



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
DEBATES**

63rd Session

8th Assembly

Official Report

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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. XOE 1H0  
(Yellowknife South)  
(Speaker)

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

The Honourable Peter Ernerk, M.L.A.  
Site 18, Box 16,  
Yellowknife, N.W.T. XOE 1H0  
(Keewatin)  
(Minister of Economic Development and  
Tourism and Government House Leader)

Mr. Donald M. Stewart, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 310  
Hay River, N.W.T. XOE ORO  
(Hay River)  
(Deputy Speaker and Chairman of  
Committees)

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

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

Mr. Thomas H. Butters, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1069,  
Inuvik, N.W.T. XOE OTO  
(Inuvik)

Mr. Mark Evaluarjuk, M.L.A.  
Igloolik, N.W.T. XOA OLO  
(Foxe Baffin)

Mr. Bryan R. Pearson, M.L.A.  
c/o Arctic Ventures,  
Frobisher Bay, N.W.T. XOA OH0  
(South Baffin)

Mr. Ipeelee Kilabuk, M.L.A.  
Pangnirtung, N.W.T. XOA ORO  
(Central Baffin)

Mr. Ludy Pudluk, M.L.A.  
Resolute Bay, N.W.T.  
XOA OVO  
(High Arctic)

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

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

Mr. William Lyall, M.L.A.  
Cambridge Bay, N.W.T. XOE OCO  
(Central Arctic)

Mr. Richard Whitford, M.L.A.  
Yellowknife, N.W.T. XOE 1H0  
(Great Slave Lake)

OFFICERS

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

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

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

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

LEGAL ADVISOR

Ms. P. Fliieger  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
XOE 1H0

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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. Kilabuk, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. David Searle, Hon. Dave Nickerson.

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Address. Gentlemen, are there any replies to the Commissioner's Address this afternoon? Mr. Fraser.

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Fraser's Reply

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, as a reply to the Commissioner's Address, I would like to give a copy to the reporters and the interpreter corps. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, every man who participates in politics shapes in his mind a pattern that ties together all of the wild events and people involved in the process in which he tries to participate. I want to tell you about the image of politics that is beginning to take shape in my mind.

We in the North today represent people with many different origins. We have come here from every corner of the earth. During the last few years we have been the object of countless studies and are now the subject of countless theories. These studies have confused us. They have not been assisting us to attain our basic goals, such as economic security, self-government and the prospect of a good life for our children. Our people want a sense of purpose. They want to control their destiny. I say we have had enough studies. We want action. We want results.

I will not limit my remarks to the people who produce all these studies and theories because, if I did so, I would be doing a great injustice to the men of the cloth who have so little to do saving souls that they are inviting themselves into the legislatures of our country.

---Applause.

MR. FRASER: Thank you. Here in the Northwest Territories we have experienced church interference in politics, land claims and now in the Wildlife Ordinance. It is ironic that the one institution that has some of the best land in each community in the Mackenzie Valley now feels guilty. However, I feel it is hypocritical of those people to enter the political arena when we all know they have won their personal war on poverty. Some of them would have us turn this Legislature into a political cemetery run by its own inmates.

Greater Power Requested.

In his Address the Commissioner mentioned that the summer has been very busy, even hectic. To this I must reply that the summer has only been hectic for those people who have been busy making travel arrangements to go south. Where is the Commissioner? For me the past year has been very frustrating. We have seen the pipeline go to the Yukon and with it the legislature over there got the promise of more power. Well, more power to them. The challenge faces us to formulate a policy that will provide jobs, that will increase the cash flow in the territories, that will bring greater powers to this elected body, this Legislative Assembly. Commissioner Hodgson mentioned the transfer of power from the South to the North. It looks to me we have one more transfer to request. That of control over the planning and evaluating group from the sixth floor of the Laing building to this chamber.

Now, for the Indian Brotherhood. It is very easy for the Brotherhood to say "We do not want a pipeline until the land claims are settled," but look at the Yukon, what do the people in the Yukon get? They get \$30 million a year from royalties. The land claims will be settled. Our Indian Brotherhood wanted a ten year moratorium. Now they can have 50 years. The valley is dead and it will stay dead until we get rid of these dictators. Once the land claims are settled, they will not have jobs. They are going to cut their own throats. They are going to keep it going as long as they can. The 50 years may stretch into 100. What the native people do not know is that the money used to negotiate the settlement of land claims is coming out of their land claim settlement. I say that the board of directors of the Indian Brotherhood need independent advice from people who have no stake in the settlement. Then things may change.

MR. BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

### Native People Brainwashed By Advisers.

MR. FRASER: I am not against the settlement of land claims. The native people have every right to that settlement. But let us be reasonable. We also need development. The settlement of land claims will come, it is ours, but why stop development? Let us face it, the native people have been brainwashed by their advisers who are being paid good salaries. I do not like to sound bitter but I can not help it. I have a great respect and love for the people I represent. They are my friends and always will be whether or not I am their representative in this House. I will maybe change the subject a little bit.

I would like to invite tourism to this Assembly to justify their position. It seems to me they represent only the few communities. It is really just a department of tourism for Yellowknife. We have fishing lodges, big game outfitters and parks out there, you know, but where are the tourists? Maybe they went to the Yukon too. Another thing, I hear stories that non-resident hunters are bringing hunting parties into the Northwest Territories. I would like to know more about that. Maybe the wildlife service should be looking at it if the department of tourism is not. Another thing I would like to know more about is how the handicraft branch operates.

### Surplus Of Housing In Norman Wells.

I will just pause for a minute here, Mr. Speaker. Housing has always been a problem in the Northwest Territories. There are not enough houses for everybody but in Norman Wells we have a different problem. I would like to invite maybe anybody who has not got a house to come to Norman Wells. We have about 28 duplexes and about 14 single dwellings and there is nobody to go in them and they talk about private enterprise genning up for the pipeline. Sure, some private enterprise did gen up for the pipeline because of some big wheel, you could call him from Ottawa, who said there would be a pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley, but you would not think that the government itself would make that mistake. We have no shortage of housing in Norman Wells. There are all kinds of houses. I do not know who is going to go in them but it is going to cost money to keep them operating.

The last topic that I intend to cover today is the invisible Drury inquiry. Where is he? We in this Legislature must do all we can to ensure that this inquiry is productive. We have got to make sure that it does not become another travelling circus. It should be stressed by all of us here that we are the only institution in the Northwest Territories today that is fully elected to represent all the people in the territories.

I urge all of you to speak with Hon. Charles Drury openly, express to him your total opposition to such creations as the Dene nation. I personally find this concept to be totally opposed to every principle of democracy that I believe in. The people who push the idea try to make the whole tribe return to the wigwams by declaring independence. That, of course, will not prevent the world outside from progressing by giant strides; it will not change the rules and facts of history, nor the real power relationship in the Northwest Territories. It is a moral obligation on our part to oppose any divisions along racial lines in our territory.

MR. BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

MR. FRASER: When I mention wigwams, if everyone went back to the land, as the Dene propose, we would not need a Wildlife Ordinance. There would not be any game left.

### Self-determination Based Upon Universal Suffrage

In closing I must state my full support for the principle of self-determination, not only for native peoples but for every resident of the Northwest Territories. A self-determination based upon universal suffrage, one person, one vote. A

self-determination based upon each person accepting his neighbour as an equal, regardless of race, colour or belief. A self-determination which will assist our territory to once again become a land of equal opportunity, free from the tensions that exist and divide us. Let us all strive to participate fully in Canada's tomorrow. That is the shape of the political future I want for the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further replies? Mr. Lyall.

Mr. Lyall's Reply

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to present to this Assembly today, a question that I put forth on behalf of the residents of my constituency. I direct my question to the administration of this government. Specifically, I direct my question to the head of the task force on devolution. I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, when the administration of this government will have enough confidence in the people of the Central Arctic to allow them to run their own affairs. Devolution sounds fine; decentralization, everyone agrees, is a great idea. My question is, how long are we going to wait for this government to practise what it preaches? When the words "devolution" and "decentralization" were first introduced to us it took us some time to figure out what was meant, what the difference was between local government devolution and territorial government decentralization. But we finally got it and we thought it was a fine idea, something that we had been saying for a long time. The explanation of the concepts, were explained to us and I believe the idea was accepted by every Member of this Assembly as a long overdue declaration of direction by the administration of this government.

Concerning Establishment Of Central Arctic Region.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer you to the proceedings of the committee of the whole to consider Sessional Paper 1-61, Devolution. These proceedings took place during the 61st session of our Assembly on February 9, 1977. At that time, Mr. Speaker, I made the motion which read: "I move that this committee recommend to the administration that, in implementing the devolution program, consideration be given to establishing the Central Arctic as a region as soon as possible."

