



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
DEBATES

61st Session

8th Assembly

Official Report



WEDNESDAY , JANUARY , 26, 1977

Speaker The Honourable David H. Searle, Q.C.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The Honourable David H. Searle, Q.C., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 939
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X0E 1H0
(Yellowknife South)
(Speaker)

The Honourable Arnold McCallum, M.L.A.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Slave River)
(Minister of Education)

Mr. Donald M. Stewart, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 310
Hay River, N.W.T.
X0E 0R0
(Hay River)
(Deputy Speaker)

Mr. Peter Fraser, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 23
Norman Wells, N.W.T.
(Mackenzie Great Bear)

Mr. Mark Evaluarjuk, M.L.A.
Igloodik, N.W.T.
X0A 0L0
(Foxe Basin)

Mr. Ipeelee Kilabuk, M.L.A.
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.
X0A 0R0
(Central Baffin)

Mr. William A. Lafferty, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 176
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.
X0E 0N0
(Mackenzie Liard)

Mr. William Lyall, M.L.A.
Cambridge Bay, N.W.T.
X0E 0C0
(Central Arctic)

The Honourable Peter Ernerk, M.L.A.
Site 18, Box 16,
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X0E 1H0
(Keewatin)
(Minister of Economic Development)

Mr. Dave Nickerson, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1778
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0
(Yellowknife North)
(Minister of Social Development)

Mr. Thomas H. Butters, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1069
Inuvik, N.W.T.
X0E 0T0
(Inuvik)
(Deputy Chairman of Committees)

Mr. Bryan R. Pearson, M.L.A.
c/o Arctic Ventures
Frobisher Bay, N.W.T.
X0A 0H0
(South Baffin)

Mr. Ludy Pudluk, M.L.A.
Resolute Bay, N.W.T.
X0A 0V0
(High Arctic)

Mr. John Steen, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 60
Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T.
X0E 1C0
(Western Arctic)

Mr. Richard Whitford, M.L.A.
Rae, N.W.T.
(Great Slave Lake)

OFFICERS

Clerk
Mr. W. H. Remnant
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Sergeant-at-Arms
Mr. F. A. MacKay
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Clerk Assistant
Mr. Pieter De Vos
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms
Mr. J. H. MacKendrick
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

LEGAL ADVISOR
Ms. P. Flieger
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X0E 1H0

TABLE OF CONTENTS

26 January 1977

	<u>PAGE</u>
Prayer	131
Questions and Returns	131
Oral Questions	131
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 3-61 Appropriation Ordinance, 1977-78	133
Report of the Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 3-61 Appropriation Ordinance, 1977-78	207
Orders of the Day	208

YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1977

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Steen, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Butters, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Whitford, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Hon. Peter Ernerk, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. David Searle, Hon. Dave Nickerson.

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address. Are there further replies this morning, gentlemen? I would just remind you that today is Wednesday and that Thursday and Friday will be the last days available for replies. Are there further replies this morning?

Item 3, questions and returns. Are there any returns? Are there any questions, written questions? Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Question W7-61: Polar Bear Quotas, High Arctic

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the administration to increase the polar bear quota in the High Arctic. The reason is the bears are tampering with the caches of meat belonging to the people. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, we will take the question as notice and file the reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further written questions?

Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Butters.

ITEM NO. 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O8-61: Old Age Pension Subsidy, Fort Smith

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to have provided to this House or tabled, as soon as possible full details and information relative to an answer the Hon. Minister of Social Development provided my colleague, Mr. Fraser, at the close of yesterday's debate regarding an old age pension subsidy being provided at Inuvik or to the town of Fort Smith pensioners, by this government. I would wish to see copies of the correspondence received from the town of Fort Smith and the replies of this government relative to the town's application for the subsidy referred to yesterday by the Hon. Minister of Social Development.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We will be able to file that information within one or two days, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Did he say one or two days, sir?

MR. SPEAKER: That was the response.

Item 5, petitions. Mr. Fraser, do you need some new batteries?

---Laughter

Are there any petitions?

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 7, notices of motions.

Item 8, motions for the production of papers.

Item 9, motions. There appear to be no motions in the book. Are there any other motions?

Item 10, tabling of documents.

Item 11, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Is it the wish of the Executive to continue -- Mr. Butters?

MR. BUTTERS: In terms of order, I wonder if there is any indication when Motion 24-60 might be discussed in committee of the whole, this week, next week, the week after, or the week after that?

MR. SPEAKER: The practice that I have followed, Mr. Butters, is to take direction as to the order, of course from the order paper and as well from the Executive. You will notice that Bill 3-61 is the first on the order paper under Item 11. However, as you know in the past when we get going along on the appropriations there comes a point in time when we have had about as much of it as a steady diet as we can take and so then we will go off and leave it for a day and go on to other matters. That point may soon be approaching, Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Yes, sir, I know as you informed us in Rankin Inlet that you take direction with what appears on the order paper from the Executive, but I just wonder why that is done, why can not we, the Assembly, the House itself, determine what the order should be, what should be coming up so that you would take direction from us as to what we would be discussing on any given day?

MR. SPEAKER: When it comes to the budget, the reason we have done that in the past of course is that the Executive do have to make government officials available as advisers and so we turn to them to see who they have and what plans have been changed etc. I take it you have a pressing desire to deal with Motion 24-60?

MR. BUTTERS: I am willing to take them in proper order. It is just that it is a motion from the past session and at the present time I am just interested in this matter of who determines the order of business of this chamber and it would appear to be the Executive. I have a question relating to that. I was going to ask Mr. Stewart, but in view of the fact the Executive sets up the order paper, I wonder if someone from the Executive could give us an indication how they see the work of this House progressing over the next few weeks, what is next in line?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

The Order Of Business

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I appreciate the opportunity to say something on this subject. When you referred to the Executive as giving an indication of the procedure or priority which is followed on the order paper, that is true.

However, the Executive merely wishes to indicate the priority as it sees it and of course the Executive, as you appreciate, is comprised of three Ministers plus the Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioner and myself. So, to a very great extent the priorities that we suggest are priorities of the House itself through elected Executive Members. We have traditionally sought to have matters connected with finances placed at a high priority because it has been recognized in the past that the work of this first session is primarily to pass the budget, that is its highest priority.

However, I appreciate your remarks that after pressing forward on the budget for a certain period of time it sometimes serves you well to change to other matters. Now, when it comes to other matters our every day preference is to continue with other bills. However, if there are other matters such as a motion on the order paper which forms a high priority in Members' minds then, of course, we are at your direction. The choice, Mr. Speaker, is yours.

MR. SPEAKER: I might say that I think in the other Houses in the other jurisdictions, the Speaker pretty well takes his direction from the House leaders, particularly the government House leader and, if I might just comment from the chair, this is something that I have often wondered, if the Rules committee should not consider, something in there about there being a House leader who would indicate to the Speaker the priorities that the House wished and obviously as the independent impartial presiding officer it does not matter a whit to me personally as to the order of business, I am only a servant of the House, hopefully reflecting what the House wants, not the person who directs what must be done and when it is done. So, Members may want to consider that sort of an approach in future.

Mr. Butters, I suppose you could, if you wished, indicate that you would like Motion 24-60 to be dealt with and then I would seek an indication whether that is agreeable to the Executive and the Members generally and if so we could proceed with that. Failing that, I would propose to go on and continue with Bill 3-61. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Sir, there is not the urgency with regard to that motion that I felt there was on Thursday and Friday, after I heard the Minister's statement in Yellowknife, both at the press conference and in this House regarding his attitude towards development in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will resolve into committee of the whole for continuing consideration of bills and other matters.

ITEM NO. 11: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

Bill 3-61, the Appropriation Ordinance, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole for consideration of Bill 3-61, Appropriation Ordinance, 1977-78, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 3-61, APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1977-78

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order. I would direct your attention to page 9.01, the estimates for the Department of Social Development, capital expenditures, \$304,000 and operating expenditures, \$16,352,000 for a total of \$16,656,000. When we concluded yesterday's committee meeting Mr. Butters had requested that he have the first opportunity to speak. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you, sir. Before I accept that offer to proceed on the general comments I would like to address to you the same type of question I addressed to the Speaker. It is very, very difficult to get prepared for each

days session if one does not know what will probably be coming up. Now, in the event we conclude Social Development by 11:00 o'clock, I do not know whether Education or Local Government will come up, my material is not here and I can not do preparation. So, could you indicate to me as you probably have discussed with the Executive, just what order of precedence will occur now with the various departments over the life of this debate on the Appropriation Ordinance, sir?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I take my direction from the Speaker of the House and have made no private deals with the Executive.

MR. BUTTERS: I did not say "private deals". I was in no way criticizing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): My answer is I do not know. I would have to ask the Deputy Commissioner if he would like to enlighten us on what is next. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I think perhaps we have been remiss in not advising Members in advance of the schedule that we have set for departments and I will have a list typed up so that Members will have a written copy in their hands. We would like to retain a certain amount flexibility because certainly events happen, a director is called to look after one thing or another and although most of the Executive Members can proceed without a director being present, it is much better if he can be because it is important that that director hear the debate as well as be available to supply technical and detailed information.

Schedule For Discussion Of Appropriations

The schedule that we would wish to follow, and which I will have circulated is as follows: We have concluded Natural and Cultural Affairs, we are currently on Social Development and we would propose to go to Economic Development and Tourism next, to be followed by Local Government, then Education, and then Public Works and highways and then Finance, Public Services, Executive Offices, Information, Planning and Program Evaluation and Personnel. I should have said that we would propose to look into health matters immediately following or at the same time as Social Development. Does that, as outlined, meet your requirements, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Butters, does that satisfy you?

MR. BUTTERS: That is very helpful. Thank you, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I got as far as Public Services and lost you. Could I have the rest of the list?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Would it be agreeable if I had it written out and circulated?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Was there a question for me, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): You were waving your hand and snapping your fingers violently and I thought you wanted to address the committee.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I did originally, but Deputy Commissioner Parker has said most of what I wished to have said, but I think I would have said it in a stronger manner.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any comments of a general nature? Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yesterday the Honourable Member for Inuvik requested certain information pertaining to the treatment of old age pensioners in the Yukon. I advised him that we would have this material ready when we came back to this discussion. Because of the time differences between here and the Yukon we need clarification on certain points and this information will not now be available until this afternoon.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you. That is more than I expected anyway. This afternoon is fine. To pick up where we began this morning, the Deputy Commissioner said we have completed Natural and Cultural Affairs. There was a motion you had given me permission to reword and reintroduce and I have that ready at this time or if you want to set it up for later, let me know.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): It would be in order to do that now.

Motion To Have Administration Make Grants To Trappers' Associations
For Administrative Purposes

MR. BUTTERS: I will provide the motion first and then speak to it. I would move we request the administration to make appropriate grants to trappers' associations for administrative purposes. If I may speak to the motion?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): To the motion, Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: That motion was made first at the 46th session in 1972. It was made by our estimable Deputy Commissioner, John Parker, then a Member of this Council, a Member of the Council at that time. I also checked to assure myself that the moneys developed as a result of that motion were indeed only \$500. The only reference I could find to that exists in the debates for the 49th session and there is a reference by Mr. Willy Adams to \$500, so what I am pointing out is that the \$500 that was approved five years ago is now no longer adequate as an appropriate grant to the trappers' associations and I leave it to the administration and the finance committee under Mr. Lafferty, Member of the Legislative Assembly, to develop what would be required for these needs.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. To the motion? Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, my feelings on that are that the \$500 grant to hunters' and trappers' associations is quite adequate because of the fact that hunters and trappers, whatever communities they are in, their bank accounts should also grow. I have seen it happen in the little settlements. I think you should give them some kind of grant every year but I think the \$500 as set down right now is adequate.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you could read the motion again.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The motion reads: "I would move that we request the administration to make appropriate grants to trappers' associations for administrative purposes." To the motion? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, in the constituency I come from we do not have a hunters' and trappers' association in some of the communities. There is one I believe in Rae Lakes only but at the same time we are still as concerned as Mr. Butters is in terms that the \$500 is not adequate enough basically because in our area, having to fly to various parts of the area to hunt and trap. I was just wondering if in fact that would still apply.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Deputy Commissioner, could you answer that question? Mr. Lyall, while they are discussing the matter.

MR. LYALL: As I understand it, I said I agreed with the motion. I figured that \$500 is appropriate. What does this mean "the administration make an appropriate grant"? I think the \$500 is adequate.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I understand part of the problem that some trappers' associations are very small and \$500 may be more than adequate, where in other

cases they are larger and maybe \$500 is not enough. Rather than having a set fee as we do at the present time, there would be discretion on the part of the administration. Mr. Whitford.

Amendment To The Motion

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I suppose what we are really looking for is that I would like to have that motion amended to read "and band councils" if that is okay with Mr. Butters.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I have an indication of a nod of the head from Mr. Butters that this is acceptable. Then it would read, as I understand the amendment and I will not take it as an amendment but rather the original motion calling for "appropriate grants to trappers' associations and band councils".

MR. BUTTERS: "And/or".

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): One moment, please, while I get this sorted out. Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: I have two general comments. When you said the \$500 was appropriate for maybe six or seven trappers in a community and you say it was not appropriate for a larger number of trappers, I think a larger population of trappers, hunters' and trappers' associations should have more money in the smaller communities, so I still say looking at the size or of the amount of trappers in an area, if there are 50 hunters and trappers you would have a larger hunters' and trappers' association which should have more money. Again you have made an amendment to this motion to add "band councils." Why are we always making exceptions for the Indians? Why did we not when we say hunters and trappers we mean all hunters and trappers. "And band councils," why do we make that distinction? I think hunters and trappers are all the people who do hunt and trap for a livelihood.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Relative to the matter I believe I expressed Mr. Fraser's position yesterday that this was true. I do not pretend to know too much about hunters' and trappers' associations. If I am in error, I apologize. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, just to clarify Mr. Lafferty's statement, in lots of communities they do not have a trappers' association set up. It is just a band council that looks after the funds and they do not have a trappers' association as such. Some places have pretty strong trappers' associations and in others it is just looked after by the band councils so maybe that would answer Mr. Lafferty's question.

I was the one who brought this up yesterday in the larger communities where you have more people trapping in an area that \$500 is not adequate for handling 20 or 30 trappers. In other settlements it may be too much but I guess it would be up to the fish and wildlife service. I do not think it is that much of a problem to juggle money from one community to the other if they are not using it, if they do not need it.

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

Treaty Indian People Who Have No Trappers' Association

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I think the proposed amendment to the motion by Mr. Whitford is very good because in this region there are a lot of people who do utilize the land to some extent. Our treaty Indian people who are in bands in my own constituency are roughly 600 people who can be classified as a band council. In Fort Liard alone they are primarily treaty Indians, in Jean Marie River, Kakisa Lake, Nahanni Butte, they are all Indian people there and they have no hunters' and trappers' associations. Nevertheless they are the people who do the trapping and hunting so in that regard I had it in my mind to move such an amendment.

On the other hand, the question as to the appropriateness of the money, I think it is quite correct that \$500 is adequate in some areas but in others it is not. We have a large number of people who are growing, there is an increase in the native population and looking to the future I think that \$500 even for today is not enough. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Before I recognize the next speaker could the Chair ask the Deputy Commissioner whether or not we are in any conflict with the Department of Indian Affairs on such a motion to include band councils?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, maybe I could just make a general remark or two on that subject. I am not just sure that the purpose of the hunters' and trappers' associations and the grants that we make to them for administration are understood. The hunters' and trappers' associations have been formed to act as groups representative of those people in the communities so that they can hold meetings, give advice to the game officers, seek other means of getting funds for hunters and trappers, to make sure that if there are other support programs available, that they know about them and can take part in them and to appoint representatives to attend regional meetings to do with game matters. The money that is given as an administrative grant is not meant to actually support the hunters and trappers. It is not meant to help them get out and harvest game or anything like that. It is just to operate their small societies so that they can take some responsibility in discussions on game matters. There are other funds available for hunters and for trappers which I would like to call program money and that is apart from this administrative grant. It raises a little question as to whether this administrative grant should be given to a band council. Of course we would rather wish that the communities that do not have hunters' and trappers' associations would form them but if they do not prefer to, if they prefer to work through the band council, and I can understand that, the band council organization has been around for a long time and that is perhaps the organization many of the Indian people look to for this kind of thing. Perhaps they might form a hunters' and trappers' committee of the band council or something like that which would then specifically ask for funds for organizing in that area, if you see what I mean.

Problem Of Giving Grant For Hunters And Trappers To Band Councils.

I think that if we were to make a grant of administrative money for hunters and trappers to a band council we would want some assurance that they would use it to organize a hunting and trapping committee or to dedicate it for hunting and trapping organization purposes, if you see what I mean, rather than using it for some other purpose. So, I think there is probably a way around it. As far as whether it forms a conflict with the Department of Indian Affairs I would think not. I believe that hunting and trapping matters are the responsibility of this Assembly and therefore, this Assembly can make requests and give direction in that area.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. To my knowledge the band councils are financed for administrative purposes by the federal government and that is the point I was trying to make so I think the point is well taken that there should be some stipulation that it is used specifically for game and I am not sure this motion does that.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I understand that this \$500 has been around for quite a while and available to hunters' and trappers' associations. I would like to ask a question. How much of this money has been applied for or how many people have been applying for this money, to give me an idea of whether I should be voting for it or against?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, if you could just let me look here for a moment, I think I can be helpful. I am not sure I can answer that. I think I will have to seek an answer. It is a good question. I did a little computation yesterday which seemed to indicate to me that there were something approaching 30, or between 20 and 30 hunters' and trappers' associations which were taking advantage of this administrative grant, but I can not be absolutely sure of that at the moment. So, perhaps I could seek that information and give it to Mr. Steen. I am sorry, I do not have it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, perhaps also if we could have some idea of the percentage of the hunters and trappers in all of the territories, if we had a percentage of how many hunters and trappers are in groups, I could get a better idea also.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Lyall.

Number Of True Hunters And Trappers

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, the thing I was going to say was that I would, and Mr. Steen said it also, I would like to know actually how many true hunters there are, how many true hunters and trappers there are left because everybody here is talking and saying that we must keep hunting and trapping and I sort of believe that there are not as many as we think there are. Also, I was going to say, and I think Mr. Steen brought this out also, that these hunters and trappers, the grant of \$500 must be applied for and when a person does not apply for it, of course he does not get it, the thing being you must apply for it.

I would like to see how much the federal government -- apparently a lot of the things the Indian band councils are getting is not part of this Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly's responsibility, I understand there is quite a bit of responsibility that is of the federal government and I would like to know if we are stepping into something like giving them extra money while they are getting it already from the federal government, if some knowledgeable person would indicate to us that they are getting extra money I would sure like to know.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, with regard to Deputy Commissioner Parker's remarks, some of the communities I am talking about are quite a distance from the main settlements, not just Rae but I am talking about Lac la Martre, Rae Lakes and Snare Lake where if a person wants to come in for a meeting and go back again it would be to the tune of about \$500 that it would cost for a flight in and out because you must charter.

The other concern that Mr. Lyall brings up in terms of what is actually federal responsibility versus territorial responsibility. I had an instance the other day whereby one fellow wanted to get his tooth pulled and according to the territorial government it was a federal responsibility, northern health. Northern health replied that it was not their responsibility at all, but in fact that their responsibility is only to the very, very poor and consequently that was not solved and I am still trying to dig further into this information in terms of health, National Health and Welfare and their responsibility towards the Indian people.

