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**DEBATES**

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1978

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Steen, 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

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Item 2, replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address?

ITEM NO. 2: REPLIES TO COMMISSIONER'S OPENING ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

There has got to be three or four of you out there. Mr. Lafferty.

Mr. Lafferty's Reply

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen.

Mr. Speaker, I came to this session determined to pay more attention to what is being said rather than engaging in long-winded speeches. However, after thinking over carefully what has been said by the Commissioner, Mr. Hodgson and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Hon. Hugh Faulkner, I decided to make a short reply to express on behalf of all the people in the Mackenzie Liard constituency our sincere gratitude to the Members of this Legislature, the Government of the Northwest Territories and our Minister of Northern Affairs for not letting us become completely hopeless in the future of our communities.

Of course, this is not to say we are faithful that all is going to be fine and well but that I am certain people who wish to work and be more self-reliant would have an opportunity in the near future to do so. I had, Mr. Speaker, prepared a speech prior to coming to this session but after having talked to several elderly people in the community yesterday and times before, and having spoken to a few people in my constituency who are older people, I changed what I had planned. No doubt these changes I have made would be reflected in what I say in the next few minutes. As I said at the outset I am grateful for many things and that I am grateful to my colleagues for supporting northern economic reforms which has now taken place through people development, in spite of the seemingly insurmountable mountains of power financed by the public purse through governments and churches.

Building The North

However, each to his own thing. Sooner or later the truth wins over the lie. That brings to my memory that I knew a man once who lived a deceitful life for many years, thinking he was smart because others patted him on the back, and praised him, only to realize too late he actually cheated himself in the company of honest and truthful men. So be it for those who wish

what they do. Mr. Speaker, I do believe there are many very sincere and good people in the North, people of all races and colours and beliefs and from all corners of the world. Yet they all live and try in a common and harsh natural northern environment and conditions, a unique people, common to each other, that we all call northerners. Indeed, to me they are special and no doubt they will build the North for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to hear the Commissioner say much of these things that we desire and much of the things that we have sought in the past is now being put in place. To my way of thinking, that is good news. I realize that these things and social changes in the North will not come about overnight but the main thing is to cut a new trail in the wilderness to get people to where they want to go and I believe this has been done. My only regret is the Wildlife Ordinance. I feel all the native people have been had or cheated somehow. We have a rapidly growing Metis, Eskimo and Indian population in the Northwest Territories, and all of these people are privileged to hunt in and out of season for all kinds of wildlife, with the exception in some areas, for waterfowl. Uncontrolled game-take by these persons will kill off the kinds of animals their forefathers have depended upon. The people seem to have forgotten that with the kinds of transportation their fathers used, the kinds of guns available in those days and the numbers of people who survived starvation, sickness and so on, they were in balance with the wildlife around them. These times have changed.

#### Modern Hunting

Today there is modern transportation used; skidoos, aircrafts, motor vehicles on highways, outboard motors and all-weather boats. People can go greater distances faster and in almost any weather conditions. Then we have greater numbers of young men coming into the North womanless and integrating in small northern communities resulting in a new breed of man, conditioned to northern climate and privileged to kill big game simply by inheritance because one of his ancestors happened to live that way. And the only reason that one side of his ancestor lived that way is because they had no choice. I believe sincerely, Mr. Speaker, that today we have a choice. I believe also that we have been negligent in meeting our responsibilities for the future people of the North that no doubt is going to evolve out of the native Eskimo, Indian and Metis people.

In my constituency most native people with whom I have spoken were concerned with the possible overkill and clearly the majority of them agreed there should be a Wildlife Ordinance. Most of the Indian population at least in my area depend on wildlife and only take what they need. They did not agree with all the contents of the ordinance, however, they felt there has to be a beginning in controlling game kill. Perhaps the Honourable Members will see in their wisdom to reintroduce the Wildlife Ordinance next session for with it rests our future right to hunt when we need to hunt as native people to the land.

#### Metis Identity

Mr. Speaker, over the past several years I have always placed great emphasis on recognizing the importance of the Metis identity in the Mackenzie Basin. I said on some occasion that with these people rests social and economic changes. They are the living history of the Mackenzie Valley communities. Their half-breed and French ancestors had come to trade with the Indians for fur. These people hand cleared land with primitive tools to build homes and plant vegetable gardens. There were not very many so-called white people or Indians to be found in those communities.

They were friendly and helpful to almost anyone who came among them but they were especially helpful and understanding to the Indian people through the years, learning their local Indian dialects and customs. Yet, never at any time did they refuse their cousins, the white man; and Mr. Speaker, it can be said that this is true to this day. They were helpful but they never interfered with the life or interests of other men. Because of the nature of these men, non-native people and Indians assumed the Metis were quite content but this was not true unfortunately. They were just treated as being another kind of man of different culture and values. They did not believe in taboos that were used by Indians for conservation purposes and family disciplines; nor did they fully adapt themselves to the Christian customs of their caucasian French and Irish ancestors. Although they were Roman Catholic they each had their own idea of the great spirit. They were and still are another unique northern people, a northern people who survived the oppressions of the past and of today. I believe, Mr. Speaker, Members of this Legislature and the government have realized the uniqueness of our northern people and finally, with all due respect to each of us who live here, we are building not just a single bridge but many bridges to bring our people together in a common community for the betterment of all those who choose to live here.

#### Upgrading Of Native People

Mr. Speaker, coming to a close, I wish to say not in disrespect of anyone, the Indian people of the Northwest Territories are in need of much help in the way that they have probably never needed help before, in the way of upgrading them to read and write. I know many native people who can not read nor write properly although they understand and speak English. I am quite sure and certain that they feel badly and ashamed but they will not say so. I know on many occasions I asked a guy to sign a piece of paper or read a piece of paper and he ends up giving me some kind of an excuse and I know how he feels. Teaching them to read the proposed native syllabics the way we have done for years, is not the answer because most of these people do speak and understand English and if they do not understand English, most of the older people understand and speak French. I believe that if we can secure the Metis people through their own identity, we will find we close the gap between the peoples of the Mackenzie Valley and we could assist our Indian brothers and sisters rather than forcing identities upon them they do not wish nor desire.

Mr. Speaker, I believe economic development is a result of people development and if this were true, which I think it is, then we must respect and understand those we are to develop. Most people today who came from outside centres, do not have much of an idea what is important to an Indian or to a Metis. They tend to judge an Indian by what southern Indians are like and most of southern Indians are not Indians. They do not seem to realize the Indians are just as apt to be different to each other as East Indians are to one another in the country of India. These people should live among the native people so they could learn to understand the Indian before applying their sciences in an effort to communicate their theories about life and technology. Native children are taught from early life by using their senses of touch, hearing, seeing and smelling. In other words they use their senses. Children are taught by letting them try what their elders are doing. There is no reprimand if they fail again and again. Sooner or later the children choose what they wish. It would be difficult to change this young man's habits unless you understand what he has gone through.

Mr. Speaker, finally these are a few brief outlines I have given about things I see, things I understand, things I feel and hope that these are possible in the coming years. I have said to my electors I will get you involved with improvement in every way possible and as I stand before you, Mr. Speaker, I can say in complete confidence they can get involved because we have made one heck of a good start in spite of all that happened. It is too bad, but we can not look backward because simple logic says you can only plan for the future.

In closing, I wish to thank all my colleagues and members of the Government of the Northwest Territories who were and are of great help to me in my work. If it had not been for the assistance that I have received at every level, when I sought help I was not denied, some of the things that are happening in my constituency would not have come about. This just proves to me that in co-operation we can achieve things that we can not do alone or sometimes through affiliation. The point is, it is very important that we all understand this and for that I am grateful and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Gentlemen, just before going on to the next speaker, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Alex Demello and his class of students from William MacDonald in the gallery.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Further replies to the Commissioner's Address. Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Pearson's Reply

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, I have some bad news for you. The third world war started this morning at approximately 1:30 a.m. in the room next to mine. It was a rough night. However, I am here, you will be glad to see. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, before I make some comments I would like to make in reply to the Commissioner's Address and some other comments, I would like to make a strong protest and trust that the Canadian government will make a strong protest to the Russian government for insisting on launching nuclear powered sputniks and other flying objects that flit around the heavens, slowly burning out, falling out of orbit and dropping into earth. Now, we do not know the seriousness of this and it may in fact not be serious but if it is a nuclear powered sputnik and it did land in any community in the world, let alone the Northwest Territories, it would wipe out the entire population. Now, I would urge this government and the Canadian government to protest strongly to the scientific bodies throughout the world that nuclear energy not be used in such measures as flying objects.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. PEARSON: To get back to earth. I would like to start off by congratulating all of the people who this year became involved in the Arctic Winter Games, to the many hundreds of people who supported these enterprises across the Northwest Territories both on a volunteer basis and as employees of this administration. I think that the effort put into it was tremendous and I think the results of those efforts are tremendous. Personally, I offer my congratulations to all and everyone that was involved and trust that one day we can see it go from a biennial event to an annual event when the government of this country realizes the need for recreation and is willing to put more money into it.

#### The Berger Report.

Much has happened in the past year. In fact, probably the most exciting thing has been the Berger Report, the most significant study ever made in the Northwest Territories and possibly in this country as a whole. It is now beginning to be felt in areas; even the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has obviously read it. He referred to it, he seems to be using it as a guideline for his future and his plan for the future for the Northwest Territories. I just hope and pray that this administration uses it for their plans and takes heed of what Justice Berger has said. Surely if the mandarins of Ottawa appreciate it then we had better get down to it.

Hopefully Members of this House will begin to do the same and read what Justice Berger has said about building a solid foundation to the economy, using the renewable resources that we have, setting the people throughout the Northwest Territories to an economy, to a lifestyle based on solid foundations, not on some pipe dream. Justice Berger warns against extravagances, against schemes such as the Nanisivik mine, a \$40 million investment on the part of the Canadian government, an operation which was marginal in the first place and could not have been operated economically, soundly economically had it not been for an injection of \$40 million by the Canadian government. The basic premise for it was to provide employment for native people. Well how many native people work at Nanisivik mines? How many are reaping any benefits from it; ten of them, 20 at the moment perhaps, a \$40 million investment, \$40 million for a 12 year production, possibly more but based on a 12 or 13 years prediction, a \$40 million investment. Think what \$40 million could have done injected into the economy of the Northwest Territories as a whole, by building and providing education facilities such as training centres for tradesmen and other skills throughout the Northwest Territories.

#### Co-operation With The People

Though the Commissioner in his Address spoke about co-operation of the private sector, of the government, of individuals, well I wonder when this government will begin to co-operate with some of the people that it serves. When will this government begin to provide training facilities such as the Adult Vocational Training Centre facility in Fort Smith in other parts of the Northwest Territories? When will it begin to build teacher training centres in other parts of the Northwest Territories, other than in Fort Smith? That is what co-operation is, that is what it means, getting down and getting some real effort made in these Northwest Territories to include the people in the economy.

The Commissioner in his Address said that educational programs are being decentralized. I do not quite know what that means but I do know that anybody in the Eastern Arctic or any other part of the North that wants to become a teacher, take on training of some sort and in many cases academic upgrading, must go as far away from his home as it is possible to go, all the way to Fort Smith. There are communities in the Northwest Territories that would love to have facilities such as that in their communities. There are communities in the Northwest Territories that already have existing facilities. Frobisher Bay, for example, has an abundance of accommodation and under those conditions, a hostel. It has government workshops. There is an abundance of equipment. There are roads. There are airstrips. These facilities do not have to be fancy. AVTC is not fancy, although it is getting fancier.



