



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**DEBATES**

61st Session

8th Assembly



THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 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  
(Foxye 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)

The Honourable 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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 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 Commissioner's Opening Address. Just as a reminder, gentlemen, tomorrow is the last day for replies.

Item 3, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Are there any returns, Deputy Commissioner Parker?

Return To Question W3-61: Arctic Winter Games

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 25th, Mr. Stewart asked Question W3-61 concerning the date for the next Arctic Winter Games.

The Arctic Winter Games Corporation, which operates the winter games, held a meeting on 21 January, 1977, in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. One of the main items on the agenda for this meeting was the finalization of a historical report on past winter games. The Department of Health and Welfare Canada, fitness and amateur sports branch, had advised the Arctic Winter Games Corporation that before they would make any further financial commitments towards the next cycle of Arctic Winter Games that they would require such a report covering participation, benefits, problems, alternatives, and what financial support is expected from the federal government.

The report is now completed and will be circulated on February 14, 1977, to the governments of each participating area, the Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, the Hon. Marc Lalonde and the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport, the Hon. Iona Campagnolo.

The Arctic Winter Games Corporation plans to meet with Mrs. Campagnolo on March 10, 1977, in Ottawa to make a final presentation requesting federal assistance. A representative from each of the participating areas will be present. It is hoped that the federal government will at that time announce its support for the next Arctic Winter Games cycle, and that the next games will be held at Hay River and Pine Point in March, 1978, as presently scheduled.

The Arctic Winter Games Corporation is requesting federal assistance as follows:  
(a) Contribution of \$275,000 to the host unit to assist in running the games, and  
(b) A contribution of 60 per cent of the total transportation cost of each Canadian unit to travel to the site of the games.

A copy of the historical report prepared by the Arctic Winter Games Corporation will be made available to Members of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly when received.

Return To Question W5-61: Commercial Fishery, Great Slave Lake

On Tuesday, January 25, Mr. Stewart asked Question W5-61 concerning the legal mesh size for the commercial fishery on Great Slave Lake this coming summer.

At present the legal mesh size on Great Slave Lake is five and a half inches. The resource management branch, Freshwater Institute, fisheries and marine service in Winnipeg, Manitoba, have endeavoured to introduce an experimental program for resource management on Great Slave Lake. In this proposal they wish to reduce the legal mesh size to five inches and also reduce the annual quota from 4.875 million pounds to 3 million pounds.

The Northwest Territories Fishermen's Federation, as well as our fish and wildlife service, have not accepted this proposal, and through consultation, the fish and wildlife service submitted on 18 November, 1976, the attached presentation to the advisory committee to fisheries and marine service, western and Ontario regions for consideration.

The legal mesh size for the commercial fishery on Great Slave Lake remains at five and a half inch mesh until such time as a decision to change this size is taken by the fisheries and marine service. A meeting is scheduled in Hay River on the evening of January 27th, between representatives of the resource management branch, fisheries and marine service, the Northwest Territories branch, fisheries and marine service, the Northwest Territories Fishermen's Federation, Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the resource development section, the Northwest Territories fish and wildlife service, to discuss this problem. Mr. Speaker, the information that is attached to this reply, which more broadly states the territorial position will be circulated to Members.

MR. SPEAKER: Any written questions? Mr. Stewart.

Question W9-61: Animals And Birds Taken By Mr. Oeming

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, were the animals and birds taken by Mr. Al Oeming from the Northwest Territories, for example, polar bears, musk-ox, falcons, bison, taken by permit for the people of Alberta or for the private ownership of Mr. Oeming?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: We will take that question as notice and file a reply.

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

Question W10-61: Eskimo Operator For CNT In Western Arctic

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, has the administration received as yet, any kind of an answer to the question I asked in Rankin Inlet about how soon Canadian National Telecommunications was planning to get an operator who speaks in the Eskimo language because all the Central Arctic settlements are mostly Eskimo speaking. I heard that Bell Canada in the Eastern Arctic may be getting an Eskimo speaking operator.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I will seek an answer to that question and try to bring it in tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further written questions, gentlemen? Mr. Lyall.

Question W11-61: Radio And Television Service In Spence Bay

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, has the administration been given the exact date when the settlement of Spence Bay will be getting radio and television services from the Anik satellite?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am sorry, I missed the name of the place.

MR. LYALL: Spence Bay.

MR. SPEAKER: Spence Bay.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I will seek an answer and file a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further written questions? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question W12-61: Telephone Service In Repulse Bay

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Executive if they have approached the president of Bell Canada or have approached the telephone people about Repulse Bay, if there is any possibility of getting telephone service? When we had the session in Rankin Inlet we were told in 1976 Repulse Bay would be getting telephone service via the Anik satellite and I would ask if he would inquire further on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, the Department of Communications for the federal government has just recently announced a policy of additional expenditures for long distance telephone service which will over a short number of years see this kind of service, long distance service supplied to every community. I will seek an answer to the scheduled date for that service to reach Repulse Bay and file a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further written questions?

Item 4, oral questions.

Item 5, 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 would appear to be no motions of which notice has been given. Are there any other motions?

Item 10, tabling of documents.

Item 11, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters.

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

This House will resolve into committee of the whole for continuing consideration of 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. We are studying the main estimates under Social Development, health, under operations and maintenance on page 14.04. Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: With your permission, before we get back on to the health matter, yesterday Mr. Butters requested that certain material be made available to the Members of the committee. One thing was the policy on the Fort Smith tax assistance for old age pensioners and the second was certain information concerning programs operated under the auspices of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. I have this material now and would like to circulate it.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The Pages will be bringing this around to Members of the committee.

Social Development, Health, O And M - Activity 9090, Administration\_

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 14.04, operations and maintenance, activity 9090, administration, in the amount of \$642,000. Mr. Minister, have you any comments?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: My only comment on this is that you will notice there are about seven new positions shown. In fact these are not new positions, these are positions we already have at the present time. So, in fact there is no real net increase.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any discussion on activity 9090? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister has given me an answer in part but I was wondering if the matter of the arsenic concern comes under this department? Is this where the study was requested that he referred to in replying to an oral question of mine earlier on during this session?

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman ...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Would control please put the Minister's microphone on? Calling all cars.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Thank you, control. The study that has been requested of the arsenic situation in Yellowknife is being done under the authority of the federal government, the Department of Health and Welfare. There are numerous studies that have at times been requested and studies that have been done. In fact, one study which should be completed to my knowledge in a few days was requested by this Legislative Assembly. This is a joint committee comprised of territorial people, the City of Yellowknife people and other interested parties. I think it was proposed originally by the Hon. David Searle, maybe about two or three years ago now. So, there has been no study done at the request of the Department of Social Development. So many studies have been done by various people, I think another one would be superfluous at this time.

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

MR. BUTTERS: I realize that arsenic has been well worked over, both in the media and on the ground, but I just wonder if it might be possible for us to obtain a copy of the report that was requested by this Assembly two or three years ago at the Hon. David Searle's instigation?



Legislative Assembly Report On Arsenic

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, perhaps if the Hon. Dave Nickerson does not mind I could just say on this score that this report is being put together under the chairmanship of Mr. Dan Billing who is our emergency measures officer and while wearing that hat he has also been assigned the territorial role in pollution matters as well. He has worked with his committee which encompasses pretty well all of the actors in the drama and the committee has made comments from time to time, they have not been silent, but their final report is due, I should not say "final report", but their next report is due very shortly and we would be pleased to make it available to the House. Part of it has been released already but I will have copies here for distribution.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: We may be able to produce something that has all of the actors in the play, or in the drama as Deputy Commissioner Parker said, but maybe we should try, maybe we should try and include the directors as well.