So, this program here which was instituted by the territorial government is one of the ways in which it could be made easier for these people to operate and in fact the Indian Affairs Department I assume would be sharing some of the costs to the territorial government for that kind of thing anyway.

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

Reason For Grants To Hunters' And Trappers' Associations.

MR. BUTTERS: Just to point out that there may be some confusion as to why the money would be used, or why it would be required. The initial motion was moved by the Deputy Commissioner in 1972 because at that time when the representatives of the Delta trappers' groups came together for a two day conference, while they got their transportation and expenses there was no per diem offered them and that is where it began. However, the hunters' and trappers' organizations are organizations created as a result of this body's interest in assisting trappers to organize and to form local groups or even regional groups to strengthen their bargaining power and to make their economic interests better known, not only territorially but perhaps nationally.

The motion relates to associations, hunters' and trappers' associations with these types of objectives and that is why I forgot, or omitted, the band councils, I was not aware that such organizations may not be in existence in Indian communities. However, the motion talks of "administrative purposes" and I repeat "administrative purposes" and while Mr. Lyall said that this grant must be claimed, but that is not true, it is an administrative grant that goes to each recognized hunters' and trappers' association having been incorporated under the Societies Ordinance of the Northwest Territories.

How do hunters' and trappers' associations get their correspondence written? How do they pay for their telephone bills? How do they hire a small study or report to be done? It comes out of administrative funding. They are in the same position as this Assembly is, as we have no way to pay the costs of administering joint or mutual interest, or an approach to realize joint or mutual interests. So, it allows the organizations to function, it is not an assistance program to take animals or to travel to conferences. It is just so that they can operate and work together for the betterment of all trappers in the locale who are trapping. There are still a few trappers depending upon the land for the bulk of their livelihood.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Fraser.

Concern Of The Game Warden

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think a lot depends on what assistance the trappers' associations or the band councils get, it depends a lot upon the game wardens in that community. Some of the Game Ordinance people are very active and say there is money here and money there and we can do this or we can do that, but you may get other communities where the warden does not know, he is not aware there is money available. If you turn to page 5.12 in this book it lists \$335,000 and says, grants to provide trappers' fur subsidies, hunters' and trappers' associations and band councils in organizing caribou hunts, grants representing Northwest Territories portion of costs for interprovincial conferences and there is all kinds of money but how do they administer it and who gets it? It seems to be first there, first served I find out and if you have a game warden who was very active and wants to get going he can do a lot for the community, but I think a lot depends on your game warden's concern.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I think the intent of the motion is good, but I would have to vote against it mainly because for the past couple of days, or within the past couple of days, we spoke about the Game Ordinance being discussed by the game council of the Northwest Territories. The membership of that game council is from practically all over the Northwest Territories and I am not sure of the kinds of recommendations that will come out of that game council, whether they will increase the amount of administrative grants to the hunters' and trappers' association and they might come out with various kinds or different kinds of recommendations to the administration or to the game division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs. On that basis I think that we should, using that as a base, I would have to say that I am going to have to vote against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: I still maintain that that \$500 grant to individual hunters' and trappers' associations, that they apply for that grant, and when they apply for it, they get it, they are not denied. Also, the game council that is going around, I do not think this will have anything to do with the ordinance they are trying to put out.

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

South Mackenzie Regional Meeting, Hunters' And Trappers' Association.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, if I recollect the statements made by the hunters' and trappers' association in the South Mackenzie regional meeting last September it was a recommendation of that meeting that this grant that we are talking about be increased to a maximum of \$2500, just as was suggested by Mr. Butters because these people do have problems that are perhaps unknown to us and maybe they were unable to communicate to us for some reason or other and the members of the South Mackenzie region hunters' and trappers' association consisted of almost everyone.

Hay River, for instance, has a large membership in their hunters' and trappers' association; Fort Simpson and district, Fort Smith and Fort Resolution. Now, for your later information I could provide you, maybe by tomorrow, with the minutes of that meeting as I have copies of it back in Fort Simpson, but there was a definite motion for an increase in these funds. It is an area which is bringing in a little revenue into the homes of these people, whether they are members of hunters' and trappers' associations or not. One of the things we seem to forget very easily is that a lot of Indian people in the country are people who are dependent upon the established administrations, such as their band council, government agencies and so on, and just as Mr. Fraser pointed out, they would depend largely on the type of game officer they had.

Money Should Be Stipulated For Administrative Purposes.

When I look at it in that respect there may not be a large membership in the hunters' and trappers' associations of native Indian people but you will find that they will ask their band councils to look into these matters, especially in communities where it is primarily Indian people, such as Fort Liard. In that regard I think it is appropriate that we make it a ruling and in the event the motion passes it be stipulated that this money would be for purposes of administering the hunters' and trappers' associations, whoever may be their members.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. This is where a chairman finds himself in a great deal of difficulty, representing an area that essentially has a fisherman's association and I do not see why they are not included in that, Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

---Laughter

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, speaking on behalf of the fisherman ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you very kindly.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am able to give a partial answer to the series of questions that Mr. Steen asked. In 1975-76, \$18,000 was given out to 36 hunters' and trappers' associations. In 1976-77, that is the current fiscal year, \$19,000 was given out to 38 associations and for the forthcoming year we expect that there will be 42 active associations or perhaps I had better say it seems that there are 42 already established and we expect to grant \$21,000. The associations may be formed with a minimum of ten members. We ask that there be at least ten members to form an association of hunters and trappers and the associations are registered under the Societies Ordinance. Once they have been registered and recognized as hunters' and trappers' associations the grant money for administration purposes is paid to them automatically once they have made the application to become associations and they do not need to make application for the funds.

Clearly there is a question as to the adequacy of the funds as per the debate. I do not want to judge the outcome of the motion, but in any event I think it is incumbent on us to review the matter of the adequacy of the grant and see whether or not it should be raised.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I am waiting for the presentation of the fishermen's association.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Great Slave Lake contains a vast quantity of marvellous fish and I feel that everybody should eat more fish, at least on a weekly basis.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): This is a fishy subject. Mr. Steen.

Consultation With Hunters And Trappers On Development

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, speaking to the motion I guess I should reiterate what I said this morning or what you heard me say this morning on the radio, that at the present time in the Delta area we have the problem of Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement writing minutes, letters and everything for the hunters' and trappers' associations of Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik and maybe it is because they do not have enough funds to carry out their administration. The federal government is asking these hunters and trappers in Inuvik and all the area whether there should be any development in the area and it gives them a chance to break away from the people who we know as COPE in the area who are making a farce out of the hunters' and trappers' associations. They are pushing their ideas onto the hunters' and trappers' associations and thereby twisting the minds of those people just to get them to do what they believe should be done. I feel in support of the motion that we should increase the amounts for some of the areas and I believe mine should be one. Then they would be able to write their own letters and COPE would leave them alone. They could have a little pride in what they say without any interference.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): To the motion, Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I notice that there are 42 associations, according to figures the Deputy Commissioner gave us. This indicates what I was attempting to say, that there is a growing population in membership in the hunters' and trappers' associations. I feel the \$500 to each association, each local or whatever they call themselves, but I notice in the figures of money that you gave us that there is \$21,000 available for the 42, that means roughly for the \$21,000 for the 42 associations. That is \$500. If we give this \$500 to each association, no doubt there are some associations which would be suffering because there are a growing number of these people and some of their memberships

would be quite large. I wonder if there is any way, Mr. Chairman, to indicate the general membership of hunters' and trappers' associations in the territories.

Not All Members Of Associations Hunt And Trap

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I still maintain that this \$500 is adequate. A lot of your hunters' and trappers' associations, and I would like to say and make it very clear that not everyone who is a member of a hunters' and trappers' association does trap. They belong to it just so in case you have to go back to the land and you are a member of the hunters' or trappers' association. Giving the right amount of figures of hunters in each association would be wrong. You might have a hunters' and trappers' association that has 40 members and you might only have six actually living off the land and trapping, so I think I still maintain for administrative purposes that \$500 grant which is automatic, as Deputy Commissioner Parker says, after the association is formed and is under the Societies Ordinance, is adequate.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: I realize very well that not all the members are trappers nor are all the members hunters and making their livelihood off the land but we are talking about an administrative grant, administering the size of the membership who are maybe in some instances getting ready to go back to the land or who desire to go back to the land and are preparing themselves to go back on the land and they have to be helped. It would not matter if there were only one out of every community who is living off the land. The fact they do have this membership and they have to do administration and preparation and they need assistance to administer themselves.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I think if a person does decide to go back on the land he could go and get the grant under what they call the outpost grant program so I think a person should -- I belong to the hunters' and trappers' association myself and I think that there are quite a number of grants available. Also if you want a meeting all you have to do is tell the game officer that you guys are working under and he gets a certain amount of money from the government to hold the meetings. We have such meetings already, what we call the Central Arctic regional conferences of hunters and trappers and that part of the money did not come from a hunters and trappers, it came directly from the game department to hold such a meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. There is a point the Chair would like to make and with your permission and I would ask Hon. Dave Nickerson to take the chair for the moment.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Mr. Stewart.

Motion To Amend The Amendment To Motion On Grants To Hunters' And Trappers' Associations

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, I feel that the motion as amended gets this Legislative Assembly involved in motions and legislation based on race and I for one do not like this sort of an approach. I realize that the band councils may well indeed require funding for this purpose but to remove from this motion a specific race of people, I would prefer the motion to be amended and I would so amend the amendment to read "appropriate grants to trappers' associations and other groups representing trappers." I think it is time that we started treating all people in the territories the same and not in this Legislature be specific about any race.

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Any comments on the amendment to the amendment?

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I do not see much to applaud about there. The point I am trying to make concerns people who do not feel at the moment they want to be involved with a hunters' and trappers' association which again is another organization within a community. The fact is they have been dealing with band councils from time immemorial and having chiefs. I would be very honest. Since this is the kind of thing that these people want, to be able to operate within a band council, that was my concern. I mean I do not think really it matters whether you call it "other groups", that wording does not really matter to me. The fact that these people are basically hunters and trappers, it is at least better than being on welfare. We have no economic development within the community or communities. They have got the lumber mill and the older people of course are out hunting and trapping.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): The motion now reads: "I would move that we request the administration to make appropriate grants to hunters' and trappers' associations and other groups representing trappers." That would be in a case where the band council looks after the interest of the trappers so presumably, Mr. Whitford, that wording is now adequate for what you want.

MR. WHITFORD: It does not matter to me. I do not see why race got into it in the first place. I was not distinguishing race. I was just concerned about the Northwest Territories people.

Formation Of Band Councils

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I just want to direct one question. I keep hearing this "time immemorial" thing. I can not even say it but the thing is I wonder where the band councils got the grants before the territorial government came in?

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): It is my understanding the band councils were set up in 1921 when the treaty was first made in this particular area so it is not really since time immemorial being 1921.

MR. WHITFORD: I just was trying to strike my point home.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I am trying to clarify this to myself. Does the motion indicate that we are to redistribute the \$21,000 that is there now or does the motion indicate in the following year that our standing committee and the administration will look at increasing this?

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): "Make appropriate grants" and that would appear to me to be the significant wording there. It might be a little bit fuzzy as I do not myself know what it means but I imagine it is direction to the Executive of the government to consider this question again and see whether or not the grants provided at present are adequate and if they are not adequate to, subject to the money being available, raise them.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I would suggest then that we call the question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: There are a number of questions on that last amendment. First of all I think we should put a maximum on that, on the appropriate grants, up to a maximum of so much, say a maximum of so much which should be there until we find out how they are using this money, if they are using it to find a better way to improve their system, or their reasons for getting more and then we can add again, but it is hard to cut it down if they are using the money in the wrong way for instance. My other question is when the motion or the amendment to the motion says "any other groups representing trappers" I wonder how far that goes because there are some larger groups who claim to represent hunters and trappers and I do not think they want to give that kind of money to them, do we?

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Hon. Peter Ernerk followed by Hon. David Searle.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Could I hear the amendment to the amendment if there is such a thing?

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): The motion as amended would read as follows, Hon. Peter Ernerk. "I move that we request the administration to make appropriate grants to trappers' associations and other groups representing trappers for administrative purposes".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Did you wish to speak, Mr. Stewart?

MR. STEWART: I wanted to make one point relative to Mr. Steen's approach. I always hesitate to put in a maximum because everyone wants the maximum and I think the wording as it is now gives more leeway to the administration as they can only fund according to the amount of money they have and if you put in a maximum then everyone wants the maximum.

Grants That Presently Exist

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I do not think this administration would have any disagreement with respect to revealing the grants that are presently, to grants that presently exist. How I would look at it personally from my administration, or from the administration's point of view is that the administration would be asked to reveal the grants that are presently granted to the hunters' and trappers' associations in the Northwest Territories. I do not think I would agree with the statement "make appropriate grants", but they should reveal the present grants with the hope that they could be increased wherever feasible.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Speaking to that motion I see a little danger in it with other bodies representing hunters and trappers. I could see COPE, the Indian Brotherhood, the Metis Association and many other organizations representing supposedly Indian people, gaining this grant. I think that what my concern is, is to assist those people who do desire to make their livelihood or have an intention of getting back on the land and whether we express who we are dealing with or not and cover it up with some paper work, it does not really matter, we are dealing primarily in the hunters and trappers area, with Indian people and Eskimo people. What the heck is the difference if we call them as such, but to cover it up by saying "other people" I do not think it will serve any purpose, I think it opens the doorway so that COPE for instance as Mr. Steen is concerned about can come in and penetrate the hunters' and trappers' attempt to organize themselves and this is what the money is for, to help them and to assist them go out hunting and trapping. We know that the majority of these people are Indian and Eskimo and it does not matter what the heck you call them. So, I can not support that amendment at all.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: I just thought, and it is not necessary to put it in the motion, but I would like to have mentioned it in the wording "other groups" regarding hunters and trappers, that we should say "community groups" perhaps "other groups representing hunters and trappers" and in that way we can get around the idea of large regional groups applying for that kind of money.

Amendment To Change Wording Of Previous Amendment

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Does everyone agree to Mr. Steen's amendment to amend the words "groups" or rather to put in place of the word "groups", say "community groups"?

Amendment, Carried

Is it agreed?

---Carried

The motion now reads, gentlemen, "I move that we request the administration to make appropriate grants to trappers and other community groups representing trappers for administrative purposes."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): I think Mr. Lyall wanted to make one concluding remark.

MR. LYALL: I still maintain that the hunters and trappers, the grant is there for the hunters' and trappers' associations and I still maintain it is adequate and should be left the way it is. We have made three amendments to the original motion already and in some cases I think you are giving other organizations the chance to get in there and grab some of the loot. This is what they are always doing anyway "Let us grab it while we have the chance" and I think this opens the door for other groups to go in there and grab the money. I think the original thing, where it says for the hunters' and trappers' associations, I think that is the way it should be left.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): Are we ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

Motion On Administrative Grants To Hunters' And Trappers' Association,
Carried As Amended

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Dave Nickerson): The question being called. All in favour?

All those opposed? One opposed. Everyone else in favour and the motion is carried.

---Carried

General Remarks On The Department Of Social Development

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I would direct your attention to page 9.01. The budget is "Social Development" and are there any comments of a general nature? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, something that concerns me is that I was wondering if the Minister of Social Development could tell me if the moneys allocated for mental health, is that money that is being given to mental health adequate enough for these children. Unfortunately, they are not able to speak today themselves and this is why I asked as one of the bigger problems we have in the territories is mental health and it is becoming a greater concern all the time. The facilities we are getting for them, are they adequate, and the accommodation is another case, is that adequate? We do not mind cutting back moneys in other areas to be able to be sure that that kind of money is made available to them, and I was wondering if in fact the Minister could give me an answer.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The question is a good question but I think it should be taken when we get to the detail rather than as a general comment. I know I have allowed a lot of leeway but that is being very specific and you will have a chance to raise that as we continue through this estimate.

MR. WHITFORD: Okay.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: As much as I do not like to disagree with the Chair, this might be a good point in time to bring this up and treat it in a general manner because the Northwest Territories branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association receives funding from a number of sources. There is no one place in the estimates where they derive all their funds. The Northwest Territories Mental Health Association is kind of an umbrella organization, that is the way they like to think of themselves, and they like to get various other projects going under their wing and eventually they hope that these other projects can become self-sufficient and can break away from the Mental Health Association. For instance, they were instrumental in setting up initially, the detoxication centre in Yellowknife, and I forget the name of the local society that runs it now, but originally it was the mental health people. They received funding for this under the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council program. They at times run a crisis centre in Yellowknife and received funding for this through different mechanisms.

Funding Of The Mental Health Association

Very recently I spent half a day at the office of the Mental Health Association and while they suggested that they could always find good use for more funds they were fairly well pleased with the amount of funds they were able to get from both; via the territorial government, through the parent organization, the Canadian Mental Health Association, and through private donations. A lot of people are donating both time and in some cases money as well towards the operation of this organization. So, I guess the answer to the question is that good use can always be made of additional funds but, as far as the Mental Health Association is concerned they feel that the level of funding they are able to achieve at the present time is reasonably adequate.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The hour being 10:30 o'clock a.m. is it your desire to recess for coffee?

---Agreed

This committee stands adjourned for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls this committee back to order. I direct your attention of page 9.01, subject Social Development. Any more questions of a general nature?

Social Development, Capital - Activity 4040, Administration, Agreed

If there are no more questions of a general nature then we will proceed to page 9.02, Social Development, administration, activity 4040, capital in the amount of \$79,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4041, Corrections

Page 9.03, Social Development, corrections, activity 4041, detail of capital in the amount of \$105,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

I wonder if I may ask one question relative to this. I notice that in buildings, works or land, construction of a halfway house and there are some little dots and does that mean a ditto mark for Hay River? Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The little dots do not mean ditto for Hay River.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Can you tell me what they do mean, Mr. Minister?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The little dots mean that there is nothing in that particular item for this year. If you take for instance the halfway house in Hay River, do you mean the little dots there?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Yes, those little dots.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Those do mean Hay River presumably.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The expenditure shows that \$150,000 was spent for a halfway house at Hay River and could you explain what halfway house was constructed?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: No halfway house money was spent at Hay River.

Capital - Activity 4041, Corrections, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): So do we have agreement on activity 4041?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4043, Child Welfare, Agreed

On page 9.04, Social Development, child welfare, activity 4043, capital in the amount of \$103,000? Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4044, Medical Social Services and Special Care, Agreed

Page 9.05, Social Development, medical social services and special care, activity 4044, capital in the amount of \$17,000, agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 4045, Alcohol And Drug Program

On page 9.06, Social Development, alcohol and drug program, activity 4045, capital, zero. The question was why? Did you raise your hand, Mr. Butters? The question was why zero money?

MR. BUTTERS: Why zero money for this?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is for capital. There is considerable money being put in the alcohol and drug program this year. In fact there will be an increase of some one-quarter of a million dollars over previous years, but we are not considering the construction of any major facilities. That is why there is nothing in capital. We are not going to build anything this year. Maybe some of the money which will be allocated by the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council might be used for construction purposes or for purchasing buildings, capital purchases. This money has not been allocated yet so we do not know exactly what it will be used for, but the department itself does not propose to make capital expenditures in regard to the alcohol and drug program.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Could we go back to page 9.05?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 9.05.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister where would the money for the Cambridge Bay transient centre come in?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is capital here.

