projected there being \$200,000?

Are there any general comments on this item or questions? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I think that the \$200,000 in this item is money well spent. I have had something to do with the Detoxication Centre in Yellowknife and have kept kind of a watchful eye on them and I am satisfied that they are doing a very good job. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if you could bring the Honourable Member on my right side to order. I am really convinced that the money is being well spent and I would really like to see more emphasis being put on expenditures to help solve the problem of excessive alcohol abuse in the Northwest Territories. This has been said time and time again, even this session, by various Members.

I think that on the whole the money can be better spent to better effect by groups such as the group we have in Yellowknife, who are not really government people but people outside of government putting a lot of effort into this on a voluntary basis. I think that any expenditures we can make in this area will more than justify themselves. I think if we can solve the problem of alcohol abuse, a lot of the other problems we have, such as housing, problems of people being convicted of crimes of one kind or another, problems of child abuse, all those types of things will go away more or less by themselves. I support this expenditure and, if it was several times as great, I would still support it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Nickerson. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Nickerson. I think that much of our problems, socially and economically, would be eliminated, and the cost factors in these areas decreased. If we can triple this amount, as the Honourable Member for Yellowknife states, such as the questionable \$150,000 for a group home, which is a direct result of alcohol abuse...

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. LAFFERTY: I am not saying or trying to imply that anyone who partakes in a social evening of entertainment is a drunk or is abusing alcohol, but obviously the clear majority of the people in the North do abuse alcohol and in some instances, even drugs are coming into the country. Now in this area I would definitely support any amount of money which would establish alcohol awareness programs in the largest communities, resulting perhaps in regional preventive measures in each region. In that respect I can not see how it would cost too much, but to have such establishments in every community is literally impossible because the cost is too great. I can see government control centres in regions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Breakdown Of Moneys

MR. WAH-SHEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, could I have a breakdown of the \$200,000, mainly where is this \$200,000 going? Is it going just to Yellowknife or to other communities as well?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Minister, would you reply?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I really can not say where the money is going at the moment, but the decision will rest in the hands of the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. If you look on page 14 of the "B" level programs, there is a program outlined on that particular page.

Mr. Chairman, I might also add that as the proposal from the communities, the various communities come in for this money, then the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council will make the decisions.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Barnaby.

MR. BARNABY: I would like to ask a question, just a general question about alcohol. At our regional meeting people asked if food could be subsidized instead of alcohol and I think with the rising cost of things these days, that food would be more important than alcohol.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Minister, I think you remember this suggestion was made by previous Councils as well, but do you have some comment on the question? Possibly, sir, the Deputy Commissioner could answer because it is not really the Department of Social Development that is doing this. I think it is the liquor control people who are subsidizing liquor throughout the territories so that the price is the same. Perhaps the Deputy Commissioner could answer. Mr. Searle.

Liquor Is Not Being Subsidized

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I have heard that comment now I think for eight years. The fact of the matter is, liquor is not being subsidized. The liquor system is run on the basis of the same price for a bottle of liquor everywhere across the territories. After all is paid for, it produces several million dollars to the treasury. The people who are really paying more for liquor are probably the people of Yellowknife, than they would have to pay if they paid just the price of the bottle and getting it to Yellowknife. In fact, what is being paid is the same price in Yellowknife as in Cambridge Bay, as in Frobisher Bay, etc. That means that more, obviously, has to be paid here to get it at that same price into the settlements. So the mere fact that you pay the same price here as you do anywhere else does not mean that liquor is being subsidized, it is still being sold at a price which not only pays for the product, but pays for the transportation and pays for the system and leaves over and above that several million dollars which goes into the general revenue of this government. So please, let us not have that comment again. Liquor is not being subsidized. It pays by far for what it costs, what it costs to deliver it everywhere in the territories and leaves quite a contribution to the treasury over and above that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Searle, I would imagine that possibly the Deputy Commissioner would have answered in a similar vein had he been at the table. Mr. Pearson, did you have a comment?

Council Has Allowed The Abuse Of Alcohol

MR. PEARSON: Oh, yes, I have lots of comments on this one. I do not want to reply and make a comment on Mr. Searle's comments just for the moment, I would like to, but I am biting my tongue.

The question of alcohol has never really been dealt with by this Council. We have never really exerted our responsibility. We have allowed the abuse of alcohol to continue willy-nilly across the Northwest Territories since I have been on Council, in fact ever since the

Northwest Territories Liquor Commission was established. We have rules and regulations which apply to plebiscites and alcohol control in communities which are not really based on sound reasoning, as far as I am concerned, but on unsound and unreasonable aspects.

For example, the people of the community of Frobisher Bay, can elect a community council or a councillor or a member of parliament with a majority of one vote, but if they want to make any change in the regulations concerning the use and abuse of liquor in their community, they have to have a tremendous majority. Something like 60 to 40 before they can make any changes in the regulations within that community, before they can bring about any changes in the abuse of liquor in their own community. Several years ago a plebiscite was held in that community to try and come to grips with that terrible problem they have there, but because of the regulations which were set down in the ordinance by this administration, by this Council, they were prevented from carrying out their own desires by just a few votes.

It is true to say that there is not one community in the Eastern Arctic or in the Arctic that has ever to my knowledge asked for a liquor store, that has ever had a petition where there was a majority of 40 to 60 for the construction of a liquor store. It was just built and when these people try and come to grips with the situation themselves, they have to go along with these regulations which were established by this Council. Occasionally one sees a bright ray of hope on the horizon, and I say "ray" now "Rae", when a man like Arrowmaker asks and gets a rationing system established for his people and I think he is to be complimented for his great courage, and his showing the way that it can be done throughout the Northwest Territories and, in fact, throughout Canada.

Abuse Of Alcohol

The problem that we have is from what I can see just complete wholesale abuse of alcohol. It is there, it is in the store, you are over 18 or 19 or whatever it is, if you want to buy a bottle of happiness just pop in and buy it. It is too readily available and as long as it remains so readily available in communities such as Frobisher Bay where the social problems of that community are one of the factors that cause people to drink, it is a never-ending circle, it just goes around and around. It is the alcohol that causes the problems and the problems that cause the alcohol and there seems to be no end to it. I put it to my colleagues that the end to that situation in that community would be restriction on the sale of alcohol, rationing. There was at one time a rationing process in Frobisher where one went to the liquor store -- this was under the federal -- it was a territorial liquor store but it was in federal days. Although I imagine then it must have been a territorial regulation. This Council must have passed it at one time.

In 1961 or 1962 you went to the territorial liquor store, paid your money, made your order and went back three weeks later and picked it up. We had nowhere near the abuse that we have today. Then it was changed to a two day waiting period where you made your order, did not pay for it, went back two days later and picked it up. That helped. The native people in Frobisher Bay showed in the plebiscite that they did not want these abuses to continue. The question was almost one on the shutting down of the liquor store, but they did not carry enough weight to get that motion through because it was the large population of southern Canadians who lived there and because of the residency factor who were able to vote and carried sufficient weight that the question did not win.

Council Has The Power To Do Something

We travelled to Inuvik some time ago, a group of these Council Members. I have been to Inuvik on several occasions and the abuse of alcohol in those facilities there, those bars, is just staggering -- staggering! If one goes to the Yellowknife Inn and sees the dreadful abuse that is going on there, people standing, arguing and fighting, mostly native people in the hallways. This is a terrible, terrible situation. It is to be seen right across the Northwest Territories and we, the Council, we the elected representatives can do something about that. We have the power to do that. We have the power to shut the whole bloody lot down. We have the power to give the communities the right to determine what they want to do and I think that is probably the best approach.