You may recall, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Fraser strongly supported that motion. The Hon. Peter Ernerk spoke in favour of the motion, calling it a good motion. The Hon. Arnold McCallum stated that he believed in decentralization and that he supported the motion. Referring to the Fort Smith region, he said that he thought it "... was unworkable for a number of years." I need not remind anyone here that Hon. Arnold McCallum is a resident of Fort Smith, yet still felt strongly enough to support my motion in this manner. Mr. Pudluk also pledged his support of the motion. More significant, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that when the question was called there was unanimous agreement with the motion. Unanimous agreement, Mr. Speaker, all 11 Members present at that meeting were in favour of the motion.

Proceedings Of February 9th, 1977, Recalled

If you will permit, Mr. Speaker, I would like to go into the background of my motion and the proceedings of that committee of the whole on February 9th of this year. Assistant Commissioner Mullins and Mr. Creery were the two witnesses called. Assistant Commissioner Mullins explained the devolution paper to this Assembly. Assistant Commissioner Mullins said that what the government was trying to do was "... to allow more decisions to take place in government operations, operations closer to the people that are affected by those decisions." I was very pleased to hear that, Mr. Speaker. I was happy to hear Assistant Commissioner Mullins say those words. Assistant Commissioner Mullins further explained to this Assembly that the government was making further efforts to shift the decision making "... on as many issues as possible from our headquarters department to our regional staffs to other areas more close to the people affected by decisions." At that point, Mr. Speaker, I asked Assistant Commissioner Mullins if it was part of this decentralization that the Central Arctic would be a region on its own. Assistant Commissioner Mullins replied that the government did not "... yet have enough confidence that the benefits of moving in that direction would bear a reasonable relationship to the cost of doing so."



Central Arctic Ready To Become Region.

My question to the administration, Mr. Speaker, is this: has the task force had enough time to acquire confidence in the Central Arctic, enough time to realize, to recognize, that the Central Arctic is ready and capable of conducting its own affairs? Does this government accept the fact that it is not practical to administer Arctic settlements from the Alberta border? My question, Mr. Speaker, is this: when are we going to be allowed to run our own show? Not just on paper, not just as policy, but really in everyday life. When is this government going to loosen the ropes? Devolution, more decision making in the settlements is happening. Decentralization appears to be a painfully slow process. Mr. Speaker, my question at this time is: how soon, in what time frame, is the Central Arctic going to be allowed to function independently? How soon, Mr. Speaker, will it be before the Central Arctic will be functioning as the separate region that it always has been? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further replies?

Item 3, questions and returns. Are there any returns? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I have a number of returns.

Return To Question W1-63: Telephones, Central Arctic

Question W1-63 asked by Mr. Lyall on October 17th. Mr. Lyall asked what action had been taken to rectify problems with telephone service in the Central Arctic.

In response to an earlier query regarding telephone service this year, Canadian National Telecommunications, in a letter dated August 9, 1977, provided the following information:

1. An operator was withdrawn from Cambridge Bay because the position became redundant with the turn up of regular long distance service to Holman Island.
2. CNT did not withdraw the technical position from Cambridge Bay. CNT has experienced difficulty in filling the position. In order to bring their equipment up to standard, they are presently providing field training and help to a man in Cambridge Bay who already has considerable telecommunications experience.
3. The difficulty in rousing the operator is attributed to delays experienced by a subcontractor in installing additional long distance equipment.

Mr. Ed Locke, CNT superintendent for the Mackenzie district has indicated he will be pleased to discuss any specific questions the House might have with regard to CNT service when he appears before the Legislative Assembly.

Return To Question W5-63: Move Of Police Detachment, Resolute Bay

Question W5-63 asked by Mr. Ludy Pudluk. On October 18th, Mr. Pudluk inquired as to the delay of the move of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police office to the village of Resolute Bay. Original plans had called for utilization of building number 55 in Resolute Bay for the RCMP. The settlement council, however, elected to retain building number 55 for their own use. The RCMP are now negotiating with the Resolute Bay Housing Association for use of another building and, once negotiations have been completed, they will move accordingly.

Return To Question W6-63: Gymnasium, Hall Beach

Question W6-63 was asked by Mr. Mark Evaluarjuk. Mr. Evaluarjuk inquired as to what plans the administration has for the construction of a gymnasium in Hall Beach. Our current long-range forecast calls for the construction during the fiscal year 1981-82 of a new school in the community of Hall Beach consisting of six classrooms, an industrial arts facility, a home economics facility, a resource centre, a continuing education room and a gymnasium.

Return To Question W7-63: Length Of Airstrip In Central Arctic

Question W7-63 was asked by Mr. Lyall. On October 18th, Mr. Lyall asked what progress had been made in negotiations to lengthen airstrips in the Central Arctic to 5000 from the present 3000 feet. The Air Transport Committee has recently given permission for Northward Airlines Limited to serve Yellowknife, Cambridge Bay, Johnson Point, Sachs Harbour, Gjoa Haven, Holman Island, Pelly Bay, Spence Bay, Repulse Bay, Hall Beach and Igloodik with F-27 equipment, subject to airport suitability.

This application would provide for an increased level of service in these communities. An examination of the economic factors involved with this change in service, including load factors, is being undertaken to determine the costs of providing such a level of service prior to granting an operating certificate to Northward for those airstrips not currently meeting F-27 standards. It is anticipated that a decision on the required upgrading will be made prior to the 1978 construction season.

Partial Return To Question W11-63: Progress Report On Skill Testing

Question W11-63 was asked by Mr. Butters. Mr. Butters requested information as to when the administration would be prepared to provide a report on progress being made in testing Northwest Territories students on their grasp of basic academic subjects being taught in the Northwest Territories school system. An oral report can be provided by Monday, October 24, and a written report can be tabled the following day, October 25th.

Return To Question W13-63: Anik Radio To Clyde River

Question W13-63 was asked by Mr. Ipeelee Kilabuk. On October 19th, Mr. Kilabuk requested information as to when the people in Clyde River could expect Anik service. Long distance telephone service via Anik is scheduled for Clyde River during the fiscal year 1978-79. As Mr. Kilabuk is aware, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio and television services via Anik are currently only provided to communities with a population of 500 or more under the accelerated coverage plan, and thus no date can be given at this time for the provision of Anik radio and television to Clyde River.

Mr. Speaker, I should just add that we are making repeated requests of the CBC and of the federal Department of Communications to lower that population figure below 500, recognizing the urgent need for radio and television service to smaller communities.

Return To Question W14-63: Acquisition Of Projector From Old American Base

Question W14-63 was asked by Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Kilabuk inquired as to what progress had been made in obtaining a movie projector for the community of Clyde River from the United States coast guard station. No decision has been taken as yet by the federal government on disposal of the assets from the coast guard station. The territorial government has approached the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs on a number of occasions to attempt to have the assets released for distribution in the Baffin region, but the final approval has not yet been given. Mr. Kilabuk will be kept informed as to the status of these negotiations.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions? Mr. Lafferty.

Question W19-63: NCPC Power Rates

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, since the NCPC power rate increases are again being suggested and that the private home owners and residents of Fort Simpson are very concerned that they may not be able to meet any further increases to Northern Canada Power Commission power rates, what is the administration doing to assist the residents of Fort Simpson who have one of the highest power rates anywhere in Canada, even exceeding those rates of Prince Edward Island, contrary to the reports that the task force report states?

Question W20-63: Government Grants

I have another question of the administration. Because the Department of Information will be publishing an information booklet on all available territorial and federal grants and this information will no doubt cause more people to wonder if people of the North are taking advantage of these grants or not, is the administration thinking about making public or known to this House all projects that are presently funded in whole or in part by the territorial government?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I believe that there is some information either provided as an information item or to be provided on the last question that the Member asked. However, we will take that part of the question as notice and ensure that a reply is forthcoming.

Return To Question W19-63: NCPC Power Rates

With regard to the first question on NCPC power rates, although the power rates in Fort Simpson are indeed high, I regret to advise you that they are certainly not the highest in Canada, there being many, many places in the Northwest Territories, and I say this with regret, where the power rates are considerably higher than those of Fort Simpson. Approaches have been made at various times for the subsidization of electric power through various means. None of them have proven to be successful thus far. At the present time I know that NCPC are considering various means in conjunction with the Minister of solving this problem and I can not outline any of the solutions that may be available at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions? Mr. Butters.

Question W21-63: Rate Of Unemployment In The N.W.T.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, would the administration please obtain soonest from Statistics Canada or the pertinent government agency the rate of unemployment currently being experienced in the Northwest Territories as a percentile so that comparisons with the rates of unemployment experienced in other provincial and territorial jurisdictions may be meaningfully compared?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Question W22-63: Hydro Plan, Snare Rapids

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, some time ago when the building of the Snare Rapids dam was being built, the people of Rae were promised lower power rates if that project were started or built. I am wondering if the administration is aware of this, and is doing something for the people in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, we will inquire of NCPG as to any commitment that was made and provide an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Steen.