MR. LYALL: Where would it come in?

Money For Cambridge Bay Transient Centre

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, what we are doing in Cambridge Bay, we have made arrangements with local people there to operate transient facilities. We will be buying the services from people in Cambridge Bay. We will not be building anything there. That is why there is nothing in capital but there will be something in operating expenses under medical social services and special care for the operation of transient facilities in Cambridge Bay.

MR. LYALL: This was not the wish of the people and Social Development was told it was not the wish of the people. We wanted either that transient centre renovated or else a new one built and the indication I got from Social Development was they were going to build a new building.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: No, Social Development does not propose to build a new building in Cambridge Bay. We think we can provide better services in the manner I just outlined. Another trouble in Cambridge Bay is that at times there would be nobody in the transient facility if we built one, so it might result in a rather elaborate building which very often is utilized well below what it is designed for. It would be very expensive and we feel we can give people in transit in Cambridge Bay much better care in the manner we propose.

MR. LYALL: I kind of thought that the Executive gave an indication that they were going to build a new building. A lot of money was spent looking into this. The social worker in the field went around and so did I and the people indicated that they do not want to be billeted in homes. This was told to your department. I am sorry, but that is the way it stands. I mean we had community meetings in every settlement about it and this was the indication from the three settlements on the eastern side of Cambridge Bay.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: If you will give me five minutes, Mr. Chairman, I will find my notes and give some exact indications as to what we are doing in Cambridge Bay.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. We will return to the subject, Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Thank you.

Capital - Activity 4047, Community Services, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 9.07, Social Development, community services, activity 4047, capital and again we have a zero. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 4040, Administration

Page 9.08, Social Development, operations and maintenance, activity 4040, administration, in the amount of \$2,930,000. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: It seems to me I recollect that in past discussions this House had put forward to the department the desirability of removing from the shoulders of practising welfare officers in the field, the responsibility of doing the probation officer's work. At one time I think it was noted that within the territorial service there was a job description entitled "probation officer" and this individual's responsibility dealt with working only with those persons in trouble with the law and requiring when out of the correctional institution guidance and since that time welfare officers have been carrying out this function and I think this House suggested that the responsibility should be split up. Can the Minister give an indication of what is being done in this area?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Only in larger settlements, such as Yellowknife, do we have people who are full time probation officers that is, people that devote nearly all of their time acting as a probation officer. In most places in the Northwest Territories there was insufficient work to keep someone occupied full time at that task. We do not want to have someone appointed as a probation officer going around, flying into these communities and spending a couple of hours there and flying to the next one. That just does not make sense. Mr. Whitford brought the same comments up yesterday in respect to welfare officers. It seems to us much more logical to have a local resident full time social worker designated as a probation officer. Very often you will find that if there is a family with somebody on probation, in that family the family will have other social problems at the same time so we can deal with the whole thing much more efficiently and much more effectively if we have the social worker acting also as probation officer.

Some Social Workers Specialize In Probation Work

Sometimes it is difficult for some of our social workers or welfare workers to act as probation officers, especially in respect to certain people. Sometimes there are tough customers to deal with. In, for instance, the Hay River area we have a couple of people on staff who specialize in probation work. They are not exclusively probation officers but they are the people who have a lot of experience in these matters and who are responsible for most of the probation cases.

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

MR. BUTTERS: A supplementary question. I seem to recall that a motion was passed in committee of the whole of this House which indicated to the Department of Social Development the desire of this House that probation officers should be re-established within the territorial civil service. I will seek that motion and if I can find it, again bring it to the attention of the House and of the department. I must compliment the Minister on his answer because he is very ably representing the Executive function of the government and I compliment him for that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Operations and maintenance, activity 4040, administration. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Just before you go off that subject I wish to raise something on pensions. I wonder if it could be brought up here or else in the detail?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, could you give us advice in that regard on pensions? Should it be brought up here or in the detail?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: It depends on the nature of the question. If it is a matter of us advising or assisting people on where they could get information regarding pensions which will be paid under the Canada Pension Plan, this would be the right time to bring it up because our field officers, the people responsible for this advice, their salaries are included in this vote.

If it is a matter of assistance to old age pensioners, the extra \$60 a month that we allow them, then it would be better to bring it up at the time we deal with the vote for social assistance per se.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Activity 4040. Mr. Whitford.

Mental Health Program In Northwest Territories

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I was asking this morning about the mental health problem because it is something that concerns me very much in the North and perhaps about myself after I have finished with the Assembly. Nonetheless, I was concerned about the funding for that particular program basically because I do not believe that there is an adequate amount of funding in that department or program, so I believe at this point in time there is \$15,000 that has been given to us by the government. I am not sure. I would like to go back to that and ask the Minister because I think this may be where it should be discussed. If I am wrong, maybe you could tell me, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you want to deal with that here?

MR. WHITFORD: I believe I am talking in the right place. I want to ask the Minister, if it is at all possible, if we could find out how much funding has been given from your department to mental health and see if that is adequate enough for the administration of the mental health program which we have to deal with. If in fact we can not come up with the answer here, perhaps we could take it back to the finance committee and discuss it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Do you want me to answer that question now?

MR. WHITFORD: Maybe it is not fair with the Minister not having the details.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, as you indicated previously this is a little peculiar, as this appears all through this area and I would have to leave it to your judgment as to whether this is the proper vote.

Funds For Volunteer Agencies

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The funding for the Mental Health Association, or that funding given to them by the Government of the Northwest Territories comes out of the Executive vote. Therefore, if you want the exact dollar amounts I think the proper time to bring that up would be when the Executive vote is under consideration. I understand it is somewhere in the region of \$10,000 or \$15,000 a year but I am not exactly sure. I think Mr. Whitford though raises a very important question here regarding moneys that we give organizations such as the Mental Health Association. There is no clear fund within the Government of the Northwest Territories where this money is taken from.

With regard to alcohol and drug programs we do have the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council which this year will have a budget, if it is passed of about \$800,000. Now, if anyone wants money for alcohol and drug programs they know exactly where to go, they go to Mr. Murray Sigler, chairman of this co-ordinating council, but when they have other projects that do not come under alcohol and drugs they have no clear place to go and we have no fund we can draw on. If we think it is a good cause and we should support it, we kind of have to look through all the various government departments and take \$5000 out of the Executive and \$2000 that was voted for motor vehicles, etc. It is not, quite that bad, but it is getting that way to and try and find this money lying around in the government.

What I would like to see established is another fund for people such as the Menatal Health Association, the juvenile court committees, a number or organizations like this, voluntary organizations that in my opinion do very good work and very often do it much better than the government could do it, they have put in a lot of volunteer effort, a lot of time, and I think we should support them.

So, I would like to see some clear fund established and we could have a separate vote on that. You might like to establish say a quarter of a million dollars or \$100,000, or whatever is desirable and have this listed somewhere in the budget so that Members would know what it is all about and we would not have to use this system of getting a few dollars here and a few dollars somewhere else.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. David Searle.

Showing Grants For Mental Health Under The Department Of Social Development.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest that firstly in future the Executive give consideration to showing the provision of grants for mental health under this department rather than in the Executive vote because it seems that this is where it should fall and it may be appropriate to so move, Mr. Chairman, so that this recommendation can be one from the full House. However, before I make the motion you might like to hear from the Commissioner.

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

COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Mr. Chairman, we agree and I will ask the finance people to make that change, it is certainly perfectly all right with us.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Is that sufficient, Hon. David Searle, or do you want to go by word of motion, for the record?

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, if the Commissioner says he agrees to the suggestion then I do not think it is necessary to have a motion. I would like to take it one step further however and if I might, since you have permitted discussion here on the question of mental health, particularly in view of the fact that we now have some agreement from the Commissioner that this is the appropriate place for it to be, I would like to turn to a discussion of the financial requirements and that subject now, Mr. Chairman, if I may.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Proceed, Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: The question put by Mr. Whitford I believe is what the Northwest Territories Mental Health Association has been receiving and I have their financial statements here. In the past the sum of \$15,000 was from the Government of the Northwest Territories. I notice that they have in the past put forward a budget for consideration, in fact for 1976, the proposed budget indicates a requirement of \$47,400. Now, that was based essentially on the requirement of two full time staff, for salaries and benefits, \$26,400. Because they did not get the level of assistance required from this government they have been restricted to a staff, a full time staff of one, as I see it in the budget, but just looking at what has happened as of December 31st, 1975, excess expenditures over revenue was approximately \$4000, even with a staff of one.

Recommendation That Assistance To Mental Health Association Be Increased.

Now, their actual statement of revenue as of December 31st, 1975, shows expenditures of \$26,500 and it seems therefore to me that the level of assistance being given by the grant of \$15,000 is low and I would like to recommend, as that is all we can do, that the level of assistance to the Northwest Territories Mental Health Association be increased. Certainly when you have a group like this with expenditures in excess of revenue and that is after raising substantial sums of money, still leaving their expenditures \$4000 in excess of their revenue, it seems to me that even if you applied the normal rule of thumb of a dollar for every dollar they have raised that we may be a little low. I do not know exactly what the level of assistance should be, but I am prepared to leave that to the good judgment of my friend, the Hon. Dave Nickerson, in that I am satisfied that he has good judgment, and that of course goes with the job of being Minister of Social Development, having to make those decisions.

Motion To Increase Level Of Assistance To The N.W.T. Mental Health Association

I would like to move, Mr. Chairman, that the Executive consider an increase in the level of assistance given to the Northwest Territories Mental Health Association.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. David Searle. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

Motion Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried unanimously.

---Carried

0 And M - Activity 4040, Administration, Agreed

Activity 4040, administration, under operations and maintenance in the amount of \$2,930,000. Is it agreed? I need more than one "agreed", gentlemen. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 4041, Corrections

Activity 4041, corrections, operations and maintenance in the amount of \$2,212,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Yesterday I asked the Minister a group of questions and one dealt with the matter of corrections and it is the only one he failed to answer and I suspect for a good reason. I suggested that there could be a conflict between his personal view of the treatment of offenders and the view held by his department, particularly in light of what we have read in some very lengthy and interesting comments in the press recently, and one can only draw from those comments in the press that the Minister's view is lock them up and throw away the key.

The Assembly's view has been towards the matter of, what is it called? I can not remember the term, of community involvement with offenders and in many cases the approach, the community approach to treatment; or in dealing with people who have offended society, instead of locking them up in prisons like the Yellowknife Correctional Centre which, in my opinion, is not doing a good job. The rate of recidivism is very high, the facilities and amenities in the Yellowknife Correctional Centre are not adequate in my opinion for correction

as it is called, the trade shops are not used to their full advantage and long-term offenders are not really given an opportunity to learn anything really worth while.

I think in this enlightened age, particularly in view of the facility that is presently operating in Frobisher Bay and has been for some time and very successfully I might add, and designed particularly for native people, admittedly, but a very worth-while program in which the whole community is involved. I would hope to see more of these kinds of things in the territories and not what I feel may be the Minister's approach of lock them up and throw away the key, or diversion, diversion is the word, diversion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I would like to assure Mr. Pearson as a Member that I have had a great deal of association with this type of person as they have broken into my store 12 times in the last 12 months so I have had all the association I personally want. Hon. Dave Nickerson.

Community Service Sentencing

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: If my friend had washed out his ears and listened to my speech with the attention it deserved he would not have had to ask that question. I made it abundantly clear, Mr. Chairman, in my speech, that our department is trying to do everything possible to encourage community service sentencing in those places to which it is applicable. It is not diversion as Mr. Pearson said, diversion is when the matter is worked out before it goes to the court and we really do not want to see that happen except in special circumstances where we feel these things should not go to the court. We think that the court has a very useful purpose and we do not want it circumvented.

When I was talking about the need for more space to put prisoners in jail I was talking about the serious offences. We have people in the jails now who are in there, they are in there for theft, they are in there for murder, they are in there for rape, all kinds of serious offences and you have to deal with these offences in the manner which they deserve. You know, for somebody who breaks into a store for the 12th time it is no good slapping him on the wrist and saying "You are a bad boy, do not do it again". You have to hand out a fair amount of punishment. This is the type of offence which is occurring in the North now, this is the type of offence which the courts are dealing with in, as I said, a more responsible manner than probably has happened in the past and these are the people who find themselves in our custody.

Mr. Chairman, we accept these people from the courts, the court sentences them and we have to deal with them. We ourselves do not have very much say over what the court does and if they send us a dozen people we have to look after a dozen, if they send us 50, we have to look after 50 and it is as simple as that in the long run.

One Government Philosophy On Corrections

Now, I take exception to Mr. Pearson's remark about the philosophy of the department and the philosophy of the government and my personal philosophy as there is one philosophy when it comes to the government's position on corrections, we can not afford to have more than one, there is just one. If you read for instance articles that appeared in the local papers recently by Mr. Britton, our chief of corrections, and another article by myself, you would see that these are complementary. They both say exactly the same thing and whoever speaks on behalf of the government, whether it is the Commissioner, whether it is myself, whether it is Mr. Torrance, or whether it is the chief of corrections, we will always say the same thing, there are no different philosophies between the different people involved with the government, and I thought, Mr. Chairman, that this was quite clear and apparent to everybody.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Well, I am just delighted to have the reassurance of the Minister that there is no conflict. I suggested that there was and I felt my interpretation of his views was correct, but he has certainly explained to my satisfaction that it was not. Going on from that I am concerned about the operation of the facilities, particularly the one in Yellowknife. I know there is tremendous overcrowding involved there. I am concerned that the programs within the institution are grossly inadequate for the needs of the prisoners in order to so-called "correct" them and provide them with some skill, a training program worth-while in significance so they can go back to the community with some skill they have learned whilst incarcerated. I am also concerned about the allocation of funds for the establishment of a facility in the Delta which I believe to be absolutely essential. I do not see any provision so far in the budget for the establishment of a facility there. Can I have some assurance that such matters are under consideration?

Correction Facilities For The Delta

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: First, I am criticized for wanting to build more jails and now I am criticized for not having the jails ready for the people who are sent to our custody. You know, you can not have it both ways. In my speech I made two points. First of all, that we were trying to put as few people in jail as possible. There are certain people in there now who probably should not be there, but there are a number of serious offenders who have to be kept in jail. For this reason, I said that we were very seriously considering the construction of more facilities and the Delta is obviously one of the most logical places in which to put these facilities. There is nothing in this years budget, there is nothing in the 1977-78 budget because we do not plan to start this year. What we are doing at present is reviewing our statistics to find out how many people we would have to take care of there, whether it is going to be worth while from the financial point of view. We are trying to find out what types of prisoners generally come from the Delta so we can determine what type of facilities we need to build there. There is a small study going on in the Delta area at the present to find out what the public attitude is in that area and what people from the Inuvik area think is necessary, what type of facilities they want. We are studying things such as the availability of staff housing, whether or not we will be able to attract sufficient staff. We are taking this into very careful consideration and we do not want to get caught short. We know the problem is great at the present time and will probably become greater. We want to be ready probably in the 1978-79 fiscal year to start actually putting up physical facilities.

Conditions At The Yellowknife Correctional Centre

At present the jail at Yellowknife is severely overcrowded. We are packing at times maybe 90 people into facilities that are really designed for 70 or so and we have some measures, immediate measures, that might alleviate that a little. For instance, we want to upgrade the Baffin Correctional Centre, upgrade it in such a way that we can handle a little bit more difficult prisoners there. Since they closed the liquor store in Frobisher Bay we have been out of business in that community, so we will probably be able to accommodate six or seven people there. It is operating at below capacity. What we want to do is to train the staff there to handle a little bit more difficult prisoners and we have somebody seconded to Frobisher at the present time who is engaged in training the staff. We think we could send some of the prisoners from the Central Arctic over to Baffin to alleviate some of the strain in Yellowknife and we have had the relocation of the women's facility at Yellowknife under consideration. We had originally planned to move them into a house in Yellowknife, but apparently this did not meet with the approval of the Yellowknife city council so now we have got to think about alternatives.

There is a two-pronged attack dealing with the problem of overcrowding. One is the immediate solution of switching people around and trying to fit them in places that are not used to full capacity and the second is the construction of another facility presumably in the Delta or logically in the Delta if that is what people want there. This will probably take place in a couple of years, two or three years.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: On the subject of corrections in that some of my best friends are out there, to say nothing of clients, did you know, they used to say of the legal profession and the medical profession that the only difference between the two was that the doctors' mistakes were buried but the lawyers' were left hanging.

Offences For Impaired Driving

Seriously, one criticism that I personally have of the law enforcement over which, of course, the department of social services has no control is the recent attitude taken by the crown attorney's office that when it comes to liquor offences of impaired driving, for instance, or the breathalyzer offence over .08,

if you have had a previous conviction, regardless of how low your reading is or how mitigating the circumstances might be, they will proceed with the second or third offence as a matter of policy. In other words, they will not use good judgment or discretion to go against the real badnicks but will go against everybody notwithstanding. The result of this has been, of course, that once convicted, for instance, of a second offence of impaired driving you automatically go directly to jail for two weeks. Convicted of a third offence it is I believe two months, two or three months. The result of that has been, therefore, to fill up the local institute here with people who are guilty of nothing else but a liquor offence.

It is a good idea, of course, to be strict with impaired drivers because they are not only a danger to themselves but a danger to others as well on the road and there are many very tragic accidents that occur by drunk driving into innocent people. There is a section in the Criminal Code that says to the effect that the court in lieu of that sort of jail sentence may direct a program of alcohol education if the territory or the province has the facilities. That section has not been brought into force and effect yet in the Northwest Territories. However, I have communicated that with the Hon. Dave Nickerson and I believe he and his department are looking at what must be done in terms of proper facilities in order that that might be brought into force and effect. It seems to me that when you are dealing with people who are guilty of simple liquor infractions you are not dealing with criminals who need to be incarcerated at \$150 a day or whatever the cost is in an institution, but that, rather, you could have a much less expensive facility without the bars and without the expensive supervision from which these people might come and go, go in the morning and come back in the evening and take as a compulsory course this alcohol counselling. In other words, they just stay away from it, but they could continue with their jobs, they could continue to support their families. The facilities would cost less and if they continue to be productive members of the community until they are finished, this compulsory drying out would work. We are faced therefore, with the need to extend the correctional institution at tremendous costs that go along with that, or the establishment of some form of halfway house for alcoholic offenders. It seems to me we would be better to do the latter and take the drunks out of the jail and leave the jail for the criminals.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DAVID SEARLE: It just seems to me that it makes so much sense in so many ways. I am certain that the Minister, in fact I know that he shares this view, but he might be assisted in implementing that sort of program if he felt he had the full support in terms of indicating priorities of this House.

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

Alcohol Counselling For Drunken Drivers

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I was very glad, Mr. Chairman, that the Hon. David Searle brought this question up. It was at his instigation that the Department of Social Development started negotiations regarding having section 236(2) of the Criminal Code proclaimed in the Northwest Territories. We feel that in the circumstances we should not just lock up the second offence drunken drivers. It would be much better if the court could have the option of sentencing them to undergo alcohol counselling. That would be better for them and it would obviously be better for us as taxpayers in that it costs a lot of money to keep people in jail. We have followed this up and have worked co-operatively with the Department of Justice and the Attorney General. I am pleased to be able to announce now that the Department of Justice has given the undertaking that section 236(2) of the Criminal Code will be proclaimed in force in the Northwest Territories on the 15th of February, 1977.

