



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
DEBATES

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Official Report

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Pages 1 to 36

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1978.

The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories was convened in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, at two-thirty o'clock p.m., on Friday, January 20, 1978, for the first session, 1978, this being the sixty-fourth session.

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, Mr. Nickerson

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER.

BISHOP COOK: Let us pray. Almighty God, from Whom cometh all wisdom and power, we, the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories in session assembled, humbly beseech Thy blessing on our deliberations, to the end that, inspired by Thy divine wisdom, and setting aside all prejudices, private interests and partial affections, we may work to the benefit, welfare and happiness of the people, and to Thy glory. Amen.

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Please be seated. Ladies and gentlemen, Members, dignitaries, may I just briefly welcome each and every one of you and thank you for coming here today to the opening, and pay special tribute to the band of the junior high school that played for half an hour just prior to this opening. I think you will all agree that they did a very, very fine job.

Mr. Clerk, would you see if the Commissioner is available to address this House? I wonder if we have any volunteers for mounting a search party?

ITEM NO. 2: COMMISSIONER'S OPENING ADDRESS.

COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Council of the Northwest Territories, welcome.

It is indeed a great pleasure and honour for me, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Government of the Northwest Territories, to extend greetings and best wishes as I welcome you to this the 64th session of the Council of the Northwest Territories.

Council

I must confess that at times like this I am sure you would be much happier if I referred to you by your own title, that of "Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories". While there are times, I am sure, that the general public may wonder at the difference in name and why you prefer to call this House an Assembly, and of course the title which you have reserved for your elected Executive Committee Members, it is worth noting that all of this is not without precedent. It has all happened before, and when reading the political evolution of Canada, and indeed these Northwest Territories as they were toward the end of the last century, this very same situation, along with others of a similar nature, confronted a previous Northwest Territories Council. The solving of that situation led to the reshaping of western Canada.

Constitutional

At this time in Canada's evolution, I would suggest we will in the near future see significant changes of importance in northern Canada. As to how long it will take and what form it will be, this is not clear at this moment, but what should be clear to everyone is that the process is already under way and has been for some time. I might add that we are extremely fortunate that Canada's number one minister, the Prime Minister, has demonstrated his personal interest by appointing his own special representative to look into and recommend on matters of a constitutional nature in these territories. This is a subject that has been for the past 25 years of great importance to all residents of the territories.

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline

Perhaps I should mention that while the matter of the proposal to build the Mackenzie Valley pipeline and the subsequent hearings may have dominated the landscape and preoccupied the media by grabbing most of the local headlines, in all honesty, I wonder if in fact we were not all hypnotized by the immensity of the project. There is no doubt that the proposal was sincere, the project exciting, and the benefits to these territories could have been immense, but now that it is all over we can look at ourselves and the North from a realistic point of view and see things in a much clearer perspective.

Let me be the first to acknowledge that this whole subject is something that will be discussed, rediscussed and argued for years, perhaps even generations, long after the various positions and participants have been forgotten or laid to rest.

Nevertheless, when reviewing the events of the past four or five years, no matter how you look at it, one soon realizes that the picture has been out of focus. Because of the tremendous publicity that had been given to this and allied subjects, either by those territorial residents who are interested or concerned, or by many imported, enthusiastic participants who got carried away with their own importance or their desire to project their own particular viewpoint or prejudice, whether it made any sense or not.

Decisions

On reflection, there were some pretty important decisions taken last year, and some very interesting developments, and there will be more in the near future, as life is not decided on only one roll of the dice. When placed in context, the issues, regardless of what they are, though important, must be given some sort of priority. On reviewing the past years deliberations, particularly of this Council and the one before it, I suggest that one of the North's major gains may well turn out to be the appointment of the Prime Minister's special representative on constitutional development.

Special Representative

It is worth noting that the special representative has decided to make himself available in the North to anybody, regardless of their station in life, race, colour, religion or politics. His recommendations and conclusions will affect all of us and no doubt will constitutionally and politically change the course of northern history.

The Hon. C.M. Drury has served notice that anyone can present their views, but if for one reason or another individuals or organizations decline to express their views, it will not prevent them from soliciting the northern viewpoint from the grassroots level and he is correct. Anyone having genuine interests in the subject of constitutional development in the Northwest Territories who is foolish enough not to take advantage of this opportunity will only spite himself, because certainly one person or persons will not stop the process nor will they inhibit the functioning of the machinery.

I have spoken either personally or in meetings with over 20,000 people since the appointment of the special representative and I am convinced that for every one who declines to come forward, there will be a dozen who will come forward. I am, therefore, persuaded that of all the developments that transpired in 1977, while many were important, this was one of major significance and will have ongoing and long-term lasting impact.

Minister

The report of the special representative will go to a committee of cabinet, headed by the Hon. Hugh Faulkner, Minister of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. This then has to be another matter of great importance, because whoever occupies that portfolio becomes pretty important in the North. We have had many good men who have served the North and some have really distinguished themselves. I have known many of them during my years of government and prior to that time. If I may be permitted an observation, I must say I welcomed the appointment to this portfolio of the Hon. Hugh Faulkner.

As you know, I have served the Government of Canada in this particular office for just under 11 years, and recognize that my term may one of these days be drawing to a close. Therefore, what I have said to you I said not as a servant of the government, but rather as a citizen of Canada. It is my own opinion that the Prime Minister did not make any mistake in appointing Hon. Hugh Faulkner as top man for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The Minister has an excellent career as Member of Parliament and in the portfolios of Secretary of State and Minister of Science and Technology.

We have had the privilege of watching and working with him over the years and frankly, I believe the North could not have a better representative and voice in the cabinet.

It follows, therefore, that the year 1978 could very well turn out to be the most important and decisive year to the North since your government moved from Ottawa and I am sure all of you are aware that if changes are to be made and machinery in place for the next Council, then the work and effort must be done now. Therefore, I urge all of you legislators to take advantage of the opportunity you have to put your views forward.

Public Participation

This brings me to the last point I wish to mention on the subject, which I address to the general public. What is going on in the Northwest Territories at the present moment is of great importance and concerns the future, not only of you but of those who will come after you. You should feel free at all times to speak out, regardless of what the issues may be. Remember that Canada is a free country and a nation founded on fundamental principles, none of which are more sacred than the right of free speech and the right to the opportunity to raise and provide for one's family. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to be able to take advantage of the means of making a living, whether it be on the land or in the community. It is a co-operative effort that involves government, business and people. People divided can achieve little but working together with understanding, trust and goodwill, great benefits can be achieved.

Economy

The central issue facing all Canadians at this time is the economy and we in the North are no different. As we approach the 21st century, all Canadians, regardless of where they may live, are no longer independent and oblivious to each other. To the contrary, people as individuals are important and depend on each other. Later today the Minister will be speaking to you on this very subject and I am certain his remarks will be most significant and of great importance.

Last Year

I should now like to touch on a few of your administration's achievements during 1977.

Local Government

Hamlets were incorporated at Baker Lake, Eskimo Point and Repulse Bay. Training workshops in accounting, hiring and supervising of employees, town planning, land administration, human relations, and the organizing and functioning of community councils were carried out at Frobisher Bay, Coppermine, Inuvik and Rankin Inlet. Thirty local residents have now been trained under the Arctic airport training program in the operation and maintenance of airports under the control of the territorial government.

The Department of Local Government decentralized programs and services to the regional offices that saw municipal affairs officers, town planners and airport officers located at the regional level. Development plans have been prepared or initiated at Norman Wells, Holman Island, Frobisher Bay, Eskimo Point, Pond Inlet, Baker Lake and Coppermine. Two and a half million dollars of mobile equipment for airport operations and municipal purposes were provided to various settlements and hamlets. Sewer, water and road construction projects worth \$11.5 million were carried out in all communities across the territories.

Education

Educational programs were decentralized and the responsibility for their delivery now rests with the regions, thus enabling the headquarters staff to concentrate on planning, revision of programs and evaluation of the results. A new mathematics program was introduced to the elementary and junior high grades. Competency analysis profiles have been completed for all small business management, community adult educators, classroom assistants, home management educators, northern nurses and community service workers. Student exchange programs saw Northwest Territories students visiting such diversified places as Greenland, London, Paris, Moscow, Toronto, Quebec City and Winnipeg, with the major portion of the funds being raised at the community level.

Efforts have been made to improve community nutrition programs and a civic program was ready for introduction into the schools this past December. In addition, preliminary work has been completed for a drug and alcohol education program in all territorial schools. Thirty-three native northerners are presently teaching in the schools, and more emphasis is being placed on the preparation of native northerners for teaching careers. New schools were completed at Pine Point and Nanisivik and an addition was made to the school at Cape Dorset.

Health And Social Services

Responding to Council's recommendations, an average increase of 20 per cent in social assistance rates was implemented on December 1st of last year. Construction of the Hay River health centre was completed, providing an excellent addition to the health resources in the southern Mackenzie, and the Central and Eastern Arctic health service study was completed.

Under the local option clause in the Liquor Ordinance, the communities of Lac La Martre, Pagnirtung and Hall Beach voted for absolute prohibition of liquor. Fifteen previously funded community alcohol programs were approved for renewed funding and five new programs received support.