Question W23-63: Economic Situation Mackenzie Valley

MR. STEEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Department of Economic Development and Tourism what plans they have to improve the economic situation down the Mackenzie Valley and Delta now that the Mackenzie Valley pipeline will not be built.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that as notice and file a reply tomorrow morning.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Question W24-63: Tourist Camping Permits

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, one last question. What is the administration going to do to support their staff in the giving of permits to tourists in looking into some kind of law that would back these people in giving them out?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Peter Ernerk, I will assume you will take that as notice and file a reply, will you?

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Gentlemen, I trust these questions either are or will be put into writing. Further questions? Mr. Evaluarjuk, did I see your hand?

Question W25-63: Hamlet Status, Repulse Bay

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the administration about Repulse Bay hamlet status. The 500 square mile boundary Repulse Bay asked for was not approved in Yellowknife or have you given the residents of Repulse Bay an answer to the above yet? Even if the hamlet of Repulse Bay gets the 500 square mile boundary, it will not conflict with the land claims.

Return To Question W25-63: Hamlet Status, Repulse Bay

THE COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Mr. Speaker and Members of Council, three weeks ago I was in Repulse Bay and the people did indeed raise this question. It is a complicated question because it turns on the availability of gravel. We did put together hamlet boundaries to present to the community and I think they understand the problem, but unfortunately, within the boundaries was a certain amount of water, lakeshore, so they have asked that we redesign the section of land that was proposed and when I left Repulse it was with the understanding that the regional office, primarily the superintendent of Local Government, would meet with the people of Repulse Bay and the hamlet and see if they could work this out so that the boundary areas were all on land and did not include a portion of water. So, I notice that the director of Keewatin region is here. Perhaps he could give a more up-to-date report on it and we will provide it in writing to the Member for Foxe Basin.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further questions? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question W26-63: Gravel Truck, Repulse Bay

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I have another question. This is relating to Repulse Bay. I would like to say in the community there is little gravel in the Repulse Bay area. Unfortunately when we start to make roads--they will have to make roads now-- they will have to go quite a way to get some gravel. We would like to get a truck to deal with the gravel. I wonder if the government could give me an answer about giving us a truck for the purpose of taking the gravel to do a proper job.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Speaker, I remember the question of the truck being discussed, but it escapes my mind what was decided. Perhaps I can take the question as notice and file an answer with the Council tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Further questions? Mr. Pearson.

Question W27-63: Future, Port Burwell

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, what plans does the administration have for the future of Port Burwell? Does it plan to take some action with regard to the future of that community?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

Return To Question W27-63: Future, Port Burwell

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Speaker, I plan on visiting Port Burwell in December and perhaps Mr. Pearson would join me for the trip over. I understand that by February there will be no one left there. This is the word we have heard. I am not sure if that is accurate, so that is the reason I decided to go myself and perhaps together we can see what their final wishes are and then we will be able to make our final plan.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lyall.

Question W28-63: Polar Bear Quota, Spence Bay

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, has this administration had enough time to put together the results of the polar bear survey north of Spence Bay area to raise the quota? The people of Spence Bay are asking for a raise in quota and I think that the administration should have that answer by now.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, there were a series of studies involved in settling the question of a quota for polar bear north of Spence Bay and I would very much like the opportunity to present a written reply on that subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further questions? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I express my appreciation for the efficiency with which the Minister answered the question of the Member from the Western Arctic. If he can file a meaningful answer by 9:00 o'clock a.m. tomorrow morning it would be indeed a miracle. I wonder if he would take also under consideration the following question.

Question W29-63: Economic Development, Mackenzie District

On September 9th, when the Hon. Warren Allmand gave the pipeline to the Yukon, he said in part, referring to the Northwest Territories: "Recognizing that the economy of such a large area should not be so dependent on a single activity, my department will be seeking longer term solutions to this problem by developing comprehensive economic strategy for the Mackenzie region."

In view of the statement of the Hon. Warren Allmand, has the federal government repatriated its responsibility for economic development in the Mackenzie district of the Northwest Territories, and if not then, I must assume that the Minister of Economic Development and the Commissioner must surely be able to provide us with details and information related to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's "comprehensive economic strategy for the Mackenzie region."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

Return To Question W29-63: Economic Development, Mackenzie District

THE COMMISSIONER: It sounds like a problem for the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Mr. Speaker, I can not explain it, but I can tell you this, that last week in Ottawa Mr. Parker and Mr. Mullins and myself along with a couple of others met with the senior officials of the Department of Indian Affairs and raised some of these questions that Mr. Butters and others have been raising the last two or three days as to the economic future of primarily the Mackenzie Valley. I can say that we have agreed to set up a small, very senior group to take a look at some joint planning and I have no idea, of course, when it will be in any position to report, but I can say that we are active in this area.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Question W30-63: Dock At Prelude Lake

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, what is the administration going to do about building a dock in Prelude Lake so that people can put their boats in the water, and also is there any place to park their mobile homes close to the lake where their children can swim and be looked after, rather than being parked so far back?

My question to the administration is simply this: is the Minister of Economic Development going to look into it and come up with a positive solution for the next session so that the people who are operating businesses in the community or in that area do not suffer?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Return To Question W30-63: Dock At Prelude Lake

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, last January one of the Honourable Members, I can not recall which one it was, asked a question with regard to tourism policy. I have asked my officials to look to the present tourism policy and see if they could in fact update some of the outdated items within the tourism policies. To answer your question, Mr. Whitford, we should be able to come out with a more acceptable tourism policy by January of 1978. Certainly your point is well taken.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

Question W31-63: Construction Clean-up, Repulse Bay

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the administration about the construction of ten houses this summer in Repulse Bay. The contract will probably end in November and I would like to know if it is possible to set aside money, a contract, maybe \$200 will do for the cleaning up next summer, because they make a mess and it is already covered by the snow and they will have to wait until next year when the snow melts. Sir, if it is possible I would like to have some money set aside. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Return To Question W31-63: Construction Clean-up, Repulse Bay

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, funds have been set aside for clean-up after construction of the last set of houses. We realize that there was a problem there and we hope it will not happen again, but I can assure the Member that the clean-up will take place.

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



Question W32-63: Polar Bear Quota

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I have another question. Really I am somewhat reluctant to ask this question because I have been asking the same question for a long time. The people of my constituency requested me to ask this question. It is on the quota for polar bears. Hall Beach residents would like to see an increase in polar bear quotas. It has been brought up every year. If I am right, the quotas in the Northwest Territories for polar bears is 516. But last year only 428 were killed. Is that a fact?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Partial Return To Question W32-63: Polar Bear Quota

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, the survey work that has been done this summer on polar bears seems to have provided us with a considerable amount of additional information and this information will permit us to make a proper answer with regard to polar bear quotas in a number of places, including Hall Beach. I doubt if I will be able to give Mr. Evaluarjuk a proper answer immediately, but within the next two or three months I believe that we will be able to provide a proper answer on the quota which will be backed up by good figures, by good statistics.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Question W33-63: Sponsor Northern DREE Program

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, is the northern Department of Regional Economic Expansion program being sponsored, financed or assisted by the Department of Indian Affairs?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Return To Question W33-63: Sponsor Northern DREE Program

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, my knowledge is that it is not.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Question W33A-63: Why Race Is Benefiting

MR. STEWART: A supplementary question. If the northern DREE program is not financed by the Department of Indian Affairs, is it not contrary to the Bill of Rights of Canada to give preference on loans on a racial base, namely Indian and Eskimo?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Partial Return To Question W33A-63: Why Race Is Benefiting

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, my answer is no. I believe there are two different types or three different types of programs, one known as Special ARDA and I believe this is where the native people could benefit. The other two, I will have to go back and file a supplementary answer to Mr. Stewart's question.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further questions? Mr. Kilabuk.

Question W34-63: Additional Bus

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Speaker, I have another question which was raised by my constituency. The people of Pangnirtung wanted to find out if they will be getting an additional school bus. This winter, the Commissioner had informed them they would get one in four and a half years before the bus broke down, so they wanted to be informed. This particular question

was raised by the people of Pangiirtung where the people asked as to what are the possibilities of getting a school bus. We had indications at one time that after four years we would be needing a new bus, before the bus broke down and if the bus was in good condition after four years they will get another bus. They have asked that question and now they would like to know if there is any possibility of getting it and if you could answer the question I would appreciate it.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I must take the question as notice and I will provide an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lyall.

Question W35-63: Frobisher Bay Liquor Ban

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask this administration whether there was any report on how many deaths or people going blind or how many people were disabled by drinking other than liquor in Frobisher Bay since the ban went up.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, there has not been a survey of that nature carried out. However, I am not 100 per cent sure on that and I will make arrangements for us to search through the material we have and try and find out if there has been anything done of that nature.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kilabuk, you had further questions?

Question W36-63: Questions From Broughton Island

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Speaker, I have another question which was raised by my constituency of Broughton Island. When the Commissioner was in Broughton Island he was asked if the settlement could build a wharf. They asked me again if the administration has considered the above question.