The education of teachers; that does not have to go under a big fancy facility in a far-off community. It can be done in a very simple situation in any of a given number of communities. Now, it is only when we do that that we are going to get some degree of willingness on the part of native people, particularly the young people in the constituency that I represent, a willingness to try these training facilities. Now, I urge Members throughout this session when we get to the estimates on education, to examine it very carefully and see if changes of this sort can be brought out because I know that Mr. Evaluarjuk and Mr. Kilabuk and perhaps other Members of this House, Mr. Pudluk, have said this same thing many many times here. But because of the way the balance of power goes, we are not getting very far. On a show of hands, we lose out every time. Unless the native people are given an honest opportunity to participate, they will not be able to do so. They are willing to participate. They are willing to get involved with everybody else but you have got to give them a chance.

#### CBC Radio And Television

I noted with some pleasure the comments by the Commissioner in his Address on radio and television services and I use this simply as an opportunity to sound off about the shocking, disgraceful show that CBC is putting on on television. I can not for the life of me understand why anybody would want to have that stuff in their community in living colour. The programs that are delivered for human consumption in the Northwest Territories by CBC are utter and absolute garbage. The majority of them are two-bit, second quality, American comedy situations and the rest of it is so inappropriate for the North as to make me wonder at times that we are living in Canada.

It is not getting any better fellows. It is shocking. There is less than half an hour a week of television in the native languages. There is a feeble effort made by CBC to produce the show "Tarqavat" and that is it. When will CBC get some effort into the northern service to take advantage of the wonderful, amazing technical achievements of the Anik system instead of abusing it with the crap and the garbage that they are broadcasting daily? The effect it is having on the northern people I hate to think: the total effect that it will have in the next ten years on the culture of the native people. In fact, I am beginning to wonder about my own culture, after watching that for a couple of years. They have no regard for the native people for whom they serve whatsoever, none, a national disgrace.

### Subsidy On Public Housing

In the Commissioner's Address, he dealt with housing and he pointed out the subsidy that was introduced on the first of January to the public housing across the Northwest Territories, which has been a godsend for the people in my constituency and this administration along with the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation are to be heartily thanked for their efforts in bringing about an end to the terrible discrimination that was imposed on people who were working and were willing to work and earn money. They are now not being put upon by those who stay home in bed as much.

The Housing Corporation itself is currently undergoing a crisis, one which concerns me greatly and I think that the crisis could have a serious effect on the future of the Housing Corporation. It would seem that the territorial administration is not willing to allow the Housing Corporation the autonomy that I think it should get. It is being bird dogged by the territorial government, in fact the construction department is now being run by the territorial government through the auspices of the director of the Department of Public Works. There is, I think, a need for the Housing Corporation to be given some autonomy. There has got to be freedom from this administration. They have got to be given the initiative to remain a corporate body and the way things are going, that is not possible. I think that one way of doing that would be for the Commissioner to appoint the newly elected Minister to the portfolio of the Housing Corporation, so that the Legislative Assembly would have direct input into the affairs of that organization and the wishes and the plans and views of the directors of the Housing Corporation would be protected. The Housing Corporation is a child of this organization, we dreamed it up because of great need, because of great necessity, and it is essential that it maintains its independence.

### Conflict With The Department Of Public Works

In the present situation there has been some conflict within the Housing Corporation and the Department of Public Works has seen fit to interfere with a tender proposal, the results of which could mean a complete kaffuffle in the provision of houses this year. It could mean no houses delivered this year, the way things are going. A tender call was made in December and there were amendments to that proposal some two weeks later, three weeks later, after the initial plans by the various companies involved had begun. The Department of Public Works' interference in the scheme resulted in a totally new set of rules and procedures and plans being sent to the people who had already spent weeks designing and planning the houses for this year. Given the approach by the directors for the new housing, using new designs, trying to improve the houses, trying to get some of the input from the directors into the design of those houses, the thing was thrown out, the companies were told to forget it, to get back to basic panelized structures.

Now this is unfortunate and one company in particular is most upset about it and plans to take action against the Housing Corporation over this matter. So, I would strongly recommend to the Commissioner, using his words of devolution and decentralization, that the Housing Corporation be given the autonomy it deserves so that it can get on with the work. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further replies? Mr. Kilabuk. Just before you start, Mr. Kilabuk, if I may just comment for the young people in the gallery. If you wish to hear Mr. Kilabuk's comments, you will have to obtain the translator's sets over here because he will be speaking in Inuktitut and there is a simultaneous translation into English.

Mr. Kilabuk's Reply

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, and the audience students, I would like to welcome you here. Mr. Speaker, I am not going to say very much. I simply want to talk about the possibility of the development in the Northwest Territories. I am not going to talk about the past in length. First of all, I would like to say I would like to express my thanks to the Commissioner and my colleagues. I would like to express my thanks for the Legislative Ball that was going on. My personal feelings, I have a lot of ideas about the possibility of development in the Northwest Territories. We were always talking about development in the Northwest Territories as it was in Baffin Island. I have to talk about a lot of things that I would like to say about economic development in the Northwest Territories, you are not really listening to the wishes of the people of the Northwest Territories, although the Minister of Economic Development is a native person. I have thought about it and it would be a really good idea if the native people are trained to take over the responsibility of government. Thus, that would be the only way of taking over the responsibilities of the development in the Northwest Territories. Also, the students right now would have a lot better future. They are never sure of what they are going to do after they finish their education. We talked about the students having more jobs after the school. We talked so much about the education. I think the education should be divided into two sections, two systems.

Learning And Teaching Inuktitut

The other one should be Inuktitut learning which is not being used very much. What Mr. Evaluarjuk has said is true. I am trying to say this honestly from my heart, especially they should learn more about Inuktitut. I would very much like to see a real native person taking over the school system in the office. He should be able to teach both in Inuktitut and English and know how to write. He should not necessarily have grade 12, as long as he knows how to read and write and speak the Inuktitut language and native language. I would like to see this process very much and also, Mr. Speaker, the Minister would have been appointed or elected. Maybe the people should be listening to those Ministers more often, after all they are elected. We will support them. That is the only way we can work together well, if we start doing that right now.

The federal government would finally recognize our responsibilities and we are capable of taking over the responsibilities of the Northwest Territories. It seems to me we are just advisers for the Government of Canada, if we start doing our own, saying we can only -- they would recognize us more when we start taking our own responsibilities. We like to be recognized in the Northwest Territories, also the people in the settlements.

They would be more responsible if they are recognized by the government for this reason, that is why I was mentioning about more native people taking on more responsibilities on economic development.

The Wildlife Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, we had talked about this Wildlife Ordinance. We did not pass the ordinance when we had the last session in October. I said about the Wildlife Ordinance that we should wait until 1979 so the people will understand more on this Wildlife Ordinance. That is why I do not want this Wildlife Ordinance to be passed at the moment.

First for the last time I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my thanks to Commissioner for working very well in the Northwest Territories to meet the needs of the people. Also he talked about the responsibilities of the Members saying that they are a lot better now. For that reason, I would like to express my thanks. We can see now in the past that the Members and Commissioner have progressed so well. Further, I would like to have more authority since we are the Members in the Northwest Territories. That is the only way we could be recognized by the federal government. That is all I have to say. Thank you very much.

---Applause

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

Mr. Fraser's Reply

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, Members of the Assembly, my reply today will be short and to the point. In fact, it will be almost as short as the moving reply by Mr. Stewart about Justice Berger and his Ex-Lax. Today, I want to stress two points. In spite of all the setbacks that we have had in the North, life must go on. In this Assembly we have got to hang together and to work, all of us. Those that have complained about unemployment had better realize that this Assembly has participated in a work stoppage of its own for the past three sessions.

In the North today, with a recession in progress, we are still acting like the Conservative party. We have circled our wagons and are preparing to fire inwards at ourselves. What we need now is not a five year plan to construct a highway but a major change in attitude by the federal government in regards to resource development in the Mackenzie Valley. Despite what Hon. Hugh Faulkner says, industry did not desert us in the valley. They were driven out by hostile government actions and shortsighted political moves by our native organizations. However, this Assembly has not been faultless, with our own built-in opposition party of one from the Eastern Arctic, we have been split 14 to one in almost every major issue before us. We must overcome our differences and pull together at least for the remainder of this recession. Our people can not afford to have us waste our energies on petty fighting. We must begin to respond to their needs as well as our own. In this period of high unemployment, let us admit that we have won our war on poverty and from there go on to assist others with their battles.

Constitutional Development

The invincible Drury Inquiry now appears to be in full swing and I confess that despite my previous fears, the old boy still has a lot in him. I think that we can make a great deal of progress, both constitutionally and in the area of better relations with our native organizations by assisting him in every way we can. To those persons who are refusing to see him, I can only say that to not speak with Hon. C.M. Drury is like a man with a social disease refusing to talk to a doctor.

In my own constituency, I have both good news and bad news. First, the good news. My thanks and those of all the persons who are on the rotational employment scheme for Echo Bay mines go to the people responsible for it.

It is working very well and is an example of what a little bit of co-operation can do for a community. I only hope that we can do this for many more communities in the North. Now, the bad news. I would like to remind the chief of Fort Franklin that this practice of show of hands voting is not the Dene law of 30,000 years, but an Indian agent's practice of 75 years. This type of thinking going on in Fort Franklin can only harm the majority of the community. In closing, I will offer a bit of advice. I think that when the residents of the Northwest Territories are undressing tonight, we should all look down at our belly buttons and look inside. Maybe with that little bit of insight we will see a dove circle with a branch, the symbol of peace and goodwill. This would most certainly be a welcome change from the circle of ravens and vultures that we have seen hovering over the northern political skies. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Mr. Lyall's Reply

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, Members of this Legislative Assembly, today I would like to attempt to calm some fears expressed by members of my constituency. The complaints about the activities of certain civil servants in my riding and finally point out to the back to the land activists that it is not always the answer, but can sometimes be a painful frustration, if not an error. Many people in my constituency have fears and concerns regarding this new gun control. However, my reading of this situation is that nothing really has changed. The only new thing is that we who hunt and trap would be required to get a free licence; a permit, which would be good for five years to purchase new guns. I personally do not object to this. I do find it a bit ridiculous especially in the Northwest Territories where almost every house has three or four guns but I guess that I should not complain about that because it will take a few people off welfare. They can go around selling or distributing gun control permits.

Improvements In Hostel Living

Before I start on my back to the land business, I would like to say that the Department of Education is certainly improving in the area of hostels especially since the new Education Ordinance passed and we have placed more local control over education in the hands of our people. I am pleased to be able to say that in my riding I no longer hear students complaining about this hostel here in Yellowknife.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. LYALL: In the past, Central Arctic students always wished that they could move to Yellowknife Correctional Centre where prisoners appeared to have a lot more freedom.

The Minister in his address to this House one week ago today spoke at length on economy. It sounded encouraging but I did not hear any sounds of dollars that would be coming North except for the Liard highway. Now, I say to those persons who have helped put us in a horrible economic position, who have advocated a back to the land policy, you did not know what the hell you were talking about. You sure as hell did not learn anything about the land while you were up here. At this time, I urge this House to erect a monument to those Toronto Eskimos. On the inscription it should read: I came with nothing, I leave with lots, and I leave nothing worthwhile behind.

Mr. Hugh McCullum and Mr. Tony Clarke of Project North should come north now and tell the 65 or 70 people of Coppermine who are now unemployed that they should go back to the land and see what kind of reaction they will get. This year the sealskin prices are down and everywhere in the Arctic trappers are not getting the catches of white fox that they used to do over the past few years. Unfortunately, we have nothing to fall back on now that the oil industry is doing as little work as it is in the hostile northern economic development. I wonder where are those people now that we really need help? They truly came with nothing, left with reputation and left an economic mess behind. We of this House are now expected to pick up the pieces and repair the damages. As Mr. Fraser says, we have got to pull together. Now that these people are in the Eastern Arctic maybe even Mr. Pearson will be pulling in step with us.