Economic Development

A rotational employment scheme for Echo Bay and Terra mines with the communities of Fort Franklin and Rae Lakes has been developed and some 25 new jobs for northern native people created. Other northern native people have been graduated from training programs into the professional occupations and years of education development and basic skill training has begun to pay off. The Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualifications Board was formed and four trades advisory boards were established. The STEP program resulted in an estimated saving of \$192,000 in social assistance and employed 212 people for an average of nine weeks on 42 projects.

The territorial government took over operation of the Small Business Loan Fund and a total of \$902,000 was approved in loans; an increase of 27 per cent over 1976. Under an agreement with DREE, Special ARDA incentive grant program was introduced in June with a total of 11 grants having been approved so far. A major five year federal funding program for co-operatives in the North was put into effect through the Canadian Arctic Co-operative Federation that involves grants and loan guarantees for resupply totalling over five million dollars in 1977.

Public Services

Improved court and legal services were established this past year and with the opening of the Hay River courthouse, a resident magistrate was appointed to serve communities south of Great Slave Lake. A comprehensive review of the legal aid system in the North was completed. Regional meetings have been arranged for justices of the peace to provide both training and a forum for discussion of legal problems.

A new Labour Standards Board has been established and the first comprehensive set of safety regulations are now in effect. The Workers' Compensation Board was organized and proclaimed in April, bringing into effect the establishment of an accident fund and collective liability insurance plan for all workers in the Northwest Territories. The Metric Conversion Ordinance was passed in October and co-ordination of the conversion is under way.

Planning And Program Evaluation

Major evaluations have been completed on a number of programs, including day care centres, local government training programs, STEP, VRDP, an apprenticeship program and closing of the Frobisher Bay liquor outlet. Population statistics have been completed for 1976. Phase one of the Strathcona Sound project at Nanisivik was completed on schedule and the first ore concentrates were shipped this past summer.

The Science Advisory Board completed its first full year of operation and a one man office has been established here in Yellowknife. The objective of the board is to have a major part of northern research carried out in the North and ultimately to have it led by northern scientists.

Finance

Major improvements to the government's financial system were achieved, which brought about a general speed-up with which suppliers' accounts were paid. The Department of Finance also developed new management reports and training seminars to assist in financial management. Bulk aviation fuel distribution was introduced into Coppermine and Rankin Inlet, which resulted in lower cost fuel to air carriers. Steps have been taken to improve and shorten the financial negotiation process with the federal government.

Natural And Cultural Affairs

Members of this House will note that a new format for the main estimates has been designed. The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is still under construction. However, the first phase of the building is in use and considerable progress is being made in the cataloguing of existing collections. Special thanks should go to the National Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire for their major donation of the Winnifred Marsh collection of water colours depicting the lifestyle of the Padlimiuts of the Keewatin as it was some 40 years ago.

Some 70 junior athletes from the Northwest Territories competed in July in the Canada Summer Games in St. John's, Newfoundland. Sport North, a federation of territorial sports organizations, opened their office and have accepted the responsibility of readying the Northwest Territories team for the 1978 Arctic Winter Games at Hay River. Regional playoffs were completed in December, and territorial playoffs in some ten sports are being carried out this week end at several communities throughout the territories. Workshops were held in ten communities to assist local recreation committees in the planning and implementation of their recreation programs. The Northwest Territories was represented for the first time by a team of seven athletes at the Canadian Games for the Physically Disabled in Edmonton.

Game

Fish and wildlife officer trainees, all natives or long-term residents of the territories, received continued on-the-job training along with advanced technical courses in southern schools. Quotas for several Arctic communities have been established for the hunting of musk-ox. The Game Advisory Council met four times during the year and completed their review of the new Wildlife Ordinance.

Public Works

A new water system, which includes ten miles of pipeline, as well as two 50,000 gallon reservoirs, was officially opened earlier this week at Pine Point. In co-operation with Northern Canada Power Commission, a heat recovery project verifying the practical application of waste heat recovery in the Arctic was completed. As a result of this single installation, a saving of over 40,000 gallons of fuel per annum was made and the installation will pay for itself in approximately two years.

Contract maintenance was awarded to a local contractor for the Dempster highway between Fort McPherson and Inuvik. The M. V. McQuesten was used to initiate ferry service at Arctic Red River and the Dempster highway until a new and larger vessel can be built. A new marine apprenticeship school was established at Hay River and local residents were recruited into apprenticeship positions.

Personnel

The office of native employment reports that 30 per cent of territorial employees are of native origin. Senior officer classification and compensation was completed last year and the new performance-related salary assessment has replaced the previous system of semi-automatic salary increases. During 1977, 950 competitions were held and 766 of the positions were filled by northern residents, which gives a ratio of 4.85 to one for northerners.

Information

The Department of Information collaborated in the production of a number of new publications such as "The Changing Keewatin", "A Decade of Progress", "Inuit Legends" and "Northern People".

Two Interpreter-Translator Corps positions were eliminated and the money made available to the village of Frobisher Bay and hamlet of Rankin Inlet to hire their own interpreters. Six new interpreter-translators graduated and four others completed on-the-job training programs.

Housing Corporation

1977 saw the completion by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation of a total of 362 units of accommodation; 59.3 per cent of the money spent by the corporation for construction of these units was awarded to territorial companies.

Increased emphasis was placed on multi-unit development to reduce land and servicing costs. Two experimental design Pierson homes, one in Rankin Inlet and the other in Frobisher Bay were completed and the corporation repaired many of its older houses.

The new public housing rental scale announced by the Hon. Hugh Faulkner is awaiting final approval by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. In the meantime, effective January 1st, a ceiling has been placed on public housing rents.

New Year

Local Government

Turning to the new year, a major program of site development and land assembly will be carried out, to provide communities with the necessary land for housing and other building requirements, to provide better roads and drainage, and a new program of road paving for communities. The local government training program will be continued. Under the airport program, the runways at Holman Island and Fort McPherson will be improved and new airport buildings will be constructed at Igloodik, Pond Inlet, Sachs Harbour and Clyde River.

The communities of Hall Beach, Clyde River and Broughton Island will become hamlets. It is expected that \$12 million will be spent to improve sewer and water facilities and provide additional mobile equipment within the territories. At the same time a major review will be completed and action initiated on new ways and techniques of solving water and sewage problems.

Education

In Yellowknife St. Joseph's school will be completed and operational in September.

Health And Social Services

The new community correction centre in Inuvik will be completed and put into operation and construction of the Fort Smith health centre will continue and architectural plans for the expansion of the Stanton Yellowknife hospital will be finalized. The Department of Health and Social Services will continue to focus on hiring native staff and the provision of staff development and training opportunities to facilitate their promotion into supervisory and management positions. Special emphasis has been given to the hiring and training of native corrections officer trainees.

The government will continue to press for the transfer in the territories of federal health service responsibilities to the Government of the Northwest Territories. At the same time, the range of specialty health services and clinics available within the Northwest Territories will be expanded with an offsetting reduction in health expenditures outside the North.

Economic Development

Employment rotational schemes in the mining industry are expected to be extended to additional communities and mines. Emphasis will be placed on opening up jobs for northern native people in the transportation sector and the placing of northerners in training for such professions as engineering, accounting and social work. New approaches are under consideration to develop markets for northern products. More emphasis will be placed on making project workers more aware of the linkage between jobs and markets and on encouraging local participation in management of projects.

Major emphasis will be placed on the travel and tourist industry. Development of new attractions will be undertaken in conjunction with northern travel and visitor associations. We are very pleased to note that at the recent overseas

sale of seal pelts, over 70 per cent of the fur offered was purchased at an average price of \$14. While this price is certainly far from the price being paid last year, as the bottom had fallen out of the sealskin industry, the industry is much encouraged by the increase in prices.

Public Services

The new courthouse in Yellowknife will be completed and is expected to be ready for occupancy this summer. Discussions are under way with the Department of Justice for the establishment in the territories of a family court. At the same time, it is anticipated that some of the recommendations arising out of the report on legal aid will come into effect in the coming year.

Work is under way on the preparation of a Northwest Territories gazette and the publication has been assigned the responsibility of the legal services division. The motor vehicles division will initiate a driver examination program. Discussions are currently under way for the transfer of the mining inspection service from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Finance

The recommendations of the Auditor General's financial management and control study report will be implemented. A new manual to assist the public to understand government organizations, program and policies will be developed and a new northern purchasing policy will be designed. A new computer modelling system will be developed to aid in the determination of requirements for water and sanitation delivery systems to communities. Complete examination of the tariff and claims structure for marine transportation in the Eastern Arctic will be developed with a view to encouraging more equitable transportation costs.

Natural And Cultural Affairs

The fifth Arctic Winter Games will be hosted at Hay River and Pine Point. Close to 1000 athletes from Alaska, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories will gather to take part in these unique competitions.

The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre will be completed and it is expected that the facility will be officially opened in the summer of 1979. As part of the central museum facility, work will begin on a territorial archival program designed to preserve historical written and photographic material. Fabrication of travelling exhibits for the use of community museums, historical societies and schools will be initiated in the coming year.