If a community such as Frobisher Bay wants to institute rationing, then they should be allowed to do so if the majority of people so wished. A majority of one -- not 40 to 60, whatever the proportions are, because it is our responsibility. When you see drunks staggering around the road, they are our responsibility. When you see children orphaned by drunken parents, that is our responsibility. We did that. We are the ones you can point the finger at because we make the rules and regulations. That is our responsibility and we have to accept that responsibility. We have to have the courage to do this. We can not allow this continuous development of alcoholism that is going on in the Northwest Territories.

As time and aircraft improve, the mail service improves, communications improve, the shipments of booze get bigger and bigger and bigger and the Northwest Territories Liquor Commission makes something like -- stop me if I am wrong -- four million bucks profit last year from the sale of liquor. Four million dollars profit! Forty-two deaths in Frobisher -- I do not know about the other communities. I hope they are not as high as that but they could be. We hear of fires in Cambridge Bay where an entire family is eliminated from excessive drinking, fire, bang -- the whole lot is gone -- kids and everything! If we are to exercise our responsibility, then we, this Council, have got to do something about it. It is our responsibility and nobody else's. It is not theirs. It is not the administration's -- it is ours.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: I just wanted to make a comment on what Mr. Searle said about Cambridge Bay and Yellowknife being the same. If you like drinking beer, you pay the same price for it as you do in Yellowknife, but to buy hard liquor you have to pay something like 27 cents a pound more, so you are paying more for your liquor in Cambridge Bay than you do here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Commissioner.

What Is The Over-All Solution

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, yes, that is right, Mr. Lyall. I suppose the reason is because we do not sell liquor through your store. I listened with great interest to Mr. Pearson and agree with much of what he says. The problems of liquor and the effects and all the rest of it are certainly a collective issue, one that I do not think any person around here claims any expertise in or to know all the answers. Those who are closest to it, whose responsibility it is to dispense it, to sell it or to clean up the problems that are left behind as a result of it, would be the first to admit that they probably know less about how or what the over-all solution to it is than maybe a person who consumes it. Essentially liquor is a poison and as long as you do not play with it too seriously, I suppose it does not hurt you, but the central issue is that not everyone has a good grasp or knowledge of when you go over that edge. I imagine that in any society or any race or nationality 65 to 70 per cent of the people are potential alcoholics, if they drink enough of it and stick with it.

Mr. Pearson is right when he says what happened at Frobisher Bay. We did have the three week time limit and it was changed to 48 hours and this Council ordered the 48 hours off. Mr. Pearson was not a Member of the Council at that time so certainly it can not be attributed to him. The Council of that day felt that it should be taken off, so they took it off. We are prepared to meet you anywhere you want along the line in coming to grips with this. If you pass any rule or regulation or law, we will be guided by it and follow it to the very best of our ability. If we can not we will tell you.

Temporary Prohibition

You remember the Wacko Report which was a very enlightened investigation into the problems of alcohol. We accepted everything that Council adopted out of that. Maybe you want another one or maybe you want to review that one. We have Mr. Don Bruce who is right here, if you want to alter the theme of the Council session, which is certainly all right with me, and ask him to come here and say a few words. He is as knowledgeable a man as I have ever met, and a hard-working man and I have never met a more concerned man. He gets down and roots into the problem with the people. He is not afraid to talk to people, to work with people when they have problems. He has said to us that one of the great problems is the police are not enforcing the ordinance and he does not make any bones about it. He thinks that they should be called upon to enforce it more strongly. He has been a tower of strength to me in my unorthodox approach and my unorthodox approach is a simple one: I will do anything anybody says if it will just help save one person or help clean the thing up. I agree with Mr. Pearson and as a Council this is one thing you can do. If you decide on prohibition or temperance or temporary prohibition, anything you like, it is within your power and we will follow you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Lafferty, do you wish to speak to this matter?

Abuse Of Privileges

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, the development is very interesting. First of all, in regard to what the Honourable Member Mr. Searle said, I agree with Mr. Searle and many other comments that I heard. I was asked in Fort Simpson by very responsible people and even the lady in charge of the liquor store there, seeking this equalization factor in the liquor in the territories. Really I do not think the prices or cost or anything of liquor are factors in people abusing their privileges and rights to alcohol. I do not think that there is such a thing as alcohol abuse. I think it is merely the phraseology. I think that the abuse is really abuse of privileges that have been extended to people. Those affected are primarily native people and there have been factors involved where sudden exposure to the use of alcohol on the part of the treaty Indian people who have only had the privilege of drinking over the last 15 or 20 years. Those who have been given the privilege to drink in those brief years are still with us and you can not blame the children or the young people who are teenagers today for the conduct of their parents.

Finally I think, as Mr. Pearson points out, the responsibility of control lies with the Council itself, not the administration or the people who are abusing the privileges and rights.

Again, to reiterate what has been said here in my own remarks, cost factors are really not very important because there are many people who are dying, as a result of alcohol abuse, or abusing their privileges to drink, and when these privileges are denied them they will resort to something else that is intoxicating. I have noted people in my own community who are drinking hairspray on Sundays, rubbing alcohol, and they even make homebrew in some areas, and there are several people in Fort Simpson who are crippled because of this kind of behaviour. Of course, I have the greatest admiration and respect for the judgment of the Commissioner, but what powers does he have to do anything when we have not the courage to legislate how our people will behave?

There are some areas where we have to say no, there are some areas we have to control such as the education of our people, and what we wish them to be in the future. If this is the case, we must expose ourselves to the criticism that might be directed at us for deciding. This is what I think I meant in my reply to the Commissioner's Address, we have to step out and step into the unknown and take responsibility. I would be awfully ashamed if three years from now the platforms are heard again, and I am up there with you guys seeking renomination, or something, and found the same conditions. I would walk out, I would not run again. I think the responsibility has been given to this Council by the people of the Northwest Territories to decide what is best for everybody and we know what is wrong in the communities and no one can deny that because we see it.

Subsidizing Liquor Through Welfare

As Mr. Pearson brought up, in my community and I can prove it any day of the week, there are young people, 14 years old, sleeping in the hallways of Mackenzie Manor where I live and there are children, 10 or 11 years old who knock on my door trying to find a place to sleep while their parents are on welfare. If this is what you call subsidizing liquor we are subsidizing liquor through welfare.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

Issue Being Evaded

MR. LAFFERTY: So, the final decision is with the Council and no doubt you will hear me pursuing this time and time again. I have had a good opportunity or privilege I should say to have met with Mr. Don Bruce, who I have the deepest regard for, in his judgment and courage to go out into the community and find out and I have sought information from Mr. Bruce and he has provided it. I cross-checked with what is going on in the communities and what he says is true. I think that this type of information is available to any Councillor and in that respect, many of the things we hear in this Council, including the remarks of the Commissioner are true, but we are evading the issue and that issue is a weakness in human behaviour, or in human character. I can swim in a whole bathtub of whiskey or the best of champagne, but I do not have to drink it. The availability of liquor is not the problem, and that is the way I look at things and this is what I have found in the brief time I have been on Council. If I can do that, I can not see why people who have been working in this field for years and years are unable to see it. It is a simple problem just as the Commissioner himself said and only takes guts.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Wah-Shee.