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. I am sorry, Mr. Whitford, I have another speaker to recognize before you. You will be on the list. Hon. Dave Nickerson, did you have something further to add?

Increased Grant To Mental Health Association Announced

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I was going to make an announcement. We have had a very, very quick Executive Committee meeting and the Commissioner has agreed the grant to the Mental Health Association will be raised this year to \$25,000 so that they have done very well this morning and got themselves another \$10,000. Also, Mr. Chairman, these moneys will be removed from activity 1016 in the Executive and now placed under activity 4047 under the Department of Social Development. So I think we did pretty well this morning.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you very much. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Speaker, first of all I think I should congratulate the Honourable Minister for Social Development for coming into my area and looking after some of the problems of social development in that area. I would hope that you would consider some of the suggestions that came out of that trip through the Western Arctic, but on the other hand I hear many Members here mentioning the overcrowding of jails in Yellowknife and the suggestion of the Minister setting up another jail in the Delta area. I would like to probably suggest that for probably second offenders or third offenders of such minor crimes such as those with liquor and other offences that are considered minor by a judicial court body that we should start to look at leaving some of these small offenders in the community. Let them stay home, but in the daytime you would have a party that would pick them up and bring them to any job that the community council felt should be done and then after their days work they could return home again. I do not think sending them out to Yellowknife or to any other jail helps correct any situation or most situations.

Now, there is another question, and I wonder if the RCMP in their contract could go from house to house, wherever the offenders are and pick them up and keep them on the job during that time. I do not think it is under their jurisdiction to do that. So, probably some form, or some way might be found to get around that so we can pick these people up and bring them to work, if we are looking in that direction I mean to say.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, would you like to comment.

Jobs Available For Community Sentencing

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Steen brings up an important point with regard to community sentencing. In order for people to be employed realistically and not just employed digging holes in the ground and filling them up again, it needs careful consideration in a number of ways. First of all you have to have an inventory of jobs available, somebody has to make up this inventory, go around the community, maybe go to the churches, go to the settlement or hamlet council, find out what needs doing within the settlement. Secondly, very often when you sentence somebody for instance to paint the community hall, somebody has to provide the paint and that is an additional expense and these moneys are not available to the court, the judge does not have jurisdiction over a fund of money to buy paint with. Thirdly, you have the problem of supervision, making sure that the people get to the job they are assigned to and making sure that they do it. As Mr. Steen rightly points out this is not within the agreement which we have with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, they generally will not undertake to do these things.

So, what has happened for instance in Inuvik where this has operated fairly successfully is that a local committee has been established to do these things, to get the inventory of jobs, to make sure that the other funds to buy the paint are available from some source or another and to provide supervision to the people who are assigned these jobs. The Department of Social Development will render advice and assistance in this matter, but I think for it to work effectively it has really got to come from the community and you have to have community people involved in seeing that this is done. This is what has happened at Inuvik.

Voluntary Probation Officers Suggested

So, say for instance in Tuktoyaktuk if people were really interested in this, what I would suggest is that maybe under the auspices of the hamlet council a committee be established to make this list of jobs that need doing, people maybe could become voluntary probationary officers under the Corrections Ordinance to provide some sort of supervision, and they could come to the Department of Social Development for advice. We would be very pleased to give it to them. One of the jobs of this committee would be to make the courts aware of their existence so that the courts in fact were able to sentence people to community services and then this sentence could be carried out properly.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Perhaps I could get a specific answer from the Minister. How soon could they get started on something like this, or is there anything implemented at this time, and has the court been advised of any such move or should we make the legislation for such a thing?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I do not think we need additional legislation as that can already be done under the existing legislation. I think what is required, if we take again the example of Tuktoyaktuk maybe this matter should be put on the agenda for the next hamlet council meeting, interested people within the community could present themselves, say they would be available for this type of work, and it means a lot, people have to work pretty hard at it if it is going to be successful. You could contact our offices in Inuvik, we would send people over to Tuktoyaktuk to explain what would be necessary. We could arrange for people from Tuk to go over to Inuvik and talk with people on the Inuvik committee who are carrying this out there fairly successfully. I think the initiative has to come from the Tuktoyaktuk hamlet council rather than from ourselves. We are always ready standing by for when this happens but to get it going we do not want to push ourselves in there and tell the Tuktoyaktuk hamlet council how to run their affairs. We have given them the authority to do this and we are quite willing to give them all the assistance we are capable but we do not want to butt in on what is quite rightly a matter under their jurisdiction.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I think that Tuk would be most happy to hold a meeting with the Minister's people because they have a big arena to build this summer and the days of voluntary work are gone, and I think they would like to use as much free labour as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, the point I was trying to get to the Minister earlier was first of all I did not understand what was in section 22, or wherever it was, I do not understand what the new law was that this territorial Legislative Assembly has been given by the minister from Ottawa, the Minister of Justice.

Native People Employed By The Correctional Centre

The other point I wanted to know was that back in 1969 the correctional centre at that time had several native people hired as detention officers or guards and I am wondering now what we have in the year 1977 for native people working inside the correctional centre in all capacities. Mr. Chairman, that would be what I want to know, first of all how many people were hired in 1969, 1970, and how many people are now hired to see the difference, to see if they are improving, because it seems the government's policy is that there will be more opportunity for native people within correctional institutes and I am wondering if they are increasing or decreasing.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, under amendments made to the Criminal Code sometime last summer it was made mandatory that people convicted of second and subsequent drunken driving offenses would be sent to jail. This is the law as it now stands. At the same time, or notwithstanding that, in areas where adequate alcohol counselling, alcohol treatment facilities are available the option is to be given to a magistrate to waive the requirement for mandatory jail, sentencing on conviction on a second offense, such drivers to undergo alcohol treatment at an approved alcohol treatment facility. This is not Canada-wide, it depends, as I said before, on the availability of proper facilities in each area. When presumably the Department of Justice is satisfied that adequate facilities exist they can have this proclaimed on a regional basis and this is what we have been trying to do in the Northwest Territories. At the present time if this did happen it would probably only be the southern Mackenzie area where adequate facilities

would exist at the present time. So, what in effect the proclamation of section 236(2) of the Criminal Code would mean would be that the court, at its discretion, would be able to sentence people to receive or undergo alcohol treatment rather than sending them to jail, and at the present time at any one time we probably have I guess about ten people from the southern Mackenzie area in jail because of this. So, it probably would not take the whole ten away from us, it might take five, but there are five people who would not go to jail and would be in a rehabilitation centre or something like that instead. It would probably help them better than sending them to jail and it would be less costly to the taxpayers and alleviate the overcrowding situation at the correctional institute.

The second question regarding the number of people employed at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre I am afraid that I must report we are not doing very well at all. I think there is probably only one employed there and I am not exactly sure, but the figures are nothing to be proud of. In other places it is the other way around. In Baffin all the permanent staff in Baffin are local people and in Hay River we have out of a staff of I think it is 14 or so probably a couple of them are local people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Whitford.

Attracting Native People To Jobs In Correctional Centres

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, to the Minister. I am aware that there was one person and that is why I asked the question. I want to know what the Minister's view is upon it and in fact what is the administration going to do about this and, at the same time, what does the Minister feel the problem is, is it the fact that the relationship between the administration and staff is not workable, could it be the fact that the native people are not happy working within that kind of an environment? I would like to know exactly what the Minister's reply would be to this.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I think the problem is probably the latter, most of the native people do not seem to get on very well in that type of environment. As has happened before, say with game officers, it has been our experience in this area anyway that the majority of native people do not really like to put themselves in that position where they must tell people what to do. I guess it generally goes against their cultural background or way of thinking. They do not like to be the officers who have to put manacles on people and lock them up behind bars. That is my understanding of why we have been so unsuccessful in hiring local people to work at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre. We are trying to encourage people to work there, it is certainly our policy, we want to do this, and maybe we should be looking at alternative ways of trying to do this, perhaps we are not trying hard enough. If anybody has any suggestions as to how we might get more local people involved I for one would be most pleased to hear of them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Are you finished, Mr. Whitford?

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I could go on on this.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The next speaker is Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: I have three points I can get within my ten minutes allotted. I applaud the suggestion made by the Hon. David Searle that drunks should not be locked up. There should be some other facility for them but I would be a little alarmed to see that approved alcohol counselling and treatment centre in Yellowknife. We are talking about decentralization and, as the Minister well knows, the people who are working in alcohol counselling and education problems in the small communities want to see that type of service brought into their own home communities as much as possible. As I say, I do not want the type of thing that the Hon. David Searle has raised to become another plum for Yellowknife.

Work Program Concept Started In Inuvik

The second thing on that too, the Minister was referring to the matter of the courts sentencing people when he was answering my honourable colleague from Tuktoyaktuk about work programs. Let me point out as far as I know this concept was first used in the North, the first magistrate to use this concept in the North was Magistrate Eckardt of British Columbia who came into the territories during Magistrate Sunstrum's absence from his duties. Magistrate Eckardt in Inuvik found a party guilty and convicted him to so many days of work with the municipality of the town of Inuvik. This to my knowledge was the first time this has been done. I suggest that this type of thing possibly could be considered by the courts behind closed doors and they might see ways and means to see that this is carried out.

There is a bit of a problem from the community's point of view and that is when you get one of these employees for ten days or whatever it may be, how do you protect this individual? How do you protect him from getting injured on the job? How do you ensure that any rights they may have as individuals, whether they are incarcerated or not, are maintained? The Department of Local Government has cause to look at this type of program too.

The second point has to do with the matter of some kind of a centre in the Western Arctic. When the Minister visited recently I think he heard that there has been a suggestion from the Delta and the Western Arctic for something like 15 years now for the establishment of such a centre. Many, many years ago the former Member for the Delta, Mr. Knute Lange indicated the need, in 1963 they indicated the need even then. In 1971 when there was only one centre in the North, in Yellowknife, I had a motion approved by this House which established and I think my honourable colleague from Frobisher Bay seconded it, establishing decentralization of facilities. The Delta would be the first one to receive such a facility. The answer of the administration then was that they approved the concept of decentralization of the services but they were going to be governed by the need and the need in turn happened to be Frobisher Bay first, Hay River second and now possibly Inuvik.

Facility For Young Offenders In Inuvik

I think the present Minister was not in his seat but on June 11th, 1975, I asked the minister, "Can the minister give me assurance that the Department of Social Development is going to approve construction of a facility for young offenders in Inuvik?" and the answer was, in part, "The department believes that the young offenders of Inuvik must be looked at in the light of the total territorial program of services for that particular age group. Although no specific funds have been earmarked in the 1976-77 estimates for young offenders in Inuvik we have included funds in our B level forecasts for 1976-77 to enable us to conduct the planning necessary for the development of specific program approaches." As the Minister pointed out, this planning is going on and there have been a number of visits to the community by members of the department and he himself appeared and had a meeting with the interested groups. I would very, very much hope that because he has money in the estimates now that the planning need has been determined and before this fiscal year is up he will know whether or not he requires to put it in next years budget, not two or three years down the road as he said but next years budget.

The third item is that I have known the present superintendent of corrections for quite a while and I certainly am very pleased to learn of his appointment as our new superintendent of corrections and I know he will do an excellent job with this responsibility but I think Members will agree that we never raised the point, what happened to Mr. Clare Wilkins? I think this is a very valid point. What did happen to Mr. Clare Wilkins? It seems to me and I do not know either, it seems to me that Mr. Clare Wilkins was the victim of bureaucratic or political exigency and I will explain myself.

Former Superintendent Of Corrections

Mr. Clare Wilkins had been superintendent of corrections for many, many years and certainly I for one in this Assembly have criticized his administration, even on specific points. I say "victim" because in 1970 or 1971 I think that somebody who was training in the corrections program to become an officer out there acquired during that training program a document which was drawn up as part of the correctional centre's general punch in the tail that was given to these people. It was that this individual later became a member of the Northwest Territories Indian Brotherhood and it sat in their files from 1972 until 1976. Where did it appear? It appeared over in Whitehorse when at the National Indian Brotherhood meeting, this was dropped as a bombshell. Hon. Warren Allmand was just named the Minister and he came from the Department of Justice and was coming to this meeting and very interestingly enough this thing was dropped on the table. As I say, what happened? You know, was he a victim? Was somebody playing politics? Was Mr. Clare Wilkins a victim of these politics?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I will answer the first two points first, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the alcohol treatment facilities to be used under section 236(2) of the Criminal Code, we do not intend to build anything new and elaborate. The intention will be to use existing facilities within the communities. To my knowledge there is probably only one community and that is Yellowknife which at present has facilities adequate in the eyes of the Department of Justice to treat these people in a proper manner. While I was in the Delta region I had a very interesting conversation with Mr. Cook in Inuvik who is chairman of the citizens' action committee on alcohol, I think, subcommittee on alcohol. While they are still just very much getting into business, I think they have fairly sophisticated plans for the future. It might be that within a few years treatment facilities might be available in the Delta region. We do not intend to go in as a department and build some building and put staff in there. We are working hand in hand with Mr. Cook and his committee and local people in Inuvik.

Decentralization Of Delta Facilities

Similarly, other people have a keen interest in alcohol matters in the Delta, for instance, Mr. Charlie Snowshoe in Fort McPherson who I also spoke to has a plan or I do not know if it is a plan, but one of the things he is thinking about is maybe that in the interests of decentralization everything could not be in Inuvik. Maybe we could put something in Fort McPherson. Maybe a Delta regional facility should go into Fort McPherson. Maybe it should be in some other community in that area. I think that local concern, capable people in the Delta area are looking very closely into this matter and I think that within a few years we will find locally operated facilities up to the standards required by the Department of Justice will be in operation in the Delta region.

The second point raised by Mr. Butters was the matter of workers' compensation for convicted criminals when they are working either for us at the jails, out on work release or when they are sentenced to community services. Mr. Lyall's standing committee on legislation dealt with this matter about a week ago. This matter came before the committee for consideration and we did not make, and I say "we," the committee, did not make any firm recommendation at that time. They deferred the matter until they could get further advice from the Legal Advisor and from the expert staff in the field of corrections. This matter will presumably come up again before Mr. Lyall's committee and maybe Mr. Lyall would like to elaborate further on that himself.

With regard to the third point about Mr. Wilkins, I never knew the gentleman. He left the employ of the government when I came into this position so I know very little about what went on personally. I received a note from -- I can not read the signature on it, but it is from somebody who obviously knows more about this particular situation than myself so perhaps that gentleman would like to stand up and answer that part of the question.

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

Corrections' Training Book Appearing At National Indian Brotherhood Meeting

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I guess I will have to give the Honourable Minister a lesson in handwriting. I am sorry he can not read it. I simply informed him that I was the person most closely connected with that problem at that time and if he wanted me to say anything about it, I was prepared to do so. It happened at a time when the Commissioner was on a visit elsewhere and I had to accept the responsibility and do accept responsibility for it. I do not propose to go into detail as to the events at that time unless the Members wish to pursue that, but I must say that the timing of the release of that document which indeed was an old document and which enjoyed semi-official status for a very, very short period of time, the timing of the release of that document was very, very much political and had nothing to do with either me or anyone else in the administration, including Mr. Wilkins.

The document had been in the hands of a certain organization for some long period of time and they were simply lying in the weeds waiting to make use of it. That is not that unusual it seems. However, with the question being raised and having looked into the matter to the kind of depth I did in conjunction with Hon. Peter Ernerk and with Mr. Torrance, we were placed in the position of accepting Mr. Wilkins' resignation. None of these kinds of things ever happen in a fashion that any of us take any pleasure from, there is no more difficult job to do in any administration, this one included, than dealing with senior personnel, but Mr. Wilkins on balance, after the whole matter was reviewed, resigned, and that is the fact of the matter and that is the event that occurred. We accepted his resignation. He was close to retirement and that was not a large factor, but it was a factor which meant that he was not to suffer very greatly from an economic standpoint, but as I

say these are very, very regrettable things that have to be dealt with. However, they must sometimes be dealt with.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. The next speaker is Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Recruitment Of Native Correctional Officers

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, my statement that was going to be made earlier sort of died as the other speakers went on to speak. What I was going to say was with respect to the question that was raised by the Honourable Member from Rae, and had something to do with the recruitment of native correctional officers at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre and at various other places. If I may be allowed to speak on it very briefly, during the January session of 1976, I indicated at that time that the Department of Social Development was going to move towards recruiting northern people into various positions, and I think I indicated at that time that we would look at health and social workers. My statement was going to be in support of the Honourable Minister of Social Development and I was simply going to say this; while I was quite satisfied with the department's performance in terms of recruiting people into welfare worker positions, that is to say local people, native people, northern people, and while I was quite satisfied with placing them, various social workers in the communities, and again that is the local people at that time, the thing that was so difficult to correct was the problem of getting native people into the corrections field. The Honourable Minister of Social Development explained that, and it is largely because it is difficult for them to work in those kinds of conditions. I, some years ago, six years ago, while with the Department of Information did "a little bit of work on the side" type of thing, with no pay of course, to sort of look around for various native people, namely, from the Eastern Arctic and one of the things I found difficult at that time was that nobody seemed to be interested in this type of field, or nobody was interested in moving over to Yellowknife and working in Yellowknife because Yellowknife was perhaps too strange to them, a different environment, no hunting for them, they could not get out every weekend or take off on a skidoo and hunt caribou or whatever.

So, what I am simply saying to you is that I am quite, or was quite satisfied, and I am quite satisfied with respect to the direction that the Department of Social Development has taken in the past in terms of recruiting people into welfare workers and social workers but I think recruiting correctional officers to work in Yellowknife, that is to say, native correctional workers will continue to be a problem for a few years to come.

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

Different Approaches In Dealing With Offenders

MR. PEARSON: I just wanted to correct for the record the fact that there are lots of native people willing to work at these jobs and I think the difficulty comes in the attitude of the people they have to work with, and the approach that is apparent to me, that the approach that is used by southern Canadians is very different than the approach used by native northerners in dealing with offenders and one of them is based on, or at least seems to be based on a revenge kind of thing, a harsh approach to dealing with people, punishment, that philosophy. The native people have a totally different approach, and I might add a very successful one. The facility in Frobisher Bay is run entirely by native people, the superintendent is Mr. Paulosie Kilabuk and his entire staff are Eskimos with the exception of the clerk, I think she is a southern Canadian and does the typing and office work for them. That has operated for the past few years with virtually no turnover in staff at all. They started off with 12 people and I think of the original 12, ten of them are still there and I think that that is an indication to me anyway and to a lot of people that native people can work very effectively in many jobs. I think that another

area where we see examples of native people working together successfully, and probably with less turnover in these two examples than any other department in the entire government, is the interpreter corps. They are native people working together, people who understand each other, who understand the ways of their own culture but if you bring in -- I am sure that if a white person were introduced to the facility at Frobisher Bay as a superintendent or as an assistant superintendent, within several months the turnover would be tremendous and a lot of the existing people would leave because there is a difference and I have stressed this for years, a difference in approach and philosophy and way of thinking. Of course, the greatest example of the conflict that we see anywhere in the Northwest Territories is in the education system and that is where it all begins. Hopefully, and I can not see it happening now, now that this Legislative Assembly has seen fit to pass, fit to pass, pardon me. that was a slip ...

---Laughter

... the Education Ordinance, I do not honestly see much of a chance of us honestly coming to grips with education in conflict and I suppose the same applies to all the other areas that we have been dealing with. So, on that wet note, I will close.