Game

A stepped-up conservation education program will be carried out to explain wildlife management and regulations. Wildlife studies and surveys will be conducted on caribou, musk-ox, moose and polar bear.

Financial support to hunters' and trappers' associations will be increased fourfold and further responsibility and authority for the management of resource harvesting assistance programs will be turned over to these associations.

Public Works

Design work is under way for schools at Coral Harbour, Fort Norman and Resolute Bay. Planning money will be made available for the Pelly Bay community centre complex, with construction to begin in 1979.

Personnel

Contract talks will get under way with the Public Service Alliance and the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association during 1978 and it is hoped that contracts with both organizations will be worked out by June 1st. The program

of senior officer classification and compensation will be extended to include assistant regional directors and all regional superintendent positions during the year. Senior management training will be added to the training schedule. Steps will be taken to reduce the level of rental subsidies to staff.

Information

During 1978 the Department of Information will introduce a communications program to provide financial assistance for television and radio service to communities. The object of the program is to provide over a five year period, television and national radio service to all communities with a population of between 250 and 500 residents, where this service is desired. At the same time, annual grants to existing community stations over a two year period will be instituted. Funds will be asked for the first year of this program, which will provide for the extension of national radio and television to three communities and grant money for 14 community radio stations. The publication of an English-Inuktitut dictionary will be an important reference source for Inuit interpreters and for use in the educational system.

Housing Corporation

The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation will place greater emphasis on community needs, with more local input into design and construction of houses and the use of local labour will be a high priority. Attention will be focused and given to a higher density housing program in communities where there is a shortage of available land.

Two hundred and thirty-six units of housing will be built this year. Twenty-seven will be locally stick-built single family units and 92 multiple units. The corporation is working with the Departments of Economic Development and Education in an effort to develop more construction knowledge and in turn, provide more job opportunities and job involvement for northern contractors and territorial residents.

Senior Staff Changes

Since we last met, Mr. Alex Gordon, formerly director of the Department of Planning and Program Evaluation, left to take up a new position in northern Alberta. Mr. Gordon, who had worked in the territories for over 20 years, saw service in all parts of the North and served us well. Mr. Ray Creery, vice-chairman of the committee on devolution and decentralization, was appointed director of Planning and Program Evaluation.

Resignations

It was with great regret that I accepted the resignation from the Executive Committee of Mr. Dave Nickerson. As you know, Mr. Nickerson joined this House in 1975 and was elected to the Executive in 1976 at Rankin Inlet. He was responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services. Mr. Nickerson's performance on the Executive Committee was first class and his departure from the Executive was a great loss. I wish him continued success in this House and in his future endeavours. One of the first orders of business of this House will be to recommend a replacement to the Executive Committee.

It is with regret that we heard of the passing of Mr. Fred Jones, a valued employee with the territorial government, who passed away earlier this week.

General

1977 proved to be an exciting year and 1978 promises to be the same. In March I will begin my 12th year as your Commissioner and what an experience it has been. When I joined Council in 1964, I had no idea that such a decision would

lead to my eventually joining the government. As you know, in August of 1965 I was appointed Deputy Commissioner and in March of 1967 to the office of Commissioner. While the functions of the Commissioner's office cover a wide range of duties, they can be classified as three major responsibilities. The chief executive officer and head of the administration is, of course, the main responsibility. Working with this Assembly and the people of the territories are the other two. While I have had a tremendous amount of support from everyone, I must say I have enjoyed the last two responsibilities the most. I must confess to a certain amount of love for the parry and thrust of debate within this House and of course the public meetings within the communities. I believe I must have attended well over 2000 public meetings throughout the territories, plus many with various communities since 1965 and with the good Lord willing, I expect to attend a few more before I am put out to pasture.

As you know, I was down to Ottawa last week and had the opportunity to speak with the Prime Minister on the status and the achievements and accomplishments of the Northwest Territories and, of course, of this Council and the territorial government. While I am not able to say to you today that the Prime Minister said anything to me as to what was going to happen, he expressed great appreciation and great satisfaction in our achievements. So he was not able or did not say whether I would be staying or going, but one thing he did tell me was that Mr. Whit Fraser was leaving at the end of the month. Newfoundland is a good place.

Running the administration and directing the government has been the toughest, because in government you are dealing with people's lives. Every letter, memo and file affects someone somewhere and thus it is very important. The workload has increased and I seldom have had a chance to move off the sixth floor, but I would say the North is a great place, the people are wonderful and I have been so fortunate that I have had a lot of help and support.

Staff

Mr. Speaker, I believe this Council and I have been well served over the years and I have no hesitation in telling you that I would put the territorial staff up against any of a similar nature in Canada. By the same token, I must say you and your colleagues have done an excellent job. It is a good Council and all of you have served your constituents well. I think the record should show that any gains this government has made over the years is because of this Council and the staff and the credit for this belongs equally to you both.

In saying this to you today, I do so not as a means of announcing my departure, but to point out to you that you are in the last 14 months of your term of office and if you choose not to run, it will be your departure. This budget that will be placed before you at this time is the last budget that will be considered, put into operation and completed before your term of office expires. Of course, you will still be in office for the 1979-80 budget next January, but the results of that will not be put into operation or completed before the expiration of your term of office. Therefore, I would urge you to consider well all of the items that are being placed before you at this time.

Budget Format

Assistant Commissioner Mullins and the Department of Finance have put together a new format for the estimates which we believe to be about the best and clearest set of estimates placed before any legislative assembly in Canada. I want to assure you the administration stands ready to serve you and to carry out your instructions and recommendations.

Public Opinion

As I have already mentioned, the Mackenzie Valley pipeline discussions polarized the North and divided territorial people into various groups. As the years slip by and Canadians take on new preoccupations, interest shifts to other matters and the public's attention focuses in other areas. As public opinion shifts to other things, a greater effort will be needed to keep the interests and expectations of the North before the Canadian public. Canada is a new nation, growing, developing, and striving to find its place in the world community. At the same time, in the territories, we are striving to find a proper place within confederation.

I should remind you that the territorial population is only one-fifth of one per cent of the Canadian population. By the same token, this House is the only body in the Northwest Territories that is elected by a referendum vote of all territorial residents, as there is no other organization functioning within the territories that can claim that distinction. Consequently, the future course for the North rests on the shoulders of this House. In determining the future of the territories, this Council therefore has a major role to play. While there will be trials and tribulations in the years ahead, I have no fear as to the future and I look forward with great expectations to this session of Council and the subsequent developments of the year.

Council Business

At this session, the administration will be introducing 12 new bills and five amending bills. Recognizing that the principal business of a winter session is the consideration of the main appropriations, this may appear to be an exceptionally heavy workload. However, in keeping with a policy established at recent sessions, the administration wishes to make legislation available to Members as soon as possible. It is fully appreciated that Council may wish to give full consideration now to certain elements of the program only and may wish to take other items back home for discussion with constituents.

An Appropriation Ordinance will be placed before you requesting spending authority totalling \$268,725,000 for the fiscal year 1978-79.

In addition, a Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance relating to previously unanticipated expenditures in the current fiscal year will also be introduced.

Also in the financial area, the administration will introduce the usual annual ordinances, a Financial Agreement Ordinance, a Loan Authorization Ordinance, and a Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance.

At the October session, the Council did not complete consideration of the Wildlife Ordinance and requested further translations and opportunities for further examination by constituents. As Council's direction in this respect has been complied with, this ordinance will be reintroduced at this session.

During the May session, Council supported a proposal for a supplementary to the old age pension and recommended to the administration the implementation of an Accommodation Tax Ordinance to provide the necessary funding. At this session, in accordance with Council's recommendations, the administration will introduce an Accommodation Tax Ordinance to provide for the imposition and collection of a tax on public accommodation provided in the territories.

A Senior Citizens Benefits Ordinance will also be introduced which would provide for the payment of supplementary benefits to senior citizens resident in the territories.

Provisions would be made for the use of traffic tickets in respect to certain offences to enable accused persons to pay specific amounts and avoid court appearances by the Summary Conviction Procedures Ordinance.

Related to this ordinance is an amendment to the Vehicles Ordinance which would also provide for automatic suspensions or driving prohibitions as a result of certain offences against the Criminal Code, the establishment of revised classifications of driving licences and which would enable municipal councils to make bylaws on traffic matters and would enact other changes found necessary in the administration of the ordinance.

An amendment to the Taxation Ordinance would extend the deadlines for making demands for and payment of real property taxes. This would enable the Commissioner to provide for discounts for early payment and interest on arrears of taxes and would correct an erroneous order proclaiming the coming into force of the ordinance in the Northwest Territories.

The Commissioner would be authorized by the Collection Agreement Questions Ordinance to refer questions of law arising from the income tax agreement with the federal government to a court for resolution.

An amendment to the Judicature Ordinance would make provision for the appointment by the federal government of a second judge to the supreme court of the Northwest Territories.

Temporary certificates of exemption of registration to enable persons to work as nurses in the North prior to receipt of their formal certifications and the effective date of annual registration would be changed by an amendment to the Nursing Profession Ordinance.