Review Of The Liguor Ordinance

MR. WAH-SHEE: What I would like to know is whether the administration, and I imagine they would anyway, support the idea of doing a review on the existing Northwest Territories Liquor Ordinance so that we could give more and more support to the communities to decide as to how they wish to deal with this particular problem?

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. WAH-SHEE: The idea here is that Council and the administration should give full support to the communities on how they wish to control the problem of alcohol. Because really when it comes down to it, it comes down to the community, and if the present regulations are not adequate then I think that the communities have to live with whatever the outcome of that particular problem is, and that is what I would suggest.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. Before I pass the floor to the Deputy Commissioner I think that probably your suggestion could be directed towards two groups, the legislation planning committee of the administration and the legislation committee of the Northwest Territories Council. Would that be correct, Mr. Deputy Commissioner?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I must apologize, I was momentarily distracted and I did not get the full gist of Mr. Wah-Shee's remarks.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the answer would be yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Nickerson, would you accept the reference to your committee, sir? Mr. Wah-Shee suggested that we review the present Liquor Ordinance and regulations in the territories.

MR. NICKERSON: I think the legislation committee would be very pleased to look at any written submission by Mr. Wah-Shee as to what he would really want in this regard.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Pearson.

Problems Do Exist

MR. PEARSON: Well, several things. First, if the legislative committee is going to review it, what does that mean, I mean the Council wants to make some changes and I think it is an issue that we are going to have to sit down with and take time on. There is no point in passing it off to a committee and have them review it, big deal, we can all review it. Problems do exist and we the Council Members feel that we have an idea of what they are, and we should have people like Don Bruce, in fact I would like now to suggest that we have Don Bruce sit down here and give us a very brief rundown. I do not want a long -- although if it is necessary we can have a two-day discussion on it, but I do think that while he is in the house he is knowledgeable and he should sit down here so that we can talk to him and see what he feels might be a worthwhile approach to it. Whether he feels as Councillor Wah-Shee does that it is a community problem, if the responsibility should be with the community, as I do, and as I know other people in my constituency do. Could we hear from him?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): You have heard the Honourable Member from South Baffin. Is it the wish of the Members of this Council that Mr. Bruce be invited to give expert advice on this matter? Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Could I have a show of hands, please? Mr. Clerk, would you determine whether Mr. Bruce is in the house and whether he would join us and provide expert testimony. Mr. Commissioner.

Concerning Expert Advice

THE COMMISSIONER: I think we recognize, all of us here, that primarily you would rather hear from the Executive Member and this should not be taken as any reference with regard to directors. There are certain people who are not directors but are at the chief level and are experts in a specific thing. I think probably that is why it is wise that we call these specific experts, but there is no reflection meant on Mr. Ernerk or myself or Mr. Parker or Mr. Torrance.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): It was my understanding that Mr. Bruce will not comment on the estimates but on his particular understanding and knowledge.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, very briefly before we go on with Mr. Bruce, I would just like to mention the fact that in the annual report of the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Committee, which was done in 1974, under the review of Liquor Ordinance, it suggests that the Government of the Northwest Territories hold public hearings in all communities to completely re-examine the Liquor Ordinance. However, I was going to mention the fact that if Mr. Wah-Shee was making his remarks as a motion, or if he was going to make a motion, I was prepared to second his motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Minister, I understood you had already accepted the responsibility to see that it got to the legislative planning committee, that is what I thought had been decided. So, I would suggest that a motion brought here is not necessary.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Bruce, I think you have heard the discussion that preceded your arrival at the table, and rather than ask Members to direct specific questions at you, you heard the concerns expressed by Councillors Pearson, Wah-Shee, Lafferty, Lyall and Nickerson. I wonder if you could comment on what you have heard and possibly suggest any guidance you may have or direction?

MR. BRUCE: Yes. First of all I would like to say thank you for inviting me, and second of all I would like to point out, as the Commissioner pointed out earlier on, that there are in fact no experts and I wish to be on record saying that in fact I am not an expert. I am merely another person who happens to be working in this field who has had a certain amount of experience, which tends to lead people to believe that I have become some sort of an expert, however I am not.

Alcohol Epidemic In The Communities

With respect to the comments made around the table, Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest that all of them are quite correct. Mr. Pearson's comment in particular is quite appropriate, in view of the fact that it is this Council which must take the responsibility for what is happening in the communities. What is happening in the communities is an epidemic, in my view.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. BRUCE: By any criteria, the World Health Organization, or any organization operating in the field of health in the free world, the kind of dilemma we find ourselves in with respect to alcohol in the Northwest Territories is in fact an epidemic. For instance, in 1974 under section 80 of the Liquor Ordinance, which is the section wherein a police officer may hold an individual overnight, there were 6398 people held overnight.

MR. PEARSON: What was that again?

MR. BRUCE: There were 6398 people under section 80 who were in fact intoxicated. Now, many of these people are repeaters, however, the mere figure alone indicates to me that the size of the problem is far beyond the scope and capability of the administration to in fact cope with. The number 6398 equals approximately one-third of the adult population of the Northwest Territories. It could also equal nearly half of the total Indian and Eskimo adult population in the Northwest Territories.

Three hundred and forty-nine people in the Northwest Territories Correctional Institute indicated they were there as a result of alcohol problems. That is a direct result. They did, in fact, commit an offence while under the influence. That was again in 1974. Crimes of violence in the Northwest Territories are approximately 7.97 times the national average. Per capita consumption in the Northwest Territories is approximately 4.34 gallons of absolute alcohol per person 15 years of age and up. What that interprets into in layman's language is approximately 28 gallons of beer or three and one-half gallons of spirits or two and one-half gallons of wine per person 15 years of age and over.

An Issue Of Community Control

I can not presume to suggest what the proper approach would be but I would suggest that the suggestion of Mr. Wah-Shee is very appropriate, that the issue really is an issue of community control. It is also an issue of this Council to set the tone for whatever mechanisms you strongly believe are appropriate to deal with the problem.

I again say to you that the faster liquor is going out into the communities, the more difficult it becomes for us to respond within the administration. We can create as many specialists as this administration would like so the faster you pump the booze into the community, the faster we are going to create the specialists and the more money we are going to expend in terms of salaries and in terms of treatment facilities, and what have you.

The issue is, as I see it and as I understand, a question of availability -- who, when, how, where, why and under what circumstances? That can only be accomplished, in my view, by us sitting down together and coming to grips with the whole issue of the Liquor Ordinance as a total package, as it relates to each individual community and how much power each individual community is going to be able to exercise in maintaining a sense of well-being and health in the community. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Bruce. Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Bruce, statistics, as we all know, can be funny things. You mentioned a figure there of 6398 persons detained overnight?

MR. BRUCE: Yes.

MR. SEARLE: Is there any breakdown of, in fact, how many different people that represented?

MR. BRUCE: No, there is none. I caution the use of that figure on the basis that there were very likely to be very many repeaters. It is rather common in the South to run into people who have repeated more than 20 times.

MR. SEARLE: Well, that is exactly the thing that bothers me about those sorts of figures. Where would you have gotten those figures from, the RCMP?

MR. BRUCE: From the RCMP.

The Case Of Repeaters.