0 And M - Activity 9090, Administration, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

Activity 9090. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 9091, Health Control Programs

Operations and maintenance, activity 9091, health control programs in the amount of \$259,000. Is it agreed? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Just a question of a general nature. What is the present status of venereal disease in the Northwest Territories, is it under control to the satisfaction of the department? There has been some concern over the past few years that it is increasing at an alarming rate.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, how are your diseases doing, venereal disease especially?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am very pleased to report, Mr. Chairman, that in Hay River they are improving but in Inuvik the situation is deteriorating badly. The last year for which we have full figures available is 1975 and during that time there was not one confirmed case of syphilis in the Northwest Territories which is pretty good. However, there was a serious increase in the amount of gonorrhoea. It says in the report issued by Health and Welfare Canada that, "Previously one was given to thinking that current rates were so high that they could hardly get worse. This is evidently not the case." So you will see that things are really not that good. Maybe you would be interested in these figures, in the incidence of gonorrhoea in various zones in the Northwest Territories. In the Inuvik region there were 792 cases, an increase of 23 per cent. In the Mackenzie zone there were 918 cases, an increase of 7 per cent. In the Keewatin there were 135 cases, an increase of 56 per cent. In the Baffin there were 425 cases, an increase of 1 per cent. The national incidence of gonorrhoea in Canada is about 12 cases per 100,000 of population per year. In the Northwest Territories the average is about 500 cases per 100,000 population per year, so we are one or two orders of magnitude greater and there are in fact still very alarming statistics.

MR. PEARSON: We are ahead of Canada in some areas then.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, I am afraid that is very true. I anticipated this question, Mr. Chairman, and I could go on for quite some time quoting various statistics on the incidence of venereal disease in the Northwest Territories. I do not know whether Mr. Pearson requires any further clarification.

MR. PEARSON: Just to ask then in light of the alarming figures and I guess compared, say, to Greenland these figures are very modest but in light of these figures the obvious increase in the Inuvik area and in the Keewatin area I wonder if the Minister can assure us that there will be a vigorous program of education or health information developed? I just wonder when I see an increase in this department. It is an increase in the budget for the administration but not much of an increase in a budget for health control programs.

Health Control Programs For Venereal Disease

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The health control programs which were voted in this vote here are largely in respect of those of us who are classified as "others". The Department of Health and Welfare pays for the control of this type of disease in Indians and Eskimos. Our figures have not increased that much because the incidence for "others" is not really that high in comparison with Indians and Eskimos. For instance, the rate for Indians in 1975 was 10,038 cases per 100,000 population and the figure for "others" was 3829 per 100,000 population. Therefore, the situation is worse in respect to Indian people and it is still bad but not quite that bad in the "others". Therefore, the problem presumably is more acute for Health and Welfare Canada because they are the people who pay for Indians and Eskimos rather than in our particular case with the "others".

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not think the Minister has answered my question as to whether they plan a program? The responsibility still falls under the Hon. Dave Nickerson's department for education and information. Does his department have a program underway and will it be increased to try and combat those figures?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I think in both the hospitals operated by ourselves and some of the nursing stations operated by Health and Welfare Canada, you have undoubtedly seen the posters and stickers all over the wall. We are trying to encourage people to report cases and come to us as quickly as possible. We are trying to educate people in this respect. One of the biggest problems is that people do not seem to have too much of a sense of responsibility in regard to these things. Through the education system we are trying to educate people and make it apparent that they should be very careful. They should love carefully as I have seen on various T-shirts, etc. Probably or obviously we are not stamping the disease out all at once and maybe it is because of the attitude of people toward it. You can not change people's attitude overnight. You have to try as much as possible.

Age Groups Showing Increased Incidence of VD

MR. PEARSON: One further question, Mr. Chairman, what age groups are the big increases in? I know of a case last year of a seven year old. I wonder if that phenomenon is increasing?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I think it is increasing. In fact in the Northwest Territories in 1975 there were 11 children under the age of nine who contacted venereal disease.

MR. PEARSON: So the program in conjunction with the education problem could be established, could it not, in the schools? Both high school and elementary?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: If the situation gets any worse, we will have to start in kindergarten!

0 And M - Activity 9091, Health Control Programs, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Activity 9091, health control programs in the amount of \$259,000, agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 9092, Professional Training

Activity 9092, professional training in the amount of \$30,000. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: About this increase of \$15,000, could you explain that to me please?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: When this item was discussed last year, Mr. Chairman, the committee at that time recommended that additional moneys be spent for this particular purpose. If I believe correctly, I think it was Mr. Pearson who suggested that more moneys be made available for training. A lot of training done of medical people or medical students, certified nursing assistants, etc., in the territories does not come out of the Social Development health budget. It is paid for out of education funds. Some of it is paid for federally. The \$30,000 here is mainly for bursaries for people taking advanced courses. For instance, a certified nursing assistant who wants to take a special course in physiotherapy or something would be able to probably get a bursary under this program to do that.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I am delighted to see the response to the case I made last year for an increase in professional training funds and I hope the department will continue to encourage this type of professional training and retraining and hopefully next year we will see a further increase on what I consider to be a very paltry amount of money in this very necessary field. Thank you.

O And M - Activity 9092, Professional Training, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Activity 9092, agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 9093, N.W.T. Share Of Northern Health Services, Agreed

Activity 9093, Northwest Territories share of northern health services in the amount of \$1,553,000.

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 9094, Subsidized Medical Travel

Activity 9094, subsidized medical travel in the amount of \$15,000, agreed?

---Agreed

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I just can not resist this one. Each and every year I see this one. As I recall, this is the one that assists "others" for any travel costs that exceed the allowance.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I thought that there had been some review of this policy recently whereby persons who, even those in Yellowknife, were experiencing the need to go out for very specialized medical care on a more or less regular basis could get this assistance. I guess my point is this, I will try to be more definitive. It is one thing if I, for instance, have to send a child of mine out with his or her mother once a year to Edmonton and return. Maybe I can handle that easy enough and the only reason I would have to send my child out, of course, would be to maybe undergo an operation on a foot where there is a foot deformity or a hand or some other very specialized thing. Say if your child had a skin condition or something and it was just beyond the capability of the local hospital here to treat, a highly specialized problem. I could see having to do that maybe once a year but my problem comes in, again I am an "other" and in the private sector and not working for the government, because all of these benefits are covered by the government to go out any number of times you want and even for orthodontic work. It is totally elective sorts of things which are covered if you work for the government. If you are in the private sector trying to make it alone and again not employed by a big mining company, where these things again are covered, but within that small minority of people, trying to build a productive life instead of engaged in the spending of the nation's wealth, you have to pay these things yourself. I think it might be one thing to expect to pay them once. Most people in the private sector can hack that but if you happen to be in the position of having a child who needs continued care for some condition or other or any member of the family who needs specialized care, it could put you to very great expense and ultimately you would be driven to the only course left open for you and that would be to move out of the jurisdiction and take employment south where you can be close to the facilities and not have to bear this cost. If you were not in the private sector, were working for the government, or, if I may say so, a native person covered under the federal health authorities, you could go in and out as you wished, not as you wished but as you are required to do with all expenses paid.

That I think is the situation as it stands. Now, this sum of \$15,000 I believe goes to those people in the private sector who establish need; in other words, you have to go through a means test. I am wondering if that is really fair, or should we not be considering instead assistance to that small sector, that infinitesimal number of productive people, on the basis of covering their medical travel expenses, maybe 100 cents on the dollar after the first time. I suppose that does not excite us too much, but what about those strange people who insist on making their own way in this country.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am very pleased to be able to tell the Hon. David Searle that he is wrong, this does excite the people in the Department of Social Development and the policy has been changed.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Hear, hear!

Present Policy On Subsidized Medical Travel

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: As it stands now, no person, or rather the cost to no one family unit will exceed the cost of two return flights from Yellowknife to Edmonton per year. So, that means that the maximum payable by any one family unit will be approximately \$350, after that, transportation costs for others will be subsidized under this particular vote.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Did I hear one return flight? Can we treat this as an auction and go down to one. Seriously, Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to hear that because that, if I may say so, "ain't" the way it used to be, not too long ago. I suspect this is a new thing, I am pleased to hear it. I think it should probably be one, but I will not quarrel over \$150 as opposed to \$300. I would like to suggest, however, that this be publicized and that people be so advised because I rather suspect that there are an awful lot of people paying out big chunks of money not knowing of this policy because I know I followed up on this one, and have at every budget session, and I thought there had been a change but I do not think many people know about it. I would suggest to the Minister that he buy a few advertisements in the local newspapers and let people know of this so they can take advantage of the program, appreciating, of course, if he does he may spend more than \$15,000, as we are voting here, but I do not think there is much merit in having the program change and then not tell anybody about it so you do not have to spend any money.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Do you wish to comment on that, Mr. Minister?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We can get the Department of Information to issue a press release on this particular matter.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): If the Chair could be permitted a question on this, does this include dental work?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Ordinarily this would not include dental work unless it was dental work that a doctor had said had to be done.