Amendments would bring the Corrections Ordinance into conformity with the Prisons and Reformatories Act of Canada as amended in October, 1977 by parliament.

A contributor to a retirement plan would be enabled by the Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Ordinance to designate his beneficiary.

An Ordinance Respecting Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists would establish an association of professional engineers, geologists and geophysicists. This would provide for the registration of members, licensees and permit holders of the association and would regulate the practices of these professions.

The administration will also place before you and for your consideration the annual report of the Auditor General of Canada respecting the public accounts of the Northwest Territories and a proposed social assistance policy. Representatives of Petro Canada have been invited, at the request of this Legislature, to attend during this session for consideration of matters relating to the activities of their corporation in the territories.

Now Mr. Speaker, I commend to your consideration and wise judgment the business of this House, as I officially declare open this 64th session of the Council of the Northwest Territories.

--- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Be seated please. Members of the Legislature, we are honoured here this afternoon to have the Hon. Hugh Faulkner, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with us and he has indicated a wish to address this House. This is a courtesy that by tradition we have always afforded the Minister and I have of course, therefore indicated to him that we would be more than pleased to hear from him. In keeping therefore, with that tradition, I would ask the Deputy Speaker, Mr. Stewart, to be good enough to escort the Honourable Minister over here to the microphone.

ITEM NO. 3: MINISTER OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS ADDRESSES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINISTER (Hon. Hugh Faulkner): Mr. Speaker and Members of the Council, I want to say first of all what a pleasure and an honour it is to have this occasion to address you and to try to address an area which I attach some importance to. Judging from my travels in the Northwest Territories, I take it is an area that is beginning to and has for some time increasingly concerned the citizens of the Northwest Territories.

I will be talking specifically about economic development for the Northwest Territories. I will be talking specifically about a policy framework within which decisions can be made over the future. I would want to though, in addition to expressing my gratitude to you, Mr. Speaker and the Members of the Council for this invitation, also say to the Commissioner how much I appreciate his very kind remarks; and in turn say how much we, the federal government, have valued the very distinguished work he has done over the years here. I do not want to say more than that and I do not want to contribute to any speculation that might arise out of the remarks but he is a friend of many of us, and there is a lot of us who have profound admiration for him personally and for the work he has done.

That was an interesting speech from the throne. I must say it was a little longer than the ones I am used to in Ottawa and therefore I am going to really impinge on your good grace if you are going to listen to me as well, with the patience that you showed the Commissioner.

But I do think the issues that I am going to attempt to address are of importance to all of us and I would like to try and deal with them at some length. What I want to do today is to: first, identify the major factors which in my view will ultimately control and influence the formation of any policy of economic development in the Northwest Territories; second, outline to you my views as to the broad objectives of economic development in the Northwest Territories; third, state those criteria which will guide developments within the Northwest Territories. I might say we should also use these criteria to help us evaluate some of these developments. Fourth, explain to you my perception of the role of government in helping to set economic objectives in partnership with industry; and finally, to single out some major policy areas and courses of action that will fall from this outline.

Factors Influencing Economic Development

First of all, let me look at the factors influencing economic development. One of the principal factors influencing economic development in the Northwest Territories is the existence of two recognizably distinct economies within the North. The first of these is conventional wage employment economy. The second, which is often referred to as the traditional economy, is that in which the majority of the native people of the Northwest Territories find themselves. This is an economy based to some degree upon using the land and its renewable resources, with some dependence on additional income from other sources. A recognition of this dual economy and the importance of both strikes me as fundamental.

Accepting the existence of these two economies does not mean that there are no linkages between them or that they are of necessity incompatible. An increasing number of native people are finding it possible to supplement their traditional pursuits by seasonal or rotational wage employment. By the same token, many northern businesses and industries are finding it possible to increase their productivity and reduce their costs through the greater use of local labour and by developing work schedules that are more in harmony with the traditional lifestyle and interests of northern people. It is obvious to me that rather than emphasizing the separateness of the two economies and ignoring their increasing interdependence, we must seek to maximize the benefits of both while preserving a balance between them.

Native Claims

There is a second major factor that tends to influence northern economic development and leads to differences in perception and priority and I am talking of native claims. These claims arise from the legitimate and powerful desire of northern native people to gain a greater measure of control over the economic, cultural and social forces that affect them. They seek the means to protect those aspects of their culture and lifestyle that are essential to their survival and to participate more equitably in the decisions that will bring the necessary change.

Faced with a continuing cultural and economic dependency upon the land and its resources, they seek through their claims to gain a greater measure of control over the often conflicting uses to which the land may be put. Faced with a lifestyle and skills that may not lend themselves to some forms of development or to conventional wage employment models, they seek through their claims to gain a greater measure of control over the nature and pace of that development. Faced with limited access to capital with which to provide equity in development activities, they seek through their claims to gain the capacity to participate as full partners in development of their choice. Faced with the expectation that in a changing and growing North they may inevitably find themselves a powerless minority, they seek through their claims to obtain the political power to protect their ongoing survival as a distinct culture.

In the short run, this means we must all accept that the nature and pace of northern economic development will be influenced greatly by these preoccupations. Over the longer run, the successful resolution of these claims will provide a real hope that the economic development that takes place will contain the greatest degree of northern involvement and provide the maximum degree of ongoing real benefit to the North.

The timing is critical. While all of us must share the concerns and goals of northern native people and while we must be willing to alter the nature and pace of development as much as possible to accommodate those concerns, development itself is inexorable, as is the change it brings about.

Therefore, an early resolution of native claims in the North is essential to the full and effective participation of native people in the decisions that lie ahead and in my judgment, will be of benefit to all northerners.

Northern Economy

Another important criterion for northern development is the extent to which the northern economy will continue to be affected by development initiatives generated from outside the Northwest Territories as opposed to that which is generated by northerners. It is relatively easy to evaluate the economic advantages of that portion of the northern economy that rests on small scale, local or regionally generated economic activities. The success of these small scale activities is epitomized by the co-operative movement in the North.

Co-operatives are the North's largest employer of Inuit people, employing 700 people and having an annual payroll of \$2.75 million. In this regard, full credit must be given to the Government of the Northwest Territories. Its record of establishing programs of outpost camps, outfitting assistance, arts and craft production, sawmills, parka factories and commercial fishing projects is the best in Canada. The small scale manufacturing industry employs 1200 full and part time workers, most of whom are native people. No other sector of the Northwest Territories economy comes close to this record of native employment. Moreover, it is equally significant that these activities almost always derive from the application of local resources and skills to meet local needs.

On the other hand the resource needs of Canada, especially for energy, will continue to be a driving force for large scale economic activity in the North. This does not mean that we may still take comfort from the outdated concept of the North as only a vast storehouse of energy and minerals for the benefit of southern Canada. Canadians everywhere are becoming increasingly conscious of the fact that our resources are diminishing and becoming more costly to obtain. It does mean however, that the North is part of Canada with its economy being part of the national economy. Since large scale non-renewable resource projects should and will remain a continuing feature of economic development, the challenge will inevitably be to ensure that they can be adapted to meet the economic needs of northerners to the fullest possible extent.

Finally, we must consider the growing economic requirements of the Northwest Territories. By using a southern Canadian yardstick, what we refer to as the northern labour force will grow by 35 per cent in about eight years, while the population is forecast to double in 20 years. Given what are generally accepted to be high levels of unemployment or underemployment now, these projections pose significant challenges to northern private and public policy in providing useful and practical economic activity.

Objectives Of Northern Development

Let me turn now to the objectives of northern development. First and most importantly in my view, is an acceptance that development must be for the North, not of the North. We must make a distinction between economic growth and economic development. An activity for which labour, capital and materials come primarily from the South contributes to growth but not necessarily to development. This is even more true if the product goes South. Priority must be given to those activities which are by their very nature capable of making direct and ongoing contributions to northern residents.

Second, we must strive to achieve balance in development; balance between renewable and non-renewable resource development; balance between conventional wage employment activities and those which support the traditional native economy; balance between eternally generated development and that which comes from within; balance between the need of native people to develop through their claims a means of protecting their future and participating in development and the immediate needs of native people to obtain and benefit from economic opportunities; balance between using the land and resources and conserving them; balance between protecting the environment and developing the natural resources available to us.

Third, we must seek to provide every northerner with the opportunity to apply his or her skills in meaningful areas of activity that utilize the resources available to him and allow him to make a contribution to the common welfare. Freedom is choice and choice demands both opportunity and capability. In this regard I find little to add to the stated goal of this House to equip native people to make a viable choice between following the traditional way of life, entering the mainstream of Canadian society, or a compromise involving the best features of both. To reach this objective, we will have to encourage meaningful development in every economic sector.

Criteria For Northern Development

To guide us in evaluating and reaching decisions on economic development, it will be necessary to establish a set of criteria consistent with these objectives. The first of these criteria, it seems to me, should be quite simply to ensure that the needs of northerners are being met. In the context of the Northwest Territories, full account must be taken of the fact that the majority of the population are native people living in 60 small communities spread over an immense area. To date, participation by native people in the conventional wage economy has been limited. For the most part, this has been from choice, reflecting their culture and lifestyle. Development within this context should therefore, be consistent with the viability and health of small community life, directed in large part towards the provision of sources of income to supplement and support traditional pursuits.