Question W37-63: New Office, Broughton Island

The other question is: Broughton Island settlement council has asked me to ask the administration if they could get a new building. Right now, they are using the school as their chambers. Would it be possible to get a brand new office building?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Speaker, I well remember the two questions on Broughton. I am afraid I will have to refresh my memory as to what plans there were. I recall being asked and I recall putting the requests in to the administrative mechanism but it escapes me for the moment what the status is but I will find out and table a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions?

I hesitate to call Item 4, oral questions. Are there any oral questions?

Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Lafferty.

ITEM NO. 6: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Indemnities, Allowances And Members' Services

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, the standing committee on indemnities, allowances and Members' services, met this morning and I wish to report that the committee has decided that, where required, claims by Members for payment of interpreters' fees incurred in the conduct of constituency business, be met. All claims should be substantiated by signed receipts and claims in excess of \$10 per hour or \$75 per day will be submitted to the committee for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Further reports of standing or special committees?

Item 7, notices of motion. Hon. Dave Nickerson.

ITEM NO. 7: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 3-63, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, 1977-78

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on October 21st I shall move that Bill 3-63, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1978, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: No.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Notice Of Motion 10-63: Housing Corporation And Associations To Visit Baffin Island

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of motion that on October 21st I will make the following motion:

WHEREAS the local housing associations no longer have the same authority to set rents or in other matters that they used to have;

AND WHEREAS although the government has promised that housing associations and co-operatives would be given opportunities to bid on contracts for the construction of houses in their settlements, this does not always happen;

AND WHEREAS there are various other problems about housing in settlements which concern the housing association and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly recommend that the board of directors and the managing director of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation visit settlements in the Baffin region as soon as possible to hold meetings to discuss these problems and to explain the functions of the housing associations and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Further notices of motion? Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I am going to make two notices of motion.

Notice Of Motion 11-63: Radios, High Arctic

I would like to give notice of a motion I will move on the 21st of October, which is tomorrow:

WHEREAS there is an increase of outpost camps in the High Arctic, but they do not have enough radios, which is inconvenient to the campers, I think there are only three radios in north of Baffin outpost camps;

NOW THEREFORE, I make a motion. In the coming year, 1978, I would like an increase of radios to be used by outpost camps.

I would also like to make notice of the following motion:

Notice Of Motion 12-63: Polar Bear Tags

WHEREAS the hunting season for polar bears closes on May 31st. This spring someone found a polar bear with the number 99 on its fur and this is causing problems;

NOW THEREFORE, I would like the administration surveying the bears not to put numbers on before May 31st.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lafferty.

Notice Of Motion 13-63: Mackenzie Liard Highway Construction

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice of a motion I will make tomorrow regarding information or documents dealing with Mackenzie Liard:

WHEREAS many residents of the South Mackenzie and Liard regions depend on highway construction and maintenance projects;

AND WHEREAS this type of ongoing developmental project is of the utmost importance to people of the Mackenzie district for their social and economic well-being;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Treasury Board, through the Northwest Territories government, be asked by this House to provide Members of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly with information and/or documents that may affect any decision regarding the approval of the Mackenzie Liard highway.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion 14-63: Dempster Pipeline

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that tomorrow, October 21st, I will make the following motion:

WHEREAS the Canadian, United States agreement to build a spur line off the Foothills Yukon pipeline to tap Mackenzie Delta natural gas supplies specifically mentions a Whitehorse, Dawson City, Dempster highway pipeline route;

AND WHEREAS there are no guarantees contained in the Canadian and United States agreement that the Dempster highway route is a firm proposal for construction;

AND WHEREAS northern Yukon Indian people and Loucheux people generally appear to oppose the Dempster route because of its anticipated effect on the population dynamics of the Porcupine caribou herd;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the administration encourage the Government of Canada that any consideration of the Dempster highway connection include study as an alternate, a Johnsons Crossing,

Norman Wells and MacKenzie Delta route, in the event unforeseen social, economic or environmental factors prevent construction of the Dempster highway natural gas pipeline.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Notice Of Motion 15-63: Amend Liquor Ordinance

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I am probably being presumptuous in introducing this motion at this time because basically it has to do with how my motion makes out today. However, to save time I would like to give notice at this time that tomorrow, October 21st, I will introduce a Private Member's Bill to amend the Liquor Ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: On a point of order, sir, it would appear to me that if we introduce a Private Member's Bill tomorrow that we have to sit for three or four consecutive days. Is that not correct?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, I should think it would be Mr. Stewart's problem to figure out how, if he introduces a Private Member's Bill tomorrow, he is going to get it through this session. Notices of motion. Are there further notices of motion?

Item 8, motions for the production of papers.

Item 9, motions.

ITEM NO. 9: MOTIONS

Motions 4-63 to 9-63 inclusive. Motion 4-63, Mr. Pearson.

Motion 4-63: Increase In Welfare Rates In The N.W.T.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Minister of Health and Social Services has emphatically refused to increase the rates paid to welfare recipients;

AND WHEREAS needy people throughout the Northwest Territories are suffering great hardship;

AND WHEREAS funds are available for an immediate increase;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly recommend to the administration that an increase be made immediately in the welfare rates.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Is there a seconder? Mr. Whitford. Discussion? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: I will hold my remarks until I sum up, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Discussion, Hon. Dave Nickerson.

Motion That Motion 4-63 Be Referred To Committee Of The Whole

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, I move that this matter be referred to the committee of the whole. Rule 45.

MR. SPEAKER: You say Rule 45?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Hon. Arnold McCallum. On the motion to move the motion moved by Mr. Pearson to committee of the whole, is there any discussion? Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I want to do this is because this motion entails a number of things which should be discussed in some amount of detail. It would be very difficult for us to do this in formal session. Some of the statements made as a preamble to the motion, for instance, need some elaboration. The statement, for instance, that people, some people in the Northwest Territories are suffering great hardship; I personally do not know of anybody in Baffin Island who is starving to death or is even suffering from malnutrition. I would very much like to ask Mr. Pearson for some substantive information on what these cases might be.

#### Funds Not Available

The second "whereas" clause states here that funds are available for an immediate increase. I would like the opportunity of presenting to the committee evidence which would suggest that this is not true and even in fact if this motion were to pass it would be difficult for this government to comply with the request because the money is not there.

I would also, Mr. Speaker, like the opportunity of being able to tell my colleagues in a fair amount of detail what my plans are with regard to social assistance and social assistance rates policy. I have been working for a number of months on this matter. I have given the matter a great deal of thought. I think that, were this motion to be passed prematurely, as I would see it at the present time, it would not enable myself, the other people on the Executive Committee and my staff who have been diligently working at a reform in the social assistance policy -- it would negate all of the work that we have put into that. So I think that we should be able to discuss this at a good deal of length, and maybe people would like to ask me questions and I could reply. I would certainly like to ask Mr. Pearson a number of questions to find out what the situation really is in Baffin Island because I have been given a good deal of conflicting advice from that particular location. These, then, Mr. Speaker, are the reasons why I think this matter should be referred to discussion in committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Gentlemen, I have to remind you now that we are discussing whether the motion in question be discussed in committee of the whole. I appreciate it is a fine line to walk, not to discuss it, yet to discuss only the motion made to refer. However, I caution you to stay on the motion to refer and on that motion is there further discussion? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, on the motion to refer, I would expect that the mover has the right of last reply. He could assist me in my decision on my vote on that motion if he could tell me when he exercises his right of last reply whether he would be accepting the direction of this Assembly, should the motion as placed before us by Mr. Pearson be approved and accepted and adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, there is no right of last reply when you are amending someone else's motion.

MR. BUTTERS: I beg your pardon. This is not an amendment. It is a motion to refer and it is a motion in its own right.

Rules Consulted Re Motion

MR. SPEAKER: Well, Mr. Butters, the motion was made by Mr. Pearson and I think I have to regard the motion made by Hon. Dave Nickerson, in effect, as an amendment of it.

MR. BUTTERS: A point of order, sir. Could you provide a ruling?

MR. SPEAKER: The ruling as to the right of reply is in Rule 45(2): "Notwithstanding Subrule (1), the mover of an amendment to a motion has no right to the last reply." However, your question as I understand it is that you dispute whether this is an amendment.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I suggest it is a motion in its own right and by the Rules of the House of Commons is entitled to receive all the consideration of a motion in its own right.