Coverage For Visits To Orthodontist

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The problem I might point out is that it usually affects children, and it is sometimes a matter of straightening teeth which is difficult and in many cases can not be done in the Northwest Territories and the number of trips that have been done relative to this could certainly be in excess of ten or 12 per year and if we are looking at the over-all welfare of this sector, we should look at this particular element. It is not for fillings or for pulling teeth, but for dental work that is not normally done in the Northwest Territories.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Orthodontic work I think is the question that must be put to him, whether it covers orthodontic work.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: At the present time, it does not cover orthodontic work.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Then, what about the sponsorship that the government was giving an orthodontist from outside to regularly visit Yellowknife so there would be a large number of children who did not have to travel out but could visit him here. Is that program still in place?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I am advised, Mr. Chairman, that we do not have an orthodontist on staff, or at any of the hospitals with which we are associated. The Department of Health and Welfare were to have had an orthodontist, or were to have arranged for an orthodontist to have visited Yellowknife periodically, but this program is still to be put into effect. I personally do not know whether it is or not.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Well, I think it is a very good thing to follow up on because I happen to have some slight idea of the amount of money this government is spending for the travel of children of public servants to and from Edmonton, together with their mothers, their escorts, all on the government tab. You could virtually pay the salary of an orthodontist here on a full time basis with those kinds of dollars. So not only would there be, therefore, a tremendous saving to the government, and mind you there would not be as much interest in shopping then, by the ladies, but there would be a tremendous amount of money saved by this government. As well, of course, it would make available here in Yellowknife for any others who do not have these expenses covered, an orthodontist who they could see. It just does not seem to me to be beyond the possibilities of organization to encourage an orthodontist, or two or three, to regularly visit a large centre like this and see the dozens and dozens of children who are taking this sort of treatment on, as you pointed out, a regular monthly basis.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: The point is very well taken and we will look very closely into what has been done by the Department of Health and Welfare and if it seems to be insufficient, and if these required services are not available in the Northwest Territories, and I presume we really are speaking of Yellowknife, Hay River and possibly Inuvik, if the services that are required are not there and not being provided we will have to look very closely to setting up some kind of service ourselves, or encouraging an orthodontist to regularly visit these areas.

0 And M - Activity 9094, Subsidized Medical Travel, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 9094. I have marked it as being agreed and is there any further discussion? Is it agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Activity 9095, Health Services For Indigents

Activity 9095, health services for indigents in the amount of \$100,000. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: I was wondering if in fact the Minister could explain a little bit further that program.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Which one is that?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): We are now dealing with activity 9095, health services for indigents.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is health services provided for people who are indigent, that is, people who have no money, people who are picked up out of the gutter and on the streets so to speak and that is basically what it is. It is only for "other" indigents, not for Indians and Eskimos who find themselves in these sorry sets of circumstances as their medical bills will be paid for by the federal government. But for other people, they would not, and you can not let people die on the street, you have to look after them.

A lot of medical care, assuming these people are registered under our medicare scheme will be paid for by virtue of that scheme, and in those cases, this, the fund that is voted here would cover drugs and other things that are not covered by the medical payments. Say for instance, somebody came up from Alberta and had not registered in our medicare programs, and for some reason or other was not registered somewhere else, and he had no money of his own, then we would pay for his medical care with these moneys.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I will just withhold my question.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, these indigent peoples, when you said these were transient people, or people who were other people who came from, let us say, the southern communities, this includes everyone, as we have many Metis people who find themselves in a very difficult predicament, say for instance, around Fort Simpson and Hay River too, who are treated as being Indian but actually they are Metis, Metis people with citizen status who have on many occasions complained to me that they have difficulty getting some kinds of medical assistance because they are not resident and I wonder if this is applicable to them.

People Eligible In This Category

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: This is what these funds are being voted for, for people who are not eligible for assistance by virtue of treaty status. It is for anybody, anybody who does not fit into that category, and anybody who has not got either medical insurance, medicare or anything else that will pay for their medical attention and this takes up the rest of the costs because we can not let people go without required drugs just because they do not have any money, we do not do that sort of thing.

MR. LAFFERTY: In the event of a treaty Indian person coming in from another province, say the province of Alberta and in this instance we have many of these people coming in, who may have lost their treaty Indian status card. A lot of these people are by truth non-treaty, but actually they look Indian and I am wondering if in some cases there are any assurances that these types of moneys are not spent on these people.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: It might be difficult in some cases to decide who will be paid for, out of Health and Welfare funds or out of our funds, but I can assure you that we will not let anybody bleed to death just because we do not know what status of Indian he is.



MR. LAFFERTY: What I was trying to get at is that we might find ourselves with very little money of this nature or for unforeseen types of problems. These things do occur in some local levels in other communities and up in the Arctic we do not experience these problems but in the southern larger centres of the southern Mackenzie you will, because of the transportation system.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: We are now in the process of voting \$100,000 for this particular purpose and in the best estimates of the staff of the department, that is what it is likely to cost for the coming year. If for some reason, it ends up at \$120,000 we will find the other \$20,000 some place.

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

Eye, Throat And Ear Problem At Rae-Edzo School

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, a couple of days ago I asked the Minister of Social Development if in fact there was anything his department could do with the seriousness of the problem we have got at the Rae-Edzo school in terms of the eye, throat and ear problem. I was wondering if, in fact, while he is going to see the Minister of national Health in Ottawa, that under this particular program it would be possible that we could have taken maybe ten of the kids from the school there to Yellowknife to be tested. Again I say under this particular program.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Not under this one. Presumably had Health and Welfare decided that there was a problem at Rae, which obviously they say there is not, or not to their knowledge, such testing and other work that would have been required to alleviate the problem would have been carried on at their expense. The only time we might get involved with this is if some of the people affected are not treaty Indians and they required, for instance, some drugs to treat the problem and have no money and are not eligible as a treaty Indian for consideration by Health and Welfare and then maybe we would pick up the tab or would pick up the tab under this program.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Minister, Mr. Chairman, what I was trying to say was that I suppose I wanted to prove the case by bringing in the ten children I am talking about. Once we could establish to northern health that it is present to a serious extent then more serious action could have been taken. In the meantime the problem is just continuing to go on and we seem to be avoiding it. The kids are the ones who are suffering in the school.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: With all due respect, Mr. Chairman, if I were in Mr. Whitford's shoes what I probably would do would be to go down to the Health and Welfare office in Yellowknife. They have some very good people in there. They are really concerned with health problems in the Northwest Territories and I think it would be a fairly easy matter to persuade one of the gentlemen or one of the ladies who work for Health and Welfare in that office to go out with you at some time to Rae and you would then be able to show these people what is happening out there. I think that would probably be the better way to go about it.

0 And M - Activity 9095, Health Services For Indigents, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Activity 9095 in the amount of \$100,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Agreed  
Activity 9096, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services in the amount of \$13,746,000. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, is this for nursing stations in small settlements?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: No, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Activity 9096, agreed?

---Agreed

It appears to be too big to argue about.

O And M - Activity 9097, Medicare, Agreed

Activity 9097, medicare in the amount of \$3,508,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

I direct your attention to page 14.10 under main estimates, activity 9090 under administration and there are no grants. This then appears to conclude the section of the main estimates dealing with Social Development, health. Again I would like to congratulate the Minister for his presentation.

---Applause

The Department Of Local Government

Local Government. I direct your attention to page 6.01, Local Government, main estimates, capital expenditures, \$14,827,000, operating expenditures, \$12,339,000 and loans, \$6,000,000, for a total in this vote of \$33,166,000. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Deputy Commissioner, would you care to make one at this time?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make just a few comments of a general nature. First to review some of the major activities of the department during the current fiscal year and then to comment on the new year. During 1976 there were four new hamlets incorporated, Igloolik, Arctic Bay, Sanikiluaq and Whale Cove. A major training program was commenced for councils, that is, hamlet, village, town and settlement council members and council staff. We consider this training program to be a particularly important one because of the work that has been gone into in the preparation of it and the kind of reception that we are already receiving through it.