The Department Of Local Government

Finally, I must complain about the Department of Local Government. It seems to me that the department is filled with frustrated politicians who are playing a game with none of the risks. The Commissioner got rid of a bunch of them last year, and now we have a bunch raising hell in our riding. I say to them, and particularly those of the Central Arctic, that the next territorial election is in the spring of 1979 and if you want to be a politician, then quit your job and run. Those people who are on a government salary go around campaigning continually but never do find out if the people accept what they say because they do not suffer defeat at the polls or the ballot boxes. If they want to complain okay, be complainers not campaigners. With the announcement that Hon. C. M. Drury has been appointed chairman of the National Capital Commission the federal government is more concerned about planting grass around Ottawa than constitutional development in the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: It is appropriate to ask if there is anyone else who would wish to sow a few seeds here this morning. Are there further replies? Mr. Butters.

Mr. Butter's Reply

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, before speaking to the motion of appreciation, may I compliment you, sir, and your staff on the organization of the Legislative Ball. With my colleague from Central Baffin, I suggest it was a very excellent affair and enjoyed by all those who attended and it gave the many people who came into this capital a chance to exchange ideas and gain new directions and objectives.

Likewise I agree that the members of the recreation department should be complimented for the excellent job brought about to put together the trials. I believe the results of those trials indicate that this time the athletes representing the Northwest Territories come from all over the territories. Mr. Pearson and I, who witnessed the Frobisher Bay basketball team and the Inuvik basketball team giving the Yellowknife teams a scare a week or so ago recognize that these people from the very small communities can compete and did compete very very well with this centre which has many opportunities for competition and recreation.

One other comment that Mr. Pearson made I think, that we should pursue and that was with regard to the beginning of the third world war. It was the matter of putting in orbit nuclear satellites. I have never before been aware that the satellite technology is now including nuclear driven and nuclear powered vehicles and as Mr. Pearson points out, these vehicles pass over our living space, I agree with him that we should be seeking, making a very strong approach to our Prime Minister to work out some international agreement where nuclear

waste not be circulated over our heads. It is not the nuclear engine that is the problem, it is the nuclear waste that engine leaves. We have no control, we can legislate on who sells liquor over our heads but obviously we can not legislate on who develops nuclear waste over our heads.

To return to the Legislative Ball for one minute, I would suggest it was most fitting that we had as our guests of honour, Commissioner and Mrs. Hodgson. I trust that that fact does not mean that we will be seeing the early departure of the Commissioner from these territories and from his host of responsibility that he has filled so well over the last ten years but it was a very happy event that we could so honour them both, as was done sir, by your foresight last week. In the Commissioner's Address he has always catalogued in great detail the progress and achievements of the past year and he highlighted the objectives of the years to come. I trust that he will similarly address the 67th session of this House, the session which as the Commissioner reminded us, will mark the termination of the eighth Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

#### Welcome To The New Minister.

With Commissioner Hodgson I welcome the appearance of the Hon. Hugh Faulkner on the northern scene. In making notes of the Minister's remarks, I see that I wrote down in large capital words, the words -- his words where he said "My principal object is to take the initiative." It has been a long time, sir, since we had a Minister that was willing to take the initiative and it is unfortunate possibly that he comes so late in our term, but it is good to have him aboard and I also remember the words that appear in the remarks that day with which he closed his speech. He said "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 one; some idea of the problem, 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". Before he was escorted from this chamber by the Deputy Speaker, he said, "This is the approach I will 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 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 the people of the Northwest Territories."

#### Constitutional Development

It would seem to me that this Minister sincerely is seeking our co-operation and will listen to what we say to him and that our advice will not fall on deaf ears. The Commissioner in his Opening Address also selected as one of, or the most important event of 1977, the appointment of Hon. C. M. Drury, former member of this body as the Prime Minister's special representative. There is no doubt in my mind that when Hon. C. M. Drury's report is submitted to the Prime Minister it will be received with confidence of the whole cabinet and many of the recommendations that he makes will be adopted and suggested by the Prime Minister and his cabinet. We use the words special representative in referring to Hon. C. M. Drury. I think we should enlarge that designation just a little bit to include the two words "the Prime Minister's special representative".

Now, the Commissioner's Address and the Minister's remarks are really incomplete, because the reality that they project or they attempt to describe can only be seen in terms of the totality of all Members' replies because we bring to that reality and that truth as the Honourable Member from Central Baffin said, a reality, an objectivity, the North as we see it and which we trust the administration and the federal government will see it to be.

### The Economic Challenge

The challenges that our new Minister will either pick up or ignore in this coming year, I think were clearly identified in the remarks of other Honourable Members in their replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address, and the Member from Yellowknife North, the Member from Foxe Basin. I think they very ably identified the political challenges that await the new Minister in his new portfolio. And teaming with the political challenges that face our new Minister is probably what could be the most grievous and demanding challenge and that is the economic challenge and that situation and those concerns were so very forcefully limned in by the mover of the motion of appreciation, the Member from Hay River. Those in concert with the Minister are the two challenges and of the two, I suggest that in the coming year, this last year of our political life, the most pressing and the most important challenge will be the economic one that faces this House.

### Increasing Number Of Members

Before pursuing that, I wish to digress a few moments and examine for a minute what we must do I think to obtain our political objectives. Yesterday, speaking to the motion of Mr. Whitford's, I mentioned that as chairman of the constituency committee we, the Members of that committee and myself, have a responsibility of examining the 15 constituencies that currently exist in the Northwest Territories and seeking to bring the borders of these constituencies more in line with the cultural, the transportational, the economic links of the people in those constituencies.

In the past three years we have met and in 1976 in February I made an oral report to this House in which I read a motion the committee had approved: that the Commissioner and the Legislative Assembly may make an ordinance to increase or decrease the number of Members of the Assembly but the number of Members shall not be fewer than 15 nor greater than 25. That recognizes the fact that the seats in this House must be enlarged for the next election to better shoulder the representation responsibilities that devolve upon us. The constitutional committee under Hon. Arnold McCallum likewise picked up that request and in "Priorities for the North" and constitutional development noted that the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly should be empowered to establish the number of its Members and this number should not be less than 15 nor more than 25 similar to the provisions of the Yukon Act. This amendment would come into effect prior to the next election and as Members realize, this was provided to the former minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Hon. Warren Allmand, in, I believe May of last year.

So the federal government has been well apprised of our desire and our political need to enlarge the number of seats in this House. They have known this for something approaching two years. We are rather caught in that to achieve that objective, it requires the Northwest Territories Act to be opened and the required provision included in the Northwest Territories Act, a provision which Members realized was included in the Northwest Territories Act of I believe 1875, only at that time the numbers were slightly different.

### More Responsibility For Members

The other political aspirations we have are in the areas of more responsibility for Members who serve on the Executive Committee. We realize that this matter is one that is not developed as a result of legislation but occurs as a result of a letter that is sent from the Minister to the Commissioner indicating that such Executive positions would be set up by the Commissioner and such Members named to those positions to sit on the Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories. The solution to giving the people of the North more responsibility of government obviously is not the best. The Honourable Member from Yellowknife North indicated many of its failings and its shortcomings and I think we



recognize that. However it is the best we have at the present time.

Prior to the dissolution of the last House, the minister at that time, the Hon. Jean Chrétien, provided Members a paper on the establishment of an Executive Committee and the manner in which that committee would operate. An opportunity was granted the Members of that House to address themselves to that paper but they did not. When this Assembly began its deliberations it likewise had on its order paper that ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, Mr. Nickerson. Mr. Butters is speaking.

MR. NICKERSON: I must apologize, Mr. Speaker.

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. At that time, the paper did come before this House on the agenda and at that time we did not discuss it. We did not discuss the shortcomings and the minister invited us to do so, should we wish to do that. I believe that recognizing the arrangement has shortcomings we should endeavour, before we dissolve, to have those people that have served on the Executive Committee develop a paper, that is the present membership and former membership develop a paper making recommendations to the federal government for changes we would like to see in the arrangement so that the Members that come in in the ninth Assembly are not plagued and hamstrung with the difficulties that Members in this House have found and experienced.

#### Can Not Take Responsibility For A Department

I mentioned a few days ago on the motion placed before you by the Honourable Member from the Central Arctic, naming me to the Executive Committee that I would have a few comments at this time. I realize that a precedent was established at Rankin Inlet that the Commissioner assigns or allocates the departmental responsibilities and as yet, that responsibility is to be assigned. I would point out to Members and this is not by way of an excuse, but I do not feel and do not believe that I would be able to, in the time left, learn fully a department, learn to manage a department in the few months I have left. I think there is a very great danger of intrusions that I might make as a fledgling minister of some department might so upset the Deputy Commissioner, that we would get less efficiency rather than more. However, in saying that, I would point out that I will take very very close cognizance of the budget debate. I will extract from the budget debate the representations and the objectives that Members place before the House, and the motions, and do my best to see those objectives and directions carried out.

#### Decentralization Of Government

I have one other particular abiding interest as a new Member of the Executive and that is to further the decentralization of government to the communities. You, sir, Mr. Speaker, speaking as a Member from Yellowknife South very ably indicated what has been probably the foremost objective of this, the eighth Assembly of the Northwest Territories. We have sought to take power and give power to the communities to allow them to govern themselves in the manner in which they believe is best and I will do everything I can in the few months remaining to ensure that that objective is approached a little bit closer and that power is given to the people to a much greater extent or to a greater extent than it is today.

The other challenge is that related to economic development. Mr. Pearson, the Honourable Member from South Baffin and the Honourable Member from the Central Arctic both spoke on the economic realities we face. One spoke of the renewable resources that are to be harvested and one indicated that that harvest might be a pretty thin gruel in the eating. The Member from South Baffin spoke of the Berger commission as the finest document that probably has been produced in the North during his experience. I would hope that the administration will table copies of Volume II before we go home so that Members may have this. There is only one trouble with the Berger Report that I can see. It is that the numbering was wrong. Volume II should have come out first, because Volume II as it reads on the cover is the terms and conditions. This is the commission that the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry commissioner was given to fulfil; to provide the terms and conditions and not have them published like a stillborn child long after the event. They look lovely, beautiful, but they are dead.

It is true there are many many good things in Volume II. Volume II in my estimation shows that the pipeline could have been built without any great problems socially, environmentally. It could have been built. There are excellent suggestions in there. He has listened to the ideas about dealing with unions. He has listened to northern preference. He has listened to environmental concerns. They are all there, but they are too late because as the Commissioner indicated in his Opening Address and as Chief Frank Tselihye said at Fort Good Hope, Mr. Berger there will be no pipeline.

#### Letter Of Transmittal

Unfortunately, the good judge was wrong. This letter of transmittal which was dated November 30th, 1977, just a short while ago, he says in part here, where he says on the first page of the letter of transmittal to Hon. Hugh Faulkner, "In its report, Reasons for Decision Northern Pipelines handed down on July 4, 1977, the National Energy Board indicated that depending upon the extent of discoveries in the Mackenzie Delta and the Beaufort Sea, a pipeline should be constructed either along the Dempster highway to connect with the pipeline that is to be built along the Alaska highway route or along the Mackenzie Valley. If the reserves of natural gas in the Beaufort Sea turn out to be large, then in due course at a time when they are needed and following a settlement of native claims, they could be delivered by means of a pipeline along the Mackenzie Valley. In any event, there will be continuing exploration in the Delta region." Now that statement was not made on November 30th, 1975; November 30th, 1973; it was made in 1977. When Hon. Hugh Faulkner was reading this, rigs in the Delta were moving out; Gulf Oil Canada Ltd. had laid off, as the Honourable Member from the Central Arctic points out, many many of the people from Coppermine. A few have been hired in the last few weeks because they are staging the rigs in the river to haul out, and Imperial Oil Ltd. is seeking applications to move rigs out over the Dempster highway right-of-way and Aquitaine is seeking to move rigs into the northern Yukon and other rigs are going. The dredge that was building islands in the Beaufort Sea will probably go out next year and what did Mr. Berger say? He said "In any event, there will be continuing exploration in the Delta region." That is false.