A feature of increasing significance within the northern native population, however, is the young. This growing segment of the population is generally more mobile and possesses wider ranging expectations. At the same time, their skill levels often do not match the requirements of the industrial economy, while their traditional skills may be underutilized because the renewable resource sector is underdeveloped. For this group, as for non-native northerners emerging into the work force, opportunities for full time wage employment must be generated and training programs be made available or expanded.

Diversification

The second criterion of northern development must be diversification. The economy of the Northwest Territories should not be at the mercy of the vagaries of one or two major sectors. The dangers of the dependency have already been made apparent by the economic decline following the cutback in onshore exploration for oil and gas in the Mackenzie Delta and within the traditional sector, by the recent decline in the price of sealskins. There must be balanced development between all sectors of the Northwest Territories economy.

My third criterion would be the dispersal of economic activity. Neither mines nor forests nor fisheries are transportable to all communities. Conversely, established communities are usually adverse to being told to pick up their belongings and move elsewhere. Given the number of communities in the Northwest Territories, spread out as they are, and accepting the social need to preserve their viability, economic activity of necessity must be dispersed.

It seems to me desirable that the fourth of these criteria should be the promotion and strengthening of private enterprise. I would include under this heading not only large companies and local businesses but co-operatives and other similar community based organizations as well as the hunter, the trapper and the

fisherman. I firmly believe that a strengthening of local private enterprise can pay important dividends for the long term development of the North, by creating local wealth for reinvestment in further local growth and a more permanent business community. This emphasis is I believe, entirely consistent with the view expressed in your paper on Priorities for the North that government must do all it can to encourage the growth of a vigorous private sector in the territorial economy.

In this regard, it seems to me that large companies also have a real role to play. Exploration companies in the past used local expediting firms a great deal more than they do now. All too often large companies now are flying materials and supplies direct to the site, bypassing local businesses. I feel that there must be more concerted efforts made to draw upon northern enterprise as Dome-Canmar has done in the Beaufort Sea communities. A business survey indicates that 18 new businesses have been established and 12 more expanded. Estimated gross revenue of those businesses is one million two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. Fifty new jobs have been generated.

My final criterion would have to be the need to preserve and protect the environment by encouraging advanced conservation practices. Faced with the high cost and scarcity of materials, food and fuel from outside, one would expect the North to take the lead in developing mechanisms to use local resources to the greatest extent possible and whatever the origin of these resources, to use them more efficiently. We have got to learn to do more with less.

The Role Of Government

Let me turn to the role of government. Notwithstanding the severe fiscal limitations arising from determined efforts to restrain government expenditures, it is clear that government still has an important part to play as a partner with industry in facilitating the achievement of the objectives of northern development.

Development must be a partnership between government and industry. While it is important for industry to respond to the social and economic objectives of society, it is equally important for government to establish those objectives and to set out the ground rules that will govern their achievement. These ground rules should include not only the legislative and regulatory regime within which activity must take place but should make clear the nature and degree of support and assistance that can be made available. In addition, I would insist that there must be a continuing dialogue between government and industry to ensure that the regulatory regime is not unnecessarily restrictive or complicated and to ensure that the appropriate fiscal or program support is available to meet agreed objectives.

It is equally clear that government must encourage the application of science and technology to the achievement of northern objectives. My previous experience as Minister of State for Science and Technology has convinced me that there are many opportunities in this area. Housing and housing material, energy conservation, waste disposal, nutrition, health delivery systems, communications and community development, to name merely a few of the obvious possibilities. These are areas in which government might well take the lead. In other areas, industry, as a result of conditions established by government to regulate its activities, has already committed large sums to the development of new technology to meet northern conditions. Industry has participated with government in study programs that contribute greatly to our collective knowledge of northern conditions. The recently announced Eastern Arctic marine environmental studies program is probably the best example of this approach.

A very obvious role of government is in the provision of infrastructure. The government in recent years has made impressive investments in road and air transportation facilities and in communications. Given the high cost of these developments it is already apparent to me that future decisions on major infrastructural projects must not only be directly designed to meet northern economic objectives, but must also be governed by the criteria which I have just outlined. These projects must be structured to encourage multisectoral development and be governed by a better understanding of their social and environmental impact and must from the outset, involve all levels of government as well as the private sector in the decision, in the planning and in the implementation process.

This brings me to the final important role of government -- that of facilitating the planning process. More and more, given the magnitude of the developments facing the North, it will be necessary to ensure from the beginning the effective co-ordination of private and public sector resources and perhaps even more importantly the informed participation of the public these developments will affect.

It is clear that the initiative in this planning process must be taken by government. It is my intention that all major infrastructural developments in the future as well as all major economic developments be made the focal point of a regional economic plan to better ensure the achievement of economic objectives with agreed upon criteria.

Courses Of Action

Those then are the general objectives and the criteria. I want to now turn to some specific issues which I believe are consistent with my perception of northern economic development and illustrative of some of the points I have tried to make.

I am pleased to be able to announce today the federal government's approval of the Liard highway project. This five year, \$40 million project will establish a permanent transportation link between the Northwest Territories and British Columbia and open up the possibility of multisectoral development within the upper Mackenzie and Liard River Valleys. This project has been strongly supported by the residents of the area, not only because of the employment anticipated from the project itself and for the lower cost expected from an improved transportation system but because of the potential the region possesses for tourism, renewable resource development, oil and gas and minerals. In keeping with my earlier remarks it is my intention that this project be made the centerpiece of a regional economic plan that will involve each of the communities of the region, the territorial and federal governments and the private sector.

Earlier I mentioned my view of the importance of native claims as a factor influencing northern economic development. I stated my concern that lengthy delays in the resolution of these claims would add to the climate of uncertainty that must ultimately affect all northerners. I mention my view that a prompt resolution of these claims is necessary to ensure the full and effective participation of native people in the development that is currently taking place and that which is anticipated.

Generally speaking, I am satisfied with the progress we are making towards this goal. The Yukon and the Mackenzie Delta negotiations, while tough and candid, are characterized by good faith and appear to be moving positively towards an acceptable agreement. I am less satisfied with progress in the Mackenzie Valley, where there have been persistent difficulties in getting negotiations under way. Consistent with my earlier concern and in an attempt to advance this process, I have requested my negotiators to seek a meeting next week with the Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories and the Northwest Territories Metis Association.

It is my intention that at this meeting concrete proposals be placed on the table by the federal government as a basis from which further negotiations may take place on the elements of the claim. Given the mutual advantages of dealing more expeditiously with this claim, I think it is essential that the representatives of those organizations respond positively to this initiative.

Non-renewable Resource Development

I realize that recently the government has been perceived as being ambivalent toward non-renewable resource development. So let me say very clearly that the government recognizes the contribution of the exploration and extractive industries to the Northwest Territories economy and to the Canadian economy as a whole. Furthermore the government is appreciative of the way these industries have adapted in recent years to northern circumstances, in particular the training and hiring of native people and conservation of the environment. The recent record of the resource industries in both respects is one that all sectors, including government, could draw some lessons from.

Consistent with this type of positive attitude on the part of the industry, it is equally important for government to do what it can to clarify and stabilize the regulatory framework governing these industries so they may plan and execute projects with full knowledge of what is acceptable and what is not. I would hope that early promulgation of the new Oil and Gas Act will make this intention a reality. In addition, I intend to establish a task force in my department to examine all current regulations and administrative procedures relating to non-renewable development.

In general terms the purpose of this exercise would be to clarify the ground rules for mineral companies wishing to work in the North. It must be with a view to optimizing the benefits to northerners of mineral development and at the same time contribute to the attainment of national objectives and priorities.

Questions relating to the long term fiscal regime as it applies to the mining industry, to government incentives and infrastructural support, to the administration of environmental regulations and the need for long term studies, to socio-economic support for the North, to Canadian content, to further processing of minerals in the North, all have a significant bearing on industry decisions respecting investment in the North.

One of the major problems facing resource industry in the Northwest Territories is that of transportation. This is often the key in considering the economic viability of some mining properties and is certainly the key factor in evaluating the possibility of further processing within the North. I can announce now that my department will be undertaking a study of alternative means and routes for transportation of base metal concentrates from the mineral rich area east of Great Bear Lake. This study is, I think, a timely one to start now to ensure future momentum in the mineral exploration sector.

In addition, we have recently begun discussions with Cominco with respect to the development of its Polaris property on Little Cornwallis Island. Given the attention this company has paid to the necessity of consulting with the people of that area and working out practical arrangements for their employment, at this point in time, I am quite hopeful that this project will be able to go ahead and present a further element of economic choice to the people of the High Arctic.

Economic Development Within The N.W.T.