The procedures that these kinds of councils must follow and particularly the financial procedures are matters that are receiving the first attention. However, the courses are quite broad in nature and we think that they will be of very great assistance to the people involved. Four courses have been held or four series of courses have been held already in 1976, two in Frobisher, two in Fort Smith and 81 persons took part. We have had under way this year or, rather, commenced general development plans for Arctic Bay and Igloolik and in addition we have continued to concentrate on town planning programs in a considerable number of settlements and hamlets.

The first training program for operation of territorial airports was completed recently at Coral Harbour. This is a program which I am pleased to report worked very, very well. Fifteen northern residents were trained, six of them in airport administration with weather observation and radio operator responsibilities. Nine were trained as airport maintenance personnel. The people for these courses were chosen by their own communities and they return now to their communities to actual jobs in connection with the airports program which we operate jointly with the Ministry of Transport.

### Major Capital Programs

There were a number of major capital programs carried out in 1976-77: At Norman Wells, a new subdivision and expansion of utilidor; Rankin Inlet, further utilidor expansion, Yellowknife, main trunk sewer and water line to the Frame Lake south subdivision; Fort Simpson, major upgrading of underground water and sewer system; Frobisher Bay, completion of one phase of the water and sewer system and Hay River, continued upgrading and expansion of the water and sewer system.

For 1977-78 we see a continuation of the training program for councils and staff with a total of 18 courses planned. We look to an expansion and continuation of the airports training program to provide northerners with the skills to operate and maintain the 35 airports which now fall under our responsibility. We look to the completion of eight community town plans which were initiated in the past year and we intend to initiate plans in several other communities. Clearly that is the trust that we have accepted.

I am pleased to advise you that there will be three new hamlets designated in 1977. The first one, Baker Lake, on the 1st of April, 1977. The second one, Repulse Bay on the 1st of July and the third, Eskimo Point, on the 1st of September. This will clearly place the Keewatin in the lead in the matter of hamlet administration in the Northwest Territories and a good deal of credit must go as well to staff members and to the residents of these communities for the lead that they are taking. We are working on guidelines and procedures to assist the hamlets in better identifying the funding and in the manning of their programs and means of obtaining the necessary money. There are a number of capital projects planned for 1977-78 which are very major in nature and these almost all lie in the area of continued expansion of water and sewer systems. They will be detailed in the estimates.

I have a fair amount of material available to answer questions on the capital programs. If you wish when we come to the matter of the operation of, or the supply of equipment for the airports program I will be glad to at that time or at any time of your choosing to go into an explanation of the various responsibilities in this relatively new Northwest Territories Ministry of Transport airports program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. Any general comments? Hon. David Searle.

### Minister Of Local Government Proposed

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I think that I would just like to start out with a comment in principle in that we are dealing with general comments and that has to do with the structure of the Executive, in particular the fact that we now have three Members on the Executive; one in charge of the Department of Education, which I consider to be a very major and important and very responsible department, another in charge of Social Development which is a major department and, of course, the other department the Hon. Peter Ernerk is in charge of, Economic Development. I will not attempt to try and put these departments into priorities but it does seem to me that this department, the Department of Local Government, in that it does deal with bringing democracy to the local level, to the community, is a department which should have the direction of an elected Member of this House. I want to say that in principle I think that this House should make it very clear that it has a position on that point. It may not be timely, right here today or tomorrow, to put an elected representative in charge of that department. Maybe we need a fourth elected representative on the Executive before we can do that. It may be as well, however, if we were to continue for the balance of the term of this House to have only three, to give consideration that an appropriate time should be given to reallocating the Executive responsibility over departments and in my view most definitely if we only have three, then that department should be one of the three.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

HON. DAVID SEARLE: So appreciating the timing may be important I would just like to say that in principle I would like to express myself in favour of this department being one department over which an elected representative should have charge at the appropriate time.

Direction Of The Department.

Now, I say that because I think there is serious direction required of a political nature, direction as to where we should be going with this department. It seems to have staggered along in my view, of late. I am unimpressed with what happened at the opening by a public servant of this department, I am unimpressed with the performance of the research and development section to which that person belongs. I am unimpressed with the views that may be delivered by that section to the communities and the people who work for them and that would be probably contrary to the views of this House or any minister who was charged with this department. I personally, if there is some serious rethinking being done in this department, I would very much like us to have that developed quickly and brought back to this House. I think that is all I would like to say of a general nature, Mr. Chairman, but I would be interested in hearing other Members expressing their views on that matter of principle.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any comments of a general nature on the main estimates on Local Government? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Well, I certainly concur with the Speaker's view that there should be a Member of this Legislative Assembly in a responsible position, or responsible for this department. I support that entirely and trust that the mechanism will be set in motion to accomplish that. I think it is a very political department and as such this Legislative Assembly should be involved in its operation to a much greater degree. I am not particularly enamored of this department and the turmoil that we have faced in the East over the years. The so-called evolution of local government and the problems concerned therein have taken their toll on people in Frobisher, and particularly on my nerves of late and I think it is partly due to a lack of philosophy, or a philosophy that is not working, and I intend during this session to discuss it thoroughly with the people responsible, including the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner, to try and show where the thing is going wrong and offer some concrete suggestions as to how it could possibly work.

Public Servants Who Picket.

On the matter of an individual, an employee of this government standing outside a public building with a sign on his back on a Saturday afternoon, I think it is entirely up to him and is a matter of his concern and his conscience and not ours. It is a free country, surely to God! I suppose it is unfortunate that there are not more people doing the same thing. However, I see no reason why this Legislative Assembly should chastise any member of the administration of the territorial government for voicing his views in public or wherever he wants. As long as he does not between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on a day he is working, I see absolutely nothing anti-Canadian or anti-democratic about it. I think it is a nice healthy sign. So, that is all for the time being.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say a few words pertaining to Local Government, especially in the area where I come from. I listened to the Deputy Commissioner say that there would be more courses going around in the Northwest Territories, but I am curious to know what type of courses they are. Perhaps it helps the people from the East but the area I am concerned with are places like Tuktoyaktuk and Aklavik where there is a lot of controversy over who is running the country or who is running the town. The hamlet of Tuk, for instance, was the first hamlet council to be granted that status and the government of the Northwest Territories proclaimed that that is the way the Northwest Territories should be going, to hamlets, and they would follow in the same footsteps as Tuk. Now, that community itself, there are not the same people on that council any more and they do not know how to make up their bylaws. They do not know in general how to make up a budget, and I think the main reason for that is because there are not enough Local Government people coming into the

community to show them or help them or assist the hamlet council in the community. I think more emphasis should be put on helping these hamlets, especially if we are going to continue to promote hamlet status throughout the Northwest Territories. We just can not set up hamlet councils and then forget about them. I think the government should come in there and help in every way they can, without waiting for the hamlets to ask for help because they do not necessarily really know what they want until you have explained the options, the ways they can go. They do not have to accept what you say but can take it and I think the procedure now is that we have to ask them to come in, but I do not think that is the right approach. So, I think as far as the municipalities and hamlets, and local councils are concerned, the municipalities of the Northwest Territories, they have less say now and all the people living in their communities, they have less say than the other groups of people in the country. I think we should, and I go along with the Hon. David Searle and say that we should get on and establish a new position in one of about the most important areas.

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

More Assistance For Hamlets And Settlements

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, if I could just respond to some of the comments that Mr. Steen made. I agree with his setting of priorities, I agree with him that the hamlets and the settlements as they seek to reach hamlet status require more attention and more direct help, more assistance. When I say that we are putting on courses I want to reassure you that the kind of courses we are putting on and urging and helping people from hamlets to attend, are very, very practical in nature and are aimed at exactly the points that Mr. Steen raised, particularly they are aimed at the conduct of meetings, how to conduct meetings, what comprises a good meeting. They are aimed at how to draw up bylaws and motions and what to do with them once they are drawn up, and they are aimed very particularly at the handling of financial matters in hamlets; that is, how the books are to be kept, how the money is gained, how the money should be spent and how it is accounted for. Those are the things we are really concentrating on.