MR. SEARLE: Yes. I am familiar with their figures and the way they compile them. You know, it is, taking an example, it is one thing if you have got 20 different people drunk. It is one thing if you have got 20 different people drunk for one night and it is a different thing if you have got one person who was drunk 20 times. In other words you have only got one person who has a problem and not 20 people with a problem. I must confess that I am not impressed with the figure and then the conclusion that you have, what amounts to half of the native population or the Indian population in jail one night. You could have, in fact, 300 people who have serious problems and they are each in there 20 times a year, but unless I knew for sure that it was so many different people, then that figure would be meaningless.

I do not mean to suggest that it is not bothersome, even as it stands. What I mean to suggest is that you can certainly form the wrong conclusion unless you knew how many different people that was, how many times. The police certainly have that information because they had to have it to compile that figure. That is the first point I have.

Now, on the gallonage question, that is a staggering amount of liquor or beer or wine per capita, particularly when you say everyone over 15 years of age, but again, how do you find out reasonably what is the resident per capita consumption? My question would be, would those figures contain the amount of liquor sold to and then sold by all of the fishing lodges and the hotels in the Northwest Territories?

MR. BRUCE: Mr. Chairman, in response to that question, there are actually two parts to that question. The first part with reference to statistics and Mr. Searle is quite correct. Nevertheless, the figure of 6398 overnight people held or detained overnight is still a staggering figure for a total population of 40,000 people. Nevertheless, I concede to that point.

Transient Population

With respect to the gallonage figures, over the last summer we have done a rather interesting piece of research throughout the territories from each liquor store and have, in fact, determined what the transient population in the Northwest Territories is and has been over the same period of time. We have determined what the expenditure rate or average rate per transient is in the Northwest Territories, and have in fact figured that into our total figure. In other words, basically we have eliminated a higher figure using two of three different methods. I must admit that these are relatively rough, but they do stand up under the scrutiny of the Ontario Addiction Research Foundation and the National Health and Welfare, so we have figured the gallonage figure with respect to transients, and that would include all the fishing lodges, all the hotels, etc.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Just a minute, Mr. Searle has another question.

MR. SEARLE: Before we go on, coming back, you gave so much gallonage per capita for everybody over 15 years of age. I do not just recall what the figure was, but are you now telling me that you have extracted from the total figures a sum which you calculate would be non-resident and that the figure you gave us was simply the net figure?

MR. BRUCE: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): May the Chair ask a question relative to those statistics? You mentioned the word "epidemic" and, as Mr. Searle pointed out, statistics can be misleading. I wonder if you would be willing to make a guess as to how many people, how many adults, people over 15 in the territories are sick with alcohol? Certainly it is not this figure of 6398.

MR. BRUCE: I could not even begin to make an estimate on that. I would only have to draw to your attention a number of other problems that are in fact synonymous with the over-consumption of alcohol, such as crime rates, for instance, wherein we know there is a high degree of crime associated with the misuse of alcohol. The figure of 7.97 times for the crimes of violence, assault with a deadly weapon, murder, attempted murder and these kinds of crimes are in great percentage committed while under the influence.

Diagnosis Of Alcohol Sickness By Medical Officers

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): One further question, sir. On how many occasions did medical officers diagnose alcohol sickness in the territories in 1975?

MR. BRUCE: In 1975, I am not aware of any statistics with respect to that because that is not in yet. However, for 1974 I can tell you it was less than 20.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I am always impressed with these figures. They sound great but they do not mean anything to me. I know what the problem is. I know what the problem is in Frobisher Bay. I know what the problem is in Yellowknife. I have seen it and I know what the problem is in Inuvik. It is a hell of a problem. It is an incredible problem. Just take a look at the graveyards in the correctional institutions. So these figures are all very well, but I am not interested in them. I am not interested in the validity of the speaker's comments. I am not interested in the statistical records. I am interested in a solution and I would like to hear from Mr. Bruce as to what kind of things he would recommend we do because we are the ones responsible. We are the ones responsible for the mess and we are the only ones who can clean it up. Nobody else can -- this Council, the 15 Members bold and true, can.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Before I pass the question on to Mr. Bruce, I remind the Honourable Member of debates in the past and remind the Honourable Member of the Wacko Report and remind the Honourable Member that many of the recommendations of the Wacko Report have already been introduced and implemented. So we are still getting better every day in every way, I hope.

MR. PEARSON: We are getting drunker.

MR. BRUCE: I think there are several points here. To answer Mr. Pearson's question indirectly, the first thing that comes to mind is the very issue that we are addressing ourselves here today and that is the budget. It seems to me that if we receive an end profit of \$3 million to \$4 million, we would be remiss if we did not look at the other side of the budget and what it is costing us. For instance, in 1973-74 the net profit was \$3,752,000. The conservative estimate of expenditure on behalf of this administration is approximately \$5,220,256.

Per Capita Consumption

The second point is the per capita consumption, as irrelevant as it may be in terms of statistical evidence, is second highest per capita consumption of any jurisdiction in Canada. To speak directly to your question, I am really in a quandary to answer it because I must say to you and all of you Councillors in all honesty that I have lost a considerable amount of sleep over the past several months compiling this data in order to give a rather accurate picture of what it is we are looking at. I am really not sure what to do. I think that on one hand outright prohibition is the answer and I think on the other hand, to give the communities the option of opting out is also an answer. Somewhere in between those two there may well be an answer as well. It seems to me that if you are committed to having a dangerous drug available to the people of the Northwest Territories, you are also responsible for the outcome.

MR. PEARSON: Right.

MR. BRUCE: Somewhere along the line we must make a decision as to what value we place on the dangerous drug itself, both from the point of view that it has some benefits and has a very high degree of liability, and I think that is the question we are addressing ourselves to today, the liability. Now, the liability we all know, we all see it, we pass it every day and see it in our own communities. I am wondering whether this Council would be prepared to address itself to the other side of the issue, what are the benefits of the dangerous drug, called alcohol, in the value system of the Northwest Territories?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Bruce. It would appear that the quandary is ours, and we have referred it to the legislation planning committee to look at our ordinance as Mr. Wah-Shee has recommended. Mr. Nickerson said he would be interested in accepting a similar application for the territorial Council legislation committee. Is there any further comment on this matter? Mr. Searle.

Concerning Complete Prohibition

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to take the opportunity of congratulating Mr. Bruce for the work he has gone to and the thought he has put into it. I am particularly interested in his comment about the possibility, or the feasibility of complete prohibition. I must say that that surprises me and I wonder how really practical Mr. Bruce foresees this to be? I mean, do you, Mr. Bruce, think really it is practical? I mean, do you Mr. Bruce, really think that it is practical in this day and age to suggest that downright prohibition could possibly work?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Bruce.

MR. BRUCE: Mr. Chairman, the history of prohibition in North America is rather interesting, inasmuch as the manufacturers of the substance sold us a bill of goods on the fact that during the era of prohibition it did not in fact work. However, the statistical evidence which I was referring to earlier indicated quite clearly that during the period of prohibition in the Canadian provinces, it was extremely successful. From the point of view that there was hardly any cirrhosis of the liver, there were hardly any crimes of violence, there was hardly any unemployment, with the exception of those periods of time during the depression and that the over-all state of health of the people in the provinces where there was prohibition was in fact better than those provinces which in fact did not have prohibition.