---Laughter

The Punishment Of Offenders

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to just say that the difficulty with some of the things that my learned friend from Frobisher Bay says is that we can not in my view generalize when it comes to the punishment of offenders. You can not say some of the things he has said. The people who go in there are going in there for a whole range of offences and for a whole variety of reasons. I would like to state from my own experience in law enforcement, both as a prosecutor and as someone who defends people, that there are indeed people who commit even the most serious of crimes, namely murder and manslaughter, who certainly would never do it again. There is very little purpose for them to be even sent to jail and in all other respects except for that one instance are good citizens, but they are sent there because it is a serious crime and there has to be a general deterrent to the public.

On the other hand, there are those who do through liquor and other offences end up there and they too, in an institution, are virtually model citizens but it is when they get out and get in the bars and get drinking and fighting and one thing or another that they again get into trouble. However, there are as well as those two categories of otherwise normal and decent citizens, there are others which fall into a third category, people who are vicious and mean, who have to be locked up away from society generally and should be locked up and away from society generally for a good long period of time, people who have demonstrated that they can not work in society, people who have demonstrated that they do not care a whit for the health or the person of their fellow man, people who will commit the most heinous of crimes continuously, time and time again. For those people the only way society can be safe is to simply lock them up for as long a period of time as they can, and it is a terrible thing that that has to be done and that it is the only alternative. I know of many of them, and you just can not be so generalistic as to say that they have to all be treated in the same manner. I have seen some cases where the court of appeal in view of the dreadful nature of the crime nearly awarded the cat, and I certainly then would have agreed to it having been awarded in view of the nature of the crime, as I felt it was likely the only deterrent to those particular individuals who perpetrated it.

No One Solution For All Offenders

Now, just to give you an example, a crime that involved three young men following a man and his wife home to their trailer. They had not met them, they just observed them in a bar and they followed them home. They broke into the trailer and as they walked in the door, one man picked up a stone and another picked up a whisky bottle. They threw the stone immediately, when they got in the door, at the husband, crushed in his skull and as he fell to the floor the second one carrying the whisky bottle smashed that over his head. Then they all three proceeded to rape the wife and then exited the cabin. Now, this happened a few years ago and I was a prosecutor and when they each received -- I think two of them received 18 months and the other six months in jail, and I was very pleased to be able to appeal to the court of appeal and get them each four years and six years and request the cat. Unfortunately, the court of appeal increased the prison sentences but did not award the cat. Now, that is an example of people who are just outright miserable, downright mean and society has to punish them. Fortunately, that represents only a very small percentage of people occupying the correctional centre and hence everybody can not be treated, in terms of punishment. Fortunately many of them have only a liquor problem and rehabilitation or one thing and another is a possibility, but leave no doubt, gentlemen, that there is a small segment of society who are very, very bad. So you can not do as Mr. Pearson suggests, there is not a solution for all men and women in there. Some you can help, some you can just lock up.

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

Relationship Between Natives And Non-Natives

MR. PEARSON: Just to clarify a point, if I may. I was trying to deal with a native person working in the environment of a prison. There is a relationship between not necessarily the native person and the prisoner but the native person and the other people working there and the difficulty that they have in working with non-native people, the lack of understanding, lack of sympathy from the non-native towards the native in doing the thing. That is where a lot of the conflict comes in. I have seen examples of this throughout the years I have lived in the North and particularly within this government and its inability to, with the exception of Social Development, and I think I have said it before and I will say it continuously, that if there is one agency within the territorial government that has made tremendous gains in the employment of native people, it is the Department of Social Development. I think Mr. Ken Torrance who has acted as director of this department for many years is to be complimented for his ability to do that and to encourage the native people to become part of the organization and play a productive role in it. But the same can not be said for too many of the other agencies. I think Mr. Fraser yesterday, I forget who it was, mentioned the game officers and the lack of native people employed in that capacity. The point I am trying to make is the problem of conflict between the two peoples, the natives and non-natives coming on jobs where they have to work closely together. That is all.

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

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, the discussion started with some comments by Mr. Butters which I think were kindly. I want to get back to this for one moment if I can, to the point that Mr. Butters was addressing himself to and say a word on it.

Release Of Government Documents

This dealt primarily with the release of government documents and how they were released, the effect and the reaction. I think we have to say that that was not the first document of the territorial government that had been released, nor will it be the last. I think I have to very frankly say that we have made mistakes in the past. I think that we probably are making some mistakes now and I am certain we are going to make some mistakes in the future but I think that that is the price that we have to expect in an organization with government or with individuals who are trying to do something. I think if we were to be holding the line and doing nothing or saying nothing and just trying to hold the line that the only real criticism we could receive would be that we are not doing anything.

When you decentralize and when you delegate authority you have to be prepared for mistakes, misunderstandings. There is a great difference when you make mistakes and you are in the administration than when you make mistakes and you are in the opposition because for those who disagree and have not got the authority, have in many instances no responsibility other than the responsibility that they take upon themselves to correct mistakes or focus attention on things that are wrong. The thing that I think you as an Assembly have to understand and appreciate is that not everybody or every organization or special interest group agrees with this Assembly, nor for that matter do they support it. I speak of people not only in the Northwest Territories but others perhaps in other parts of Canada.

On the other hand, as an administration we do attempt whenever possible to agree with this Assembly and abide by the decisions and the recommendations and opinions of this Assembly but you must also appreciate that the Assembly is a collection of individuals and there is a multitude of ideas from various individuals. Some of them conflict. If this Assembly were a political party or the majority belonged to a political party or supported one point of view, the task would be much easier but nevertheless we try to meet your views. Having said that, I think that we can say that if there is an outside opinion and the Assembly's opinion, we

will follow and support the Assembly's opinion. The reasons are very obvious, because the administration is working toward and hoping and looking forward to the day when this Assembly is a responsible government that runs the territories and runs the administration.

Timing Of Leaked Documents

Having said all that, we have to accept that those who do not agree with the Assembly or the concept do not agree with the administration and they will pick their time and the place to damage the Assembly or discredit the administration and call it to task. They are not going to nick my time or your time; they are going to drop the word or produce the document or release the letter at the time when it will hurt the most. I am sure that there are a number of letters and documents in the possession of people which have not been released and will be released at what can be termed the appropriate time. After all, we have been here for ten years and I am sure we must have done things that might have looked right at the time which in today's context do not look too good. By the same token I am sure there are things which were done that you never heard before and I am sure there were things done that we never heard before but nevertheless somebody must accept the responsibility for it. Mr. Jon Ferry of the Edmonton Journal wrote a very interesting article on this subject the other night in the Edmonton Journal and I think he very unemotionally and very capably spoke about this subject.

I have been on both sides of society, being for many years the underdog, and I know what it is like to be against as well as I know what it is like to be for. One of the toughest transformations I have found is the transformation from being an "aginer" to a "forer". Being an "aginer" you can say anything you like and being a "forer" you must be careful. You get the blame if you make a mistake.

In 1959 I was an "aginer" and I was in Grand Falls, Newfoundland and a policeman got killed. I nearly got hung as a result of it and so did a number of other very fine Newfoundland people. Of course, in those days this was a terrible, terrible thing to happen. In today's context perhaps the comment would be "What did that stupid policeman stick his head in front of that stick for anyway?" It depends to a large degree upon the attitude of the public and what the opinion of the public is at that particular time in history. We always seem to forget that the world did not start with the present generation. It has gone on for many, many centuries and what is in vogue today will not be in vogue tomorrow. In Mr. Pearson's homeland where he was born he can tell you that 100 years ago were the greatest days of parliament in England, fantastic debates, fantastic disclosures, riots and every sort of thing under the sun, but by the time he and I were born that was unheard of and it was as if it never happened. It has turned around to that stage again today, so it seems that the wheel of public opinion spins round and as it spins the media react to it and it is no use blaming the reporters because they produce what they feel the public are interested in. You know, if the public is interested in sex, they give them sex. If they are interested in religion, they give them religion. They never give them both because public opinion does not seem to be in that manner.

Reaction To Mistakes Important

What I am saying is from time to time you are going to do things you do not like and we are going to hear things we are very embarrassed about and are going to wonder how it all happened. What it simply is is that everybody does not agree with this administration and this Assembly and feels that there should be something else. We have to recognize that tearing things down in the eyes of the political approach to things is just as important if you are in opposition as building it up is if you are in the administration, so I feel that last year it was corrections and next year it will be something else again or this year it will be something else and the year after it will be something else again.

The question is how do we react and where we make mistakes as far as I am concerned, if we make mistakes, I am going to be man enough and honest enough to admit it and I hereby admit to you today that we have made lots of mistakes but we try not to make the same mistake twice. We try to correct the things as quickly as they come to light. I am only really introducing this comment on the points Mr. Butters mentioned because I think his comments were well made and deserve some comment.

---Applause

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

MR. LAFFERTY: In talking about native employees in corrections, I have asked a lot of native people in my area, and from other communities why they do not apply for such a position and I have also known several native men who were in the employ of the Correctional Centre, but seemingly they have had problems with the other people who are employed there. It seems there is a lack, or a misunderstanding. I think it is more in the way that the recruitment is being carried out. I do not know, maybe the Minister of Social Development can correct me, but I do not think there is any offer of training for native recruits, whether they are hired or not. I think they are just taken off the street and planted in there and subjected to something that they are not familiar with.

Definition Of Term Native

Now, speaking on service experience, I think that if I were in charge of native people and had native officers I would tend to be harder on the natives than the non-natives and this is one of the human traits, that could be equally applied in any part of the world and it has to be seriously considered, that the people we are working with in the North, when we say "native" that is a generalization as who do we mean by native, because I have on previous occasions in the Legislative Assembly stated that I think in terms of a native person as being any person born here, be he white, Indian or Eskimo, or for that matter he could be an African born here.

I think the time has come when we have to look at this problem seriously because I know that in our communities, in spite of all the mistakes that have been made in the past, these are forgivable, and there is a great deal of resentment on the part of the Indian people, and of course large numbers of Metis people towards white people and any other race that may find itself among them. I feel that this has much to do with the way that the Indian people have been treated, perhaps not by intent but perhaps by an oversight. To me this is a very serious social problem from which stems all kinds of lawbreaking activities like kicking in somebody's door. Just the other day we had someone throwing a bomb, or a Molotov cocktail, a gasoline bomb at the RCMP building and this is a common occurrence in the village I live in.

---Laughter

MR. PEARSON: They should call it Vietnam.

MR. LAFFERTY: I think you are right, they should have named it Vietnam but they called it Fort Resolution. However, I think this is a definite indication that there is hatred among the people and if this is the case we are going to have to be specific. The complaints I have heard from many Indian people is that they resent the attitude of social workers, of correction officers and most of these people are all white people and the treatment they get by these officers and workers and this is to the extent that there are some Indian people in my constituency who refuse to take advantage of the opportunities that we extend to them, and this is carried and perpetuated by their own politicians and funded by the federal government. We have a very serious problem on our hands and it concerns me a great deal and I feel that these Indian people deserve a heck of a lot better treatment than that and not to cover up their problems by saying

that they have an equal opportunity or that they are native and then in the process some other native gets the benefit, or the poor Indian is left on the street.

Training For Natives

I think that there has to be an offer of training for those who may be interested. There are a lot of young Indian people who are interested in military service, in the police, and so forth and yet we had a recruiting drive just recently into the Fort Simpson district and none of these boys showed any keen interest in entering into military service, none of them applied. I do not know the reason for this but I have an idea that it may be a result of cultural differences and attitude. I think we should attempt to offer some kind of training, not just to say native people, but specifically to Indian people, Metis people and Eskimo people and then perhaps you might have some success because presently we are generating resentment between native groups, Indian versus Metis and so on and this is no good, it is because I think some of us people who are responsible have not got the courage to speak our minds honestly. So, I would definitely like to see somewhere where we could prepare the people of the North who are interested in this kind of service so that when they are ready they can step in, and even if they did not it would be money worth while spending. Now, speaking to the alcohol programs in the North ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): You have one minute left, Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: I would like to see more money spent in this area, on the treatment of alcoholics and we have a lot of them and this should take effect just as soon as possible because this is something we must deal with now not three years from now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

MR. PEARSON: Luncheon.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Dave Nickerson.

Training Programs In Corrections Service

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I wonder if before lunch I could make a few comments on the training programs we have within the corrections department. We have what we call first of all a staff training program and this is designed for people who are already in our service. Somebody can get a job as a labourer or maybe hire on as a secretary or take a fairly junior job with the corrections branch, and we have a staff training program available so that they will be able to upgrade themselves and become a corrections officer I, II or III and hopefully end up as a superintendent of the institution. This is mainly an internal type of training program but we do send people outside to take additional training, maybe take courses in criminology, and we do have noted experts in the field of corrections paying periodic visits to the Northwest Territories to speak to our employees. What we are trying to do is not only make that program better but also to create some kind of special training positions there. This has been done in a number of government departments and hopefully one or two will be allocated to corrections. I do not think I have to explain to you how this will work because it is very similar or along the lines of the northern careers program which the federal government is operating and it is the same type of thing we have within other departments of our government, but there will be a separate training program set up.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Before recessing for lunch I would remind the committee that at 1:00 o'clock p.m. we have a caucus meeting in room 303, over lunch. This committee stands adjourned until 2:30 o'clock p.m. Pardon me, Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Pardon me, but earlier today when we discussed the schedule of departments that would be discussed in this budget debate I suggested that Economic Development and Tourism would be the one to follow Social Development. I have now found that that would be very much inconvenient because of the availability of certain people and would ask if we could go to Local Government and then Economic Development, after the conclusion of Social Development.

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

---Agreed

This committee stands adjourned until 2:30 o'clock p.m.

---LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

O And M - Activity 4041, Corrections, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls the committee back to order. I would direct your attention to page 9.08, Social Development, the operations and maintenance section of the budget, activity 4041, corrections, in the amount of \$2,212,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Fraser, prior to lunch you asked to be recognized.

MR. FRASER: I just wanted to clear up a couple of things said by Mr. Lafferty -- the recruitment of native people for positions in the correctional institute. I wonder if when this recruiting is being done they have ever stopped to think that maybe some of these positions are only available, or most of these positions are available just in Yellowknife and not everybody wants to come to Yellowknife to work. I am sure they could find work in their home town. Now, the game officers should be recruited from the town where they will be working and this might help in the recruitment of native people, but as far as the Yellowknife Correctional Centre is concerned, if they recruit people from the other settlements they will not stay because they are away from home too much. Now, what Mr. Pearson was talking about, Frobisher Bay started off with 12 employees and still has ten which goes to prove that those people are all from Frobisher and possibly that is why there is no turnover of staff in that particular case whereas in Yellowknife you have a group of people who are hired for the Yellowknife Correctional Centre and are probably from out of town and will not stay. So, this goes to prove one thing that Frobisher Bay has no turnover of staff at all because the people probably come from Frobisher Bay.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Are you suggesting we put a new corrections institute in every community, every hamlet and every village in the Northwest Territories?

MR. FRASER: Not really, but this is probably why you do not get more recruits in Yellowknife.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I think that is basically the main problem of employment in the Northwest Territories. In the 20th century scheme of things people must have to be mobile for the jobs that are available and unfortunately the people of the Northwest Territories do not at this time appear to be prepared to do that and that is part of our main problem as far as I can see, as far as employment is concerned.

O And M - Activity 4043, Child Welfare Services

Activity 4043, child welfare services, in the amount of \$2,801,000. Mr. Minister, have you any comments you would like to make?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Not really unless someone wants to ask me some questions. I could briefly explain what we do in the child welfare area. This would cover children, orphans for instance or other children that come into our care and custody, usually by virtue of a court order. It can either be by way of temporary wardship where the child is taken away from its parents or other guardian for a period of a maximum of one year, which can be renewed up to three years, or some are permanent wards where the children are permanently taken away from their parents or other guardians. We have throughout the Northwest Territories a number of group homes operated under contract for us and these would generally keep anywhere from three to seven children. Wherever possible we like to put children out into foster homes and where children, especially young babies, when they become permanent wards for one reason or another, maybe because they are orphans, we like to get them adopted.

Generally we have been very successful in the adoption of babies and very young children. Sometimes a little bit of difficulty arises when the children are a little bit older. We have receiving homes which are generally very short term holding facilities and children are put there until some other facility can be found for them, until they can be adopted or put out to a foster home or until they can go into group homes. These are operated in Fort Smith, Hay River, Yellowknife, Inuvik and I think, Frobisher Bay.

We also operate the Fort Smith centre which has a capacity, I believe, of around 15. These are generally for juvenile offenders who come our way who we are unable to properly look after in their home communities and these people are sent to Fort Smith where we have proper facilities for looking after the more difficult juvenile offenders.

Also in this vote certain funds are included for special services rendered outside of the territories in respect to children in our care and custody. We do not in the territories, for instance, have the capability of properly looking after mentally retarded children or not too many of them. Occasionally somebody might be able to act as a foster parent for somebody but if they require real serious treatment, we have to send them outside to get that.

O And M - Activity 4043, Child Welfare Services, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4043, agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 4044, Medical Social Services And Special Care

Activity 4044, medical social services and special care, \$1,455,000. This is on page 9.08. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: There is an increase of about \$300,000. What specifically is that increase for?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am very sorry. I had trouble finding that in my book.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The question is the present vote is for \$1,455,000 and last year's vote was for \$1,133,000. There is roughly a \$300,000 increase. How is this increase arrived at?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Where it says medical social services and special care, most of this is just for transportation. It is almost entirely all for transportation and the increase is because of the increased transportation costs mainly. That is the main reason and also because of a small increase in the number of people availing themselves of these services. That would account for the fairly substantial increase.

You will note that it is not written down here, but in fact the costs for the 1976-77 fiscal year, the actual costs are possibly \$300,000 more than what was approved in last years budget so what we are doing is we are proposing for 1977-78 the actual amount that will have been spent in 1976-77. We underestimated it last year and we would hope to be a little bit closer to reality this year.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Under this particular section are geriatric type services funded and, if so, in what manner is this particular function handled?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON; Yes, included in this vote under the professional and special services are amounts in respect to chronic care for the aged and other chronic care such as the purchase of services at Chesterfield Inlet hospital and the costs for keeping people in St. Anne's hospital in Fort Smith. These costs, as indeed nearly all medical costs, are escalating very rapidly. What has

happened is in the past these people were generally taken care of by the church or by church run institutions. The sisters and people who operated these, of course, worked for a pittance. They did not get any money. They did it just because they considered that was their life and they wanted to do these things. People are not going into that field any more, so the cost is rising very, very substantially. Instead of somebody working 12 or 15 hours a day for practically nothing, just for their room and board and keep, now we have to pay people the going rate to work an eight hour shift. There has been a many fold increase in the cost for this type of service. I think at this point it might be in order to officially or publicly thank all the people who have in the past been engaged in rendering this type of service and those who are still rendering that type of service. They have done a fantastic job in the Northwest Territories over many years and for a long, long time they were the only people who were providing this type of care.