MR. SPEAKER: It is certainly in Rule 47 referred to as a motion, but an amendment is also a motion. So, is there any further discussion on the motion by Hon. Dave Nickerson? Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, I think in my view it would only be appropriate to discuss maybe at some length if need be, the problems that do exist in different communities and problems that may arise. In speaking not to the amendment but to the motion itself, it deals with the people suffering great hardships throughout the Northwest Territories and I think that we as individual Members of this House do wish to make an input and identify some of these problems in our communities, so maybe on that point I would support the amended motion so we can bring it to a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion of the motion to refer? Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I rise to support Hon. Dave Nickerson's amendment. I believe that this subject is of great interest to the territories and to do it justice we should be able to discuss it openly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, I will fully support Hon. Dave Nickerson's referral to take this motion before the House in committee of the whole. I think we might have some interesting points to hear from Hon. Dave Nickerson.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there further discussion on the motion to refer? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, I share the view of Hon. Dave Nickerson. I think it is a good idea and I do hope that Hon. Dave Nickerson will bring forth some expert witnesses and perhaps the administration will also agree to supply some of their financiers so that we can discuss it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Refer Motion 4-63 To Committee Of The Whole, Carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The question being called. On the motion by Hon. Dave Nickerson to refer Mr. Pearson's motion to committee of the whole for discussion. The question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Clerk, would you see that it is included for committee of the whole in the orders of the day?



Motion 5-63, Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I am ready to proceed but my colleagues around me are mouthing the word coffee. Is it coffee time?

MR. SPEAKER: At 4:00 o'clock. It is coffee time at 4:00 o'clock p.m. and I rather thought with a brief motion like that we could get through it before 4:00 o'clock. Do you think you will take longer than 4:00 o'clock?

MR. BUTTERS: Ten minutes for my supportive arguments, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, if that is the case maybe we should recess for 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: Gentlemen, this House will come to order. The Chair recognizes a quorum. Gentlemen, one Honourable Member has kindly suggested that we might consider standing down our motions temporarily and going on to committee of the whole and particularly the item dealing with the Metis Association, in that they are here and have been here for a couple of days. I am fearful that if we continue on with motions we will likely run out of time today, requiring them to come back tomorrow. So are Members prepared to give their unanimous consent to leave motions temporarily and go on to committee of the whole for consideration?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore, Item No. 11, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and recommendations to the Legislature, information items and other matters.

ITEM NO. 11: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE, INFORMATION ITEMS AND OTHER MATTERS

This House will resolve into committee of the whole for consideration of matters relating to the Metis Association and it says here "and Committee for Original People's Entitlement land claims" but I do not think we will have anything from COPE. Mr. Stewart, do you mind taking the chair?

MR. STEWART: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: With Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Matters Relating to the Metis Association and COPE Land Claims, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE METIS ASSOCIATION AND COPE LAND CLAIMS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order. Is it the desire of this committee to call witnesses from the Metis Association?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): What is the direction of this committee? Shall we ask for statements from the witnesses at this time or do you wish to proceed in another manner?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Overvold, Mr. McNeely and Mr. Wah-Shee, would you take your place as witnesses? Gentlemen, would one of you lead off and give us your position please?

Settlement Negotiations

MR. OVERVOLD: Mr. Chairman, legislation committee, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to appear before you and enter into some dialogue in an attempt to try and clarify some of the statements as we presented them in our claims proposal to the federal government recently. Just a general comment before we answer questions and this has to do with our approach towards settling claims. The position we have outlined in our proposal which you

should have in front of you is basically a negotiating position. We subscribe to the concept that we would prefer a settlement that is negotiated with the federal government, that means that it should be -- the end result should be a settlement that we can all agree to and live with. With that general comment in the back of our minds I would like to now encourage you to ask any questions and we will attempt to clarify any misunderstandings or doubts you might have about some of the concepts outlined in this proposal.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Overvold. Questions from the floor? Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have received the booklet entitled "Our Land, Our Culture, Our Future", which I guess outlines the various premises or the various objectives that you wish to encompass with your land claims. I must say that I think that everybody in this chamber would agree with the objectives. There might be some disagreement as to the way that you plan to realize these objectives, but they are all, in my mind, very good and very honourable objectives. I have a number of questions, but one question on each objective. I guess if you start off with objective number one which is to secure the ownership and use and enjoyment of the lands needed by the aboriginal peoples for preserving, protecting and enhancing the native traditional lifestyle and land economy; such lands to be known as aboriginal lands, I guess it might be to our advantage if you were to define really what you meant by aboriginal lands and how much aboriginal land and where it is to be.

#### Aboriginal Lands

MR. OVERVOLD: Basically by aboriginal lands we are referring to lands that have been traditionally used by the aboriginal people of the Mackenzie corridor. There has been some research done in the past, initiated by the Indian Brotherhood on land use and occupancy, research outlining lands that have been used in this regard and it amounted to some 450,000 square miles of land that at one time or another was used. I am not saying that these lands are all used or needed by the aboriginal peoples today. There will be land that, of course, the native people will have to be compensated for if they wish to give up this land. The position is that the native people want to protect some land for traditional uses and want to see some land used by everyone as well. Is that clear?

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Traditional land claims settlements to date have generally contained things like so much land, the title of which is transferred to an organization, so much money involved, that type of thing, and I know that you probably have not got specific ideas on this as of yet, what you want to get is agreement on the objectives. I was just wondering would your organization want title to what you herein describe as aboriginal land? Would you want title of that transferred to your organization?

MR. OVERVOLD: In objective number one we said to secure ownership. Now, there are various ways of securing ownership and you have mentioned one and that is fee simple. In other words, the aboriginal people gain title to the land. There are other ways of securing ownership or protection of these lands, one would be for the federal government to recognize through legislation a caveat in either the collective aboriginal names or in community names or in individual names against the Crown for protection of lands for certain uses.

Another way, of course, would be similar to the reserve system down south which I understand that none of our members should really care to enter into, so there are various ways and we, of course, will try and obtain the best and most secure position of the land for our membership.

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

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I do not really wish to monopolize the questioning here and maybe I would like to move on to another subject. In your objective number three, which is "To develop political institutions for the effective participation of aboriginal peoples in governing 'aboriginal lands', you propose this senate of the Mackenzie corridor." I wonder if it would be possible, Mr. Chairman, for the witnesses to elaborate a little on how they would see this senate operate and what would be its function?

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

Senate Function

MR. OVERVOLD: Are you directing the question primarily at the senate concept as we have outlined in fairly general terms in this proposal? Basically, we see the senate I guess providing two functions, one would be a veto over legislation passed by the Legislature and protecting only those rights obtained through a negotiated claims settlement and recognized in the federal legislation. In other words, we do not want to see what has happened in the past in various parts of Canada where the treaties were not lived up to or were eroded by provincial, territorial and federal legislation, either, you know, by design or just by unintentional means.

The senate will act as a watchdog in that area. The other purpose we see the senate functioning in would be a functional purpose where they would oversee regional or community land use committees and these committees would have authority over issuing land use permits if you wish, where that authority today rests in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It is a federal authority. I think just about every day during the winter months when there are exploration companies and seismic crews in the North that the communities are continuously raising outcries of indignation because they are left in a position where they are only consulted and they have no real say over control of lands around their communities. The people definitely want to have a say in controlling land use around their communities and this is an area in which we see the senate playing a major role.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. Dave Nickerson, anything further? You had indicated when you started to speak that you had several questions. I have other speakers listed but I was going to let you complete yours and take the next speaker.

MR. BUTTERS: On a point of order, sir. It seems to me that if we approach this matter in the same manner as we approach other agenda items, we should ask general questions first and then go through, as Hon. Dave Nickerson suggested, each objective and any Members who wish to ask a question at that time may do so.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Butters has the right approach to things. I believe there is a Rule that in committees one person is not allowed to continuously speak. I think I would prefer to have other Members air their views also.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to deal in the general area first and before I do I would like to welcome back to this chamber, in a different role, a former colleague, Mr. James Wah-Shee, who is accompanying the president of the Northwest Territories Metis Association and Mr. McNeely. We have missed your wisdom in this chamber.

---Applause

## Objectives

It is very good to see you back again, Mr. Wah-Shee. The general question I have, Mr. Chairman, is relative to the proposed agreement on the objectives. I am interested in their time frame. They have, I understand, held discussions with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and probably both ministers, both recent ministers, and it would appear to me that their eventual settlement would be probably based on three phases. It would appear to me that an agreement on the objectives would be fairly easy to reach, probably in a period of six months. Then, it would seem to me, they would have to concentrate on the detail of each particular objective which would require that they go back to their communities for intensive discussions which I would expect might take a year to a year and a half. On receiving that approval and taking that to the Minister I would see another year occurring in which they would go to the Minister and then back to double check with the communities so that eventual settlement, if everything went smoothly and in accordance with the expectation, this could take between four and five years to complete. Is that a fair assessment, Mr. Chairman?

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

MR. McNEELY: I will handle that one for Mr. Butters because I know him rather well. The first part of six months would seem rather optimistic because, if the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development began working on a reply today, it would take in the neighborhood of six months for them to prepare a reply, as has been found out by the group in your constituency which is in the negotiating process.

I think many, many people are not aware of the process that the federal government goes through in order to prepare positions that cabinet can reply to. We have presented our position and the department, through the native claims negotiating team, will get further clarification so that they can prepare a counter-proposal which then goes to the Department of Justice which renders its words of wisdom upon both proposals which then go on to the cabinet, so if the six months is out of whack, the others would certainly also be. I think five years would be in the ball park. That is about as close as one can come to it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. McNeely. Further questions of a general nature?