#### Our Economic Future

He also said, further on, and as again the Honourable Member from the Central Arctic pointed out to us, this is what we are left with. This is the philosophy and I would like to read it into the record because we will come back to this in the economic development debate. "This is what we have left to us. It should now be evident that an economic sector based on renewable resources which encompasses most or all of the enterprises listed above" -- and this is in the chapter on renewable resources -- "is much more than subsistence activity that relies solely on traditional skills. The development of this

economy will require scientific, technical, clerical, administrative, managerial and business skills. It will need the abilities and ambitions of younger people who have received schooling and training and it will provide opportunities for them to stay in the North, to remain in their home communities.

"The oil and gas industry does not now offer these advantages in the same measure and pipeline construction could not under any circumstances offer them. It is not my purpose to estimate here how many jobs might be created by any particular occupation or enterprise, or how many there might be in aggregate, nor do I suggest that this sector could provide all the jobs that may be needed in the North of the future. The point that I do wish to nail down is that a healthy economy, based on renewable resources, offers employment and opportunities for secondary employment far beyond primary production and it is employment of a type that native people repeatedly and everywhere told this inquiry that they wanted. Such an economy would offer a real choice to native people, not simply the imposed choice between industrial employment and welfare." That, in two paragraphs, would appear to be our economic future.

#### Representation To Justice Berger

I commend this book to Members who have not read it. If it is not translated, it is most unfortunate because it is a very interesting document but before I leave it, I was very very disappointed on reading the last few pages, acknowledgements, terminology and bibliography. Now I imposed upon this House some two years ago, a motion that we should make a representation to the Honourable Justice Berger. The House agreed and the motion was approved and the Commissioner found funds in the budget to hire specialists and to do a great deal of research work. You, sir, gave up a great deal of your time to not only present this report but to assist in its preparation, and you would not believe it, but it is not referred to in this document anywhere.

I do not care that the judge did not take any of our recommendations, that is his prerogative but I think for history, for the student of 100 years from now, he should have had the courtesy to indicate that we did make a representation. I get static in my constituency, members saying to me why did not you guys get before Justice Berger? Where were you when Justice Berger was here? We did make a representation and funnily enough, a very excellent representation was made by the Government of the Northwest Territories on the last day of the hearing by the Deputy Commissioner and neither is that in the bibliography. But the judge said "I am going to hold a full and fair inquiry". He may have held a full and fair inquiry but I do not know what he examined to get his results. Obviously, he did not examine our presentation.

#### The Foothills Consortium

The Commissioner in his Opening Address indicated that the project of the Canadian Arctic Gas, imaginative, bold and well planned, is dead. It may be, but we now find that the competitor, Foothills Pipeline, is in serious difficulty. It is in serious difficulty in that the one guarantee which it said that it would not require from any government now would seem to be required. It would now seem that Foothills Pipeline will be requiring financial guarantees.

Just recently on the CBC, by way of a footnote, while I may be a critic of the CBC, I try to be a positive critic of the organization and I am very very thankful that we have the corporation in the North. I remember when I was first in the North attempting to listen to Radio Moscow for the news because we got no CBC, and I think that the CBC in many areas does an excellent job and one of these areas was a report out of Washington when Mr. McMillian there, who is the American boss really of the Foothills consortium is quoted as

saying, "We have also talked ... some of our Canadian partners have also talked to the provincial Government of Alberta on a very informal basis." This special basis was seeking support from the Heritage Fund of Alberta. But it indicates that Canada, which had looked with some hope and some expectation to this massive project across its northwest, might be in a little bit of difficulty here and might lose that project.

I would hope that the Mackenzie Valley concept has not been totally buried, because as the commissioner for inquiry said, it can be built. There are terms and conditions which we could build it. I hope that it is not dead and is not entirely buried and that in the event the Foothills alternative is not successful and can not be legislated and negotiated and can not find financial guarantees, then the other concept could be rejuvenated and brought back to life. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: This House will recess 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: The House will come to order. Just before going on to the next speaker, if there are any, Mr. Clerk, do we have a luncheon engagement this afternoon at 1:00 o'clock p.m.?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we do, in Katimavik A, with the Science Advisory Board.

MR. SPEAKER: Will the Members please bear that in mind? I expected as much when I saw the coffee out in the hall. That is the only thing that twigged my mind. Are there any further Members who wish to reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address? Mr. Pudluk.

Mr. Pudluk's Reply

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the House, I just want to make a few remarks. I will not be too long. I learn something every day and now I learned something today also. It is not very nice to be the last one to reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address. They all have said it.

I am just going to say a few items here that I would like to say. First of all, I would like to tell you a story about what happened in the Christmas season. There was a sadness in my family in 1977 Christmas season. My mother had to be evacuated down to Frobisher Bay in the Christmas season and my wife had to be evacuated and that is the first time I have a little sadness on Christmas Day. I hope next year is going to be better hopefully.

There was sadness also in Arctic Bay. You heard it maybe. I have been fighting this for a long time about airstrips, Arctic Bay and Nanisivik. Now it is too late. There was an accident and somebody died, six of them. If they would keep that airstrip open in Arctic Bay, maybe that could be a better place to land, because that Nanisivik airstrip is so high up in the hills. One time last fall we were landing there with a Twin Otter and the weather was clear but it was a little windy and we were having a difficult time landing there. In Arctic Bay itself I know there is a short airstrip and there could be a death due to the accident. There were some accidents but never a death. But I again would like to see the Ministry of Transport take more action on this runway, which we can not deal with. That is the problem they have this year.

Also, about the written question about putting numbers on the polar bears. I wonder if the Game Advisory Council could make a note to the people in the North and tell them it is okay to kill the polar bear who have got the numbers. That is what happened last spring. Tell them they can keep the money, the same amount, as for those without a number on it, so they will not bother, because I figure they will not sell it.

Price Of Sealskins\_

Also, I would like to say a few words about the sealskins in the Northwest Territories. I would like to help those people who live off the land or in small camps, in which they live by hunting for furs, that is fox pelts and sealskin. The sealskins are not worth it. It is like in 1946, two dollars a skin which can not even buy ten pounds of sugar or a can of milk. I do not want to see those movies on the CBC. We have been watching it, about Newfoundland, that is the problem we have seen. If they want to film it, do not show it to the public. Just keep it for their own sake, whatever they call it. Anyway at this time I do not have very much to say and thanks again for being here again.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any other replies? Item 3, questions and returns. Are there any returns? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

ITEM NO. 3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Return To Question 015-64: Russian Satellite

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, a question was asked yesterday concerning the satellite which appeared overhead Yellowknife the other night and either landed or burned presumably somewhere between here and Baker Lake.

The situation or the information on the situation seems to change almost hourly because there are a lot of inaccuracies being reported and of course there is certain lack of knowledge of the situation perhaps since it is the first time that this situation has been dealt with. I might just say from my own experience, a complicating factor is the presence of uranium deposits, perhaps commercial and perhaps not commercial within the Precambrian Shield and I suspect that the people searching for what may well be tiny fragments of the fuel source from this satellite may have a great deal of difficulty in distinguishing those fragments from natural occurrences. There are known to be natural occurrences of uranium and they have been explored fairly extensively in the Baker Lake region.

In any event though, it is believed that a hot spot was detected 45 miles northwest of Dubawnt Lake, which is about in the centre of the Thelon Game Preserve. An additional two areas of low level radiation were detected between 50 and 100 miles east of Fort Reliance but these are believed to be natural occurrences. I wonder if anybody is mounting staking parties. I regret that I am...

MR. SPEAKER: I was just thinking about it.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I regret that I am no longer in the business, Mr. Speaker. The Canadian Atomic Energy Control Board personnel are in Baker Lake waiting to deal with any contamination and to take decontamination steps. The Thelon hot spot, if in fact it does exist, appears to be very localized as it was not detected by the second string of search aircraft. The area is being reflown now and the entire track is being searched for spinoff debris.

Animals Fit For Food

One further piece of information is that gamma radiation, and it is gamma radiation that this particular type of uranium fuel would be emitting, gamma radiation is harmful to life but animals injured or killed by it do not themselves become radioactive and in fact, would be fit for food. If I may, Mr. Speaker, if additional information becomes available that has not already been publicized on radio or television or mangled by one of those agencies, then if I could have the opportunity I will bring it back to this House whenever it is available.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. I am sure we would like the Deputy Commissioner to do that and to just rise whenever he feels that he can give us further information. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I did have one further piece of information and that is that the air and water in and around Baker Lake have been tested by Canadian Armed Forces and found to be completely non-radioactive. In other words, no problems. I might also add that strange yellow-clad figures were seen the other night patrolling the streets of Yellowknife with scintillation counters and they too, found no evidence of radioactivity. I personally have a couple of quite good ore samples but I am certainly glad they did not find them.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got a question, Mr. Nickerson?

Question 016-64: Radioactive Material

MR. NICKERSON: It is a supplementary question arising out of the information. Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I apologize for the second time this morning for breach of the Rules of this House. It is a supplementary question arising out of the information just given us by the Deputy Commissioner. I wonder if we could be told how radioactive the material, this nuclear fuel actually is, in roentgens per hour per kilogram?

Partial Return To Question 016-64: Radioactive Material

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to get some definitive figures in that area. The Member knows that it depends upon the mass of it; that is, the quantity that still exists but I will try and get some real figures that I can report to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further returns then? Questions? Mr. Fraser, written questions.

Question W17-64: Forest Fire Suppression Crews, Norman Wells

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the administration. What is being done with regard to the provision of northern contract forest fire suppression crews for the 1978 fire season in the Norman Wells district? This question is being made with regard to the protection of people, settlements and resources in the Mackenzie Valley in what looks to be a severe drought year. It appears that there is a lack of adequate protection in the area as indicated by the large forest areas burned over the last few years. Forestry use priority zones in deciding on what fires are actioned. Does the administration know if these priority zones are to be changed to allow for more and better protection of the forest land and caribou wintering areas?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I will seek an answer from the forest protection service of Indian Affairs and provide a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions, gentlemen? Mr. Nickerson.

Question W18-64: Release Of Radiometric Data

MR. NICKERSON: I have two questions, Mr. Speaker, if you would allow me to give them consecutively. Would the Commissioner please use his good offices to persuade the Government of Canada to release to the public, possibly through the Geological Survey of Canada, the airborne radiometric data gathered in the satellite search between Yellowknife and Baker Lake. This information should be very useful to prospectors as the search area is potentially uraniferous.

Partial Return To Question W18-64: Release Of Radiometric Data

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, yes, the answer to that question is yes, we will do what we can to have this information released.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the next question whether they can file it as assessment work?

Question W19-64: Department Of The Environment, Plans For N.W.T.

MR. NICKERSON: No, the question is again of a serious nature. I must emphasize that that question to the Members of this House, the first question, was of a serious nature. What plan does the Department of the Environment have for expansion of their operations in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions, gentlemen.

Item 4, oral questions.

Item 5, petitions. Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: That is okay, Mr. Speaker. I will do it under another item.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, petitions.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.



Item 7, notices of motion. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM NO. 7: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 7-64: Low Price Of Sealskins

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a notice of motion, which I will move on January 30, 1978.

WHEREAS this House is most concerned over the severe economic problems being caused by the very low price of sealskins at the present time;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that at a convenient time to be set by the Speaker this House resolve itself into committee of the whole to discuss possible price support mechanisms for sealskins.

MR. SPEAKER: Further notices of motion?

Item 8, motions for the production of papers?

Item 9, motions. The motions today, gentlemen, are Motions 4-64, 5-64 and 6-64. Motion 4-64, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 9: MOTIONS

Motion 4-64: Hours Of Sitting

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, before we go into this debate on the motion, Mr. Speaker, I should point out that on the appendix that is noted in the motion that Members have, there has been, I give I will have to say, a stenographical error in that the present Rule -- the substitution of the present Rule 3(1) should say that "the Assembly shall meet daily, except..." and the words "Saturdays and" should be inserted there.