Liabilities Involved In Prohibition

With respect to practicality, I would caution running out on a limb with respect to dealing with the issue of prohibition because there are some liabilities. There is the liability of people utilizing other substances as Mr. Lafferty indicated earlier, there is the liability of people manufacturing their own, and the inherent potential health hazards involved in that kind of a situation. However, with all due respect, we have a border, and we have controlled access and we have a police force which we sign a contract with every so many years and it seems to me that it is eminently practical. Now, whether that is the ultimate decision of this Council or not is entirely up to you, but it would seem to me that that is one alternative that is readily practical. The program fallout -- liabilities, those people who would get themselves into difficulty would be much less than we have today.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Before we have our drug break, nicotine and caffeine, may we approve this item?

MR. PEARSON: Are we finished it yet?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are we agreed?

---Agreed

I thank you very much Mr. Bruce for your attention and your help to Council on this very important and grievous matter. Council will recess for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I recognize a quorum when one of the Members for Yellowknife is seated.

MR. McCALLUM: Weighted as it is.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): When we recessed we had agreed to page 9.06. Now, that completes the capital with the exception of page 9.04. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to find out if it is possible to go into the "B" level items later on before we are finished with what we are discussing. Recognizing the fact we have no interpreters, could we wait for a few minutes?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): What did you say again about the "B" level?

MR. ERNERK: Could we go on to the "B" level programs after we are through with this particular...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): After we are through with capital. I will ask the Members if that is acceptable to them. It does not matter to me. I notice that the interpreters have taken their places. Mr. Ernerk, do you have the material relative to activity 4043, the group home, \$150,000? Can we complete that now or will that still be deferred?

Revert To Capital - Activity 4043, Group Home

MR. ERNERK: Yes I do, Mr. Chairman, and I could read what I have here with respect to group homes in the amount of \$150,000. A group home is a home operated and provided to give care to a small group of children with special needs and it could accommodate six to eight people. In order to retain as much of a homelike atmosphere as possible, the homes are located in residential areas and are staffed by group home parents on a contract basis. These parents provide 24-hour a day care and guidance, encouraging those in their care to participate in healthy community activities and a resolution of their problems. Special groups may include children in the care of the superintendent of Child Welfare, to those physically or mentally handicapped, to young persons returning to their homes, or their home communities following a placement in a treatment institution such as halfway house.

Advantages Of A Group Home

Now, the advantages are that it provides children with the opportunity to learn healthy and personal relationships and responsibilities as a family or group member. It provides the child with the opportunity to work out his problems in association with others under the guidance of knowledgeable group home parents. It allows the department to keep family groups intact, rather than splitting them into separate foster homes, it provides special care in or at least closer to the home community so that family relationships can be maintained, even though it may not be possible for the child to live in his own home. It allows the individual to develop socially and emotionally to a far greater extent than possible in a large institution. Finally, group home care is relatively inexpensive when compared to the per diem cost of large institutions. Now, if that is satisfactory, can I go on to the other one with respect to Cambridge Bay?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Pearson is not here.

MR. PEARSON: Peek-a-boo.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I am sorry, I beg your pardon. Mr. Pearson, is that satisfactory?

MR. PEARSON: Was what satisfactory? The coffee?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): The explanation given by Mr. Ernerk respecting group homes.

MR. PEARSON: I am familiar with the institution and I know what they are for, but where was it they planned to build this one?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, we said earlier this morning we have not decided where these group homes would be. However, if I may repeat again, my earlier statement this morning, this would be in response to a community group who would be making some proposals to the department.

An Unrealistic Approach

MR. PEARSON: In light of that, the next part of the question is, is the department, or does the department plan on building group homes in the sort of Ritz-Carlton class? Or do they intend to modify their approach to group homes and bring it a little more down to earth and make the accommodation something along the lines of the homes from whence those children came as opposed to these palaces as the one in Frobisher Bay is? In other words, it is an unrealistic approach in my opinion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I thought Mr. Ernerk gave you assurances on that earlier this afternoon, but possibly I am mistaken. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can only reassure Mr. Pearson of the fact that we would in fact plan to construct what would be acceptable to the community and not as suggested by Mr. Pearson, palaces or anything of that type.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. With that assurance may we then approve activity 4043? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I was just thinking, Mr. Chairman, would it not be possible to combine some of the group home activities with some of the outpost camp activities we discussed earlier; maybe have a group of these children move as a group to the outpost camps for a period of a year, or a period of the year? We can buy tents a lot cheaper than we can buy houses in towns.

MR. PEARSON: A good idea.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk, did you hear that suggestion?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could get back to Mr. Nickerson in a little while with that answer?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I do not think Mr. Nickerson is questioning you, just making a suggestion to you, something for your department to consider.

MR. ERNERK: Well, the answer is yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I was simply going to remark that if in Frobisher they have a palace they are indeed very fortunate. I know there are two group homes in Fort Smith that are certainly not built on that kind of a palatial standard. They are very functional and in the experience I have had they are simply homes. In one case I think the home for the girls is simply a duplex where they combined the two sides of it. These are not palatial areas and I would hope that the Minister for Social Development and his department would think along those terms as well. I think what Councillor Nickerson has suggested may possibly work in some areas.

Capital - Activity 4043, Group Homes Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. May I have approval, agreement from Members on activity 4043?

---Agreed

Thank you very much. Mr. Minister, you asked to respond to Mr. Lyall. He is not here at present. He directed a question, so possibly we could wait for his return. I know he is making a few phone calls.

Mr. Ernerk suggested that before we go into the program he feels it would be advantageous for us to turn to the end of the book and look at our "B" level material at this time. If Members would agree, we could go to the back of the book and look at the alcohol treatment and control, day care facilities. What would you suggest, Mr. Ernerk?

MR. ERNERK: The two capital items are on pages 14 and 16.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much.

MR. ERNERK: The alcohol and drug program and community and social services, day care centres.

"B" Level, Capital - Activity 4045, Alcohol And Drug Program

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Of the two items, the first is on page 14, capital, alcohol and drug program, \$200,000. Do you wish to provide any explanation for this, Mr. Ernerk?, To enable the co-ordinating council to deal with a wide range of community proposals including, if feasible, detoxication centres or centres for other purposes related to alcohol and drug addiction.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it is possible to go through both of these as they are related? That is the capital and the operations and maintenance.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Where do you wish to start, page 14?

MR. ERNERK: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Okay, page 14, "B" level. Are there any questions in regard to this item? The explanation is below under program outline. This is a related item to the discussion we had previously which we agreed to, \$200,000. Do I have the concurrence of Members to this? Agreed?

---Agreed

"B" Level, Capital - Activity 4047, Community Social Services

Page 16, Mr. Ernerk, day care centres, social services, "B" level, \$50,000. Funds for providing operation and maintenance assistance to day care centres, \$50,000 has been included in "B" level estimates as capital purchases.

MR. ERNERK: Did you wish me to ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): All right, I will ask if the Members wish any explanation on this item? If there is no request for an explanation, are there any questions, comments? This is, I think, the result of a motion that was passed at the 50th session of Council. Sometimes it takes a long time to get these things into the mill. If there are no questions on the item, may I have acceptance of the \$50,000 for capital purchases?

---Agreed

Thank you very much. That is all, Mr. Ernerk, in the "B" capital programs.