### Self-determination

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I assume the Metis Association supports some form of self-determination and, if that is the case, could I ask through you to have one of our witnesses indicate to this chamber what your meaning of those words would be?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Gentlemen?

MR. McNEELY: In making your assumption one would have to think that we agree on what the meaning is to begin with, if you are assuming that. I will offer you a couple of definitions and then tell you whether we agree or not. If self-determination is based on colour, on belief or exclusivity of belief or ethnic origin, excluding others on the basis of ethnic origin or colour or political belief, we can not support that position or that definition of self-determination.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. McNEELY: However, I will give you two quotes on the process of self-determination that we do support, our idea of self-determination is that greater powers be vested in this particular chamber. After all, we just look around and we see that the majority of Members are of native origin and the balance are long-term residents, so what better method of attaining self-determination than vesting greater powers in an institution that we as natives control? Going on, I would take it that your question stems from many of the comments of Mr. Erasmus with his Dene nation. I see the two of you frequently are at odds. I find that Mr. Butters also is at odds with them in The Drum.

I will read you a piece from Senator Forsey, one of the foremost constitutional experts in Canada when he wrote interpreting Kelly Creighton on October 27th, 1975. This is Senator Forsey: "If it means the creation of a Dene province with the same powers as any other province of course there is neither constitutional nor legal obstacles. However, if it means the creation of a province with powers greater than those of other provinces, it will require a constitutional amendment and that in practice could not be passed without the consent of all provinces. The reference to self-determination and recognition by the governments and peoples of the world means the right to succeed or the right to independent membership in the United Nations. That is impossible under our present constitution and I think it inconceivable that either the Government of Canada or the governments of all the provinces could be persuaded to agree to that necessary amendment."

### Multiculturalism

The second person I would like to quote is our Prime Minister at his press conference in Ottawa on December 23rd, 1976, where he indicated: "I remember fighting the 1968 election on the basis that there were not two nations in Canada in the political sense but if one wanted to use the words in a sociological or ethnological sense then there are many nations in Canada. Therefore, one can talk of one Canadian nation or community but, if one wants to look at particularities, one can talk of linguistic communities of which I say there are two main ones in Canada, or one can talk of many ethnic communities in Canada and there are certainly many in the territories. I even add regional communities in Canada. Perhaps the ethnic composition of Alberta and Manitoba is not all that different but I would not hesitate to say that they do form two different communities. The Indians and Inuit make up two communities. We have to take that into cognizance and the existence of such communities and that is exactly what our multiculturalism policy has attempted to do.

Now, I have always thought it was a mistake and I still think it is a mistake to try and define collective or communal rights by referral to the term of sovereignty. I think it is a mistake to identify political sovereignty with either blood, language, race, religion or colour and in our case particular belief."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. McNeely, would you go a little bit slower? Our interpreters are having problems.

MR. McNEELY: That is where you get into the very deep troubles which are seen eventually everywhere. I have given examples of this previously such as the situation in Cyprus. The Turks have described themselves as an ethnic group and the Greeks as another ethnic group with the result that there is no Cypriot community. The same principle applies in Northern Ireland where you have a division on the basis of religion as is true today in Lebanon and I think these two particular quotes outline our position very, very well, that we can not afford to be divided along any of the lines that are being put forward of race, colour or creed. If we do, we are taking ourselves away from fighting the traditional enemies of mankind which are illiteracy, poverty and disease. I think that answers the question.

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

#### Political Unity

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I must say, Mr. Chairman, that personally -- I suppose not that it particularly matters -- but I personally subscribe to that particular view and I congratulate the Metis Association on it. It does bring me to objective number seven, to achieve political unity among Mackenzie aboriginal peoples. I just do not know how and I am wondering how the Metis Association sees getting the unity between, say, the Indian Brotherhood and itself having expressed as they have that view of self-determination and knowing as they do the current view taken by the Indian Brotherhood on the question of self-determination which is quite different. I guess my question is, therefore, do you foresee any move by the Indian Brotherhood in an attempt to obtain unity towards your view of self-determination or, on the other hand, are you going to have to move your position?

MR. OVERVOLD: Mr. Chairman, on the question of unity, this, as Hon. David Searle has pointed out, is an objective of our association, the unity amongst the aboriginal peoples in the Mackenzie corridor. This is also my own personal objective. Basically we are taking the approach and we have made this public that we want unity amongst the aboriginal people in the area of developing and negotiating and settling native claims with the federal government. I think our work in the next few months will determine the amount of success we have. We are going to have to take these objectives as outlined in this proposal into the communities and hold open meetings and see if we can get a consensus in the community. I think the communities have no problem of being united at the community level. The communities live the same and work the same, use the same land and it is just a matter of understanding goals and coming to an agreement on goals and this is what we are going to try to do in the next few months.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Comments of a general nature? Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Supplementary to Hon. David Searle's question, Mr. Overvold...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Would you try to speak into your microphone, Mr. Lafferty.

Aboriginal Peoples

MR. LAFFERTY: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. Supplementary to Hon. David Searle's question, I do know of the attempt and am aware of the attempt in the working relationship between the native peoples, but the term "aboriginal peoples" is rather disturbing. My question is aimed at the remarks that you have made that your objective is toward the aboriginal people in the Mackenzie corridor upon an agreement by the majority of the people and in some part there is a reference to control over these people being turned over by an established body which will be agreed upon, but I do not see any allowance for individual rights amongst the native people, may they be Indian, Metis or Eskimo because the definition of "aboriginal peoples" is not defined. Does it include Eskimo people who are aboriginals too and from the Mackenzie Delta area?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Gentlemen? Mr. Overvold.

MR. OVERVOLD: Well, the question is not quite clear to me, Mr. Lafferty. Aboriginal peoples as you said include Inuit and I agree with you on that. I think we probably would be further ahead if we could not only achieve unity amongst the people, the Indian people in the Mackenzie corridor, but if it included also the Inuit people in the Delta. This is away ahead of us yet and the Inuit people are developing their own claims and this they chose to do and we respect that and we do have a working relationship with the people in the Mackenzie Delta. Our people, as you know, are intermarried and use the same lands and therefore there is going to have to be an overlapping in those areas, land use control, etc.

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

MR. MCNEELY: Mr. Lafferty mentioned individual rights and I think these are adequately protected by legislation now enacted federally in the Bill of Rights. I think there are ordinances in place that protect individual civil liberties and I can not see the federal government enacting legislation in the form of a claim settlement that would infringe upon civil liberties. It would be totally foreign and ridiculous to anything that we as Canadians believe in.

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

Beneficiaries Of Negotiated Agreement

MR. LAFFERTY: A supplementary question. Can you explain to me then that part of objective number eight that sets out to determine who will be a beneficiary of any negotiated agreement?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Gentlemen. Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: I would like to ask the Honourable Member to ask the question again, please. I did not get it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Lafferty, will you rephrase your question, please?

MR. LAFFERTY: Objective eight, to establish the rights of the aboriginal people of the Mackenzie corridor to determine who will be a beneficiary of any negotiated agreement. That tells me, as I understand that statement, that objective is that once the authority has been granted for any Metis person, it would mean that the Metis Association under the authority of this House will have the power to determine who will receive benefits from that



association. In the constitution of the Metis Association, the executive has the right, in the absence of the executive, the board of directors, or on the recommendation of the board of directors, to exclude from membership any Metis who is not supporting their objective. So, therefore, I ask the question if there should be a Metis person who is in disagreement with this claim, once the claims have been agreed to on these terms or on these objectives, will that person in opposition be excluded from any benefits that are rightfully his by inheritance if not by aboriginal rights?

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

MR. WAH-SHEE: Well, that section basically states that the aboriginal people of the land claim that is to be negotiated with the federal government, we are stating that the aboriginal people will define who should be eligible for the land claim which would be negotiated with the federal government. The eligibility criteria has not been completely worked out. We are still in the process of getting the ideas from the various representatives from the communities. We perceive that there will be one land claim for the Mackenzie corridor aboriginal people and that anyone who disagrees with any proposal that is put forth they have their own community structure which they can work through. These are just general objectives that have been presented to the federal government and this has yet to be negotiated.

This particular proposal deals basically with the aboriginal people who reside in the Mackenzie corridor and the Inuit people have their own Inuit associations which will be putting forth a claim and will negotiate a claim on behalf of the Inuit people, so we are fairly flexible as a native organization that is attempting to establish a claim with the federal government. As a matter of fact, I think that all of these objectives are very general in nature and it was done deliberately so that the details of the claim itself will be worked out over a long period of time in consultation with the people in the communities and this is the reason why you see that these objectives are very general in nature.