Now, in the notice of motion that I gave, those words were in the notice of motion and so it was a stenographical error rather than something that should require an amendment to this motion, if I may.

MR. SPEAKER: Does any Honourable Member feel that the absence of the words "Saturday and" in the appendix has caused them inconvenience and a new notice should be given? In that case, Hon. Arnold McCallum, we will add those words and then would you proceed to move the motion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the present regular daily sitting hours of this Assembly provide few opportunities for the various committees of this House to meet;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Rules of this Assembly be amended to provide for the revised regular daily sitting hours set out in the attached appendix to have effect from Monday, January 30th, 1978.

APPENDIX

1. Present Subrule 3(1) is repealed and the following substituted therefor: "3(1) the Assembly shall meet daily, except Saturdays and Sundays, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m."
2. Present Subrule 3(2) is repealed.
3. Present Rule 4 is amended by deleting in line 1: "5:30 p.m." and substituting therefor "6:00 p.m."

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Evaluarjuk. Discussion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 4-64, Carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? Motion 4-64 is passed. The effect, of course, will be that commencing our next sitting day, Monday, we will begin sitting at 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon until 6:00 p.m., instead of 9:00 a.m.

Motion 5-64, Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Motion 5-64: Invitation To International Fund For Animal Welfare Incorporated.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS international opposition against the annual Newfoundland seal harvest, encouraged by various organizations, has resulted in a drastic decline in seal prices in the international market;

AND WHEREAS this decline has resulted in serious economic hardships for the Inuit hunters of the Arctic who depend to a large extent on seal hunting for their livelihood;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that Mr. Brian Davies, the executive director of the International Fund for Animal Welfare Incorporated, be invited to appear before this Assembly during the current session so that he may be made fully aware of the serious repercussions caused by the activities of his organization.

It is not funny.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Pearson. Discussion.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, when we took a tour of the Eastern Arctic some months ago, two months ago, the question of sealskin prices, the low cost of sealskin prices was brought up at the community of Lake Harbour. Mr. Pearson was also present at that time, during which I, on my part, tried to find one or two options that might be open to the people of the Northwest Territories, especially those who live in the Arctic coastal communities, along with the Government of the Northwest Territories and this Legislature.

Sealskin prices, or seal hunting in the communities means wage economy for the Inuit people who live in the Arctic coastal communities. However, with the continuing campaign by various organizations such as Greenpeace Foundation and Miss Brigitte Bardot, who received such wide world-wide attention, the fur market in the Northwest Territories and in the world seems to have gone down. The sealskin prices have declined; they have declined continuously in the past while and they seem to be declining still.

Revenue From Sealskins

Just to give you one or two examples of what seal hunting or sealskin prices meant to one or two communities in the Eastern Arctic. Revenue from sealskins from June to June during the year 1975-76 in Pangnirtung meant roughly \$190,000. Also during the year 1976-77, it meant \$171,000 for the same community. In Broughton Island, for example, during 1975-76 the revenues received from sealskins were in the neighbourhood of \$80,000. Also in 1976 and 1977 for Broughton Island, revenues received from sealskins were about \$123,000. Total revenue in the Northwest Territories from sealskins in 1975-76 was about \$810,000. In 1976-77 it meant \$895,000 for the whole Northwest Territories. Now from passing through various communities in the Eastern Arctic the Sanikiluaq people tell me the Bay is now buying sealskins for the price of two to four dollars a skin. Two other communities told me, Resolute Bay, for example, and Pond Inlet they are selling between five and ten dollars depending on the quality, of course.

Gentlemen, I am inviting Mr. Brian Davies to appear before this Legislature. There are some people in this Legislature who still hunt seals and who can speak for the people they represent, to tell our side of the story.

In my opening speech, my reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address, I indicated that we could use members of the news media who are sitting on the other side to tell the other side of the world about what the needs of the people are in the areas affected. Some people laughed at me when I invited Miss Brigitte Bardot. Did you hear me laughing when I was replying to the Commissioner's Opening Address? This is a very serious matter, and it is the wage economy for the people in the Arctic coastal communities.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further discussion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 5-64, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? No contrary. The motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 6-64, Mr. Nickerson.

Motion 6-64: CPHA Arsenic Task Force Recommendations

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker.

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this House calls upon the Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories to implement "with all possible speed those recommendations contained within the final report of the Canadian Public Health Association task force on arsenic, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories", that fall within their respective or joint jurisdictions.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Kilabuk. Discussion? Mr. Nickerson.

Task Force On Arsenic

MR. NICKERSON: Any discussion, Mr. Speaker, on the task force report on arsenic in the Yellowknife area, the area for which I have the privilege of being the Member, I should start off with some compliments to Drs. C.J.G. Mackenzie and R.B. Sutherland and Mr. C.E. Tupper who are the members of the task force. I think that these gentlemen have come up with an excellent document. They do not pretend to know all the answers and they have recommended that further studies be made but I think they have done an excellent technical job. I would hope that a lot of the political aspects of the arsenic situation in Yellowknife can now be laid aside because we have this excellent document that does set out what the facts of the case really are.

The task force was set up by the Canadian Public Health Association at the request of the Hon. Marc Lalonde, then minister of National Health and Welfare. It is significant to note that at the time of the establishment of this task force, Hon. Marc Lalonde gave his assurances that the recommendations eventually made would be implemented. He gave that assurance on behalf of the Government of Canada.

Recommendations Of Task Force

Approximately 46 recommendations are contained in the arsenic task force report and these can be divided into a number of categories. The first category would be those recommendations that apply to everyone, such as people should wash berries that they pick in the area around Yellowknife. The second category of recommendations would be those which can be carried out by the mining companies and by other non-governmental organizations. And I am very pleased to report that these recommendations have and are being put into practice by the mining companies in the Yellowknife area.

The third category of recommendations, and these are the ones that I really want to get into at the present time, are those that concern the government. There are a variety of technical recommendations that I do not really want to get into and there are some recommendations such as number one that recommends a continuing atmospheric monitoring be carried out by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the final recommendation 46, that the Northwest Territories health service establish a cancer registry. These are things that are fairly easily done and I would imagine that they can be done with very little cost and they are not of a really political nature or a nature that entails the expenditure of a good deal of money.

#### Detail Of Recommendations

What I am really concerned with, Mr. Chairman, are three or four recommendations which I will go into in some detail. One of the most important ones is recommendation 32 which states that the health service of the Northwest Territories be organized in the same manner as the provincial public health jurisdictions. This is something that the Legislature has reiterated time and time again and I hope that the Minister of Health and Welfare will be good to his word or her word now and implement that with all due speed.

Recommendation 34 is important in that it says that a legislative base be established by the territorial government for the development of occupational and community environmental health criteria guideline standards. This means that legislation will have to be prepared on this subject by the administration and then it will be up to this House to pass or not to pass as they feel fit, that legislation.

The recommendations envisage two units to be established within the health services of the Northwest Territories. Recommendation 35 recommends the environmental health component. I will read that recommendation out in full because it is important. It says that the environmental health component of the Northwest Territories health services organization have the primary jurisdiction for the protection of the health of workers and community residents from local environmental health hazards. The second unit of the health service comes under recommendation 44 and that I will again read out: that a community health component of the Northwest Territories health services organization be responsible for the provision of all community health services in the territories, and then it gives a list of things which should be included within the community health component. One other recommendation that I feel to be important is a recommendation that an environmental review board be established in law. That is recommendation 42.

#### Excellent Report

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I must say that I think the report is excellent and that the recommendations contained therein are excellent and I would hope that this House would see fit to support me in my request that the governments concerned, both the territorial and the federal, implement these recommendations as quickly as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that as regards the motion, the Government of the Northwest Territories, that is the administration of the government has agreed already as a group, to certainly implement those recommendations that we have indicated will be our responsibility, and of course in working very closely with the Government of Canada, through National Health and Welfare, the federal Minister, Hon. Monique Begin, we in this government are moving. We met yesterday as an Executive and we received an interim reply from the committee that we have and we are already moving on with it. So again I would just like to indicate to the Member that the administration of this government is working towards a rapid implementation of those recommendations that really are our responsibility and attempting to reconcile those which are the responsibility of both governments.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 6-64, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary?  
No contrary. Motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Those are all of the motions. Item 10, tabling of documents.  
Mr. Lyall.

ITEM NO. 10: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a document that was bothering  
the Member from South Baffin about employment over in Nanisivik mine.  
Tabled Document 8-64, Nanisivik Mine Employees.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Other documents to be tabled?

Item 11, consideration in the committee of the whole of bills, recommendat-  
ions to the Legislature and other matters.

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

Is it the wish that we continue on Bill 11-64, the Appropriation Ordinance,  
Hon. Arnold McCallum? Yes. Therefore, this House will resolve into committee  
of the whole for continued consideration of Bill 11-64, the Appropriation  
Ordinance, Mr. Fraser in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration  
of Bill 11-64, Appropriation Ordinance, 1978-79, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 11-64, APPROPRIATION  
ORDINANCE, 1978-79

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I think we left off last night with the  
Department of Local Government, detail of capital on page 9.13.

Department Of Local Government, Capital - Joint Use Mobile Equipment, Agreed

We were still on joint use mobile equipment in the amount of \$930,000.  
Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Total Airports

That brings us to total airports, \$1,430,000. Agreed? Mr. Steen, please.

MR. STEEN: I believe that yesterday when we left off we were under the  
airport Fort Smith region.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Steen, that was all agreed on.

MR. STEEN: Yes, but what about Inuvik.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I beg your pardon?

MR. STEEN: The Inuvik region. I do not think we discussed Inuvik...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Joint use mobile equipment.

MR. STEEN: What page are we on, sir?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We are on page 9.13.

MR. STEEN: The Inuvik region airports, I do not believe that the question was asked yesterday. However, I would like to ask a question on the Inuvik region.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Proceed.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the administration, since they would not give me an answer yesterday when the question period was on, I would like to ask the question as to whether or not they would listen to a motion of this committee sooner than they would listen to a motion in the House, in a formal motion. Which is the most effective because I want to place a motion on airports in the Inuvik region?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I guess it is your prerogative. If you want to make a motion, go ahead.

MR. STEEN: What they were saying yesterday was that they were trying to avoid a motion from me. So, they wanted me to discuss it in the committee of the whole. I wanted to place a motion. I should place it right now, as a matter of fact, and get discussion on it.

#### Motion To Build Airport, Arctic Red River

I move that the administration locate funds as soon as possible to build an airport at Arctic Red River suitable to accommodate the needs of the community using only local labour.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Steen, on your motion here, we will have to look this up. You are moving that they locate funds or transfer funds, which we will have to deal with at a later time. You can recommend, but I do not think you can move. It is on the borderline right there. So we will check it out, Mr. Steen. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

#### Funding For Airstrip

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Perhaps I could indicate to you and the committee and the Member that as regards the Arctic Red River airport and the community, the community of course is served by road from Inuvik but we plan to build an emergency airstrip for breakup and freeze-up periods. It is quite probable that we will be able to determine funds available this winter for the beginning of some bush clearing for this strip to be then constructed the following year, so that the strip would allow for small charter aircraft to go in. It would not be a large strip but it will be adequate for emergency use for the community. As I indicated, we would in all probability find funds available within this budget for the beginning of bush clearing for that strip.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Does that satisfy you?

MR. STEEN: Well, what do you want me to do, speak to the motion?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Or retract the motion.

MR. STEEN: I beg your pardon?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I say either retract your motion -- he has explained to you that they are going to have funds, the funds will be available to start

clearing this winter and maybe completion of the airport or an emergency airstrip for breakup and freeze-up next year.