Finally, I know you will all be grateful to know this is finally final, I should conclude by reiterating my principal objective in this address, which is to take the initiative in bringing a focus to the debate on economic development within the Northwest Territories. It is my hope that from this we may begin the building of a consensus on the objectives of that development and the criteria that should govern them. To follow up on this concern and to obtain reactions to the points I have made, it is my intention to convene a conference on economic development for the Northwest Territories in mid-April of this year. I will discuss with your Commissioner a suitable location for this conference to which I would see invited representatives of each level of government, the various elements of the private sector, native associations and other appropriate organizations. I would hope that he would participate with me in its organization. It would be my hope that at this conference, we will be able to give more detailed examination to the points I have raised today and examine more closely the various sectors of the Northwest Territories economy, the problems they face and the contributions each can make to the objective of development for the North.

So Mr. Speaker, Members of Council, I reiterate again my deep appreciation to you for the honour you have done me to allow me to make this admittedly rather lengthy address. I thank you for your patience and forbearance I want to say to you though that there are no problems that are really intractable. In my ten years in politics, I I guess now, maybe a little longer than that, it always seems to me that what is really necessary is number one, some idea of what the problem really is, some idea or plan of how you resolve that problem, and the most precious ingredient of all, the will to do something about it.

This is the approach I take to the challenge that lies ahead of me as Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development; a portfolio I am proud to hold, a challenge that I am looking forward to and above all, I want to say how much I value the co-operation that I am sure I will have from yourself and Members of the Council and from the people of the Northwest Territories. Thank you very much.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Members of the Legislature, I will, of course, leave it to you to comment on the words that you have heard both from the Commissioner and from the Honourable Minister. However, may I without commenting, thank the Minister on your behalf for coming here today and for his words.

Turning then to Item 4 on the orders of the day, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

ITEM NO. 4: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 1-64, the Wildlife Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 1-64: Wildlife Ordinance

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 1-64, An Ordinance Respecting Wildlife, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 2-64, the Accommodation Tax Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 2-64: Accommodation Tax Ordinance

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 2-64, An Ordinance Authorizing the Imposition and Collection of a Tax on Public Accommodation in the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 4-64, the Nursing Profession Ordinance, the Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 4-64: Nursing Profession Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd day of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 4-64, An Ordinance to Amend the Nursing Profession Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 5-64, the Taxation Ordinance, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 5-64: Taxation Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd day of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 5-64, An Ordinance to Amend the Taxation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 6-64, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 6-64: Corrections Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 6-64, An Ordinance to Amend the Corrections Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 7-64, the Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 7-64: Summary Conviction Procedures Ordinance__

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 7-64, An Ordinance Respecting Procedures for Summary Conviction Offences under Ordinances, Regulations and Municipal Bylaws, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 8-64, Vehicles Ordinance, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 8-64: Vehicles Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 8-64, An Ordinance to Amend the Vehicles Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 9-64, Collection Agreement (Income Tax) Questions Ordinance, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 9-64: Collection Agreement (Income Tax) Questions Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 9-64, An Ordinance Respecting the Resolution of Questions Arising out of the Collection Agreement Entered into Pursuant to the Income Tax Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 10-64, Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Ordinance, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 10-64: Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Ordinance__

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 10-64, An Ordinance Respecting the Designation of Beneficiaries under Retirement Savings Plans, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 11-64, Appropriation Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 11-64: Appropriation Ordinance, 1978-79

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 11-64, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1979, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 13-64, Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 13-64: Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Ordinance

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 13-64, An Ordinance Respecting Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 14-64, Financial Agreement Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 14-64: Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1978

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 14-64, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 15-64, Loan Authorization Ordinance, the Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Bill 15-64: Loan Authorization Ordinance No.1, 1978-79

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 15-64, An Ordinance to Authorize the Commissioner to Borrow Funds from the Government of Canada and Make Loans to Persons in the Northwest Territories During the Fiscal Year 1978-79, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 16-64, Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance, the Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Bill 16-64: Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance No.1, 1978

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd day of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 16-64, An Ordinance to Authorize the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to Borrow Funds, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: And finally, Bill 17-64, Judicature Ordinance.

Bill 17-64: Judicature Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on the 23rd of January, 1978, I shall move that Bill 17-64, An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, tabling of documents. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

ITEM NO.5: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following documents:

Tabled Document 1-64: Annual Report of Territorial Accounts.

Tabled Document 2-64: Report of the Auditor General on Examination of the Financial Statements of the Government of Northwest Territories for the Year ended March 31, 1977.

Tabled Document 3-64: Annual Report of the Northwest Territories Liquor System.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following documents:

Tabled Document 4-64: Mackenzie Basin Intergovernmental Liaison Committee Annual Report, 1976-77.

Tabled Document 5-64: Report of Commissioner's Orders and Regulations for the Period October 1, 1977 to December 31, 1977.

MR. SPEAKER: Further tabled documents?

Item 6, replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address. Mr. Stewart.

ITEM NO. 6: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S OPENING ADDRESS

Mr. Stewart's Reply And Motion Of Appreciation

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, with your permission, sir, I rise to introduce a motion of appreciation for the Commissioner's Opening Address at this time, the 64th session of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Furthermore, I should point out that Members of this Assembly join with the Commissioner in welcoming here today, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Hon. Hugh Faulkner.

I find myself, Mr. Speaker, in a bit of a quandary. I really came to bury Caesar, not to praise him. I find that many of the statements the Minister has made today are really those of this House and in some instances, possibly only my personal position on matters. I am going to try very quickly to touch on a few of the points that I understand the Minister made. It is very difficult on such brief notice to do so, so if things are a little bit sketchy and not quite in order, I trust that you will forgive me.

One of the Minister's points was the use of local labour, taking into account their work schedules to be in harmony with native lifestyle. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, we have had this in the Northwest Territories for some time, with Work Arctic and Hire North and I believe if the Minister were to check it out, he might find that he put both of these organizations out of business through lack of financing. Certainly this is the approach we have to agree with and we have proven beyond any doubt, that organizations such as Work Arctic and Hire North can do just this.

There was another point of the Minister's speech today that I smiled a little to myself on, and that was that he admitted that the North was part of Canada and that we must contribute to the national economy and share our natural resources. Certainly I agree with both of these points, but I am glad to hear that we are part of Canada, for in the last year or so, I have begun to have my doubts.

Economic Development Potential

I believe the Minister mentioned freedom is a matter of choice, all viable economic development potential must be used to give people a choice and without a choice we have no freedom. This is particularly true with regard to our young people graduating from school. We must have the ability of a wage economy, as well as the native lifestyle available to them. The Minister did speak with regard to the youth and I agree entirely with the educational program that he outlined so briefly.

In the matter of diversification, I do not suppose anybody can disagree with this position. However, I think to be realistic that the Northwest Territories does not lend itself too easily to too much diversification. This probably is due to our high transportation costs and our climate conditions. I think we must face the fact that our basic viable industries at this time are our non-renewable resources.

Tourism possibly could be developed if more money was poured in at the ground level and there is always a chance of developing farming, particularly in the Liard area, and this would probably entail barley farming to make malt for beer for the European markets. This was investigated and found to be quite viable, but I understand that the Government of Canada has turned this offer aside at this time and probably rightly so until such time as the land claims have been settled, but we do have a potential in the Liard Valley for farming.

The dispersal of the economic activity; I believe the Minister mentioned this particular item and really the only dispersable economic activity that I know

of is the movement of our civil service. I suppose the civil service really is our basic economy in the Northwest Territories at the present time. So I presume that this then is a form of decentralization of government and I hope that it would not only be territorial government, but there would be decentralization of departments of the federal government to assist in the economy of these smaller places.

Vigorous Private Sector

The Minister mentioned the growth of a vigorous private sector. Well, I think I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that I do not think anywhere in Canada you have a more vigorous private sector. I think you will find that the businessmen that are here today for the most part were here 25 or 30 years ago and have reinvested every dollar they have made and are still here. Really the amount of capital that is coming from outside is really a small percentage of the over-all, even in Yellowknife, where we see some very large buildings and some high capital projects under way. So we have a vigorous private sector, but we have to have a healthy business climate and this business climate is not present when we have indecision. I believe the Minister indicated that he would expect the North to take the lead in using local resources. Certainly I am sure we all agree with this principle. Under the present land use regulations, the various bureaucracies that stand between the man that wants to do something and the land, it is impossible indeed to do very much of anything. If anybody should doubt my word, try and get 10 or 15 acres to plant a small row crop farm and you will find that it is a lengthy task. I have been at it now for five years and I am no closer now than I was five years ago.

I am pleased to hear that the Minister by intimation would indicate that the Government of Canada probably are being unnecessarily restrictive in that he would like to see this cut down and see that it be lessened for the mining companies and for the development of our non-renewable resources. Certainly we must agree with this. If there was ever a land that is overgoverned, overrestricted, it has got to be the Northwest Territories.

Planning Process Of Federal Government

Planning process by the federal government certainly is something to be looked at, but with a rather jaundiced eye, in that our past experiences would probably indicate that in the due process of planning, that we would never get the answer and ten years down the line we are still planning. You know, once bitten or twice bitten, we get a little leery of some of these approaches. The words are fine and I am sure the intent is proper at this time, but without a system that is built on actually doing something and doing it quickly, we are condemned the same as we have been in the past.

I certainly am pleased to hear that the Liard highway will be built. Any announcement with regard to road construction in the Northwest Territories must be beneficial to all of the territories.