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

Authority To Expel

MR. OVERVOLD: I would like to clarify another point made by Mr. Lafferty, that the executive has the authority under the Metis Association's constitution to expel members. This is not so. The board of directors have the authority to do this, as provided by our membership, through our bylaws adopted at annual assemblies. As a matter of fact, we do not expel people for disagreeing with us. Our general philosophy is determined at our assemblies and day to day philosophies are determined by the board of directors and we carry out these directions. We think it is healthy for people in our membership to disagree. It brings out new ideas and we do not expel members for disagreeing. I would just like to clarify that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Comments of a general nature? I was just accused of allowing one person to speak too often. If there is anybody else, I will accept them first. Any other comments of a general nature? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would first of all like to say that I am very pleased to have had the explanation by our witnesses as regards the aspirations on self-determination and government explained to us, because I think they are the ones that this particular Assembly has put forth on many occasions. The comment that I would like to make to our witnesses deals primarily with the reconstitution of our existing institutions as regards participation and as it is indicated in objective number four that this territorial government has to be more responsive, not only to have, as indicated here, recently come from the South, but to all peoples. There are certain proposals put forth in that objective that to a degree do coincide with what we, as an Assembly, have put forward on our paper on constitutional development but there are others that we may have difficulty with.

I would perhaps best phrase my comment in the form of a question of our witnesses and ask a response dealing with how they in fact consider this particular Assembly and its various stands on constitutional development, how it would relate to what they would consider to be improvements, modifications, changes in the system of government that we have. They indicate that there has to be more response and more improvement for those for whom the North is a permanent home. Mr. McNeely indicated that in the beginning this Assembly is made up of a majority of native people and others who are long-term residents. I would consider this to be my permanent home and I guess the question I have is how do they see this government or this Assembly being more responsive to those of us who do consider it to be our permanent home?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): That is a dilly! Who wants to play with that one? Mr. McNeely.

Greater Transfer Of Powers

MR. McNEELY: Hon. Arnold McCallum, I would suggest you reread Mr. Fraser's talk earlier on. I am sure from the days that I have been in the gallery of the chamber, I hear constantly, Members, individual Members, asking questions of the Executive and of the elected Members of the Executive, requesting that they respond to the needs of their individual constituents. If there were a greater transfer of powers from the sixth floor of the Laing building to this chamber, certainly that is one area where you would have a greater response to the needs of each individual person because there is less of an accumulation of power. I think we both agree that that is right. As such, each individual Member would be able to accomplish that much more.

Another change, that if at some point we do become a viable entity in the economic community of Canada and this chamber begins to vote money bills, certainly that is another change one would like. Other than that, the other area, in which we would certainly like some changes, is bringing the land use permits north for the issuance of these permits to a more localized area, notwithstanding national pressures, of course. Does that answer it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Hon. Arnold McCallum, did you have something further?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would like to cite two particular objectives when we go through particular ones.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct a question to the witnesses. How do you see the Legislative Assembly becoming more effective in the settlement of land claims?

MR. McNEELY: As far as I know, land claims are settled between the individual bodies and the Government of Canada. If you are asking how do I see the Legislative Assembly becoming a more effective body, I think we should take a look at the matter in which the Wildlife Ordinance was prepared. On the Game Advisory Council you have a man of incredible stature and great integrity in Mr. Vince Steen. If more legislation were brought to this body with that type of preparation, you would have many, many more people involved in the decision making process than you now have and this would make this place that much more effective.

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

MR. FRASER: One more question, Mr. Chairman. I think the question was already asked. However, I will ask it again: Under an umbrella structure, what if the Indian Brotherhood refused to co-operate with unity? Mr. Wah-Shee?

#### Equal Representation

MR. WAH-SHEE: Yes. That is a very good question. First of all, our idea of working toward some sort of a structure which would be represented by the Metis people and the treaty Indians, our idea is that we would like to approach a structure similar to the existing Yukon structure, the Council of Yukon Indians, where this particular council has been set up to deal specifically with the negotiations of land claims. This particular council has equal representation, I believe, from Metis people of the Yukon and the treaty Indians and the board of directors is also represented from both groups. Their annual assembly has also equal representation from the Metis Associations, the Metis people and the treaty Indians or the status Indians.

We feel that if the question of land claims is going to be dealt with in a fair and reasonable way which would allow equal representation, then this would be to the advantage of the native people in the Mackenzie Valley and, of course, assuming that the election of this particular council would be democratically run and that the elected people, who make the policy decisions on the direction of the land claim negotiations, would be responsive and responsible to the people in the various communities that they do represent. This is why we suggested that this approach be taken, because at the present time you have two native organizations, one representing the Metis, the other representing treaty Indians. So our idea is that we would like to suggest the Yukon approach in dealing with the question of land claims. Hopefully that would be acceptable to the people in the communities, both Metis and treaty Indians.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: That is probably not a unique suggestion, but I had not seen it before. In thinking about it, frankly, Mr. Chairman, it is probably as good and as practical a suggestion as can come forward. The reason I think that is because I recently had access to some figures and, if my recollection is correct, it showed approximately 16,000 Inuit in this territory, approximately 14,000 or 15,000 whites and then it showed 8000 treaty Indians and 8000 Metis. These are figures that the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities produced at their recent conference. Forgetting about the whites and the Inuit for a moment, and thinking about the suggestion that was just made, if those figures are roughly true, 8000 Metis and 8000 treaty Indians, then based solely on population alone, the Yukon council type of approach to life with equal representation so there would be a common land claim negotiated, would appear to me to be a very sensible approach to life.

I guess there is no single thing or nothing really that we can do to help you on that, because your negotiations after all are with the federal government. I am surprised, I must say, that they have not latched on to that and insisted that such a type of council be put together for the reasons I have indicated.

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

#### The Issue Of Unity

MR. OVERVOLD: Just further clarification. It has been said that there are no issues under which treaty Indians and Metis can unite, but I think we are forgetting a major issue and this is the issue of unity itself. This is what we are trying to present in this proposal, that we could unite under the issue of unity. If you take away the two structures, not necessarily abolishing the Metis Association or Indian Brotherhood, I think there still is a necessity for both structures, but provide only one democratic structure where all aboriginal people in the Mackenzie corridor can develop their ideas. In this way we will abide by the democratic principle, the majority wins, and we would have one claims proposal and one body to develop this proposal and negotiate and settle our claims issue through.

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

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I will direct this question to Mr. Overvold. In reality what are the chances of gaining this unity amongst the native peoples of the Mackenzie Valley?

MR. OVERVOLD: That is a hard question to answer. I guess we have to look at specific cases in the communities and in most communities we know they are working quite well and people are living side by side and living basically the same type of life, using the same lands and we think it is very probable and very feasible for us to unite. We have been led, I think, and fallen into some traps and made some mistakes in the past whereby we have voiced opinions over, say, different ways of controlling the economy. I think the Brotherhood approach has basically been a socialistic type of approach and the Metis have traditionally been more of entrepreneur and capitalist type of people. We do not think this has anything to do with the land claims as such. I think once we get the structure set up we can devise what type of economic activities we want to get into through that structure. So, I think we could put aside some of these differences and unite quite early if we really want to and I think the community people really do want to unite.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask another question of Mr. Overvold. What is your position on the Dene Declaration?

Dene Declaration

MR. OVERVOLD: Well, basically we disagree with the amount of rhetoric in the Dene Declaration. The basic concepts we can not find too many arguments against, providing the Dene Declaration does not mean sovereignty for the aboriginal people. Our membership has said we are Canadians and we want to remain Canadians. There have been other minor things associated with the Dene Declaration. I can think of one we disagree with, the idea of someone who disagrees with a basic philosophy becoming "an enemy of the organization and actually being treated as an enemy". We do not like that type of approach in our society today and in our organization particularly everyone should have the right to view their dissatisfaction and see if they agree with the majority view or not.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I think as we have just heard in the responses of the witnesses that probably the Metis Association of the Northwest Territories is the most democratic and it is the most open society that exists in the sense of native organizations, in my experience, anyway. I would like to use this opportunity to put a question to the president of the association and I recognize in doing so that, as Mr. McNeely pointed out, the negotiations that take place, or will take place, as a result of this document are between the Government of Canada and the Metis Association of the Northwest Territories.

I wonder if Mr. Overvold and members of his executive and the membership recognize that, in the discussion of land claims, all residents of the Northwest Territories have an interest in their eventual settlement and the manner in which they are settled. Recognizing that, should aboriginal lands be determined, defined and designated that for want of a better word, "the others", who also reside in the North would receive what is left over, the other lands? Hon. David Searle describes it and has on many occasions as the "residue". Would you then, if you accept that concept, recognize the interest of the others and recognize, while the others may not have a direct negotiating position in your discussions, they would desire and be interested in obtaining an auditing role and participate to the point of being there when the discussions went ahead. As I mentioned, the Metis Association has been a very open organization. It does not deal behind closed doors in my experience; but it deals out in the open where all can see and I compliment you for this. In your discussions on land claims will you also be as open and will you be willing to invite a representative from this chamber to sit in and listen as the discussions proceed?