I also want to say that we have taken some new directions within the Department of Local Government as a result of Council's direction and as a result of our own observations, and we are drawing together the process of working toward hamlet status to make it a smoother transfer from being a settlement to being a municipality in effect. We found in the past that one division of our Department of Local Government was doing the workup and then another division took over this operation at a certain time, as soon as they became hamlets. Well, we are now involving the total department in the development of places which wish to become hamlets so there will be a smooth flow and so that the transfer of responsibility, the transfer of buildings and equipment will be achieved in as sensible and as smooth a fashion as possible.

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

### Training Programs.

MR. PEARSON: One question that keeps coming to mind is the question of the training programs that Deputy Commissioner Parker has just been discussing. During the discussion on education last week I made a comment that I felt that the Department of Education, and I made several comments, but one of them was it seems that there are so many teaching roles within the territorial government, practically every branch of the organization has its own teaching establishment. We hear that the training of people for on-the-job, the airports training program is being carried out by Local Government. The municipal section I believe has a group which travels from community to community with their very limited resources and limited number of people, having to traverse the entire Northwest Territories with their so-called municipal training program, whilst in all of these communities there exist schools, and the Department of Education has an ongoing program, and surely the Department of Education could play a more important role in this thing, in this aspect of training people.

In some cases in some communities where there is viable community council, be it a hamlet or whatever, the majority of members on that council have never even been to school themselves, are not wage economy employed people but hunters to a large degree. I think it would be a far more worth-while endeavour for the Department of Education, through its adult education program to take on that responsibility because it is there, it is on the ground, it is established in the community, the need for training has to be an ongoing thing. It can not be hit or miss whenever the plane happens to come in and deposit Mr. McDiarmid on the strip, or with his group, and do their once-in-a-while training thing.

I will say that the Department of Local Government is very quick to respond to requests from people, very quick and willing to act and to assist communities when they get into difficulties and Frobisher, as you all know, in the last few months has had reason to deal with Local Government on many occasions and they have been, within the limit of their resources, able to respond very quickly but it is a kind of band-aid approach again, to use that hackneyed phrase, whereas if a local adult education centre, local education facility devoted some of its time to this work I think it would have a far longer lasting effect. That is all.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Any comments, Mr. Deputy Commissioner?  
Hon. Dave Nickerson.

### Course In Civics For N.W.T. Schools.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: In a way I agree with what has just been said by Mr. Pearson. It would seem to me that the suggestion has been made time and time again that the subject of civics, should appear on the curriculum of what is taught in schools in the Northwest Territories so that people, when they leave school, will have some idea of what government is all about, what municipal structure is all about, so that they will be able to take part in these things.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: I wonder if any progress has been made in developing a course in civics to be taught at our schools.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Arnold McCallum, Minister of Education.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there are materials developed in terms of civics. They are being used in some schools. It is obvious that they are not possibly relevant enough, nor are they enlarged upon enough to meet the demands that are here. As a department in program development both within the schools and for adult education we would certainly look into making sure that there is more material that would be available within the department for use by hamlet councils and in conjunction with the Department of Local Government. We will attempt to enlarge upon it.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, in response to the Hon. Dave Nickerson and Mr. Pearson I think, of course, the two are two different things. The one is at the level of from 16 years and down, I imagine, the civics courses, although we certainly should have a good civics course taught through adult education. I do agree with Mr. Pearson that a better integration of our training throughout the government with education should be achieved and I think that is the direction that we would like to take. I do not think, though, that education can be given the responsibility for all training and I am not certain he has suggested that. I think that in any case we are going to have to have specialists in different fields such as we have in local government responding to a very special need there remaining in that field but that does not mean that we should not be getting more mileage from our adult educators or perhaps giving them some of the responsibilities and access to a good deal of the material so that on a day to day basis, if they are resident in the communities, they can offer this type of assistance. In the long run that should start to pay dividends. So, in summary, I agree with this proposal and we will seek means of co-ordinating the approach.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. The hour being 4:00 o'clock, is it agreed that we recess for 15 minutes for coffee?

---Agreed

We stand recessed for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum, main estimates, Local Government, comments of a general nature on capital expenditures of \$14,827,000; operating expenditures, \$12,339,000; loans, \$6,000,000 and the total is \$33,166,000. Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: First of all, I would like to correct some figures that I gave regarding the gonorrhoea rate in the Northwest Territories and Canada. I missed a zero on it. Actually the rate 5000 per 100,000 population in the Northwest Territories, that is the average for the past few years, and the rate for Canada as a whole is 120 and not 12 per 100,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Is that under operating expenditures, the figures you have given me?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Those, Mr. Chairman, were corrections to the gonorrhoea rates in the Northwest Territories which I incorrectly quoted an hour or so ago.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We are now speaking of Local Government. Thank you. Mr. Stewart.

#### No Paper Produced On Taxation

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, comments of a general nature relative to Local Government. I know that Local Government has had to deal with some very complicated questions but they have been dealing with these questions for four or five years and to date there has actually been no paper produced relative to school tax and various other forms of taxation that have been under study. I do not really know the reason, other than I have said they are difficult problems. Possibly they can not come to a consensus on them but it leaves the municipalities in a pretty difficult operating state when in one form your grants are paid on a per capita basis, your tax on a mill rate base and to couple this with the variances of the assessments made in the Northwest Territories, what book and year you might be assessed under, things get pretty badly out of whack as far as fairly sharing the costs of things like education, as far as the municipalities are concerned.

The municipalities also have a major problem in build-up, particularly in the Mackenzie Valley where, on the basis of the former minister of Northern Affairs, the Hon. Jean Chrétien, stating quite positively that there would be a pipeline, the municipalities have built facilities, service facilities, water, sewer, and so on to meet this anticipated growth. Although the federal government has paid almost the entire bill for the main installations of both water and sewer, the operational costs of these facilities due to the size and so forth are going to be quite a bit higher than they previously were. As we are all aware, the cost of fuel oil in the territories and the electrical costs are away above the Canadian average and certainly the water and sewer costs which have these added problems put into them are going to be higher as well.

So, the municipalities under the present tax structure arrangement are going to be in very dire straits in the whole of the Northwest Territories and particularly in the Mackenzie Valley. Of course this is nothing new. Basically the municipalities in all of Canada are in financial difficulties.

#### Money For Indian Reserve In Hay River

There is one thing that is peculiar under the Local Government inclusion. I thought Local Government was dealing with specific named degrees of municipal government and I find there is an inclusion for a part of a municipality, namely, the Indian reserve at Hay River. It would appear to me that if the government wanted that money transferred, it should be earmarked and turned over.

I do not like that in this subsection. I do not like to see recognition of things that actually do not come under Local Government. I think we should maybe stop that before it gets started and gets down the line too far.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Deputy Commissioner Parker, would you like to reply to that?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, there is no question but that we have had difficulty in coming up with a good solution to the question of equalizing the school tax rate. Our difficulties have been much less in other areas and I do not think that we are inconsistent in our approach to taxation or that we owe the Legislature a paper on other aspects of taxation but we certainly do on the matter of school taxation.

We had several meetings and reviews of that subject in the last two months and at the risk of going out on a limb I think that we will have something to show to this Legislature before the conclusion of this sitting. It is a very complex problem. If we assess school taxes as we have in the past at a flat mill rate of 15 mills applicable to all municipalities and applicable to all areas where there has been an assessment carried out, in the first place that is unfair because some places have been assessed and some have not. It is difficult to keep the assessments even because if they are even separated by one year it is hard to come up with a factor which will make those assessments equal, although we think we can come fairly close. It also tends to favour the places that have any industrial development because if you have industrial development and a higher assessment per capita that means that the taxation per mill, the amount of taxes produced per mill is considerably higher than in a place where there is no industry.