Transportation of resources in the Great Bear region, of course, again comes under the same heading and I am certain that we all agree entirely with the added transportation facilities.

Conference On Economic Development

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Minister on his speech here today and particularly in taking up the initiative of setting up a conference on economic development in the Northwest Territories in April. May I take this opportunity of suggesting that he hold this meeting in Hay River. A conference of this nature should be held in a depressed area, where the full impact of the situation of the Northwest Territories can be felt, not in the confines of Yellowknife where everything is going along very well. I can assure Mr. Speaker that his delegates will not get lost in any crowds in Hay River. You can shoot a gun down the street and not hit anybody.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that briefly covers my impressions of the speech of the Minister. I turn now quickly to a few remarks relative to the Commissioner's Address. I am rather pleased to hear in an indirect manner that our Commissioner may not be leaving as soon as rumoured. As captain of our little ship, I think it only fitting that he stays to help man the pumps of the ship that is in distress, overloaded with economic problems and overloaded with everything that Ottawa has been able to heap on us recently, but I am sure if anyone can help, my trust still is in the Commissioner. I am, however, somewhat disturbed to hear that he has secretly been taking swimming lessons.

Constitutional Development

I am pleased, sir, to hear the Commissioner's comments on the Prime Minister's representative on constitutional development. I support and did support the inquiry and sincerely hope that history records its outcome as the Drury report and not the dreary report. The Commissioner mentioned in part of his address that we were not going to lose the game with one throw of the dice. I happen to be a dice player and I happen to know that you can not win with a loaded set of dice, so I suggest that if we in the territories are going to continue in this crap game, that we had better get our own set of dice.

Mackenzie Water System

With reference to the contract of maintenance on the Dempster highway from Fort Simpson to Inuvik, it is again a road that will benefit the Northwest Territories. However, it is also a road that will undoubtedly spell the death knell of the Mackenzie water system, as we know it. If history is to repeat itself, in the Yukon when their road systems were completed and although the price of freight on some goods was five times that of the water transportation, it took the highways exactly one year to put the water system out of business and this included the heavy tonnages for the mining industry in the Yukon. It is my conclusion that within a year or two years after the completion of the Dempster highway, that the water system from Hay River to Inuvik is finished. Another era will have passed, the territories will have taken one step forward, but it leaves a price to be paid. There is an infrastructure that has been built up in Hay River; people are working, people have built their homes, their businesses around the transportation system at Hay River and this system, we feel certain, will disappear within two years.

A disturbing point that I thought I heard from the Commissioner's Address was that Pierson homes were being built somewhere in the Eastern Arctic. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that our learned friend and colleague has not also turned architect; a wrecker maybe; but I just do not really see him as a builder. I hope that I have a mix-up in names, however, the name was Pearson, I believe.

In general, however, I must add that I am pleased to see the administration has completed and implemented as many recommendations of this Assembly as they have in the past year. This, Mr. Speaker, concludes my points on the Commissioner's Address.

Tribute To The Commissioner

Mr. Speaker, it is with gratitude shared by this House, sir, I also at this time thank the Commissioner for so far extending his tenure of office. He pledged himself to serve Canada for ten years as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories and he has served with great dedication, energy and enthusiasm well into his 11th year.

While any one of us may not always have agreed with specific policies, undertakings or capers of the Commissioner, we are agreed that he has basically been the right man in the right place at the right time. My colleagues and I, who collectively represent the entire population of the territories, can assure you that this

opinion and respect is shared by virtually all of the residents of the North. Few men, if any, could have served the North in the last decade as he has. Those who follow will look back and be humbled by his major achievements, including the moving of our territorial government from Ottawa to Yellowknife and the development of functional local government throughout the territories. We all sir, extend to Commissioner Hodgson, our sincere thanks for the many outstanding services rendered to the Northwest Territories. Mrs. Hodgson has already been recognized by the Government of Canada and should be mentioned here as part of our tribute and we do so with gratitude and pride to a great lady.

This is our first legislative session in 1978. Let me look back over a trail of broken dreams and shattered hopes and unkept promises, back to our first legislative session in 1974. In those four years, I should note mother Ottawa has had an Indian and Northern Affairs department with four different ministers. Perhaps she intends to make this one legitimate.

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline

In 1974 it was the Hon. Jean Chrétien. Here is what he told us in Yellowknife, January the 18th, 1974, and I quote: "The government, after weighing all the factors involved, very carefully has come to the conclusion that a gas pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley is in the national interest. The key to meeting Canada's gas needs in the next decade involves a joint Canada - United States gas pipeline along the Mackenzie Valley. I am determined...", said the minister, "...that this pipeline construction and the associated development projects will take place in an orderly and balanced manner. Development would take account of the peoples living along the pipeline route, their preferences, their aspirations and their needs. Mackenzie Valley residents would be fully involved with the benefits of a pipeline".

Hon. Jean Chrétien stood at that time ready to receive an application for the pipeline. Then came the little innocent sentence in that same speech which was to ring the death knell of those promises and blow the Mackenzie pipeline right out of existence. That statement was: "I am currently taking steps...", the minister said, "...to set up a formal commission of inquiry to examine the regional, social, and environmental and economic aspects of such an application", and this became the Berger Inquiry.

Now, of course, we skip a period of time and our minister Hon. Jean Chrétien left. I have no doubt in my mind whatsoever that the Hon. Jean Chrétien as minister, gave that information out in good faith. However, with the changing times and events, the first thing we know Hon. Jean Chrétien is gone and we have a new minister. The Hon. Judd Buchanan presided while Judge Berger roamed the Mackenzie ripping up each mile of our proposed pipeline.

Statement On Alcan Agreement

When the National Energy Board sealed our fate, yet another honourable gentleman consoled us. It was the Hon. Warren Allmand. Now, here is his Ottawa statement after the Canada-United States agreement on the Alcan line. It was made on September the 9th. He said: "I am confident that the agreement with the United States will encourage the oil and gas industry to continue exploration activities in the Mackenzie Delta". We know now that this is not true. He recognized the Mackenzie had become quite dependent on the exploration business and that there could be serious economic effects and he made us this promise. "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". So, gone was the pipeline, along came that promise and away went the minister who made it.

Hon. Hugh Faulkner's Economic Strategy

We are pleased to have with us at this session our new Minister, the Hon. Hugh Faulkner. I support his position and his promises. I congratulate him on the promptness of his attention to our plight since taking over as Minister. My faith goes with him, but remember we can not physically, mentally or economically face any more mislaid and unkept promises. While the Minister's department drafts economic strategy, the economy is going down the river. Unemployment, business failures and the symptoms of discontent are growing all along the Mackenzie. Remember, development of strategy may employ civil servants in Ottawa and Yellowknife, but strategy must be implemented to save the communities of the Mackenzie and it must be implemented fast.

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, we are tired of empty promises, a fast growing, pampered, subsidized, self-serving bureaucracy, and a shrivelling economy. The unkept promises of the Government of Canada to the people of the Mackenzie has contributed to this situation. Any comprehensive, economic strategy for the Mackenzie should begin with a clearcut settlement of native claims. Both the Government of Canada and the native people of the Mackenzie should recognize that the economic future of the Mackenzie is poised on a very thin ice of their own negotiations. Delay will melt that ice and sink the economy so deep that the body will not be recovered in our generation, if ever. I believe the government has made sincere efforts to settle the Indian Brotherhood land claims, but I am not too sure that the Brotherhood is not in part playing games.

Effects Of The Berger Inquiry

The Berger Inquiry spent two years studying the social and economic impact of a pipeline, which is not to be built, then the government decided to build one which has not been studied. Now we are suffering a social and economic impact all right; not from a pipeline, but from that inquiry.

Once the federal government backed off from its promise to build a Mackenzie pipeline and decided instead to fund its opponents, uncertainty set in. This uncertainty was reflected in steadily decreasing investment in economic activity in the North. In October, 1975, the minister of the day, Hon. Judd Buchanan said the people of northern communities, corporations and governments, face great uncertainty about the future in the Northwest Territories and to some extent in the Yukon. Well, the situation is even more acute today. Today we know there will be no pipeline for at least a decade and damn all else. If anything about the immediate future of the Mackenzie is certain, it is that it has no immediate future. It has no immediate chance of economic recovery.

Position Of NTCL

Nor did the impact of the Berger Inquiry end here. Many individual companies and crown corporations, convinced that Ottawa meant what it said about national priorities, gambled their financial future on Mackenzie Valley's pipeline. Look at NTCL or Northern Transportation Company Limited, the crown corporation which used to be the cornerstone of the Hay River transportation industry and an important economic factor all down the Mackenzie River. The company needed lead time if it was to meet the immense shipping requirements of this granddaddy of all pipelines. It could not wait for a Berger Inquiry to begin shipbuilding and expansion of its barge fleet if it wanted to meet the proposed construction deadline, so it gambled with our taxpayers' money and went in the hole to build a multimillion dollar fleet. I certainly do not blame management or the board of directors for making such a decision. I think it was the only decision they could make but now this company has no pipeline to feed. Their new tugs are so efficient that two of them can, in one trip, carry the summer resupplies which formerly occupied their entire fleet. This is having a tragic economic impact in terms of lost employment alone. NTCL required 385 persons at Hay River three years ago, 79 last summer and expects to employ 25 this coming summer.