### Territorial Representation

MR. OVERVOLD: We have had some informal discussions over the past few years with the department on claims and related subjects and, over the past year, the territorial government has been represented at some of these meetings as an observer. Basically, we do not want too many parties entering into the discussions. We feel that the claims issue is a federal responsibility and should be negotiated between the federal government and the native claimants. However, we have no objection to the territorial government being represented at the negotiations as either an adviser or a participant on the federal government's team. We have agreed with the federal government, at least at this point, that there will be two negotiating teams, one federal and one representing initially the Metis Association and hopefully, in the future, if we do achieve unity, there will be one team representing the aboriginal people of the Mackenzie corridor, and each negotiating team can call who they like to the negotiating table, to their respective negotiating tables, and that no doubt the federal government will always have a territorial representative or representatives, either someone from the administration or someone from this House or both.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to thank our three Metis representatives for coming to this chamber and asking us to listen to what they had to say. I think that the Metis people in the Northwest Territories are the ones foremost in adapting to the change, the changes taking place and coping with some of the changes that have taken place, be it economics or be it any other problem.

### Wildlife Ordinance And COPE

I have two questions for them; one is I take it from Mr. McNeely that his organization accepts the Wildlife Ordinance, I came to this conclusion from what he said a little while ago and that his organization has no real concerns about it and he can correct me on that. The other question is that in response to Mr. Lafferty, in one of his replies, he said that the Metis Association may extend into the lower Delta and into areas the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement claims to represent. I am curious to see just what their attitude is if COPE objects to them walking on their toes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Gentlemen.

MR. McNEELY: I will tackle his first question which is support of the Wildlife Ordinance. I did not indicate what you seem to think I did. What I was indicating was the process in which this particular piece of legislation was developed. I agree with the process, support the process, but, as for the particular clauses within the legislation, I have not read the ordinance personally so I do not think you could reasonably expect me to accept in its entirety something that I have not read. However, I am willing to accept the decision of the legislative body on that process and our association has had people on the Game Advisory Council. Going on to your last question, it is very hypothetical in nature and I would not want to make any presumptions upon the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement. I understand that you yourself have had many difficulties with them and I do not think we want to share this particular experience.

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

MR. OVERVOLD: Just for further clarification, we have no intention, Mr. Steen, of walking into COPE's territory and taking over. I just tried to indicate that there will possibly be overlaps, say, in an area like Aklavik where there are Indian people and Inuit people residing and as a matter of fact intermarried. There would possibly have to be overlap in some claims areas in terms of land use.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Is there any Member who has not spoken who wishes to at this time? Mr. Lafferty, you indicated you had a further question.

Individual Rights

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, for the record, I did not mean to say that the executive of the Metis Association has the power to remove anybody but rather through its board of directors they do possess that power. All I was really concerned about was that in the event that there is some type of initial agreement arrived at on behalf of the Metis people and their individual rights are swallowed, I think I was rather concerned about bringing out these kinds of things that may occur in the future. I am not at any moment suggesting the Metis Association did not do a good job or anything like that. I personally think they have done a wonderful job and I do know all of these gentlemen. They have been very open and I lend them my support. However, I believe in the individual rights of people, whether they are Metis, Indian or Eskimo.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I think my question was already asked.

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

MR. BUTTERS: A clarifying question. Mr. Overvold, in replying to me with regard to my last question, if I recollect, it was suggested that it would be up to the federal government, the senior negotiating partner, to determine who might be present and he mentioned that there have been present, at previous negotiations between the government and the Metis Association, members of the territorial government. I just wish to make it clear I was not referring to any members of the territorial government.

You recognized this in your last sentence when you said that "... or member of the territorial government or of this body." It is this body only that I am interested in. I know the territorial government is there on the federal team, but I would wonder whether you could see your way clear to either extend an invitation, or recognize the desirability of extending an invitation, to the representatives of all the peoples of the territories to put a delegate in an observer position in the negotiations which are not strictly in camera. I understand you will be negotiating with the Minister. Maybe it is a little too soon on Monday, but if that were an opportunity, it might be well for you to make an invitation at that time and I am quite sure one Member of this House would be delighted to be present.

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

MR. OVERVOLD: Our meeting with the Minister will not involve any negotiations. Personally, I agree with you that this body should be represented properly at the negotiations, to sit in and observe, mainly because I do not like to operate in a manner where we might seem to be working under the table. I think a lack of information creates mistrust and I do not want to see this start happening in the North. I think we have had enough of it. However, at this time we are still quite firm in our belief that the negotiations are only between the federal body and the native bodies.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Viewing the hour, this discussion, I believe, should be almost concluded. Are there any further questions or do I have permission to thank the guests in the House? Agreed? Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Just briefly, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a relative question of Mr. Butters.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Of whom?

Observers At Negotiations.

MR. LAFFERTY: A question related to what Mr. Butters just previously asked. As I understand, the president of the Metis Association was saying that Assembly Members will be observers. I am slightly concerned in this area because this, as the whole House knows, and as it is known it had been indicated publicly, that it is the principal political body representative of all peoples of the Northwest Territories regardless of race, culture, whatever beliefs, and in that sense how do the Metis Association land negotiations team or the executive see itself excluding those people who may have an interest in land through their duly elected representatives?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Wah-Shee?

MR. WAH-SHEE: Because of the fact that in the Yukon the Territorial Council Members, I believe, the Commissioner of the Yukon and one elected member sit in on the federal negotiating team as observers and we have been aware that the federal government wanted the members of the Territorial Council to be involved. The status that they have in the Yukon basically is one of observers and this is why we assumed that the same situation would exist in the Northwest Territories in regard to native land claims being negotiated.

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

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, I concur with what Mr. Wah-Shee said. That is correct. In the territories I have a seat as part of the Minister's advisers at the land claims discussions. I do not think I have personally ever attended. I generally delegate someone to go, but I have a seat there, but as part of the Minister's advisers. I am not there as a Member of this territorial Council or, for that matter, as a Member of the territorial administration.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. It is an honour to thank Mr. Overvold, Mr. McNeely and Mr. Wah-Shee for their attendance this afternoon, on behalf of the Metis Association. I think the key word that was used very often was "unity" and it is discussions such as this, gentlemen, that I am sure will accomplish your main objective. I congratulate you on your presentation. I would ask you to stand by in the House after we go back into formal session for a few moments, if you will. Thank you for coming.

---Applause



MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Matters Relating To The Metis Association And COPE Land Claims

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying and listening to a delegation from the Metis Association and I wish to report the business has been concluded.

MR. SPEAKER: Members of the Legislature, I understand that one of the projects of the Metis Association is to honour the Metis war dead of the last war and that in connection with that project there is a delegation going to Europe. They will be engaged in activities in this connection. It has been suggested that it would be appropriate for this House to make a little presentation and I have here -- I understand that there are 13 Metis war dead and I have here 13 territorial flags that I would like to now present to Mr. Overvold, if Mr. Stewart would escort him here.

---Applause

If we could just return to the orders of the day, gentlemen. Item 10, tabling of documents. Are there any documents to be tabled? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 10: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Recommendation to the Legislature 1-63, Policy Respecting Liquor Pricing.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Dave Nickerson.

HON. DAVE NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table two documents: Tabled Document 7-63, Health Services in the Mackenzie and Inuvik Zones, Northwest Territories, and this has been prepared by Dr. Stanley Greenhill for the Department of National Health and Welfare. At the same time, I would like to table, Some Comments on the Report Entitled Health Services in Mackenzie and Inuvik Zones Northwest Territories. These two documents are together.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the two representatives from the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement executive had to leave before getting a chance to appear before this House, I wish to table at this time, Tabled Document 9-63, Submission to the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly by the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table two documents relative to the Wildlife Ordinance. Tabled Document 10-63, A letter from the Indian Band at Hay River and the other is Tabled Document 11-63, a letter from Mr. Phil Daoust.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any other documents to be tabled? I have the following announcement. There is a finance committee meeting at 7:30 o'clock p.m., this evening, in the executive boardroom on the sixth floor of the Laing building. Members of the committee are Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Butters, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Steen, Mr. Whitford. Are there any other announcements? Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 12: ORDERS OF THE DAY.

THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, October 21, 1977, 9:00 o'clock a.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to Commissioner's Address
3. Questions and Returns
4. Oral Questions
5. Petitions
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motion
8. Motions for the Production of Papers
9. Motions
10. Tabling of Documents
11. Introduction of Bills for First Reading, Bills 3-63, and 5-63
12. Second Reading of Bills, Bill 3-63, Bill 5-63
13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature, Information Items, and Other Matters: Bill 2-63, Bill 3-63, Bill 5-63, Recommendation to the Legislature 1-63, Tabled Document 5-63, Resource Management in the Northwest Territories, Motion 4-63, Information Items 2-63, 3-63, 5-63, 7-63 and 11-63.
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, could I have unanimous consent to return to tabling of documents?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent requested to return to tabling of documents.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 10: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document, Tabled Document 12-63, Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories, Annual Report 1976-77.

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 9:00 o'clock a.m., October 21, 1977, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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