#### Per Capita Approach To Taxation

We have looked at the possibility of using a straight per capita approach. In other words, assessing a municipality on the basis of the number of inhabitants and since they have to raise their money through assessing a mill rate on assessed property or that is the accepted way of doing it, we still run into a problem. We have found that in many of the provinces, there are some of the most Mickey Mouse arrangements you could ever imagine in use. I can easily see why. What we are probably going to come up with is a combination of these two approaches whereby we will use an average of school costs, which will be changed to some extent by the population served and an equalization of assessment. If that sounds complicated, that is exactly what it is going to be. In conclusion, though, I think I will have to go out on a limb and say that we will have a paper ready for you before the end of this session.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Pudluk, did you have something?

#### Funding For Pond Inlet Census

MR. PUDLUK: I will speak in Inuktitut. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question about this. At Pond Inlet which became a hamlet not very long ago they were given some funding from the government for testing and this money was just for testing to see what the hamlet population was. This funding at Pond Inlet is from the government. It is possible that last year they had enough money. We are trying to do the test for 1977-78 and the people of Pond Inlet have written a letter to the government because they do not have enough funding to properly do this for a couple of years. In the High Arctic they would like to receive more funding. If you would like to see the letter, I have it. I can give it to you. Maybe you have heard about the problems that they have been having in Pond Inlet. I would like to do this for the people of Pond Inlet. Thank you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we would like to have the letter that Mr. Pudluk referred to so that we can examine it. We did some work just recently on the matter of money for the hamlet of Pond Inlet and we thought that they were in fairly good shape. However, I will have that reviewed again within just a few days and will be able to comment further to Mr. Pudluk on our reactions to the situation at Pond Inlet.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Would you like to release that letter then, or a copy of it?

MR. PUDLUK: Yes, I would like to do that and I would like a comment from him in answer. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Is that all right with you, Deputy Commissioner Parker?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes.

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

Property Taxes In Hamlets And Municipalities

MR. STEEN: Getting back to taxes, I would like to know a little about the thinking behind the imposing of the property taxes in the hamlets and municipalities in the Northwest Territories. I note that private owners are the ones really who are hit with property taxes, they must pay them directly whereas the housing association, I am not sure if they are paying them or if the renters are paying them through their rent, but it seems strange for me to accept that we should be paying this property tax when the community is getting no more benefits from the tax. Is there no extra responsibility or what? I just got a bill in the mail, and have been getting bills ever since last summer and they have been advising me because I am a property owner that this was second, third, fourth or fifth notice and that it must be paid by the 31st of January and so rather than go to jail I paid it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the question I am not sure of, is whether a grant in lieu of taxes is made for the houses under the control of the housing associations, which in turn are basically funded by the Housing Corporation. I will get that answer. However, with regard to the other taxation situation it is true that people in the hamlets do not see any direct benefit through their own taxation, through the taxes they pay on private property. However, I think it has to be understood that the territorial government pays practically 100 per cent for the operation of hamlets and hamlets do not have the responsibility of raising taxes, of raising money through taxes, but they do have the benefits of spending the money.

We establish a mill rate, I think it is 25 mills, we establish a 25 mill rate for people who own property in communities and of course that is very much less of a mill rate than is paid by people who live in villages, towns and in the city here. So, the people are making a contribution, the money is returned to them in the form of grants to the hamlet, but they are not directly connected.

We collect a grant, or make a grant in lieu of taxes to villages, towns and cities for those people who are not property owners, that is the government makes it on behalf of its own property and the same thing applies to the federal government. I will just have to get an answer on the matter of the housing associations' property.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, just to go further on this, I have been approached by people from Fort McPherson, they are not a hamlet, and they have been taxed also, and you said "hamlets" and how far down the line does that go?

Assessment Of Private Property

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: It goes down the line to anywhere where there is private property that has been assessed. It is simply a step in the direction of people looking after themselves and contributing to the cost of running their settlements or hamlets, towns or cities. So, quite a number of the settlements have been assessed and taxes are charged at the 25 mill rate. With regard to the housing association, the houses that are owned by housing associations, or controlled by them for the corporation or the government, a grant in lieu of taxes is made.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I find that very unfair, where housing corporations or housing associations, people who rent these houses, pay a minimum of two dollars per month if they care to work or care not to work. Whether they care to work or not the tax for them is hidden behind the rent. So, private owners I think are the people we should be pushing to own their own houses so that we can take care of them a little better, and it seems kind of difficult to penalize and I say "penalize" because it seems that way, just because you own your own property and have the gumption to get up and break away from the Housing

Corporation and build something of your own, something you have pride in and then you get hit with this tax. I find that unfair.

Houses Supplied Under Rental Schemes.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I have a good deal of sympathy for what Mr. Steen says. Incidentally, the minimum rent is no longer two dollars, I think it is about \$28, but mind you that is a very, very, very small part of the cost of operating a house. The houses that are supplied under the rental schemes, either the public housing or the old northern rental scheme, the rents that are charged cover a very small part of the total cost of operating. The operating costs run, on average, awfully close to \$700 a month and the rents that are charged, or collected are a very small proportion of that. So, there is no question but that the people who are living in those houses and who can not in fact afford to pay in many cases much more money than they are, are getting an easier ride than the people who own their own houses and must pay taxes on them.

One of the things we have looked at over the years is a home owners' allowance which would give some tax relief but perhaps we had better look a little more deeply.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering from the Deputy Commissioner, the smaller communities, especially the one I am in, in owning your own home, of course, we must make heavy payments on that home. The other thing is that the power is very expensive in that community. The third thing is that people in private business seem to be hit a lot harder in the sense that the services, say for example for water or sewer, we must pay a cent in and cent out on a pump out pressured system.

The other thing is every time something happens in the community, in terms of recreation, these few people are usually the ones who are volunteering to do these things or if in fact there is a program to send the students or people of that nature out to Yellowknife on a tour, or to Edmonton, again the same people usually volunteer. So, generally these people are always paying for these kinds of things. I am just wondering what the Deputy Commissioner and Local Government have planned to do to alleviate some of these costs for these people, as I am sure we are not the only community, and I think Mr. Steen said exactly what I am saying.

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

Position Of Home Owners And Owners Of Businesses

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am not sure I can say anything more than I have already said, but the point is a valid one. It would almost seem as though we were discriminating against home owners and the people who operate their own businesses, and perhaps we will have to look at a review of the manner of taxation. It is something that everybody has to get used to in this life, but it is up to government to try and make the system as fair as it can be, and I am not sure that is fair because clearly we have people who are saving the taxpayers' money, that is the taxpayers of Canada money, by providing their own homes and facilities and they are not perhaps getting a fair shake. There is no easy answer but it is something that I have been aware of. I have made further note of this and I will promise to look into it. It might well be wise for us to put these kinds of thoughts together with cost comparisons and give the Legislature a paper on the subject so we can get some further direction from you.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much the Deputy Commissioner's comments. I have on numerous occasions brought this subject up. We do have a lot of problems, for instance in the village of Fort Simpson where I live there are only a handful of ratepayers, property owners, who seem to pay all the costs. There seems to be a general discouragement to home ownership. If you do manage to get yourself a small place to live then you are taxed, your taxes go way up, your power costs are so high that you can not begin to get the other things that are necessary to live and yet, on the other hand, we have outside companies who are outside building rental units in the Northwest Territories who are charging fantastic rents. I know that in Inuvik, last fall in November when I was there, a trailer, a three bedroom trailer, rented for \$550 per month. The trailer rents in Fort Simpson are averaging a minimum of \$350 a month and the utilities, light, power and power for myself, I hardly stay at home but my power is over \$100 a month and there is no way that I could live.