MR. STEEN: Well sir, with all due respect, I do not believe that the administration really knows whether or not there is an airstrip there. At least they could at least start on locating or where to put the airstrip. There is an airstrip at the present time but the river floods it and there is no place to land...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): As the Minister just mentioned if you were listening that he has funds available to do some clearing this winter. I wonder if you could explain that again to him, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Clearing For New Airstrip

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it is true that at the present time aircraft will land in the beach area. What we are intending to do this year, as I indicate, is we will likely find the money within the present budget to begin clearing bush for a new airstrip so that we will not have to use the one that is being flooded and you would not use the beach area. Now we would expect that this would be an emergency strip to be used during freeze-up and breakup periods because the community is serviced by road to Inuvik. So during the periods of freeze-up and breakup we would hope to be able to have a completed emergency strip for the use of the community and we will begin to clear the bush, or clear the area for a new strip. We want to do that this coming year.

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

MR. STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I am satisfied.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Okay, will you retract your motion?

Motion Withdrawn

MR. STEEN: Yes.

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

MR. LYALL: Yes, just one question, Mr. Chairman, of the Minister. I would like to know if that settlement was against development and if so, why are we building them an airstrip?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not know in fact whether that community was against any kind of development in and around the area. We believe that there is a need to provide emergency services during periods of freeze-up and breakup for the people of that community, when in fact a road be not usable and that is what we intend to do. I can not comment on whether or not the community is against development. I would suggest the request for services such as an emergency strip would indicate that there is a desire to a lot of people to be better serviced.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. I doubt at this time if we are dealing with development, we are just dealing on airports.

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I just say that, because we are wasting money on putting in airports. To me, I think that that is a big development and I do not know how the people look at it.



Capital - Total Airports, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Any further questions on page 9.13, airports, joint use of mobile equipment in the amount of \$1,430,000? Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Town Planning And Lands, Road Construction/Site Development

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Page 9.14, detail of capital, Department of Local Government, town planning and lands in the amount of \$333,000. Road construction/site development. Comments. Agreed? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: The allocation on the Inuvik region, site development, it may not be quite in keeping with what the administration had in mind here. I know that the Deputy Commissioner has recognized over many years that the third level of government would have to and did in many cases, develop sites in preparation for the anticipated pipeline growth and development in Mackenzie Valley.

I think the Deputy Commissioner has recognized now that many of those preparations made by the third level of government will not be receiving the capital construction on them that was originally anticipated, the dwellings and the commercial enterprises. I wonder if, when the Deputy Commissioner visited Ottawa last to discuss this budget, he outlined to the federal government and Treasury Board, this obligation that had been accepted by the municipalities on the basis of promises and statements of federal ministers that development would occur, and that the municipalities, after making that expenditure, now find themselves in the position of having to pay back very large obligations.

The territorial government, the administration has acted in a most positive manner to assist municipalities in this problem through a deferment of interest and thus ensuring that the taxpayers are not saddled with an annual recurring debt of interest on undeveloped land, which has been approved to certain specifications. I am wondering how the administration and the Deputy Commissioner sees these financial obligations being removed from the Mackenzie Valley communities who have so acted?

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

Deferral Of Capital And Interest

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I did during our last financial meetings in Ottawa raise this very question and I gave a partial answer to this at the start of this debate when I said that we had adopted a policy for the one Inuvik land assembly area of deferral of capital and interest repayments on the debentures; that we have just been doing this as a matter of course, but we are seeking to write out a proper policy.

I raised that when I was in Ottawa and I have assurances that this policy is being worked on very actively. It is not a policy that we alone can handle because the territorial government has a responsibility under our amortization scheme to repay money that we would ordinarily have collected from municipalities and, therefore, it has to be a policy that is jointly recognized by ourselves and the federal government.

So I can report that that policy is being written. Now the way it will work, as I see it, at least in the case of land, will be for a municipality to be given the right to defer repayments until such time as the land becomes

necessary. That is, until there is a demand for the lots and they can be sold. We would not ordinarily expect to write off those costs, that is, to cancel them because eventually the land will be sold we expect. When it is, then it can be sold for the developed cost and therefore, the money will be available for retiring the debt.

There may be other areas where expansion took place in anticipation and that kind of a review is outlined in the statement that I made in answer to Mr. Stewart's question about compensation. There I suggested that together with the individual municipalities and the association we would place a position paper in front of the federal government to see whether or not there can be a case made for payments for those things that were undertaken in anticipation of development, which seemingly had the support of the federal government but then did not proceed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Mr. Butters, do you want to follow that up?

Debenture Obligations.

MR. BUTTERS: No, I appreciate the efforts that the administration is making on behalf of the municipalities here and I doubt that anything further can be done than is already being done. The only concern I have and I may be incorrect in my belief here, but it seems to me that municipalities are limited in the amounts of debenture money they can raise. I would hope that should a worthwhile project appear and debenture money were required that that obligation would not prevent, the outstanding debenture obligation, would not prevent them from seeking finances to satisfy a demonstrated community need which has received plebiscite support from taxpayers.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Any further comments? Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I just would like to ask a simple question as to the erosion control at Fort Simpson for \$100,000. Is that \$100,000 projected over a year or over a number of years, because I am quite certain that in order to control the long riverbank which is caving in, it is going to take a much greater amount of money than that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lafferty, I think we are still dealing with \$333,000 in road improvements, road construction in Frobisher Bay and various site developments. Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Agreed.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I am looking at the Fort Smith region.

Road Construction/Site Development, Baffin Region, Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well, we are still dealing with the Baffin region. We are dealing with \$333,000. Is that agreed?

---Agreed

Road Construction/Site Development, Fort Smith Region, Agreed

Carry on. We are in the Fort Smith region; road construction, erosion control and road construction in Fort Simpson and various site developments. Carry on.

MR. LAFFERTY: In Fort Simpson the erosion control, Mr. Chairman, as I had outlined it is not a serious problem at the moment. However, the riverbank in the front part of the road was beginning to slip and it is going to take quite a lot more than \$100,000 to get it under control and is this \$100,000 for this year only or is it projected into 1979?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the amounts of money given under this particular topic are for road construction and/or erosion control. In the Fort Simpson area, we expect a total capital expenditure of \$870,000. The \$100,000 that we are spending this year in Fort Simpson is primarily related to the expansion, road expansion in the mainland subdivision, and future commitments of money that we anticipate spending will be in this particular area rather than in erosion control. It would be primarily for road construction and it will be in the mainland subdivision.

I appreciate the comments of the Member regarding that particular question of erosion and that is something of course that we are continually studying. If it does deteriorate to such an extent that it will necessitate us putting more money into it, we will identify it as that but in this particular year it is for road expansion in the mainland subdivision in Fort Simpson.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The other amounts are similar amounts for road expansion, upgrading within various communities in the Fort Smith region. In some cases it may be for the installation of culverts, it may be for improving drainage in other areas, through many of the communities in the Fort Smith region.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Fort Smith region, \$418,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Road Construction/Site Development, Inuvik Region, Agreed.

Inuvik region, road construction/erosion control, Aklavik; road improvements, Inuvik; road construction/site development, various, in the amount of \$1,290,000. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, looking through this book here, I thought perhaps there might be something under the Department of Public Works; to try and find where they may have some extra funding other than the Department of Local Government for building roads. What I was thinking about really was that since they have lengthened the airport in Tuktoyaktuk to accommodate the development that is going on there, that they have sort of destroyed the road to the lake and to the garbage dump. I was just wondering if the department is aware that there is going to be need to bypass or to build another road far enough away to join the road again, so that you do not have to pass right at the bottom of an airstrip. If you are passing with some high equipment, you may get knocked with an aircraft. I do not know if you are aware of this or not.

Funding For Road, Tuktoyaktuk

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, in terms of the road expansion, site development and the need to either construct new ones, the need has been identified and again we recognize that we may be in difficulty there. We would, of course, once having completed a study on it we would of course come back to the House for supplementary funding for anything in terms of construction as the Member has outlined. But at the present time the amounts of money that we have for Tuktoyaktuk and the Inuvik regions for this year would be in the vicinity of \$60,000 for some expansion and upgrading of existing roads there. If there is need and I appreciate the comments of the Member, we will of course then look into the situation and as I say come back to the House for another vote of money on it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Inuvik region, \$1,290,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Road Construction/Site Development, Keewatin Region, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Keewatin region, road construction/site development, various, \$217,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Purchase Of Land

Page 9.15, detail of capital, Department of Local Government, purchase of land, various, \$140,000. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Can I ask the department what land they intend to purchase?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, this is an amount of money that we place in a budget. It is in there normally every year, that if there is to be land required to be purchased in any community for any kind of development, these are the funds. It is there if and when the occasion arises where land must be purchased for the purpose of any kind of development. It is an amount of money that has been in the budget over the years and where there is a need in a particular community, this is where that money would come from, to purchase the land. We do not identify any particular one at this particular point. It is there where there is a need to get purchasing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Just a little bit more on that. I thought the lands within the hamlets are Commissioner's lands and that there would be no need to purchase that land. I mean, within the municipality. Are you talking municipalities or...

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Not all the land within the municipality or within a hamlet or within an area is owned by the government. It may be owned by private individuals, and if it is and it is required to purchase it for some kind of development we have to be able to have the funds to get it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Purchase of lands. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: I heard there was some approach to the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation for sale of property by Mr. Rene Lamothe in Fort Simpson. Would this have something to do with it?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I can not comment on that. I do not know if the Housing Corporation have received a request or have made a request to purchase land from the gentleman in question. I do not know.

Purchase Of Land, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Purchase of land, \$140,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Summary, Road Construction/Site Development, Agreed

Summary of capital estimates. A. Road construction/site development, \$2,258,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Summary, Purchase Of Land, Agreed

B. Purchase of land, \$140,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Total Town Planning And Lands

Total town planning and lands, \$2,398,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: On town planning, is there a big increase in the town planning vote and is the government aware of the importance of vigorous and worthwhile town planning schemes for all the communities?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the topic of town planning has a very high priority within the department. We are very much aware that there is a great need for proper planning, townsites, existing and new and as I indicate, in my estimation that topic has a great priority for the department and for the government both in operations and maintenance and in capital.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to take the opportunity of challenging to a certain extent some of the remarks just made by the Honourable Member for South Baffin. Some of us might not feel quite as strongly as he apparently does that the matter of town planning is the top priority item when it comes to discussing the municipal affairs budget.

I would like to make a distinction here between what I would consider proper planning, and I hope this is the matter to which Hon. Arnold McCallum was referring, the matter of planning ahead where your main arteries are going to go, planning ahead where the water lines and sewer lines will have to go, where the sewage lagoon will have to be moved to ten years hence. This type of thing. This is a proper function of the municipal councils and indeed we should be giving them all the assistance in these matters.

Criticism Of Zoning In Town Plans

But in some of the so-called town plans that I have seen posted on the notice boards of the various communities throughout the Northwest Territories, it approaches what I would say is more properly defined as zoning. In my personal opinion, I think that a lot of this zoning is very premature in many of the communities in the Northwest Territories.

Not only is it sometimes defeating its own object in the smaller communities, it even does so in the larger ones. Maybe we should study what is happening in, for instance, Houston, Texas, which is a very large city. It is an expanding and growing city, a very successful city and one of the reasons for that success again, in my personal opinion, is that they have very little zoning there. People are not constrained to put certain types of residences or businesses in certain areas. They have the opportunity and the freedom to build what they want on their own land where they want. I would hope that we would not in the smaller communities and indeed in all communities in the territories get so restrictive, so confining of the liberties of the people who live in these settlements, tie them up so much in red tape, that it takes away all incentive for private development within the communities in the territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just to correct the one statement of the Member, I did not say it was the top priority, I said it was a top priority.

Of course we agree wholeheartedly with what the Member said. We, in the department, as I indicated in opening remarks on this budget, provide advice to communities whether they are the larger municipalities or smaller. We can give more to the smaller ones than we can to the larger municipalities but in sum total, I have no disagreement with the Member's remarks as regards restricting by lots of red tape, the development so that it is too restrictive to the individual. In the municipalities it is very difficult in some instances to restrict the wishes of that particular governing body. Nevertheless, we do provide advice to them when we believe that they are becoming too restrictive.