---Applause

0 And M - Activity 4044, Medical Social Services And Special Care, Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4044, agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 4045, Alcohol And Drug Program

Activity 4045, alcohol and drug program in the amount of \$941,000. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just to say that as a result of -- on behalf of my constituents I thank the Minister for the keen attention he paid to the requests from people in my constituency who are attempting to work out programs in this area. I know that he acted with much initiative and very quickly to assist people who brought to him requests for support and encouragement. I think that his visit was most timely and I feel that the results of his visit will prove to be very rewarding in the months ahead. On behalf of my constituents having concerns in this area, I extend my thanks.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4045. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: On the subject of the alcohol and drug program I would like to know whether the Minister feels satisfied or as satisfied as one could expect with the programs that are currently in force or in use throughout the Northwest Territories. The people of Frobisher Bay solved their liquor problem, initially anyway, dramatically by closing the liquor store and the improvement in the community has been dramatic. I see that we have voted again a lot of money, as we have perhaps not enough, but over the years to programs of one sort and another and each time I come to visit the capital of the Northwest Territories, I am appalled at the sights of drunken people I see hanging around the Yellowknife Inn. There seems to have been absolutely no improvement in all the years I have been coming here. This past summer I again saw drunks lying all over the place. At least in the winter they do not fall asleep in the middle of the road, at least, I have not seen them do that. I did in the summer and I wonder just how effective this whole thing has really been. The alcohol information centres, I wonder just what use they serve. I think the only information one can get from them is the hours the liquor store is open. I just wonder about this so-called program and I wonder if Hon. Dave Nickerson has any exciting ideas or views on it.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: No, I am not satisfied. I do not think anybody is satisfied. Alcohol abuse is still a fantastic problem in the Northwest Territories. I would not go so far as to say the money we have spent has been to no effect. I think it has. I personally know a number of people who I would have considered hopeless alcoholics we have in Yellowknife who have been rehabilitated. I do not know how long they are going to stay on the wagon, but these people are now productive, self-sufficient members of society, so obviously some good effect has been had. I think similar things can be said for other settlements. Maybe the work of organizations such as the alcohol information centres may be pretty hard to pin down what good they really do. Maybe it might have been that the initiative taken by the people of Frobisher Bay to restrict the sale of liquor in that community came about in part through the alcohol information services funded by this government. These things are very, very hard to assess. I would say no, I am not satisfied and I do not think anybody else is satisfied but I think that the organizations that we are funding are doing a reasonable job and doing their very best and are having a modicum of success.

Allocation Per Settlement

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. I am wondering whether I should have a breakdown of the allocation per settlement under this item.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I can not give you the breakdown of where the \$800,000 is to be spent this year because it has not been decided yet. These are funds we are voting to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council and they will allocate them on a basis the best way they see fit depending on what kind of applications they have.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Fine, could I have last years? I do not want it right now.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I can have it copied and circulated.

MR. PEARSON: Further to my comments, just last week, the alcohol and drug abuse advisory committee, or whatever they are called, went to the Eastern Arctic for a visit and discussions with people over there. They had a meeting in Frobisher to which people from outlying communities came into the community to discuss their problems with them. It was all done by aircraft. I sensed when we were discussing the matter with the members of this committee that the thing was not really very well set up. Very few people knew of the committee's intention to go over there. Some members of the committee I think are a little disillusioned as to the effect they are having. One of them was amazed at the lack of understanding of a lot of people that he met as to the availability of federal grants and programs, money available in all kinds of strange areas that communities could have access to if they were only aware of the programs that exist, federal health programs and things of this sort.

I can see the need for a committee and I can see the need for the committee to travel around but I just wonder if the money would not be better spent informing communities of the kind of grants and things that are available to them so they could take full advantage of all sources of revenue.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Do you have any reply, Mr. Minister?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is why we fund alcohol information services, Mr. Chairman. In the last breath I was sharply criticized for doing that and now I am told I should spend the entire \$800,000 for that particular service.

What we do do is fund private groups in various communities and part of what they do is to find this information, where they can get other funding from, and they disseminate that information. Also we have on staff somebody part of whose job it is to make this information available. Perhaps if Mr. Pearson is not satisfied that this information is not being employed enough or disseminated he would write either to me a letter or the alcohol and drug man a letter explaining which areas are not well served and we can make sure that we get into those areas and tell the people there from whence these funds are available.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4045. Mr. Lafferty.

Committee On Alcohol Problems

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question of the Minister as to the committee that had been set up at Rankin Inlet to look into the matter of problems relating to alcohol abuse. Have there been any meetings of that committee or has there been any input into your department, Mr. Minister?

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am sorry, but I missed some of the parts of that question. I wonder if it would be possible for the questioner to repeat it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Could you repeat that, Mr. Lafferty?

MR. LAFFERTY: There was a committee set up or formed, I should say, by the 60th session over in Rankin Inlet which was to look into the matter of problems arising from the use of alcohol and I am wondering if this committee has met yet, or if they have had any input into some of your undertakings?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, I think that Mr. Lafferty might know more about that than myself. I am not a member of that committee and I understand Mr. Lafferty is, but it is my information that this committee of this Assembly has not yet met. I do not think they have gone as far as electing a chairman. One of the reasons I did not join the committee in the first place was that I was, what is the word, sceptical as to what good they might be able to do. I hope that they would see fit to meet, elect a chairman and make some recommendations and I would be very pleased to look very closely into any recommendations that they might pass along to me. However, I am afraid I have no control over them, I am not even a Member, so those of you who are Members, perhaps you should pull your bootstraps up a little bit.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, all I was trying to get at was that I know, as a committee Member, I am not informed of whatever action may have been taken. I do not think there was a committee meeting held and I think that was the purpose of it, as Hon. Dave Nickerson indicated, to have some input into his department. I suggest very strongly that this committee, and I do not recollect all the Members of it -- I was looking in the manual and have not found it and I am sure it is in there somewhere, but we should get together perhaps during this session and assist the Minister as much as possible.

Alcohol Abuse Program

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister a question. I understand that the federal government have an alcohol abuse program that is now in effect and what working relationships does the territorial government have with them or do they work with them at all?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We work very closely with them, Mr. Chairman. We provide very much the administrative support for this organization. I have had several conversations with the chairman of the co-ordinating committee and have spoken to other members of that committee. We like to leave it fairly autonomous in that we do not pretend to tell them how to do their job. We like to give them all the assistance of which we are capable but we do not tell the chairman of the co-ordinating committee to whom he is to give grants. We leave that up to his discretion.

MR. FRASER: These grants that are available, must the different communities apply for them or will there be somebody in there to direct them as to what type of program they want to go into, or is that left up to the committee too?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The normal way that applications have come to the committee in the past is that a group of citizens have got together and decided that they want to do something about the alcohol program in a particular community. If they are fairly sophisticated people and know how to make financial proposals and all this type of thing they will probably go directly to the co-ordinating council themselves. What generally happens in the smaller communities is that they will get together with the local social worker and possibly other members of our staff and we will help them in drawing up an application. They might ask us "Well, what kind of facilities do we need in this particular settlement, what do you think would be most effective?" and we can tell them what our ideal is. They may accept that or may reject it, but we have financial people on our staff who can help them in drawing up a budget and very often these people underestimate the kind of administrative costs that they are always involved with. We can put them on the right track and say "Look, you will probably need \$2000 for this, you probably need another \$5000 for this" and that is the kind of assistance we give them. Then, they themselves take this to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council which meets, I think it is every three months and, as Mr. Pearson said, he met a week or two ago with them in Frobisher Bay.

Community Programs In Effect

MR. FRASER: I am talking now, Mr. Chairman, about the smaller communities. I just wonder if the Minister could provide me with the information as to how many of these programs he has going now in the smaller communities and how many of them are effective?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I have a list here, it is a fairly extensive list and at your suggestion I had agreed to have it copied and circulated. I will flip very quickly through it and mention some of the settlements where these programs are in effect. One is Igloolik, Resolute Bay, Pangnirtung, Peel River, Tuktoyaktuk, Fort Good Hope, Coppermine, Grise Fiord, Yellowknife and there are several programs under way in Yellowknife, Fort Smith, and that is the list I have here, the 1976 list. Most of these programs will be ongoing programs in that they will continue to exist during 1977 and there will probably be quite a few added.

MR. FRASER: What type of program have you presently got going on in Fort Good Hope?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: If you will just give me a few moments to find Fort Good Hope on the list. At Fort Good Hope they are operating a "back to the land" program which is designed to take people with drinking problems out of Fort Good Hope and put them in a bush camp type of environment where they can get away from booze for a while and the idea is that they will not get back into it when they go back into town. Part of the plan they have going in Fort Good Hope is that while they are in this bush camp environment a certain amount of counselling is provided and counselling is also provided in addition to this when they do go back to town.

MR. FRASER: If the communities decided that this was a good thing and they wanted the same type of treatment that Fort Good Hope got, would the funds be available for this type of a program for other communities, the smaller communities?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Well, if this particular vote is successful a total amount of \$800,000 will be allocated to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. They also act on behalf of the federal government and have an additional \$250,000 from that funding source which they also administer and so you will see that the total moneys available are a little over one million dollars. Obviously if other communities submit an application there is a fairly substantial fund available and it will depend upon the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council whether or not any one particular applicant is successful.

MR. FRASER: Let me ask you another question. Could I get a list of the different programs you have going for alcohol abuse? If the other Members are interested and at a later time could I get a copy of the existing programs you have now, that you have going so I could have something to go on?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, I just promised that a matter of five or ten minutes ago when the chairman asked me the same and you can expect maybe within half an hour to have a copy of the list of your desk.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Misuse Of Funds

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to add to some of Mr. Pearson's words. Some time ago there was a meeting held with representatives from different settlements at Frobisher Bay and it was very disorganized and it looked like they were just using up the funds. They met for three hours and some of the representatives had to stay in Frobisher for a whole week. Some of them never said anything, never presented their views, even if they had a lot of ideas about alcohol problems and if there is another meeting concerning alcohol, it has to be better organized because it was just like they were using money when they had that meeting in Frobisher, not long ago.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am very sorry to hear that that happened. At other meetings of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council it is my information that they acted in a pretty businesslike manner. The list of people of that council, and I will not read out the names of the people that we have except for Mr. Murray Sigler who was chairman, who is a fairly businesslike person, we had representatives from the Indian Brotherhood, the Metis Association, from COPE, from the Northwest Territories Youth Council, an anonymous representative from Alcoholics Anonymous, the Northwest Territories Hotel Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the RCMP, the Liquor Licensing Board, Northern Health Services, the Chief Magistrate's office, the Department of Health and Welfare and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

So, you would expect that most of these people would be fairly businesslike and I am surprised to hear that they have not been that way. The next time I see the chairman I will certainly bring this to his attention. I know of a number of committees comprised of local people of the Northwest Territories in which there is a fair amount of representation from the kind of people that we want to get involved. When this happens, it often happens that the degree of sophistication in business activity or in operating a committee in parliamentary type procedure is probably not what it is in this House and is not of the same standard as it might be, say, with the Yellowknife city council, but the only alternative is just to hire professionals and we do not want to do that. So, this Assembly has said in the past that they want as many local people, people living in the settlements involved in these types of decisions, involved with the various committees and if we do that then we have to expect that some of these people do not have the experience in business administration and parliamentary procedure, so we have to put up with possibly a little lower standard of professional activity than in the business and parliamentary fields.

0 And M - Activity 4045, Alcohol And Drug Program, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4045 in the amount of \$941,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 4046, Social Assistance

On page 9.09, Social Development, operations and maintenance, activity 4046, social assistance, in the amount of \$5,541,000. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, at the close of yesterdays debate this matter was very thoroughly discussed at that point and I just wish to add one more comment on that with regard to a supplementary pension allowance. The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, our Speaker, has an excellent way of capsulizing the problem and putting it before the Assembly and I would just wish to read what he said then. He says that here is what he is going to do, which is to scrutinize those who are eligible for social assistance and make sure that only those who need it get it. There may be some way that enough money can be saved so that our elderly can be assisted, people who are truly in need and further on he says, "I would be interested therefore in a survey being done to determine just how many elderly people we have and a determination therefore of what it would actually cost to pay a decent pension supplement."

A Motion Re Territorial Pensions

Just so that Members do not feel that this is the first time this matter has been raised in the House I would point to a motion that was put forward in Frobisher Bay on Friday the 13th, 1972, moved by myself and seconded by the Member from the Eastern Arctic at that time: "Now therefore, I move that the Commissioner instruct his administration to prepare for Council's examination during the 48th session, totals of all Northwest Territories residents currently receiving (a) old age pensions, (b) disability pensions and (c) are recipients of other federal pension service, together with a projection of the cost to the Northwest Territories' treasury of providing all such pensioners, a territorial supplemental allowance of \$50 monthly until such time as the federal authorities recognize and equalize the present disparity between the purchasing power enjoyed by pensioners in the provinces and in the territories."

As I said, that was on Friday the 13th, 1972. The motion was amended and much improved by Hon. David Searle at that time. He suggested this, which would make the motion just as current today as it was then. He said, "I would like to suggest that after the words, 'providing all such pensioners' the word, where it begins, 'a territorial supplemental amount' instead say 'an appropriate'. In other words take out the word 'a' and insert the words 'in lieu thereof' then carry on 'territorial supplemental allowance', and then strike the words 'of \$50 monthly,'" which very, very much improved that motion.

The administration laboured on that and in fact in the Edmonton Journal in 1973 there was this news story: "Elderly in Northwest Territories to receive subsidy" so things were going ahead famously and it then all got shot out of the sky. I am just trying to point out that this matter that we discussed the other day was not then before this House for the first time, this is the second go around and we do not want to lose it again because you are not suffering but the elderly are and when it was first brought to the attention of the public five years ago and many people have died since then, many people who could have enjoyed and benefited from that little bit of extra income. Let us not forget we have been over this ground once before. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 4046? Mr. Fraser.

The STEP Program

MR. FRASER: At one of our meetings last fall social assistance came up with a program called STEP, Subsidized Term Employment Program, and I just wonder how that program is doing. That comes under social assistance I believe. Are they having any success with it or is it on the rocks? I have not heard too much about it in the communities.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, the STEP program is proving pretty successful. In fact it is one of the most successful programs that we ever operated in this regard. We had allocated the sum of about \$1 million which we took out of the \$5 million allotment for social services, for social assistance last year. It has been very successful. A large number of territorial residents have been employed under this program. I have the figures here. In the Mackenzie it was 222, in the Keewatin 64 and in Baffin 42 and in the Inuvik region 67. Practically all of the one million dollars have been allotted to various programs. I have been around a number of communities and talked with the people who have been working under this program and they seem fairly well satisfied with it. I would say that it has been a really successful program. We have learned from it in a few areas where it could be improved. Most of the areas where it could be improved would require additional funding. We have had some problems with the rather strict eligibility requirements we have had to impose but we did this because of the fact that we did not want to run short of money and we had to make sure that for each dollar we gave out in STEP there would be a corresponding 85 cent reduction in the cost of normal social assistance payments.

The Proposed LEP Program

What we intend to do now is to continue with a STEP-like program. It will not be called STEP. I think the idea is to call it LEP. It will come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Economic Development and funds will be voted for it when we get to the Economic Development budget. It makes in many ways much more sense to put it in the budget of the proper department rather than Social Development because it is an economic program. I am personally very pleased with the way it has turned out. It has turned out a lot better than I originally thought it would and I think that Hon. Peter Ernerk and the staff of both Social Development and Economic Development departments should have most of the credit for doing this. It was something that was in effect when I came in so I can not take any credit for it. I hope that this type of program will continue in the future. We realize that to a certain extent it is kind of a make-work scheme but I guess make work is better than no work at all. We would hope that some of the people who are being employed under STEP, I think the employer, say the municipality, sees these people working there and figures "That guy I have seen lying around the streets for five years and he is now doing a pretty good job. Maybe I should hire him on a permanent basis." I think there is a lot of that happening so the Government of the Northwest Territories takes the view that we should continue and expand this program.

MR. FRASER: Is the program funded by the federal government?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: No, Mr. Chairman, this program is funded entirely by the territorial government. It is not completely dissimilar from similar programs such as Local Initiative Program and Canada Works and other things funded by the federal government.

MR. PEARSON: I pass on this, Mr. Chairman.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I was only going to support the comments of the Honourable Minister of Social Development. I am very, very satisfied also with the program STEP, Subsidized Term Employment Program. We have received very good response from the communities throughout the Northwest Territories. The only thing I found at that time when it was first introduced was that there was not enough money. However, we are going to continue with it again this year and when we get to the Department of Economic Development we will also discuss the STEP program which will consist of a fair amount of money. I thought I would pass this over to you for your information at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

Better Value For Your Money

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, while both Ministers are patting themselves on the back and while one Minister is transferring over a policy to the other Minister I would like to say this, that the Minister of Social Development in passing a program over to Economic Development, I would like consideration really to be taken for the program in the sense that it is all fine and dandy to be able to go out and chop brush along the highway. The only problem, of course, being that the brush eventually grows back and at the same time I believe strongly that perhaps if we had taken some of this money, as an example, in some of the communities, to build basements for houses, to be able to put some of these houses onto basements, it would be to me a far better value for your money, not only towards the community we are giving this to, but as well to the people and the fact they could stand back and appreciate what they had actually constructed.

The other point is in the communities to me I would rather see them doing something more constructive than to chop brush. I only hope that this point could be taken back to your next executive meeting or two executive meetings if need be to be discussed thoroughly working towards that kind of an idea.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, that would be my idea too. I do not like to see too many of these schemes go into effect where people are not really doing anything that is useful. For optimum utilization of the labour force in doing something which is as valuable as possible. I think that in the case of Rae that the clearing of the seven mile road into Rae was a pretty worth-while program. The brush along that road was about 30 feet high in places so I would not say that was a complete waste of time.

Projects Funded By STEP

You must realize, Mr. Chairman, that the projects that we have funded under STEP came from the local communities, it was the hamlet, the hamlet council, the band council, the housing association or some other local organization that made the application and the suggestion as to what should be done. I think one of the difficulties with the STEP program was that we announced it all at once, in fact it was through Mr. Mullins who managed to scrape around and find a few dollars here and a few dollars there and put this thing together, and it was done very quickly. I do not make any real apologies for that, it was necessary under the circumstances, and it was only, you know, a few days in fact before we announced the program that we were sure that we would be able to get enough money to fund it.

Maybe in future it will be much better if we can advise various communities that these funds will be available at such and such a time at a later date, so that they can do some initial planning and maybe raise other funds from other sources, because if you are building basements, you have to pay for the cement for instance and, under STEP we were unable, because of lack of funds, unable to provide that much money for the purchase of materials. So, it may be that it could be funded in another way, the community could get the money for buying cement in the future, under the LEP program and they would be able to get them later to do these jobs but obviously for something like that they would require much more advance warning and we look forward in the future to funding more projects of the type mentioned by Mr. Whitford rather than more of the make-work type schemes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: I understood that it was brought into effect quickly and I am not knocking that, I am happy that we are working out there, but the thing I was concerned about is that in fact for the future, in other words, next summer, that this program be planned so that it would be a far better thing for the community.

My last point is with the brushing of that highway, perhaps it is good we have got prohibition and we can give fair play to both sides, the RCMP and the ones concerned.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We have considered the advisability of going around all the roads in the Northwest Territories and spreading fertilizer along the sides so the stuff would grow faster and so we would have more work in cutting it down again.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): You might be able to find that commodity in this chamber.