Alternatives To Economic Moratorium

We now exist and barely exist in an economic moratorium imposed by Berger on the one hand, and the nonsettlement of the native land claims on the other. Land use, mineral exploration, prospecting, trapping, agricultural, oil and gas explorations are all at a near standstill. What indeed are our alternates, if any?

Let me begin my answer to that question by quoting an article called "Northern Reflections", published by the Presbyterian Record last month by Mr. George Johnson. Several denominations, including his own, he says, through their support of Project North are, in his words, responsible for the stark aftermath of the second great pipeline decision in Canada's history. On the pipeline alternates he says, quote: "This question was asked of the committee on justice and liberty and Project North at a seminar on the church and northern development held in Inuvik in May of this year. Only after persistent questioning did a lawyer of the committee on justice and liberty finally admit there is no blueprint for alternates." I will read that again, "... no blueprint of alternates". "What a tragic reply. So much money, travel and effort had been put out into politically pressuring, condemning oil companies pushing for native land claims and native political self-determination, that no serious consideration or research has been done on other forms of northern development. The most that could be said was they should develop their renewable resources". End of quote. Today's world, with an increasing native population, to think of making a livelihood out of handicrafts, hunting, fishing and trapping is a bunch of rot, as we all are fully aware.

Commercial Fishing

While land claims remain unsettled, as I have said already, agriculture and lumbering are severely being handicapped in areas that possibly could be

developed. Commercial fishing on Great Slave Lake is a dying industry. This, Mr. Speaker, is not the direct responsibility of our Minister of Northern Affairs but they live in the same place, Ottawa. Arbitrary quotas were enforced upon fishermen on that lake without any relationship to any known statistics, studies or anything else. They were placed on by the whim of a man, which effectively have reduced the potential harvest of fish on Great Slave Lake from seven million pounds to three million four hundred thousand. This amount of poundage does not allow for an economical operation of the fish plant in Hay River.

I am pleased to note, however, in regard to this particular problem, that the Minister of Fisheries in Ottawa has succumbed to pressure from the Minister of Northern Affairs of Manitoba, and has authorized a complete investigation into the operation of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. Just by way of a reminder, I believe I was the only Councillor at the time the motion came to the floor that opposed the passing of the motion to let the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation come into being in the Northwest Territories. There may be renewable resources which can be exploited, but not while Ottawa fails to understand how its present policies and inaction are crippling initiative, private enterprise and investment potential in the Northwest Territories.

Construction Of Tourist Access Roads

One promising area of providing Ottawa with recognized potential and providing funding is the construction of tourist access roads, particularly in locations where they could also provide access to renewable resource potential. The Mackenzie highway system to date, with the exception of the poorly maintained Ingraham Trail running a few miles out of Yellowknife, is a community system of important but strictly utility roads. Little attempt has been made to provide access from this highway system to major tourist attractions or to relieve the necessity for tourists returning always on the same route they have already travelled. The Ljard highway on today's announcement will relieve that in part, in coming to and leaving the territories anyway. I believe that such access roads are essential if we are to increase tourism, one of the few industries left for us to develop in the present circumstances. These roads could be one sensible pipeline alternate and should form a part of any comprehensive economic development scheme for the Mackenzie.

Decentralization Needed For Future Of Hay River

Mr. Speaker, we have in this Assembly spoken of decentralization. We have used various terms for it and I wish to address myself to this at this time. Any rational economic strategy should be designed to include the decentralization of government. Those communities outside of Yellowknife should receive some of the economic benefit of government establishments and not merely their bureaucratic headaches by long distance from Yellowknife. With no other development in sight for the Hay River area in the immediate future, there is no alternate but to insist that some government departments be moved there from Yellowknife. We are losing a payroll in excess of three million dollars and if this is not replaced by payroll somewhere in the neighbourhood of a million and a half dollars, Hay River is faced with economic chaos.

I noticed in a Yellowknife news release last month that new duties have been assigned to the head of the devolution committee. The reason given is that much of the planning work involved in the process of devolution has been completed. However, nothing to my knowledge has yet devolved upon Hay River. What is required is a transfer of government agencies involving probably 70 personnel, to provide an immediate additional economic face for the community. Only in this way can the jobs and salaries be replaced which have now been lost from the transportation and fishing industries. I certainly, Mr. Speaker, favor long-range planning and long-term solutions to economic problems and although decentralization may be temporarily disruptive, it is

far better than a make-work or band-aid approach. I assure you that without such a move, the community of Hay River will not survive to benefit from the long-term economic development.

Use Of Northern Labour And Materials.

I suppose this is not a new subject again, Mr. Speaker, but we are still buying our houses, prefab houses, in Saskatchewan. I would like to point out again, sir, that an important part of any northern economic strategy must be to use our own northern materials and labour to develop our secondary industries. As an example of where we are going wrong, our own Northwest Territories Housing Corporation continues to purchase prefab housing units in southern Canada, which could be built better in Hay River or other sites of the Northwest Territories.

The only true northern house design was designed in the North by Work Arctic. It has already been built and tried. These three section house packages are ideal for transportation to sites anywhere in the North, either as a complete prefab package or as a centre core only, containing plumbing, heating and electrical components for finishing onsite. In other words, you deliver one-third of the house and two-thirds of the house can be built onsite if labour is available.

Why do we not do these things? We talk of them and we talk of them and we talk of our economic positions, and yet nothing seems to change. Sir, in referring to assistance in certain ways to the territories to help us recover from losing a billion dollar contract through the building of a pipeline, I think if we are going to conclude and do something worthwhile that will have lasting effects, we are going to have to look at programs that are very expensive.

Mining Industry.

I do not pretend to know very much about mining, but it would appear to me that a case could be made for a smelter, possibly for small mills, to be strategically located for the development of small mining properties; put the mining business on a small scale back into operation, which would, of course, put the prospectors back in the field. At the present time, the mining industry certainly does not seem to be very healthy. It also probably supplies work for the Northern Transportation Company's many empty barges. I imagine they could ship quite a few tons of ore around the country.

Arctic Winter Games.

Well, I am going to please you with this remark, this is my last half page, Mr. Speaker. Hundreds of volunteer workers in Hay River and Pine Point are preparing for the fifth Arctic Winter Games to be held from March the 19th to 25th. By games time more than 1000 volunteers will be ready, despite budget constraints, to stage the best games to date. The two host communities will be welcoming more than 850 athletes from the Northwest Territories, the Yukon and Alaska, as well as officials, coaches, entertainers and visiting spectators. Among the outstanding friends of the games who will be attending are the Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport, the Hon. Iona Campagnolo, the Commissioners of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, a representative of the Governor of Alaska, and as an observer, the minister in charge of amateur sport for Hungary.

A great deal of credit is due to our present Commissioner for his role in getting these games started in 1970 and his continued support for them. They are invaluable to the young athletes across the Arctic, preparing them for stiffer competition in southern games, promoting understanding among the youth of different regions and cultures and producing many other benefits. This sir, is an invitation to this House and to all of the people of the Northwest Territories, to visit Hay River and Pine Point during the games. Be sure you arrange for your accommodation if you plan staying overnight. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Members, ladies and gentlemen, just before we have orders of the day and adjourn for the afternoon, may I take this opportunity to recognize a couple of people in the gallery who affect our everyday life. Firstly, the Hon. Willie Adams, our Senator.

Secondly, if I may, the president of that great airline, Pacific Western Airlines, Mr. Ryes Eyton.

Ladies and gentlemen and Members, you have probably been wondering, as a result of the discussion that we had about who the guests of honour are for this evening. In view of what you said, Mr. Stewart, I think it is appropriate for me to announce now who the guests of honour this evening are at the ball. I have not told them. The guests of honour are Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Hodgson. I have been waiting for years to get him.

There is coffee served and ready for the members of the public, the guests of the Members, to mingle with Members immediately on adjournment. With that, therefore, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO.7: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, January 23rd, 1978, 9:00 o'clock a.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Replies to Commissioner's Opening Address
3. Questions and Returns
4. Oral Questions
5. Petitions
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motion
8. Motions for the Production of Papers
9. Motions
10. Tabling of Documents
11. First Reading of Bills: Bill 1-64, Bill 2-64, Bill 4-64, Bill 5-64, Bill 6-64, Bill 7-64, Bill 8-64, Bill 9-64, Bill 10-64, Bill 11-64, Bill 13-64, Bill 14-64, Bill 15-64, Bill 16-64, Bill 17-64
12. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 1-64, Bill 2-64, Bill 4-64, Bill 5-64, Bill 6-64, Bill 7-64, Bill 8-64, Bill 9-64, Bill 10-64, Bill 11-64, Bill 13-64, Bill 14-64, Bill 15-64, Bill 16-64, Bill 17-64
13. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and other Matters
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This Legislative Assembly stands adjourned until 9:00 o'clock a.m., January 23, 1978, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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