Capital - Total Town Planning And Lands, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. We are on page 9.15, total town planning and lands in the amount of \$2,398,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Capital - Department Of Local Government

We are going back to page 9.01, capital. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, yesterday Mr. Nickerson asked a question about flood control and just before we get started on O and M, would it be appropriate for me to ask Mr. Billing to answer that question?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Once we complete this, Deputy Commissioner Parker, we will have completed the total capital budget on page 9.01. Page 9.01, total capital for 1978-79, main estimates in the amount of \$20,045,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Deputy Commissioner Parker, prior to answering your question, I think there was a request put in by one of the Members yesterday for a breakdown on O and M. I wonder if those figures are available and then we can deal with that after we talk to Mr. Billing.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we have the detail on O and M for all departments available and perhaps if it is all right with you, we will have that circulated while Mr. Billing is giving the information that Mr. Nickerson was seeking.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. Mr. Billing. Proceed Mr. Billing.

Flood Prevention Work

MR. BILLING: Mr. Chairman, the item that gave rise to Mr. Nickerson's question or his observation was the item of a thousand dollars in Local Government grants to municipalities section for flood prevention work and that particular part of the flood risk prevention, or the flood risk management program refers to a matching grant which is made every year in the town of Hay River to undertake work in clearing the West Channel.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Billing, the interpreter is having a little trouble. You are going to have to slow down a little bit please.

MR. BILLING: Yes, sorry Mr. Chairman. That particular grant goes to Hay River every year and is used to clear the natural flood channel which is the West Channel in Hay River and to perforate the ice in the East Channel. This has been going on for five or six years now and has proven to be successful in preventing flooding in the East Channel. It is a one-of-a-kind grant and it applies only to Hay River.

I would like to make the observation that both Hay River and Fort Simpson, who are the two communities at most risk from flooding, have active special committees of their councils to watch for breakup and to manage population movement should it become necessary.

Another aspect of the flood risk management program is a joint scheme sponsored by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources which is split fifty-fifty financially with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and is called a flood risk mapping program. This is an all-Canada program that came out of the very expensive floods in the St. John River Valley in 1972. In the Northwest Territories or in the Mackenzie Valley, this mapping program is managed by a small technical committee of which I am a member, and all its attention has been given so far to Hay River and Vale Island.

#### Flood Risk Mapping Program

The idea in this flood risk mapping program is to very carefully survey the settlement concerned, the municipality concerned, to draw a red line on the map and to say to everybody concerned, please do not build outside this red line. In an attempt to stimulate the program, Central Mortgage and Housing, for instance, once the line is established, will not lend money on any project outside that line, for any building project and will refuse to insure loans from other lenders outside that line and they will seek the co-operation of this government in preventing people from building in high risk flood areas.

A spinoff benefit from this program is that it was found that the mapping of Hay River was inadequate for this purpose and had to be reundertaken and this was done and the results are now almost ready. Fort Simpson is next on the list.

The fourth part of the flood risk management program is the compensation program. This program treats each occurrence on its own merits and in general it compensates individuals but not corporations for loss or damage to personal property and for repair of real property on a depreciated value basis. And those are the four aspects of the total program pretty well complete and I hope this will answer the Member's question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Billing. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: If I understand correctly, Mr. Chairman, there are several programs all dealing with the general area of flood risk and flood damage. The first one we have been told is the flood risk mapping program and I seek clarification here because we have just been told by Mr. Billing it is funded 50 per cent by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and 50 per cent by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources; this is where my information comes from, Mr. Chairman, what little I have, is from the Mackenzie Basin intergovernmental liaison committee annual report for 1976-77 and in there it says that this particular program is funded 50 per cent by Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the other 50 per cent by the Department of Fisheries and Environment. So I wonder which is exactly correct there. Which is the correct method of financing for this particular program?

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

MR. BILLING: Mr. Chairman, I apologize. I misread my notes. It is, in fact, the Department of Environment Canada, fisheries and marine service. I am sorry.

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

#### Flood Damage Reduction Program

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, that is one program. Another one is the flood risk management program which I understand is some kind of compensation scheme but the one that I am most interested in at the present time is the flood damage



reduction program and according to this publication of the intergovernmental liaison committee this is a tripartite program being carried out and presumably financed one-third each by the Department of Indian Affairs, the Department of Environment Canada, fisheries and marine service and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

It is anticipated in this publication that some kind of formal agreement between those three parties is to be drawn up and ready for signature sometime in June this year. So that is the particular program I am very interested in, and it appears to be a new program and I wonder what will be the main points within this new program. It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that with all these different programs dealing with various aspects of flood damage and flood control, that the whole matter is getting very, very complicated and could do with some simplification. But the question right now is exactly what is the flood damage reduction program?

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

MR. BILLING: Mr. Chairman, the last program that the Member refers to has not reached us yet, because it will follow on the heels of the flood risk mapping program. We are aware of it, but we have not been asked for any kind of agreement to this point, although we do expect it.

I also if I may agree with the fact that it is getting a bit complex, it does require some simplification, but whether we can achieve that or not, I do not know.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Billing. Mr. Nickerson.

Request For Information

MR. NICKERSON: Apparently we have no information on this particular program or no information on the document that the Commissioner will be requested to sign sometime later on this year. So, it is rather futile asking more questions if that information is not available. But what I would request, Mr. Chairman, prior to the signing of this agreement, which is expected to take place in June, perhaps it would be possible for us to take a look at it in the next session in May of this year.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Is this possible, Mr. Billing?

MR. BILLING: Mr. Chairman, I am certain that this can and will be done.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. No further questions of our witness. We will thank him for the report. Before we go any further, I would like to state my appreciation for the Department of Local Government for bringing out these breakdowns on the estimates so rapidly. We just requested them yesterday and I see them before us with a breakdown on all the departments from O and M budget and before we go into the O and M budget seeing we have a luncheon at one o'clock, I would like at this time to call progress, to recess until 2:30 o'clock. Agreed?

---LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Still dealing with Bill 11-64 and if we go back to page 9.02, directorate, budget summary, operations and maintenance and the first column we see \$1,276,000. I only heard one agreed. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I would just like to make two corrections. I am not sure whether all Members have the corrections or not but it is in the detailed sheets that you have for other O and M. It would be page 9.07 of the details, that is that new book that was put out, the activity would be municipal affairs and it would be the 1978 to 1979 estimate distribution by regions and headquarters and under contributions in the Fort Smith region, can you find that? Do you have that particular page?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Hon. Arnold McCallum, we are on directorate which is on page 9.03 in your breakdown.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it would be on the booklet that was passed out this morning for every department.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: And on page 9.07, under the distribution by regions and headquarters, okay? Under contributions, it says headquarters \$1,472,000?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The next figure says \$596,000, that should read \$569,000. Now the total is correct, I hope but under the Fort Smith region that number is incorrect, and if you would sir, to go along to page 9.11 town planning and lands, and under the standard object of O and M rentals and leases, under the headquarters column, there should be \$1000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right now there is nothing?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is correct, sir. There should be \$1000 and of course then the total should be changed to one rather than nothing. Copacetic?

O And M - Directorate

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right. Thank you. Has everybody got those changes? We go back now, I take it to page 9.02, directorate for a total of \$1,276,000 on operations and maintenance. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Page 9.02. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: This may create some confusion more than we have now but under the budget item for directorate, you will notice that it says for operations and maintenance, \$958,000. Other O and M \$318,000. That would be page 9.02, do you have that?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I did not get you. Salaries and wages. \$958,000.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Other O and M, \$318,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Now in the book that was for detail that was passed around, you will notice that under the standard objects, casual wages of \$31,000 are indicated, to make a total of \$349,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Right.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: So, casual wages in the original copy of the budget are included under salaries and wages and that is why \$349,000 will not jibe with \$318,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Very well explained. Has everybody got that? Can we proceed then with the operation and maintenance, salaries and wages, grants and contributions, other O and M for a total of \$1,276,000. Mr. Pearson.

Travel Budget

MR. PEARSON: I see the travel budget of this department has now reached an all time high in excess of a half a million dollars and I imagine by flipping through some of these other departments we will see this incredible amount of money which is spent on travel which is I suppose it is safe to say non-productive money or non-productive expense. Well, underneath that we see another item for a quarter of a million dollars of transportation and communication. Surely the approach that we have heard about and heard talked about for so long, devolution and decentralization, if this were implemented, the cost of travel could be greatly reduced, could it not?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Well, Mr. Chairman, last year the approved budget or estimate that we had was the \$546,000. This year it is \$556,000, which is \$10,000 more. We have increased staff in order to accommodate the decentralization of people into particular regions and you know, air fares have gone up. Pacific Western Airlines have another one coming up as do Transair of five per cent. The cost of the travel in transportation and communication deal in a lot of instances with people going to particular communities from regions, from headquarters, to conduct some of the workshops that have been indicated are good things for people in settlements to undergo -- these workshops. Now, I realize that transportation and travel -- there is no question that it is a large part of the O and M. But the fact of the matter is that it is necessary to have people move in order to bring support services of this department to people in communities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Pearson.

Baffin Regional Council

MR. PEARSON: Well, just a point of clarification. I understood that the Baffin regional conference budget is already taken care of under another vote for \$35,000 and surely that must cover the transportation because nobody gets paid for attending these things.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Well, the amount of money for the Baffin regional conference is for their operation as well. That does not necessarily mean that all the members of the various communities get their training programs done through the Baffin regional council. There are other areas that are served in total councils. Transportation and communication; that part of the budget deals primarily with the training programs that the department, either from headquarters or from the regions, undertake to provide.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Well, my comments on this are more on the commentary than the actual expenditures. I think the Commissioner is to be complimented for ridding us of the subversive elements which were active in this particular branch of the Department of Local Government. Things seem to be running much more smoothly now. Perhaps my question is if the Minister could elaborate on what is actually meant by the terms in the second and third lines to the commentary where it refers to developing appropriate forms of local government which represent all community interests. Does that mean that the department is thinking about radically changing the present set-up for municipal or government? Does it mean that you are planning something other than the present hamlets and villages and towns and cities? What exactly does that mean?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): You are talking about the directorate, Mr. Nickerson?

MR. NICKERSON: I am talking about the commentary at the top of page 9.03.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We are still on page 9.02, we have not finished that one yet.

MR. NICKERSON: I thought we agreed to that, Mr. Chairman.

O And M - Directorate, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Yes but Mr. Pearson has something on it first. Is directorate, budget summary, total O and M, page 9.02, in the amount of \$1,276,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Thank you. Page 9.03. Hon. Arnold McCallum, if you will answer that.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that phrase that the development training program is concerned in developing appropriate forms of local government to represent all community interests means that we still hold to the philosophy that this department has had in furthering the kinds of local government or the levels of local government that are existent in the territories now, settlement, community settlement, hamlet, village, town, city, in that way.

Now again, we would hopefully be able to build flexibility into that total approach that would allow for certain changes, not radical, not away from the basic principles of local government in various communities. I think we have to take into consideration some of the peculiarities of various places but we are not in any way, shape or form concerned with radical movements towards it. We believe in the institutions of local government that we have and indeed in the uniqueness of the institutions of local government in the Northwest Territories. I think that we would like to build in flexibility and in the discussions prior to this whole department we heard comments about that kind of uniqueness and flexibility that we would want to ensure that would be in any kind of development.

Now I indicated that groups of hamlets are getting together to try to bring about and develop their own hamlet ordinance and that has been raised on a number of occasions not just by the Baffin regional council but by Members in this House prior to, in sessions past, that the situation in the hamlet is a little bit different than the situation under which they exist now, that is the Municipal Ordinance. So without destroying the basic principles, we would like to build in some kind of flexibility. What kind of flexibility that would be developed, we would come back of course with the legislation to this House to make sure that it is in fact ratified by Members.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Hon. Arnold McCallum's comments, Mr. Chairman, are most reassuring.