Social Development, Activity Memorandum

May we then return to the main estimates, page 9.07? We have completed the capital items in both the "B" level and the main sections of the Social Development estimates. I would suggest that we work from page 9.07 and 9.08, concentrating on each of the program sections here such as administration, activity 4040 and when considering that, relating it to the activity, supporting activity in the documents for administration which is found on page 9.15. The pages in between say summaries of total program, capital aspects, plus the program aspects. There is one item on page 9.11 that possibly we should get out of the way first, Mr. Deputy Commissioner, is that correct, page 9.11, the revenue, recoveries and transfer payments? These are the moneys coming in.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the Council should look at the revenues and they can be looked at either at the conclusion of the operations and maintenance study or at the start, whichever you prefer.

Revenue, Recoveries And Transfer Payments

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): If no one has any preference, I would prefer now so I do not forget, possibly we could turn to page 9.11. This is the money that is coming into the consolidated revenue fund of the Northwest Territories and also the payments that the government is receiving from federal cost-sharing programs for board and lodging, special allowances and transfer payments for welfare services, child welfare, medical, social service and special care. The second group are all payments that I believe the federal government is making to the territorial government. Any questions? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: With respect to the figure shown for board and lodging within correctional centres, I see that the actual figure for 1974-75, was \$32,969 and this year it is \$90,000. I wonder if we could have some explanation as to why it was so low before or why it is so high now?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I will have the information for you in just a few seconds here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much.

MR. NICKERSON: I wonder if we could have some outline as to the general social assistance program and how it is funded? This is one of the main items of expenditure and I wonder if we could find out the way in which this particular activity is funded?

Social Assistance

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): The Members will notice the social assistance item is under transfer payments and it amounts to \$2,831,000. Mr. Ernerk, can you give us some indication as to how and where the money comes from, how the money is transferred?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to get that information before the session is over as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk, both questions you would be providing information on at a later time?

MR. ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are there any further questions Members wish to direct to Mr. Ernerk at this time which may require some research? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: This is not a question on revenues or recoveries, but it is a question I intend to ask when we get to activity 4046, social assistance, and maybe you would like me to ask it now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Agreed.

MR. NICKERSON: What I would really like to find out here is what is the actual amount we are handing out in welfare cheques? I have not been able to discover this figure within the estimates myself, so what is, one, the amount we are handing out in welfare cheques and, two, how much does it cost us to hand this money out?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Would that information be available, Mr. Ernerk, to bring back to the committee before we leave this section of the budget?

MR. ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Any further questions related to the revenue recoveries or questions that will require some research on the part of the officials of this department? Then we will move on and I will be coming back to this as there is some information required before we can say this is completed.

Activity 4040, Administration

If there are no further questions, then may we return to page 9.07, activity 4040. When considering this item, would you also refer to page 9.12 on the staffing requirements, how many people will be required for the various sections, and 9.15 and 9.15A which is the breakdown covering activity 4040. Before we begin to examine 4040 in its specifics, are there any general questions that Members wish to put to Mr. Ernerk regarding either the directorate aspects of the item or the regional, district and area staff aspects of the item? Is there anything with regard to the directorate: to develop program policies and procedure, provide over-all program direction, evaluate adequacy of services, modify existing programs or develop new proposals to meet changing needs. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this up to go over some problems that I think are very real and problems that I do not think that this organization has come to grips with. My arguments keep coming back to the old business of the co-ordinated activities of government agencies throughout this administration and it seems that they continuously function into their own without any reference to what is going on around them. For example, there is obviously a trend amongst the judiciary in the Northwest Territories to provide for probation of offenders, to put them on probation, as opposed to locking them up. There seems to be that trend. That is the fashion at the moment and how long it will last I do not know. They keep putting these people on probation in ever increasing numbers. Of course, what does not keep track with this is the ability on the part of this department's responsibility to provide

probation officers, so you have a situation such as Frobisher Bay where you have one probation officer responsible for literally dozens of offenders, dozens of offenders who are placed on probation.

Role Of The Probation Officer

I understand the role of the probation officer is to work with these people, to assist them in their daily lives, to help them stay out of trouble, to encourage them to get employment and what have you. Of course, this not only applies to a large centre like Frobisher Bay where we have one probation officer, but there are no other probation officers in the entire Baffin region. There are no other people designated as probation officers and yet the courts continue to put people on probation and, of course, these same guys continue to get in trouble and get put back on probation. Probation on top of probation, until eventually the court has no alternative but to appeal, as it did recently, the sentences of one magistrate and look for jail sentences for these people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I think we should direct that question to the Deputy Commissioner. In fact, it involves some other area of responsibility, but I was apprised there were not any probation officers in the Northwest Territories. My understanding was that social workers are now serving in this role, but maybe the Deputy Commissioner might comment on that.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, what you have said is true, in my understanding, and I am sure Mr. Ernerk will comment on this also. I was aware that a few years ago, in the interests of providing total service and in the interests of doing exactly what Mr. Pearson says we should be doing, that is co-ordinating our efforts, we gave the responsibilities for handling probation cases to each of the social workers because they were charged with looking after families, trying to prevent family breakdown, trying to reintroduce offenders into society, and so forth. This was simply one aspect of their job and it seemed there was no way we could put a probation officer in every place, or even in every place above a certain size because in some places if that probation officer was just looking after people on probation, he really would not have very much to do, where in other places there would be a need for more than one person. So the idea of approaching this as generalists, as trained social workers, was arrived at and I thought that that was working fairly well.

As far as the approach taken by the judiciary, please be assured that nobody anticipates what they are going to do, nor gives any direction in sentencing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I really do not have anything to add to that just at the moment.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you. Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: I was just going to add for the benefit of Members, Mr. Chairman, that in addition you have to be very careful what you say about the judiciary.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are there any further questions on this point, the matter of probation officers? I expect possibly this could also be raised under the justice section too. Mr. Pearson, you are not satisfied, obviously.

Increase Of Probation Officers

MR. PEARSON: Well, obviously you can raise it any time you like but I want to get some indication from the department whether they planned to have or to increase the number of probation officers because the number of offenders is growing at an alarming rate, as our friend the alcohol expert pointed out to us. Now the courts are turning toward a new approach and the Commissioner in his Address talked of the very exciting concept of offenders being kept in their own communities and dealt with, you know, by having to work, having to work off their fines and work off their sentences in their communities.

Now that can not be done unless there is a background or an organization to back that, to work with them to supervise them. It is usually the role of the probation officer, a role which is a very important role in southern Canada, one which I gather is gaining in its approval by the general populace as a good way of dealing with people. If the administration does go along with this approach of keeping people in their homes instead of sending them to these institutions, then we will need backup facilities in those communities to do that and unless those facilities or positions, whatever you want to call them, are outlined in this budget, then it certainly can not happen within the next 12 months. Do I make myself clear?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Yes, I think you do. Mr. Ernerk, I understood the Deputy Commissioner to agree that at the present time there are no individuals who are especially designated as probation officers serving this government, and welfare officers are carrying out this responsibility. Is it the intention of your department, sir, to reinstitute the category of probation officer?

Jacks-Of-All-Trades

MR. ERNERK: I did not really quite hear the last part of your question, but in order to try and answer Mr. Pearson's remarks, I would just like to explain to start off the fact that in the communities, as I have seen them throughout the Northwest Territories, the staff that we have out in the field must act as jacks-of-all-trades at all times. They must do some family counselling services and, you name it. To answer your question directly, 26 of our field staff act as probation officers throughout the Northwest Territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): In other words, Mr. Pearson, there are no probation officers as such, yet 26 social service officers acting as probation officers?