---Laughter

O And M - Activity 4046, Social Assistance

Activity 4046, is it agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 4047, Community Social Services, Agreed

Activity 4047, I believe with the additions you made Mr. Minister that there should be some changes in the total. Would you please confirm that activity 4047, community social services should now read "To encourage the development of a broad range of local social services" and the amount should be the amount of \$497,000 and what are the other services you are putting in there?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The other sum of money is \$25,000 which will be a contribution to the Northwest Territories branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association. The total will therefore become \$497,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Would Members please correct their books to read \$497,000 instead of \$472,000. With that correction under operations and maintenance, Social Development, activity 4047 on page 9.09, is it agreed?

---Agreed

Grants And Contributions - Activity 4047, Community Social Services

Gentlemen, I then direct your attention to page 9.15. This is just a recap of grants to show you the breakdown of grants. This money has already been voted. Excuse me, there is a correction on activity 4047 and it shall now read "contributions for the operations of day care centres and mental health services" in the amount of \$497,000. This concludes the Social Development section and I think on your behalf I should congratulate our new Minister on his full knowledge of his department and his presentation. At certain times there was an amount of "Nickersonism" being displayed but I think the job is very well done.

---Applause

Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: I am sorry if I misunderstood you here but this morning as you recall I was talking about the Correctional Centre in Yellowknife and the concern that was being expressed by myself was simply the fact that the native employment was down and the Minister had replied that if there was any way in which some of the remedies could have been made to correct this kind of a situation, and I thought we would be talking about it under page 9.12, but obviously I made a mistake. So, I want to discuss it a little further.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Proceed.

Yellowknife Correctional Centre Personnel

MR. WHITFORD: The concern that I have in regard to native employment, to the Correctional Centre I believe is with management. Now, perhaps there is a change because of the new superintendent but I wanted the Minister if at all possible to seriously look into it to find out where the problem really exists. I would think that perhaps, if it is at all possible, the Minister could get back to some of the native people who have been employed in the Correctional Centre in Yellowknife and find out why they no longer work in the Correctional Centre. I think it is a very important issue, basically because the fact that government is continuously saying they are going to employ native people in various departments. That is one department I am sure they could be going into, if in fact, they are doing as good a job in Frobisher Bay.

The other point I raised is that it seems that with all the people that have worked there, other than the minor supervisory roles, we have no natives that have ever been the deputy in charge of the Correctional Centre in Yellowknife, such as in the case of Frobisher Bay. So, these are some of the things that concern me and some of my constituents. I want to again repeat myself, to ask the Minister if he can seriously look into this and report back to this Assembly some time within the time of this session.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is a problem which concerns myself as I said before. I would very much like the proportion of northerners working at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre to be increased. The new chief of corrections, Mr. Britton, would very much like to see it increased but he has only been in his position for a few weeks. I know that this is one of his areas of concern and something to which he is devoting a lot of time. At present we are in the process of hiring a new superintendent for the Yellowknife Correctional Centre and we have not decided as yet who that will be. We have not had any applications to my knowledge from native northerners. So, unless things change radically overnight, we will not be hiring a native northerner as a new superintendent.

I personally talked to a number of people who were previously employed at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, employed there, native northerners and they have told me why they quit. Usually it was in kind of generalities, they did not like the type of work they were doing, they did not like to boss around, as they described it, their own people, this type of thing and all I can do now is promise you that we will be giving this matter very serious attention. If Mr. Whitford or anyone else can come up with some specific suggestions as to what we might do, maybe Mr. Whitford has some of his constituents who would like to work there, who are reasonably qualified for the job and would like to work there. If he could forward a list of names, with a bit of a background on each of these individuals, we will certainly look very closely at it. What I will do now, I do not think I can promise you any significant improvement during the next three weeks or so we are in session here, but I will talk with the chief of corrections on this subject, come up and file with this committee a list of our ideas and how we can attempt to get at the root of this problem and hopefully, at the next session of the Legislative Assembly, I will be able to report some concrete improvement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Whitford.

An Independent Committee

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I would have preferred the Minister to have struck up a little committee to investigate the seriousness of this problem and then report back to the Assembly at the next session, that would be fine with me, but it would have been -- I suppose what I am getting at is an independent, not an administrative committee but an independent committee.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not at this present point in time want to do that, in fact for some reason or other I do not really like all these various committees like the alcohol committee which comprises 13 members who have never met. I think we have hired a very competent person in Mr. Britton to act as our chief of corrections and I would rather solicit from him his ideas. He will indeed talk with a lot of other people, knowledgeable people before he comes up with his suggestions and if the Honourable Member for Great Slave Lake thinks that an independent committee should be set up, probably containing some Members of this House and probably -- I do not know what he has in mind, but possibly some other people, I think it would be his responsibility to move now by way of motion that such a committee be formed and if this House, or if this committee wanted our expert people in corrections, either to be members of that committee or to act in an advisory capacity I would be more than pleased to see that this is done.

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

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, I think what Mr. Whitford would accept is that if Hon. Dave Nickerson would give him a personal undertaking that he would go and have a look at the situation and perhaps review the matter, that would satisfy Mr. Whitford. What is bothering him is that he is aware that over the years that there have been a number of native people working at

the Correctional Centre, not the camp, but they do not seem to stay, nor do they seem to progress and really he is not complaining about it, and he is not blaming anybody but he just wonders what the reason is and I think that if the Minister would look into it himself he would be quite happy with that.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I have already given that undertaking.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Does that satisfy you since the Minister has given you his undertaking?

MR. WHITFORD: Yes.

Probation Officers

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Whiford's request reminds me of a matter that was unfinished from my point of view and that is relating to probation officers. It was our discussion as to the use or not of probation officers or as professionals working outside of the present situation where the welfare officer acts in his role; it was discussed and referred to the justice and corrections advisory committee. That committee was to report back on this matter and I would be interested in getting that report and hearing just what was decided and possibly too, that committee may have looked at the concern raised by my colleague and I also have suggestions on how to encourage more native people to seek employment in the correctional services.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Butters, my apologies to you. I knew there was another item that had to be finished and I could not recall it. Mr. Minister.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is one of the reasons why I do not like setting up committees. Indeed, as Mr. Butters said, the justice and corrections advisory committee which was set up pursuant to the Corrections Ordinance was to study this matter and was to have submitted a report. I am advised by the chairman of this committee that this has not been done yet but will be done shortly.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): As I understand the next order of business, it will be the main estimates of Local Government.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry. I assumed we were doing Social Development and health.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): My error, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. Where, pray tell, have you hidden health?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Page 14.01.

Social Development, Health, Program Memorandum

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The next order of business is Social Development, health, main estimates found on page 14.01, capital expenditures in the amount of \$6,290,000, operating expenditures \$19,853,000 for a total budget for 1977-78 of \$26,143,000. Comments of a general nature? Mr. Minister, have you any comments to start the ball rolling.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: One of the reasons for the increase there is the construction program that is going on. During this year, we expect to start work on the Fort Smith hospital, the Fort Smith health centre. It will be a little more than a hospital. This has a total cost of approximately \$5.5 million. Also this year we will start work, hopefully some time toward the end of the summer, on a new addition to the Stanton Yellowknife hospital. The total cost of this is expected to be approximately \$9 million spread out over two or three years. We hope to make the Stanton Yellowknife hospital the regional hospital for the Mackenzie area. Other increases in costs due mainly to inflation factors, health care costs escalating fairly rapidly. Doctors' fees are not coming down, hospital costs are not coming down at all. It tends to be one of these areas where we get stuck with the bill and there is very little we can do about it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, may I ask one question? Is Fort Smith a regional hospital?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Not as such, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): What town other than Fort Smith will this hospital accommodate?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The hospital in Fort Smith will be designed for Fort Smith and it will have approximately ten chronic care beds in that hospital and these may be used for people from outside of Fort Smith. At present there are people

from Yellowknife and various other western Northwest Territories areas in the old St. Anne's hospital and some of these will undoubtedly move over to the new facility, but basically the Fort Smith health centre is designed strictly for Fort Smith.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any comments of a general nature? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Has the health report been filed, the annual health report?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The annual health report provided by medical services comes from Dr. Covill and is usually filed at the summer session of the Legislature.

MR. PEARSON: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Comments of a general nature? Hon. David Searle.

Hospital Program For Yellowknife

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, we were talking about the hospital program for Hay River, Yellowknife, and Fort Smith and I would like to ask some questions about the hospital program for Yellowknife under activity 9096. I wonder whether I should wait until we get there or should I cover it with some general comment?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Comments of a general nature you may make now.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering, \$9 million is shown as the total estimates, \$2.5 million of which would be spent this fiscal year. Am I to assume that the balance of \$6.5 million is to be spent in subsequent years and, if so, over what kind of a time frame?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: That is correct, the balance will be spent spread over subsequent years. As I said before, it will probably be about a three year program. Construction will start this year and go through 1978 and probably be completed in 1979. By that time we will probably be planning another expansion.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: What might the description of what is proposed to be done with the \$9 million be?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: There will be an addition of 78 new beds of which 30 will be chronic care beds and 15 will be psychiatric care beds. We expect to increase psychiatric care in the Northwest Territories. This is being done at the request of this Legislature. I remember, for instance, Hon. David Searle bringing this to our attention very forcefully when we were at Brabant Lodge that we had to increase psychiatric care in the Northwest Territories. At present we have no facilities for this type of care here and all the people have to be sent outside. We do not like doing this. One of the reasons we do not like sending people outside is because it is expensive. We can save money by treating people in the Northwest Territories closer to their homes and the money that is spent is spent in the Northwest Territories and recirculates in the territories rather than being extracted out of the territories.

Special Service Facilities

We hope to put in special service facilities in addition, to the Stanton Yellowknife hospital, special facilities which would go with a regional hospital. For instance, laboratory facilities. We would hope that there we could do a lot of the testing on behalf of other hospitals in the Northwest Territories rather than having them send specimens out to Edmonton so we are trying to make it a regional laboratory centre.

We hope to make it into a training hospital of sorts. We have heard earlier

in the Commissioner's Opening Address that we hope to have a residency program established at the Stanton Yellowknife hospital where we can actually get into the training of specialists. We have on hand approximately one-half million dollars which is part of the health resources fund established by the federal government specifically in regard to capital costs associated with hospital construction in areas of training so we expect to put another one-half million dollars in ourselves. Approximately \$1 million of the \$9 million will be specifically for training facilities within the Stanton Yellowknife hospital so that there will be lecture rooms, teaching laboratories, library, offices for education department personnel associated with the hospital. We hope there that we will be able to train certified nursing aides and that we will be able to train rehabilitation aides there and eventually we hope that we would be able to train registered nurses at the Stanton Yellowknife hospital. This would be a few years probably down the road.

At the same time, we hope to provide in the new facilities there, accommodation for community health workers. This is what is happening at Fort Smith. Previously the hospital would just be acute care and I think probably a fair criticism was that within the past we put too much emphasis on acute care.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: True.

Integration Of All Health Services

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We did not allocate enough resources for chronic care and we did not allocate enough resources for public health and community health. We would hope that we are rearranging things now so that at the new Yellowknife hospital, as indeed at the Fort Smith hospital, we will be able to integrate all these health services.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I am wondering if this very extensive program as outlined by Hon. Dave Nickerson has had approval obtained under the territorial hospital board.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The answer to that, Mr. Chairman, is yes.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: The final question I have is whether the present society which runs the hospital would continue as it presently exists? I would like Hon. Dave Nickerson to explain this. The hospital currently sits on city land and is owned by the City of Yellowknife. The city has a management agreement with the society and the society is incorporated under the Societies Ordinance and it is in effect a private hospital. If this is going to become a regional facility, presumably with a lot of regional responsibilities, I am not suggesting it should take place, but I am wondering if the society would then continue to manage this facility as a city facility even though it has this regional concept.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, the city is well aware of what is happening at the Stanton Yellowknife hospital.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls the committee to order. Mr. Minister, I think you were seeking an answer to a question and would you like to proceed at this time?

Pensioners And Social Assistance In The Yukon

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Before we get back to health we now have the information required by Mr. Butters on what the situation is in the Yukon regarding old age pensioners and social assistance. This is now being circulated. A change has been made in the Yukon as of October 1st. Previous to that date a flat rate addition to the old age pension was given in the Yukon amounting to \$25 for a single old age pensioner and \$45 for a couple. They managed to sneak this past the Canada Assistance Plan people for a number of years but eventually got found out. So, on October 1st, they had to change that and they now, do the same as we do, impose a means test or a need test so that they can cost-share the scheme the same as we do.

The system that they have in the Yukon is now very, very similar to the one we have in effect in the Northwest Territories. Whereas we give a \$60 a month allowance, and I put "allowance" in brackets there, because as I explained before it is on one part of the audit we do when we determine need we give a \$60 allowance per family unit and the Yukon gives a \$32 allowance per person. So, for a couple, a married couple, two old age pensioners living together in the Northwest Territories the amount would be \$60 and in the Yukon it would be \$64.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Butters, have you any comments or any other questions?

MR. BUTTERS: The Minister's last statement in part replied to my question which was to see a comparison. There is certainly no comparison on the sheet and while I understand what he means I do not accept this as a complete answer to my question. I wonder if the actual figures, a comparison using the actual figures could be put down so one could examine them?

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Because of the fact that each case must be considered on its own merits, the \$60 or \$32 in the Yukon are maximum amounts. If Mr. Butters could give us a set of criteria we could of course work out how much the person would be entitled to in the territories and in the Yukon, but it would depend, from person to person, depending on his needs, how much it costs him to live, what his utilities expenses were, which area he lived in in the Northwest Territories, as we have different rates for different areas. It would depend upon his other income, whether he had dividend or interest income and maybe if Mr. Butters could give us a set of particular circumstances of any one individual then we could compute what he would be entitled to in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

MR. BUTTERS: I welcome that opportunity but what I want to see is a comparison, because as I understand it the maximum entitlement to an old age pensioner in the Yukon is now more than being paid in the Northwest Territories under this assistance supplement that has been developed here. But I would like to see the comparison because I am convinced in my own mind that it is cheaper for an old age pensioner to live in Whitehorse than in Sachs Harbour or Paulatuk. Once I see those figures I can make up my own mind. I would point out on this means test, that I hope that for the couple or a pensioner who requires the \$60 welfare assistance that once application has been made that every month they would receive a cheque without having to go down to the social welfare office. I would hope that the application and the determination of need is made at one time only and after that time the cheque would come in the mail just as regularly as the cheque from the federal government.

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

Determining Need

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: That is the way we do it already for welfare recipients who have a continuing need. We do not go back to them every week and get them to fill in the same forms over and over again. They do get the cheques automatically and, as for Mr. Butters' first request, the comparison is there, it is on this piece of paper, it is \$32 as opposed to \$60 and he must appreciate the difficulty of us giving him a comparison because we do not know the exact circumstances of the person he has in mind.

Now, if he would like to contact Mr. Cowcill perhaps he would be able to get a much better answer from him because he would then be able to describe the particular circumstances he has in mind. It is a rather complicated process in determining need and determining the amount payable and I am afraid that if he wanted me to go into it in great detail and describe what would be payable to people in all kinds of circumstances, I would be here for the rest of the month.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, could you clarify a point for me? As I understand it the only people to date in this class who have received this supplement are residents of Fort Smith.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Not at all. This \$60 a month is territories-wide. What is going on in Fort Smith is the help that we give old age pensioners in Fort Smith with regard to their local taxes on property where they live. That is the only special benefit that is given to people in Fort Smith and not to the rest of the people in the Northwest Territories at the present time.

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

Commissioner's Interview With The Edmonton Journal

MR. BUTTERS: Just to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am dissatisfied with the reply that was made to my question. I realize there is some difficulty in providing figures because of the variables but I would say there would be the basic federal old age pension, the supplementary federal assistance and then the various allowances that a couple could get if there were no special circumstances. Just to read something, I mentioned that in 1972 this problem had been raised then and this is from the Edmonton Journal report for September 25th, 1973, and I will read part of it. "Commissioner Stuart Hodgson says the Northwest Territories' 1300 old age pensioners will probably receive a \$100 annual subsidy from the territorial government by November. Mr. Hodgson, in an interview Monday with the Edmonton Journal, said other persons on fixed incomes will also probably receive the subsidy." So, \$60 now and \$100 in 1973, probably.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I think this committee has made us well aware of the problems faced by old age pensioners and in a request by Hon. David Searle yesterday we have agreed to assemble facts and figures regarding the number of old age pensioners in the Northwest Territories and the cost to the government of providing them with supplementary pensions. We will do this, assemble these figures and present them to you again at the next session of the Legislature and then we will seek your direction as to what we should do. It has become apparent to me that it is probably the consensus of the Members that we should go out of our way to give these people some additional income and if that is the direction of the committee, after these facts and figures have been made available we will follow this up again.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. David Searle.

On The Basis Of Need

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I think that this document is a good start, but what I had in mind was, I think we should start out first with the federal pension benefits, a statement of exactly what they are. The figure that I last heard,

and it may have been increased, and then I would like an indication of not only what is done in the Yukon and what is done here, but as well what is done in other jurisdictions, for instance the provinces, what supplements are being paid in each of the provinces. Then I would like to know for instance whether there is a similar test. In other words, must a person in the Yukon and in the other provinces show that they have a need, must they pass a means test before they can get this supplement, and whether the means test in the other jurisdictions, if there are any, are more or less stringent in their requirements than ours are. My original thoughts have been that without going through a means test there is a good case in this territory for a supplement simply on the basis of the cost of living.

MR. BUTTERS: Agreed, hear, hear!

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Now, there may be an additional requirement on the basis of need as well but in other words I could see here, in this jurisdiction, if I may be permitted to extend this argument, let us assume the ordinary benefits received from the federal government was \$125 a month. I could see us giving another \$60 just on the basis of the cost of living and then maybe another \$40 or \$50 on the basis of need, but that is the kind of decision which could only be taken, I submit, after we have gone through the process of outlining the total package in the various jurisdictions and then considering the cost of living and other things. I am not criticizing the paper, it is a good start, but I would like to see something maybe just a little more complete covering all the jurisdictions so we have a total picture.

MR. BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Minister, would you undertake to do that?

Presentation Of A Paper

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: It would appear to me that a certain amount of direction has been given at this time. What I would prefer to do is assemble, as requested, all the various facts and figures on old age pensioners in the Northwest Territories and maybe present a paper to this House at the next session containing all that information, containing at the same time summaries of what is happening in other jurisdictions and maybe trying to come up with comparisons for people under specific sets of circumstances. Maybe at that time we could also present some recommendations to you as to what we would suppose would be the best way of dealing with this problem. There were two distinct requests, one made by the Hon. David Searle for us to look at this in a businesslike manner and come back to the House at the next session would be the way I would prefer to do it.

The second one was for some quick information regarding the Yukon which we have provided as best we could here. Unless people really want me to do it right now, and if you do, you stand the risk of probably getting some doubtful information, I would prefer to leave this whole matter until the next session of the Legislative Assembly.

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

MR. BUTTERS: I was rather entertained by the way the Minister presented that. He said "the businesslike approach by Hon. David Searle and quick information by Mr. Butters." I will remember that, Mr. Minister. I asked for quick information and apparently his department could not even supply that.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, we can not supply offhand all the information regarding the Yukon. They change theirs periodically and whenever a request comes in we have to check with them to see if that is the current up-to-date information. You know, we can provide material on the Northwest Territories readily but when it comes to other jurisdictions we have to go through the normal channels.