However, we have people living in government operated buildings who are paying an average of about \$30 a month rent with utilities and power. I appreciate Deputy Commissioner Parker's comments in that he feels that this is discriminatory against home owners, but it is something we should seriously look at during this session.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. LAFFERTY: I would certainly support any motions that came forward to look into this matter. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Mr. Deputy Commissioner, do you have any comments you wish to make in reply?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Not at this time, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### The Cost Of Living

MR. PUDLUK: In Inuktitut, Mr. Chairman, thank you. After hearing the Members talking about this subject, when I hear the Deputy Commissioner speaking, I would like to be sure I am talking about the same thing, regarding myself and other people too, especially with the cost of living. The cost of living is going too high. Can anything be done about this? I forgot. You probably know how it is in the North and the problem in different communities where the cost of living is very, very different. Something must be done. If I have to pay \$223 in rent, this is too high. I have to pay \$40 for food every two days. This is for groceries. In our communities it is too expensive to live there. The prices in local communities are double compared to 1973. For example, last year I bought a vehicle for \$9000. I bought it here and I bought a fridge. I had to pay an extra \$3000. There are a lot of natives who want to go back to the land because they do not know how they are going to live in the future. The cost of living is very different in different places. I can not work for money to spend. I have a disability. I had an accident in 1964. I have been thinking about what I should be doing but I have not found out yet. Maybe social assistance would help me. I just wanted to be clear that the cost of living in different places is very, very different. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Comments of a general nature? Local Government. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: While it is interesting to hear some of the views expressed by Members and particularly those by Mr. Steen who I guess is under the same pressures in Tuktoyaktuk as the people in Frobisher. Some of them are under considerably less than some people in Frobisher.

#### Establishing Various Forms Of Government

I am very concerned with the way that this department decides to establish various forms of government that it does, hamlet status, village status are two. Village status particularly is being thrust on Frobisher Bay without any consideration being given to the matter by the people. The ordinance says that in order to establish a hamlet there must be a plebiscite and a certain percentage of the people in that community must vote on the subject to become a hamlet, which is a non-tax based community. However, to go the next step which is the big step in the so-called evolution, that is to become a tax based community. For that step there is no plebiscite. It is simply a decision made by the Executive and some members of the community council who may feel it is a good idea and overnight, whammo, there is the community or hamlet suddenly becoming a village with tremendous responsibilities and of course an additional burden on the people of the community, some of the people of the community, in fact very few of the people of the community to become taxpayers. When I say people of the community, I mean the so-called private home owners and property owners or people who lease government land. They in fact have no decision or make no decision in this because there is no provision for it in the ordinance.

Once the community decides to become a village, for whatever reason, it then becomes a completely new business. It becomes a very, very responsible and grave undertaking for the people in the community who, by and large, perhaps with the exception of large municipalities such as those that exist on the Mackenzie River, by and large it is beyond most of their comprehension, this form of government. It seems to me that Frobisher in its present state of confusion, and the community is not what I would say in very good shape. It suddenly comes home to the individuals in a community that they have a responsibility to make the place work and must do so within the confines of the budget that is developed for them. I think local governments have gone into these -- I suppose Local Government is to blame for making these decisions for this particular community in pushing it and insisting that it be done.

#### Situation In Frobisher Bay

We have seen examples of the backfiring of a community that was not ready for this stage. Last year some Members will recall that the council was actually removed from office because of its inability at that time to handle the affairs of running its own community and it was necessary for the government to take over. This occurred because they were a council who were not aware of their responsibility, who had not been trained, who did not fully understand and appreciate what it meant to take on this responsibility and role. It was necessary, as I say, for the government, fortunately there is provision for the territorial government to come in and take over, to get the place back on its feet. If that were not possible, I do not know what kind of mess the place would be in today.

These communities in the Arctic, a lot of them and particularly a place like Frobisher have inherited the schemes and the dreams of every civil servant who ever set foot on the shores of Baffin Island who said "I think it would be a good idea if we do this or do that and build a road to Apex three miles long that provides virtually no service for the community". It is a tremendous burden which eventually becomes a taxpayers' burden. Recreation facilities, there are magnificent facilities but the taxpayers, because there is no real basis for the local people to be involved, the community is virtually unable to afford it and in fact it has a choice of pleading to the government to assist them or to not use them. They are out of the capability of the local people to pay for them. What I wonder is how many more communities may fall into this predicament? What community will choose to become a village and suddenly find itself in this kind of predicament without a real sound basis for a tax base, for an economy within that community? As long as the ordinance remains as it does, it could happen. It could happen to many existing hamlets.

#### Earning Village Status

I think that the status of village is something that should be earned. I think the status of hamlet should be earned, that there should be a learning process that each community goes through if it decides. For example, a community says to the administration "We would like to be a hamlet", so then the process begins of learning by doing, the slow process of development and evolution within the community using all the government resources necessary, using all the education resources necessary to teach and train the people within that community to slowly take on more and more responsibility each year and to be given another responsibility, road signs one year, traffic bylaws the next year, and learn to do that. That is what it is all about, learning. You slowly go through the process and after ten years, if that is a reasonable length of time, then the administration comes in and says "Okay, you have shown us that you are capable of doing this. Therefore we now will give you the status of hamlet."



Then for the same process to be considered for the next stage of evolution, but to suddenly make a community such as Frobisher Bay a tax based community with about 15 local taxpayers, apart from all the government agencies, of course, but about 15 private people within the community paying taxes and no others because everybody lives in government low rental housing -- if there was ever a referendum held on debentures about 90 per cent of the population of Frobisher Bay could not vote on them because they are not eligible as taxpayers. This is the kind of thing that the council of Frobisher Bay is particularly concerned about now and beginning to realize how deep this problem really is. I would say that there needs to be a very, very severe examination of the process, a self analysis. It is fine to say "Ah, we have another three hamlets this week. Fantastic! Another three in the Keewatin."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Pearson, you are overtime.

MR. PEARSON: I am just going to finish. I feel very apprehensive about those three communities taking on that status, I really do. It is something to be chalked up in the boardroom of the government office "Another three, follows. Keep up the good work. We will suck them all in." And it should not be on that basis. When they are ready and trained and experienced, then it becomes a pleasure.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

#### Review Of Last Few Years

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, some of what Mr. Pearson says is true and we can go along with it, but I dare say that he spoils his remarks by inferring that any of us "sucks in" new municipalities, "suck in" settlements and make them hamlets. That, of course, was never the intention and I am sure he did not really mean that. It is true that the village of Frobisher has had difficulties and perhaps that was a step made too rapidly. However, let us just review very briefly. In the last several years there have been three villages, the village of Pine Point was one. Clearly that is a village with a good tax base and with the kind of people there who have been all their lives experienced in living with local government so they went very rapidly through that stage to the status of a town and that is just as it should be.

The other one is Fort Simpson. Fort Simpson is in the village stage now, and I think it is handling that very nicely. It seems to be the right stage of development for Fort Simpson at this time.

The third one is Frobisher Bay. Well, that is two out of three and that is not too bad. Perhaps we did permit Frobisher to move a bit too quickly. There are no tax based hamlets, of course, hamlets are supported almost entirely by taxes collected broadly on a territorial basis, although as Mr. Steen points out there is taxation of assessed property, but their budgets are not based on the taxes collected as is the case in villages. Perhaps Frobisher Bay was made as a step to quickly.

#### Progression From Hamlet To Village

There is a very big difference between being a hamlet and being a village. Perhaps that step is greater than the step between being a settlement and being a hamlet, I think it is. I am not sure though that the step to hamlet status can be taken quite as slowly and gradually as has been outlined to us. We find that the people who have petitioned for hamlet status want that particular level of local control and they are anxious to accept it. In fact, we tend to be criticized a bit for not moving more rapidly in that area, and some communities say "Why should we wait three months or six months, why can not we be created a hamlet on the 1st of April?" and that is where we have exercised some discretion, to try and make sure that they were ready and we were ready on our side. We could look at the ordinance to see whether or not broader petitions should be called for before creating a village. At the present time the ordinance simply calls for the existing hamlet council to petition to government, the Commissioner, and then a decision can be made here, drawing whatever advice should be drawn. That may have to be reviewed. I can give one reassurance. At the present time we are not considering any other places for village status, we have no applications that I know of and I think we would look at any applications very, very carefully, that is, long and hard, because of the experience in Frobisher Bay.

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

#### Home Ownership Nearly Impossible

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, as the former chairman of the Assembly's task force on housing, and the suggestion by the Deputy Commissioner of home ownership notwithstanding, I would suggest that home ownership in the territories has just about gone out the window. What was difficult four or five years ago has just about now become an impossibility with the fantastic, exorbitant rates that are to be levied on people in the smaller communities. Yellowknife squeals like a stuck pig, or did about four weeks ago with an 89 per cent raise in electrical rates which brought it up to about what Inuvik has been paying for the last five years. In Mr. Steen's community if one needs 5000 kilowatts of power, one pays \$150. So, home ownership is in a bad way.