MR. PEARSON: We have 26 welfare officers serving 70-odd communities, is what we have. We have groups of people within this organization in communities such as Frobisher and I suspect very strongly that many of the other communities are the same. They are grossly overworked, and are very unhappy with their lot. They are quitting left, right and centre in the Eastern Arctic.

New Approach Necessary

Now surely, if we are going to embark on a new approach, even if we are going to provide a decent service, first of all, a decent service, a reasonable quality of service in the regions, a new approach will have to be taken. If we are going to institute this great program the Commissioner spoke about in his Address dealing with those so-called offenders in their homes, then there must be provision there. You can not just leave people wandering around. I would have hoped that we would have got a better indication from this department as to how they plan to carry out that and how they plan to, in fact, improve the service they have now in the field, which in my opinion needs a lot of improvement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Minister and then Mr. Searle.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I fully agree with Mr. Pearson. However, I could go back a number of years when we in fact had two people who could not understand each other and a

number of years later we recognized the fact that there have to be some new programs taken by this department. All right. We speak of poor service in the communities, but there are a number of problems which we face and one in many ways is a shortage of staff. Another one is funding.

I spoke very briefly about staff development, staff training development programs. I spoke about a need to have native people who can talk the language, who can communicate with the people. This is the department's objective and this is my personal objective. You placed me here to do something about it and I will. Perhaps when you speak of services we can, in fact, meet the needs of the people much more than we have in the past. I wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Pearson's remarks in this case.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I assume I am correct when I say that the 26 persons referred to as being designated as probation officers are in fact as well doing other social development work. In other words, they would be doing, say, child welfare, or handing out social assistance, etc., is that correct?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk?

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, would it be acceptable to the committee if I could suggest that we could get the breakdown of our field staff, of our headquarters staff and give it to you perhaps in the morning?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Searle.

MR. SEARLE: I do not mind that but it seems to me that they are either doing it or not, and I must say that my understanding most definitely has been that the old correction services we knew, or the probation service as we knew it, was done away with and the other people who were in social assistance, etc., assumed the probation role in addition to their normal responsibilities. Now if that is correct, the answer is yes, these 26 people are doing things other than probation work. Is it not that simple?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Is that correct, Mr. Minister, as Mr. Searle outlined it?

MR. ERNERK: It may be, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): It may be?

MR. ERNERK: Yes.

Lack Of Probation Service

MR. SEARLE: Yes. Now, having determined the facts, I will go on from there. I have had the benefit, Mr. Chairman, of discussing with three or four of my colleagues in the legal profession, this business of the lack of a probation service as such. I confess that I do not do very much of that sort of work any more where I run into the everyday criminal, but the three or four young lawyers I was talking to do, on an everyday ongoing basis. In discussing the present system of no probation officers as such, but rather other persons in the department doing the probation work, I think it is safe to say that the picture I got from the legal profession was that they preferred the other system, that they do not feel that the accused under the present system is really getting the attention he once got and for several reasons.

Firstly, I do not think that an accused person on probation is a very attractive candidate for attention to a busy social worker who is spreading his or her time between social assistance, child custody and adoption and welfare matters. I think definitely last comes the probation responsibility. I certainly had that message given to me by the people, as I say, in the legal profession.

Concerning Supervision

The extent of supervision apparently nowadays for the most part, consists of a pat order being made and they are all very much the same now; does the accused keep the peace, be of good behaviour, to report once a month, a week or whatever to the probation officer and be a good boy? Hence that accused person pops in and says "How are you?" and that is it. That is not supervision in any shape or form in my humble opinion. That is just a matter of reporting. That can be done by the RCMP. It is a matter of just popping in, to the police detachment and saying, "I am still here." That is not supervision in my view. The result is that it is just a farce, people being on probation. They are coming back and then they are being brought back to be sentenced for the offence they committed that got them on probation and they are being charged with breaching probation and then they are ending up in jail. In my humble opinion, therefore, if we are seriously going to get into diversion, which I think is an imaginative way of dealing with offenders, we are going to have to solve the problem of how to supervise these people. How do you make sure that they do "X" hours work for the victim or 10 hours work on a public project?

MR. PEARSON: That is true.

MR. SEARLE: Who is going to supervise this? Who is going to make sure that they cut the grass, build this, that or the other thing? The police will not do it. In fact I think when you look at the police agreement which we earlier discussed you will find that the police are wanting to do less and less. I am told that they now, because a first class constable starts out at \$19,000 a year or something, \$12,000 a year, I am not sure which -- they are trying to get out of doing even escort duty of prisoners from the correctional institution to the courts and back again. They think much less highly paid people should do that. You have already got them in the city of Yellowknife not wanting to do any stationary offences. They will only do moving traffic violations. Hence a need for the city to build up their force, so do not look to the police to supervise anything. Soon we will have the RCMP doing narcotics, I suppose, and only federal offences, so they are doing less and less. Who is going to supervise people if you enter a new plan of diversion when for the most part it is done on the basis of parole where you are permitted out on parole and there are certain terms of your probation which say, "Thou shalt pay restitution for the damage you have done. Thou shalt do 20 hours of community labour here, etc." Who is going to supervise that?

Recommendation To Return To Probation Officers

I submit, Mr. Chairman, to Mr. Ernerk that if he really studies it, he will probably come up with a conclusion that he is going to have to get back into probation officers who are probation officers and that is the first and only priority. If it comes to looking at the total family situation, he only need consult with people who are administering social

assistance and the Child Welfare Ordinance who are in the same department. I would like to recommend, sir, that we go back, take a look at diversion and the reinstatement of the probation service. That is my recommendation.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Searle. I think that was an admirable expression of the opinion of a number of Members of this committee with regard to the possible need to reinstate the concept of probation officers as probation officers only. Mr. Ernerk, would you and your assistant like to think about this overnight and possibly comment again in the morning? We will certainly be on these estimates again tomorrow.

MR. ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: I was just going to add an aside that if we came to grips with the alcohol problem we would not need all of these people and then we would really save some dough.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are there any other comments of a general nature on the item of the directorate? Thank you, Mr. Pearson, for introducing the subject. It has been a valuable discussion. Can we go on to item (b), regional, district and area staff? Can we go on to activity 4040, to implement all departmental services at the community level, i.e. corrections services (probation, parole, after care, services to the courts), child welfare (child protection, ward and non-ward, services to young offenders, services to unmarried mothers, adoptions and family counselling), medical social services special care, social assistance and services relating to alcohol and drug problems, development of community social services. Resident, district and area staff. The support pages to that are found on page 9.16. Once we have covered the general, we will go back and look at each of these support pages in the specifics. Are there any general comments or questions? I beg your pardon, I missed Mr. Wah-Shee. Go ahead.

Native Court Workers Program

MR. WAH-SHEE: I was just going to ask if there was co-ordination between the native court workers' program and probation officers?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Yes, there is, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Is that satisfactory? I notice that the Member from the Central Arctic is with us again, Mr. Minister. Do you wish to provide the information to his question that he posed earlier this afternoon?