MR. BUTTERS: Use the telephone.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): We have made due note with regard to the request which will be reported when we report this bill out. I direct your attention back to page 14.01, Social Development, health, main estimates. General comments? Hon. Dave Nickerson was seeking an answer for Hon. David Searle. Would you answer that question at this time, please Hon. Dave Nickerson?

A Wider Degree Of Representation

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The first alternative that was stated was a contract with the present hospital society for management services. The second alternative is to set up a board of management under the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance. We have not decided yet what we would like to do and indeed we might not get our own way because we would obviously have to negotiate with other interested parties such as the hospital society and the City of Yellowknife when this does take place. If we did go the route of retaining the Stanton Yellowknife society as the management contractor we would probably encourage them to seek wider representation than they have at present because right now to the best of my knowledge all of their people or nearly all of them come from Yellowknife itself; whereas even now I think 47 per cent of the patients in the hospital come from places outside of Yellowknife so we would like to see a wider degree of representation.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: My friend Hon. Dave Nickerson is in approximately in the same position as Hon. Arnold McCallum re the regional high school except it is the reverse and presumably the formula that is worked out so that Yellowknife can have representation with respect to the regional high school might apply so that the areas outside of Yellowknife might have regional representation on the hospital board. One should not lose sight of the fact that the hospital and the society that has been formed are older than the municipality of Yellowknife. It goes back before then. It has, therefore, a wealth of experience and management knowledge on it. The only thing I would have to say is, and this is as a result of personal experience because I personally served on the board for some time myself, that the government hopefully would not leave, in whatever arrangement they come up with, they would not leave the talent and the expertise that has developed over the years to the trustees who have continually been on that board and have managed that facility through thick and thin. There are some very good people there who have served as volunteers.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any further comments, Hon. Dave Nickerson?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We certainly do not want to lose that expertise and even if we were to go to the THIS route I would sincerely hope that expertise would be retained.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: The only other comment that I think I should make, Mr. Chairman, is that the program as outlined to extend this to chronic care and to psychiatric care and to make it a training hospital is in my mind an excellent program which I support 100 per cent and always have. It is reflecting very much the views and the emphasis that I personally have expressed over the last 10 years.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Fraser.

A Hospital In Norman Wells

MR. FRASER: I have a couple of questions to the Minister. I was sitting back listening to them arguing about their hospital and I wonder how these additions to the hospitals are determined and who determines them. Fort Smith is getting a new hospital. I was in Fort Smith when that hospital was built and they talked more about costs to get the people to the hospital. We have right in the Mackenzie Valley four settlements within a hundred miles distance and some closer, 44 and 88. There is a hospital at Norman Wells which was built in 1941 which is 36 years ago and it is ready to fall down. I was just wondering if they had considered the making of a hospital for Norman Wells to supply the three communities or are they going to put in another nursing station in Norman Wells?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: At the present time, Mr. Chairman, I believe Health and Welfare Canada looks after health in the Norman Wells area, Norman Wells and the surrounding communities. It has not come to my attention that they plan any new hospital in that area. In fact they overexpanded the hospital in Inuvik because they, like many other people in the Northwest Territories, felt that the pipeline was going to go through and they wanted to be ready for it. At present a couple of wings at the Inuvik hospital are not being used, so I would suspect that they have no intention of building a new major hospital in Mr. Fraser's area at least until such time as the Inuvik hospital is being utilized to capacity.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, thank you. First of all I should really like to ask this question at the executive meeting or something like that, but since it is public knowledge or became public knowledge about a year ago when I was still responsible for the Department of Social Development and

health and I announced that the health study would be conducted in both the Eastern and Central Arctic finding out various facilities of health facilities, finding out various facilities for health and nursing stations and Manpower, etc. I wonder if we could get a short report from the Honourable Minister.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, indeed. That report is now in its final stage of completion. Most of the Eastern Arctic has been visited. We still want to go back to Frobisher and Churchill and talk again with the physicians in that area. Some of the report I am told has already been written out in longhand. We hope to be able to complete it very shortly and the deadline for submission to the Executive Committee is April 1st. If the document is approved then by the Executive Committee, it will be made available to the Legislature at the next session.

HON. PETER ERNERK: I am satisfied then, Mr. Chairman.

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

Inuvik Hospital Underutilized

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, as the Minister pointed out, the Inuvik Hospital is underutilized and I think the reason for that is that the expectation was on the basis of Mr. Jean Chretien's statement three years ago was that the Mackenzie Valley pipeline was in the national interest and that they had better be prepared for it. An interesting side light to that fact is that in this very room I think in November the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement which presented what was probably the finest presentation to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry said -- I can not quote it because I do not have it before me but they said that the present hospital was overutilized and that it was inadequate for the current needs so that I do not understand how they can say this under oath to the judge but this is what they said in their report.

However, what I wanted to get from the Minister was this, as he points out, the hospital there is underutilized and I am aware that there is beginning to grow in the Stanton hospital here, a number of specialists. You mentioned the other day an ear, nose and throat specialist and I understand there are more specialists being hired by Stanton hospital. I understand also the work load that is presently being carried out by them locally is insufficient to meet their professional abilities so I would hope that we are not seeing being formed here a territorial hospital in Yellowknife which will see the same problems arising that occurred when the major hospital of the North was Charles Camsell.

Hospital Services In The Delta

What I am concerned about is I do not wish to see people from the Delta coming to Yellowknife to be treated. At the present time, people from the Delta, although they have had some difficulty in getting dental treatment in the past six months, at the present time the people of the Delta are served by specialists from the University of Alberta, and they have been doing so for three or four years. I noticed a little while ago the Minister said he was negotiating with the University of Calgary and I hope nothing in these negotiations would upset or terminate the arrangements that presently exist which are presently very satisfactory.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Any comments, Mr. Minister.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: It is not our intention to put the Inuvik general hospital out of business. The region served most by the Stanton Yellowknife hospital will continue to be the southern Mackenzie area and it is expected that the Inuvik general hospital will continue to serve and continue to serve very well the Delta area.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I would hope that we are not in the process of developing a single major hospital for all the people of the Northwest Territories. There have been a lot of fears expressed in my constituency, by older people, because somehow they sense that there is pressure on them to leave the community, or for old age hospitals, or some sort of resident dwellings operated elsewhere. We have a number of people who are getting to the age of retirement, or older, and who seem to be quite healthy because of the better medical attention that has been experienced over the last 15 or 20 years, who today are incapable of working because of some health reason, but are not sick enough to be hospitalized and who are in need of some kind of care on a continuing basis, nursing care. I am wondering if the Department of Social Development is doing any type of studies as to provide resident homes which will employ the nursing and professional staff necessary in the communities in which these people are found, rather than transferring them from point A to point B.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Facilities In The Communities

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We are doing more than studying the problem, we are actually going ahead in conjunction with the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and building facilities. There are roughly three, or I should say there are three categories of care for old people, and of course, they grade one into the other. The first is the ordinary senior citizen who is very much able to look after himself, and what they really need is a kind of senior citizens' accommodation such as you might find in Yellowknife for instance where we provide accommodation for them and apart from that they are very much able to look after themselves.

The second of course is the type to which Mr. Lafferty was referring, that is, people who do not require continuous medical care but they need to be in a supervised environment, you have to have somebody there continuously and at present a number of people who are in chronic care institutes could be looked after that way. What we are doing is trying to negotiate with the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation so that when they put in a senior citizens' accommodation in some place they might divide it into two areas. The first would be the straight senior citizens' accommodation and the second part would be the old folks' home, that is, where we have someone on staff there continuously to look after these people and to see that they get their meals on time, see that they get their meals and to be generally available. We hope to be able to put

something into Fort Smith in the near future along those lines. We are having a little difficulty with the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation on that, as they do not seem to fully realize the need for this type of thing but we are trying to do everything possible to stress that need to them, and be prepared to build this type of facility.

In Aklavik this year we expect to replace the existing old folks' home there and be able to look after people from the Delta region and I think, although this year we might not be doing it, we have other areas where this type of facility is needed. We do not want to move these people away from their homes. If at all possible we would like to see these old folks' homes built in the communities. Similarly, as I said before, with geriatric care in hospitals we would prefer to have these as close as possible to the area where these people come from. If you are going to attach these to hospitals, and you pretty well have to because these are people who require continuous medical attention, they might require drugs to be administered periodically, that type of thing, so they have to be close to expert medical services. That usually means you have to put them in conjunction with a hospital. We can not build major hospitals all over the place, but in each hospital we construct we would like to put a chronic care wing in there so that it can serve the surrounding area.

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

Older People Needed In The Community

MR. LAFFERTY: I appreciate the effort on the part of Hon. Dave Nickerson and his department, but I would be more or less discouraging the development of one big centre and this is something that I feel most people will resist. Looking at my own community, I have asked six or seven people who are ready for this type of accommodation, and each of these persons would sooner live in a tent and die than be removed to another institution. So, I think it is a serious matter which this whole House should focus its attention to. It is something that reflects on our way of life and they are the people who are the mainstays in our homes and keep us sort of getting along together. Even so, I appreciate the comments by the Honourable Member and for his efforts, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Another brief comment as regards to Fort Simpson. There again health provisions are provided by Health and Welfare Canada so it is out of our jurisdiction really. At present, in Fort Simpson there are two chronic care beds there and we are trying to persuade medical services, that is Health and Welfare Canada, to increase that to six.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I have something I would like to ask the Minister which is controlled by Health and Welfare, the federal government, so it seems he has answered that and I will not ask right now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Pearson. Mr. Pearson indicated he wanted to speak prior to coffee time, the last one on that. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, it is a kind of important point that I would like to make, important to the people that have been struck by it, but it seems that in this one particular case a child was sent from Fort Smith to Yellowknife and was put into the hospital for medical attention, I believe it was, for a brace on one of their legs, and when the patient was to be discharged they could not find the clothing of that child. So, new clothing had to be bought.

Now, my question to the Minister, and perhaps it is the first time he has heard about this case, but my concern is how many more people coming from out of town to the Yellowknife hospital have this kind of a problem and if this is only an exception.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: That is the first time I have heard of that case and I hope this is something that does not happen every day.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Any further comments of a general nature? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Minister, I see one of your members in the back shaking his head and I was wondering if in fact that clothing could be returned.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am afraid none of the gentlemen at the back know anything about this particular case either, but if you would either give me or one of the gentlemen there the name of the person involved we will certainly try as much as possible to get their clothes back.

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Minister.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Medical Facility Complexes

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make one comment. In relation to the program of providing medical facilities in various areas, and in conjunction with the policy of the department in terms of setting up a regional hospital, I wonder if the Minister would be able to comment on any long range plan to construct more of the medical facility complexes such as has been indicated for Fort Smith in other areas. I referred in earlier comments during the first of the week to the provision of these kinds of facilities in Pine Point and I am aware that there is a cottage hospital or nursing station there. I know that that had been the kind of thing that the then village council had requested at Pine Point, but with the increase in population that kind of facility will not meet the needs or requirements as you are well aware, Mr. Chairman, and the residents of Pine Point use the highway back and forth into Hay River. I appreciate as well the Minister's comments that we can not increase or build large hospitals all over the Northwest Territories, I can appreciate that as well as it concerns the construction of immense schools. Nevertheless, I would wonder what his comments are in terms of future planning for a similar kind of medical facility building as is being contemplated and in fact under way in Fort Smith.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: To date, we have no plans for Pine Point. We like the idea of a medical service centre such as we are building at Fort Smith and will probably continue with that idea. We have not any plans at present regarding specific communities and this all ties in with the transfer of responsibility of health matters from Health and Welfare Canada to us, they operate the health facilities, the nursing stations in most of the settlements in the Northwest Territories and we can not really go around making specific plans until that transfer takes place. We like the community health centre concept and will probably continue with it.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Just a further comment, if I may. I would endorse the concept as has been outlined by the Minister and my concern would obviously be within my constituency and with a town such as Pine Point that is rapidly increasing in population and I do not expect that there will be one there, a medical facility or complex such as has been outlined and built up overnight. I would certainly hope though that the department would develop a program such as the Minister has indicated for not only Pine Point but in other areas, but specifically I referred to Pine Point because of the increase in population over the last few years and one which, to all indications, will increase again very quickly in the next two or three years.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: With specific regard to Pine Point, Mr. Chairman, we do not think that this is an area of extremely high priority at the present time. The new hospital in Hay River has recently been completed and that is a very good hospital. Pine Point is serviced largely out of Hay River. It is only an hour or so drive from Hay River to Pine Point. We are putting new facilities in at Fort Smith. In fact we are spending a lot of money in that particular area, the southern Mackenzie, south of the lake area. We do not at the present time see a real major requirement in Pine Point. You know, we can not see putting another hospital in Pine Point because it is so close to good existing facilities in Hay River and Fort Smith.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

An Increase In Population

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate that it is approximately 140 miles from Pine Point to Fort Smith and that it is roughly 60 miles or more to Hay River. Nevertheless, I think that in an area where there is a population that must be served with these particular facilities, I would just hasten to remind the Minister that I would be making presentations here and in other areas to look after that increase in population.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I hope when we get into the education budget that your theory holds there, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I imagine I could be consistently inconsistent.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. General comments? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, my concern with the Minister is that the people of Fort Resolution have been talking constantly about the medical evacuation from the community by air. There are a lot of towns the airplanes can not come in or it is not on schedule and these people have been rushed to Hay River to the hospital by private vehicle. Those instances I am referring to, fortunately nothing serious happened along the way that would not require just a little bit more than some kind of medical attention, oxygen or whatever. I am wondering if the Minister and his department are taking some kind of action and looking into an ambulance that would be made available to that community for medical evacuation.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We have no plans to build an airstrip in Fort Rae specifically for the purpose of evacuating medical cases. Our budget just does not run to that.

MR. WHITFORD: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I was referring to Fort Resolution.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Oh, Fort Resolution.

MR. WHITFORD: That is on the other side of the lake. Obviously I have talked too much about Fort Rae. I am sorry. Again I express the concern that these people are I believe on scheduled flights and that is the only aircraft they have got into the community. When they do have medical evacuations, like they have had two instances where they were lucky enough to make it to Hay River, but what I am saying is has the department now taken any consideration as to getting them an ambulance so they would be able to evacuate them by road in case of a storm or other unknown factor of nature?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am sorry to have to keep bringing this up, Mr. Chairman, but Fort Resolution is looked after by Health and Welfare Canada. They are satisfied that they have the proper evacuation facilities in Fort Resolution. There is an airstrip there. In real cases of immediate danger they can charter a plane to get in there if they think that it would take too long to get to Hay

River by motor vehicle. I am advised that the nursing staff there have a station wagon in which they can put stretcher cases or other people if they have to take them to Hay River and it is the position taken by Health and Welfare Canada that evacuation equipment and evacuation procedures are adequate for Fort Resolution. I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, this is another of those areas where it is not under the jurisdiction of this government.

Capital - Activity 9093, N.W.T. Share Of Northern Health Services

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Comments of a general nature? I direct your attention to page 14.02, activity 9093, capital, in the amount of \$390,000. Is that agreed?

---Agreed

I would like to make a comment relative to activity 9096 so could I call on Mr. Fraser to act as chairman to handle activity 9096? Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I now draw your attention to page 14.03, activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, in the amount of \$5,900,000, capital expenses. Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, I would like an explanation relative to the costs. If we look at Hay River which is a regional hospital, the amount of money spent there was \$5 million. Yellowknife is \$9 million and the hospital at Fort Smith for just a hospital for the town, not considered to be a regional hospital, is \$5 million. The related figures between Hay River and Yellowknife with the variance in population seem to be something realistic, but the regional hospital in Hay River has got both the population of Hay River plus probably at least another 3000 which builds up the requirement on that hospital to about 7000 people as compared to Fort Smith ranging somewhere between 2500 and 3000. These figures just do not seem to me to add up. Is there a reason?

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is the reason why Hay River comes in at \$5 million as compared with the same figure of \$5 million for Fort Smith, there are a number of reasons. One is that over a period of just three years or so hospital construction costs have escalated substantially. They have increased probably about \$35 or \$40 per square foot just in that very short period of time.

Another reason why we were able to get away fairly inexpensively in Hay River was that the hospital already existed and a lot of the expansion was renovation to existing structures to make them more fully useable. Hay River was a 50-bed expansion and the expansion consisted of, apart from the foyer and the nursing station, more or less just the beds. In Fort Smith the expansion is a 25-bed expansion, only half as much, but we are also putting in there considerable office space. We are going to put the community health services in at Fort Smith too. There will be offices for doctors there, offices also for Department of Social Development personnel so that the two are not really comparable. I hope, Mr. Chairman, that Hay River is not going to come back to us and ask for another \$2.5 million because they feel they just were not given enough money. I think they were given enough money to do a real good job of expanding the hospital and we have to do the same for Fort Smith.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Minister has no argument from me in this regard whatsoever. I want to make sure that Fort Smith has adequate hospital facilities. Then the doctor situation at Fort Smith is different in that you are going to provide in your hospital, doctors' offices, which is not

the case in Hay River where they are in private practice and have their own medical clinic. Will these be government doctors who will be operating or will they be private doctors paying rent?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We expect that at least we can attract one private doctor in Fort Smith and he will be expected to pay the going rate.

MR. STEWART: Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. The figures just did not add up and I wanted to know why.

Capital - Activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Any more comments on activity 9096? Is activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, agreed?

---Agreed

I will give the chair back now to Mr. Stewart.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. Your first baptism. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: In view of the hour, Mr. Chairman, and the fact we have finished capital and have not yet started operations and maintenance this would probably be an appropriate point to report progress.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Agreed?

---Agreed

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Could I prevail upon you to have distributed information which was requested of me yesterday and which I promised today and that is a report on B level programs? You will recall that I was asked to outline what success we had had in negotiating for B level money. I advised that we had had some success and that it was included in the budget but that I would have it broken down in detail for the information of Members. I have that report now and perhaps I could just ask to have it circulated.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Proceed, Mr. Deputy Commissioner.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Report of the Committee of the Whole of Bill 3-61, Appropriation Ordinance, 1977-78

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Bill 3-61 and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Gentlemen, announcements. Firstly, a tour of the museum has been arranged for Members. Transportation will leave from the Explorer Hotel here and the Yellowknife Inn at 10:50 o'clock a.m. tomorrow morning or, of course, if you wish you may walk but in any case the tour starts at the museum at 11:00 o'clock a.m.

Secondly, the special committee on the future development of the Northwest Territories will meet at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Executive board room, 6th floor, Arthur Laing building. Any further announcements? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: That meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock a.m. I would like to be excused because I have some other important business at this time and I would accept any decision being made.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Whitford. Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 12: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK ASSISTANT OF THE HOUSE (Mr. de Vos): Orders of the day, January 27, 1977, 2:30 o'clock p.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to Commissioner's Opening Address
3. Questions and Returns
4. Oral Questions
5. Petitions
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motions
8. Motions for the Production of Papers
9. Motions
10. Tabling of Documents
11. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters:
Bill 3-61, Matters Arising out of the Visit of the Legislative Assembly
to the State of Alaska, Information Items 1-60, 4-60, 8-60, 16-60,
Motion 24-60, Recommendations to the Legislature 2-61
12. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 2:30 o'clock p.m., January 27, 1977, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

Available from the
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories,
Yellowknife, N.W.T. at \$5.00 per session
Published under the Authority of the Commissioner
of the Northwest Territories