I would like to note that this is the first time that the newly appointed Director of Local Government, Mr. Larry Elkin, is presenting his estimates and I certainly wish him well as I am sure as do all the Members of the House in his new responsibility.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BUTTERS: As was suggested by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, it is welcome and good to see a Member of this House answering to the responsibilities of his department as the Hon. Dave Nickerson just did recently for Social Development. We all know that it is a movement along the road to political control of our own House. I do not expect that we will see, during the life of this Legislative Assembly, the Minister give us another seat on the Executive, as he did at Rankin Inlet. But I do not believe that we have to wait for the Minister to give us another seat on the Executive. I see no reason why we could not appoint ministers to departments. I do not see why we can not appoint a "Minister of Game, Fish, Fun and Fur." I see no reason why we could not appoint a minister of Local Government, not one reason in the world. Admittedly that person would not sit on the Executive, but I see no reason why we could not make the appointment in this House just as we appointed the Members who are presently Ministers. I see no reason why we cannot stipulate and set the amount of money we will pay these men. Under the act, we can set and stipulate our own money and I see no reason in the world why there cannot be two ministers in programmed departments before we leave here. All this must take is a little imagination and agreement of Members in this chamber to do so. As I say, we recognize that these people would not have seats on the Executive but I think they could adequately and ably direct a program department in accordance with the wishes and determination and directions we give them here. I say it is up to us.

Project Research Section Of The Department Of Local Government.

I would also agree with the Honourable Member from Yellowknife South in singling out a section of the Department of Local Government that has served us ill, served us badly and served self-government of the municipalities in the North poorly for the last four or five years, and that is the project research section of the Department of Local Government. I think that these people instead of doing the job that they were supposed to have done, the job which Mr. Pearson outlined as required, and the job that Mr. Steen has outlined as required, which is working with these new communities, working with these new councils encouraging them, teaching them along the way they should develop, the way they are developing is related to this body. It is a democratic institution, but I think too often the people in that project section have been pursuing their own philosophical ideas of what government is and what it should be, to the detriment of the government at the ground level. I fear too, you know what happened, or one of the things they have produced is that Local Government philosophy paper and that Local Government philosophy paper was never discussed in this House. It was not discussed in the previous Council. It was not discussed in this House even though there was a certain date set for it to be discussed. We were just not interested because I do not think we felt that the direction that paper suggests was the direction we would go.

Committee On Devolution.

I am concerned too to see coming out of the woodwork again this committee on devolution. I think this is another string to this philosophy. What does devolution mean? That is a word that bothers me because you can take the meaning in the paper which is "increased organized and recognized participation of people at the local level in the design and administration of government programs," and that is a fine definition. Or you could take the definition in the Oxford dictionary "delegation of work or power especially by House of Commons to its committees". Or you could take the definition, and this is the definition we hear most of devolution, the one that is used in Great Britain which means "independence" and that is what Mr. Sparham meant when he said "Inuit, look to the Welsh, look to the Scots". That is what it meant, devolution. I think

the word we should be using is not devolution. It should be decentralization, decentralization of powers and authorities as defined in the paper, and I will have a further say on that matter when we get to the paper itself.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Deputy Commissioner, have you any comments?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I do not think anything extensive. We will be going into the paper which has been put in the Members' books and presented to Members on devolution and on that term. I think that must be regarded as something, although it is concerned with local government, it is another subject and there will be a full debate on it then. I said that we are taking a new direction under Mr. Elkin in the matter of the approach to our municipalities and we certainly have a new thrust in the way of assisting municipalities in their day to day operations.

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

Department Dealing With Philosophies And Concepts

COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Well, Mr. Chairman, it is very difficult I can appreciate in discussing the subject of local government, not to touch on a number of related subjects, it is almost the same as education, you can do the same thing there, because they touch all aspects of the spectrum. Local government was a new concept created, recommended and established after its acceptance by the Carrothers Commission. Much attention was focused on this and I think if you look back as to what it was in the territories then and what it is now that you can not help but give the Department of Local Government a hell of a lot of marks and a lot of points for doing a very commendable job. Now, having said that, I am sure there are things that you could very quickly point out, where they made mistakes and I think there are things that I may disagree with. It is very easy in that department to find yourself at odds because you are not dealing with machinery, you are not dealing with buildings, you are dealing with concepts and philosophies and even more important than that you are trying to carry them out. So, that is one side of the argument.

On the other side of the argument, you have some very strong views put forward by leaders of organizations and they are not necessarily the views of the people in the communities, but they are the views that have been put together as their position for consideration in a set of negotiations. They tend to run against, not parallel, but against the thrust that was recommended by the Carrothers Commission.

Now, I have very fixed views myself on this whole subject, although I am very reluctant, because of the nature of the job that I am expected to do, to openly advocate, or express my views on it. Nevertheless, some of the views that various organizations who have developed in the North in the last couple of years have expressed, run contrary to the aims and aspirations of the people who worked so hard to move the administrative centre, the capital, the government, from the then capital at Ottawa to the now capital at Yellowknife. That was the big thing in 1966, '67 or '68 but the facts of the matter are that in the outlying regions and areas they are not satisfied with that power or authority being established any longer in one central spot. They want to see that authority established in a multitude of ways in a number of areas and regions and so they are looking for devolution or decentralization, call it what you want. They see in that some kind of a vehicle where people who live in the same area, work in the same area and benefit from whatever that area has to produce, some means of getting together and making their own decisions, or at least those decisions that affect them in that area. They are not going to argue about whether to go to war with somebody in some other part of the world or the stated position of the United Nations or whether to support some country in its fight for a better deal. That is really of no concern to the average person in the North and for that matter in Canada. Canadians in general really only react when something runs against their grain.

Many Different Opinions On Local Government

Finally getting back to the point, in the field of local government there then comes the central position. You have those two other positions. What the department has done has had a certain amount of success, admitting that there are differences of opinion as to all phases of it, they have been trying as best they could to respond to these based on what is now emanating from parliament, from the department, from the Minister, remembering there have been four ministers since Carrothers and that which is contained in the strategy of the Government of Canada for 1970 to 1980. I suppose looking at that strategy it is a very well prepared document but three different people can pick out of it three different directions because one strategy is trying to cover everything they can foresee in the next ten years.

I think, yes, in the ten years great changes have come about in the growth of government. Yes, there have been differences of opinion. Yes, we have made some mistakes, but when you add it all up I think that they may have made a heck

of a lot of gains and the people who are in there have made a lot of gains. As for picket signs and walking up and down with signs, I do not really have anything to say about that. Unless it is really printed in block letters, I can not read it anyway.

Finally as for the paper on devolution or the trust, it is a genuine trust, it is not engineered by Local Government, not engineered by Economic Development, not engineered by Education. It is something that I think is going to be the most important thing in the next two to three years if we are to be able to adjust and respond to what the feelings are that we get as an administration from the people in the territories.

#### People Have Opportunity To Express Their Views

In a few weeks you may very well set this government on a brand new course or maybe in the next session or the session after that and we may very well have to adjust ourselves and our trust to that way. We try and I know that this irks some people to hear us say this, but I think that one time the Northwest Territories politically and particularly as to the views of the individuals, of the people, were at the bottom of the list but that is no longer the case. The people in the territories have had a greater opportunity to express their views these last number of years and be listened to than most of the major provinces in the country. I will tell you that if the sewer pipe overflowed in Penticton or in Hairy Hill, Alberta or Otosquen, Saskatchewan, somebody will say "So what?" If it overflows in one of the communities in the Northwest Territories, it is on the National News, As It Happens, and Cross Country Check-up. I think we have made some progress.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. The hour is now 5:30 o'clock p.m. I have Mr. Steen listed to speak. Mr. Steen, I will recognize you first thing when we return to this committee tomorrow. Shall I report progress?

---Agreed

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 meeting to consider Bill 3-61 and wishes at this time to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no knowledge of any announcements. There may be some. Do any Members have announcements? 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 28, 1977, 9:00 o'clock a.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, Recommendation to the Legislature 2-61
12. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 9:00 o'clock a.m., the  
28<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1977, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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