Cambridge Bay Transient Centre

MR. ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. This is with respect to the Cambridge Bay transient centre. I have the following information with me: One, average occupancy has been between one and two persons daily or per day with occasional numbers up to three, four or five per day. Two, the alternative plans to care for people if we close the transient centre were to use private homes and rooms at the motel in Cambridge Bay. It is true that the communities have advised the department that they do not want the transient centre to be closed because, one, many people require some personal care with meals, pressing, etc., that would not be provided by the motel and, two, many people were opposed to staying in private homes because of overcrowded conditions, too much drinking and sometimes poor food. Three, we propose to build a new transient centre facility in 1977-78 and have included a request for funds for this in the 1977-78 forecast which would be about \$165,000. We have some money available in activity 4044 in the estimates that would be used to fix up the present transient centre during this current years estimates and this would be for a temporary period of time. However, we may have as much as \$10,000, depending on our costs at Akudlik. This may have to be revoted to 1976-77 as it may be too late to get anything done in the present year because of weather and availability of tradesmen.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Minister. That seems to be quite a full reply. Mr. Lyall, does that answer your question?

MR. LYALL: Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Chairman, could you just direct me to the right number?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Page 9.07, activity 4040, administration. Are there any general questions on activity 4040? Agreed? If not, may we look at the support data on pages 9.15 and 9.15A regarding the specifics? Are there any questions relative to 9.15 and 9.15A? On page 9.15 you will notice the left-hand column contains the amount to be spent on personnel, the amount to be spent on programs, operating and the total expenditure, \$2,718,300 total of personnel and capital. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, looking down the list here I see purchased utilities and repair of buildings and equipment, there is only a sum of \$500 allowed for that. This is not even going to pay for the electricity for the offices in Yellowknife. I was wondering where we could find that type of figure?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Do you see the item there that Mr. Nickerson is questioning, Mr. Ernerk? That is on page 9.15.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Public Works budgets for all of the office space.

MR. NICKERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a kind of supplementary comment. When you give me the information I requested earlier, how much does it cost to hand out welfare cheques, will there be a section in that which deals with the actual cost of the buildings and facilities which you use?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): On page 9.15A you will notice there is a breakdown of the amount allocated to the various regions, headquarters Fort Smith, Inuvik, Baffin and Keewatin and it breaks them down. Are there any specific questions with regard to the expenditures on either page 9.15 or 9.15A? Mr. Pearson.

Travel Costs

MR. PEARSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, the old bugaboo, the travel costs, again of this department, \$207,400. That is an incredible amount of money to spend on travel. You know, one would have thought that if the programs were properly carried out in the communities and regions there would not be the need for all this travelling.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the travel, just to give you an example for the Keewatin district, the people are required to travel to the communities as a result of an increasing demand from the communities who do not have a qualified social worker. In the case of Repulse Bay, for example, when I was visiting the community a couple of months ago the members of that community were asking me to see if they could have some visits from the district staff. As I see it, speaking for my own department, the fact that while the settlement managers could handle some of the work, such as social assistance, or the social assistance end of the job, that professional services such as counselling to the people who are, or who have problems in the areas of alcohol, and perhaps family counselling services and so forth, have made it possible for the district staff to visit Repulse Bay, for example, from Rankin Inlet. I just wanted to let you know that as an example.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any other specific questions with regard... Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: How strong an effort is this department making other than in the Baffin region of recruiting people to work in this department, people who can speak the language, people who can help solve the problems in the community. After all, what did the native people do before we got here? There must have been people in the communities, and they had methods of dealing with problems of their own. I am sure that the methods were far more successful than any we could devise and here we are trying to fly into Repulse Bay, or Rankin Inlet, or wherever it was that the Honourable Member mentioned, to solve the problems of the people. The Commissioner again in his Address stressed the point of people helping themselves.

Now, has that day come when we can turn this back to the people, when we can say "We will provide you with facilities so that native people can deal with native people, and if you like, every year we will give you a little course and you can come to a centre or someone will come in and work with you and encourage you" and thereby develop local people in these positions, and not welfare hander-outers. We have too many of them, but all the people who do not necessarily speak English at all, but who thoroughly understand the ways of their own people, who have, and who automatically gain respect from the native people within their own culture, instead of this golden bird flying through the sky and plopping down in the middle of the community, and out pops the man with the little bag of money trying to pour oil on the disturbed waters. I mean, there are people in those communities, and I know they have been there for thousands of years, and how about that approach?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Ernerk and then Mr. Lyall.

More Native People On Staff

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, before I give you the actual figures with respect to our own staff, I again emphasize that this department, as I see it, will move hopefully, in the not too distant future, into the areas of providing training programs for the native people. The points Mr. Pearson mentions are well taken, we recognize the need to have more native people within the staff of the Department of Social Development, and that is the objective of this department and as I said earlier this afternoon that is where we want to go. Now, with respect to our own staff in the territories, we have 304 people working for the department in total. The native employees are 113 and by region, in Fort Smith north, we have 36 employees. Out of 36, ten are native people. In Fort Smith south, we have 72 employees, and out of 72 employees there are 30 native people. In the Inuvik region, the number is 47 employees, and 26 are native people. In the Baffin region there are 28, and 17 are native people. In the Keewatin district there are 22 and nine are native people. What I would like to conclude is simply by saying, Mr. Chairman, that this number is quite impressive in my opinion, and once the department itself starts to meet its objectives, its goals, we want to make sure that there is a job for an individual who has been taking, or who has been on a job-training program. I personally will see to it that if we train an individual then we will not say to him "Your training program is over but there is no job for you." I want to see, or what I want to see and what the department wants to see is that once the program is over, the training period is over, that there is a job as a social worker or whatever it may be, and that is the objective.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Minister, for your most encouraging report. Mr. Lyall will be the last speaker as it is approaching 5:30 p.m.

MR. LYALL: I would like to say that in the Central Arctic the travelling done by those people for Social Development is very valid. I have been on a couple of trips with a few of the people there, and their time is not wasted in the communities. I think that the travel budget for those people is very valid and there is nothing, I think, wasted by those people. Also I would like to say that more than 50 per cent working for Social Development in the Central Arctic are native people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. If there is any possibility of completing activity 4040 tonight, how many more Members have questions on activity 4040? Well, may I then report progress?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Council will come to order. Mr. Butters?

Report of the Committee of the Whole of Bill 4-58, Appropriations Ordinance, 1976-77

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the budget of the Social Development department for 1976-77 and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: That would conclude Item 9 for today. Are there any announcements? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I have an announcement here someplace respecting the standing committee on legislation. There will be a meeting of that committee immediately following adjournment in this room.

MR. SPEAKER: A second announcement, and that is the standing committee on finance will meet at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow in the executive boardroom of the Arthur Laing building and committee Members have been notified. Are there any other announcements? No other announcements.

Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 10: ORDERS OF THE DAY.

THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Orders of the day, February 3rd, 2:30 o'clock p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Questions and Returns
3. Oral Questions
4. Presenting Petitions
5. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
6. Notices of Motions
7. Motions
8. Tabling of Documents
9. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 4-58, Bill 2-58, Bill 9-58, Bill 12-58 and Report of Task Force on Great Slave Lake Fisheries.
10. Orders of the Day.

MR. SPEAKER: Just before we adjourn, I am wondering if the executive could maybe give us a brief statement on how we are doing and how they foresee us going. In other words, at the present rate dealing with the estimates are we on the mark or are we a day or two behind, because we are soon at the mid-point of the session, by Wednesday of this week. Tomorrow being Tuesday it would be nice to know how we are flowing along, and if we need to speed up I think now is the time we have to know it.

Council stands adjourned until 2:30 o'clock p.m. the 3rd of February, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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