O And M - Development And Training, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. \$1,066,000 operations and maintenance. Agreed?

---Agreed

Municipal affairs, page 9.04, O and M budget of \$12,807,000. Page 9.04 and a total of \$12,807,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: One comment on this particular vote, Mr. Chairman; is there any move afoot at all, either coming from the hamlets themselves or other municipalities or is anyone within the Department of Local Government thinking

about alternative forms of taxation within these municipalities? At the same time as municipalities take upon themselves more responsibilities to administer themselves, which is precisely what we want, it would appear that there should be some undertaking on the part of the municipalities to raise a certain proportion, albeit a small one of the moneys they need to operate locally.

Property taxation does not really appear to be a solution in the smaller settlements. It might be workable in places like Yellowknife and Hay River, if there is anything left to tax in Hay River, but in the hamlets and in the villages where most of the property is owned or controlled some way by either the Government of the Northwest Territories or Northwest Territories Housing Corporation or the Government of Canada, the local people themselves do not seem to be putting in any money. I wonder if there is any consideration to alternative forms of taxation, such as a household tax or something of that nature? Is there anything in the wind like that, Mr. Chairman?

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

#### Problems Of Taxation

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think it was on Wednesday when we were talking about various difficulties with the taxation process, not only in municipalities, but of course in hamlets and -- when I say municipalities, I mean in the larger ones. In hamlets and in communities this department was very much concerned with the whole problem of taxation and I think I indicated to you, Mr. Chairman, or the chairman at that time that this department is very seriously looking at development of a paper. I am sure that if I were to go back, I am trying to find it now, I am sure that I indicated at that time that I would bring in a discussion paper to this House on the whole situation of the Taxation Ordinance and the school levy.

I suggested it would likely come in the fall session, but if possible, we would have it here for discussion purposes at the May session, although I hold out very little hope of it coming in. I should not say May; whenever the spring session is. But very definitely we are concerned about this topic, this problem of taxation and we know of the inequities that exist in communities and indeed between communities. So, yes, we are very much concerned with it, and I would hope to have that kind of document here for discussion purposes by this House in committee at the latest in the fall session.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: While it is encouraging to hear the comments of Hon. Arnold McCallum and I am glad that Mr. Nickerson is aware of the situation, we in Frobisher Bay find ourselves in a very strange predicament of having to levy taxes on a community of 2500 and the total number of taxpayers being 69 or 68 and not too many of them resident in the community. One member of the community council and myself are taxpayers and no others and yet we impose taxation on the community and to provide services for the community and the injustice in the system is absolutely unfair to everybody. I think the imposition of a tax of some sort on the remainder of the community could be of great benefit to those people, and to the community as a whole. I urge the administration to get on to it.

#### A Ward System Of Voting

One of the other matters that was touched on briefly was the whole question of local government and meeting the needs of the people and the wishes of the people in the given areas. We in the Eastern Arctic are very strongly in favour of a ward system to be established within communities for the voting process to ensure that people within the community, particularly native people, are given an opportunity to participate and it met with a hell of a lot of opposition over here and it is understandable why it would in communities in the West. I mean, it ensures that the native people will not participate. Whereas if a ward system were introduced, it would ensure native participation in all communities across the Northwest Territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: A comment on the municipal affairs activity in that in reading the breakdown sheet on page 9.07 I see that the salary and related costs for this activity come to some \$366,000, of which \$312,000 are to be spent in headquarters. This would seem to indicate to me, Mr. Chairman, that there is absolutely no decentralization in this particular activity. I wonder if the Minister could explain to us why this has not been the case and when does he expect decentralization in the municipal affairs area to take place?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

Decentralization In Municipal Affairs

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the municipal affairs department of the government is set up to provide services to municipalities that if in fact were duplicated in the various regions, would amount to a great number of people and a great expense. We believe that in order to get decentralization occurring, that the municipalities should not have to go through a region, and in fact they do not, they go directly to the top for their problems. The city of Yellowknife does not deal with the Fort Smith region in dealing with municipal services. The town of Fort Smith does not, the town of Hay River does not nor the town of Pine Point, they do not have to go through the region and I think that is a basic part of decentralization, where people are governing their own affairs in a municipality. They should not have to be, you know, getting advice, getting assistance, getting knowledge of what is available in services for them. We do not want to hamstring them any more than they should be. They should have that open doorway through, and this is the reason why.

We have by the same token just moved municipal officers to the regions so that the various smaller communities would be able to get first hand knowledge, but it is a two-edged thing. For the incorporated communities, we feel that they should have a direct access. For the smaller communities where in fact they are funded from the region, they should be able to go into the region and have somebody in the region answer their questions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: To follow along that line of thinking we would put decentralization into practice by hauling everybody out of the regions and putting them all in Yellowknife. I just can not quite understand that at all, and in the earlier part of the Hon. Arnold McCallum's reply, he said that decentralization, putting people in the regions, would result in duplication and this is one of my objections to the way the government at present views this decentralization program. They are most reluctant to take people out of Yellowknife and put them somewhere else, they just do not do that, Mr. Chairman. What they do is to leave the existing staff in Yellowknife, hire more people, put them in the region, do the duplicating that way and then because there are more people in the field, they have to hire yet more people and put them in offices in Yellowknife to deal with them and that is the way it seems to be operating. I think that if we are to have decentralization we have to decide we are going to cut down the staff in Yellowknife and put those people out in the field and it has got to be done precisely that way.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

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

Gaining The Benefits Of Government Service

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I could not agree with it more in terms of having people -- I do not agree with the building up of personnel and facilities in one area. I would prefer to have everything move out in the community because I think that people in the communities, regardless of what business they are in, should have an opportunity to gain from the benefits of government services. But I think that having been involved with municipal affairs and I am sure that those of you who are now or who have been involved with municipal affairs in a municipality would prefer, at least it was my experience and the experience of one of the Members and I should not refer to him, he is not here, to deal directly with the government at the headquarter level, rather than have to go through, as a municipality through the regional offices.

So, it is not a reluctance on our part, of the Department of Local Government to have the incorporated municipalities deal with the regional office, but in point of fact over the years and I know this to be true because I was involved with the Association of Municipalities for some seven years, but that is what the larger municipalities wanted to do, and that is what we are providing. Now, there were other communities where the responsibility for the operation and the funding is in the hands of the region, that is why we put municipal officers out into the region. In point of fact, as I had indicated, we have and I see no difficulty in understanding that kind of concept.

The larger municipalities want to go direct. I am sure that, as I say, Members who were involved with municipal affairs, when they want to get something, they do not want to talk to the regional director about those things. In point of fact, they do not want to talk to the Department of Local Government, they would like to talk to the chief administrative officer of the government, the Commissioner, and that has been the practice of people, to go direct. We have people involved in the municipal affairs because we have assessors at the headquarter level to put assessors in every region. There is no question. I do not think it would be necessary. The municipalities would rather do their own. We try to provide a service for them.

Transferring From Headquarters

We have a municipal officer now in Frobisher Bay and in the Fort Smith region. We would hope to be able to get the people and they were transferred from the headquarters down to these regions. We have two people involved with municipal planning at the headquarters level. We have two people dealing with water and sanitation to provide assistance to municipalities, the larger incorporated municipalities. They have in most cases a regional or a town works foreman or a town works superintendent or a town city engineer. We have two people involved with finance and capital planning and we have one person as a secretary. That is the extent of the situation in terms of this area. There are casual people that we would have to hire at different times and that is carried on from the regional level as well. But I agree with the Member that we have no headquarters' growth here, our growth is down into the regions. If I had my way, I would rather see that various parts of the government move out into other particular communities, because I do not see that, I, as a person involved with private enterprise, should have to come to live in Yellowknife to participate in any kind of development. You should be able to do it in other communities as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. \$12,807,000.  
Mr. Pearson, I am sorry.



Authority In The Regions.

MR. PEARSON: Well, just to add that one of the reasons why people in the settlements want to go directly to the head office is because they do not have any faith in the regional situation and it would appear that in many cases the regional people do not have any authority. It seems that is the main problem; that this government is reluctant to hand authority out to the regions and it is therefore necessary to go to the head office. You call them and they say, oh Jesus, well we do not have any responsibility in that area, you would have to call the director about that or you have got to talk to him about this. We do not have that kind of authority. We can only spend up to \$23.95 on that item. I mean, it has to be a total devolution to give the responsibility to those poor individuals in the region who in many cases are just as frustrated as the people in the communities themselves.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: I just wanted to point out to the House that Mr. Lyall agrees with me.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. You are gaining. Mr. Butters.

Property Assessment

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, relative to property assessment, I believe that there must be either this year or next a general assessment of property throughout the Mackenzie Valley. I think that in view of the deferment of large scale development in the valley, the market value of the properties will have decreased probably between 30 per cent and 60 per cent. The assessed value is a proportion of the market value. The taxes raised on that assessed value will be much less than is now the case, which would indicate to me that there would have to be an increase in mill rate to provide the same level of services that we are currently enjoying. I wonder if the Minister might comment on that general observation.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Butters, are you on page 9.04?

MR. BUTTERS: Yes I am. I am replying to property assessment service to municipalities and government in order to develop a sound system of taxation. That is what I am discussing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can only comment to the extent that I would reiterate what I have indicated before and in point of fact, what I think the Deputy Commissioner replied to the whole matter of the difficulties in property assessment, in getting a fair assessment. I indicated I think earlier in the debate on this department's budget that we are looking at a more equitable means of taxation in terms of property and assessment. I realize that because of the economic slowdown, or even worse in various areas that indeed assessment that is actual, I should not say assessment but actual pricing of property and improvements undoubtedly has suffered a great deal.

Community Difficulties

I indicated I think at the same time that where there were difficulties experienced by a particular municipality that this department and indeed this government would be more than willing to sit down and discuss those difficulties with that community and I am not hesitant or too reluctant to indicate a general application of that because various communities will suffer peculiar problems unto themselves and for that reason, I would prefer and I would hope it would be the stand or position of the government to deal on an individual bases with those communities.

The assessment, I said before or rather earlier, that in dealing with this we look at the total situation of assessing the land and the improvements and we are trying to alter or change the emphasis or the weight given to each of those two components in the entire taxation picture. So I can only assure the Member and the rest of this committee that we indeed will be looking with interest and with a great deal of concern to the difficulties that are being experienced by various communities and we would be only too happy to sit down and to discuss the situations with them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Lafferty.

#### Property Assessments In The Mackenzie Valley

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I think that it should be clearly known by this House that property assessments in Mackenzie Valley are sometimes very very unjust. I know beyond any doubt in my community that there are several houses which are assessed beyond their value simply because there was an improvement and that assessment has been carried out by the community. For instance, there was a house which was purchased for somewhat in the neighbourhood, the price of about \$250 and which had received a plywood covering by the Dene Housing Group of the Northwest Territories and ended up with an assessment, a property assessment up in the area of \$8000 resulting in an old age pensioner paying nearly \$400 a year in improvement assessments, plus paying school taxes in the neighbourhood of about \$200. This man can not meet that kind of payment and there are several cases like that that I know of in the Mackenzie Valley. So I feel that we should review, not by the department but this House should review, or at least get a report of what is the intention of the Department of Local Government in their assessment plans for the future so that we can determine some kind of policy in this matter, because it is a serious urgent matter that we just can not put off.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much, Mr. Lafferty. I agree with you wholeheartedly. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated I thought to the House that we were going to bring a paper to this House for discussion on taxation and the whole question of property assessment for discussion by this House. I recognize that there are inequities in assessment and in taxation in communities; inequities between business people, home owners, renters, the whole gambit of things. I indicated that we would like to have this paper before the House so that they could discuss and give us guidance. We have the wherewithal now or individuals within a municipality have the wherewithal now if in fact they believe they are being unjustly taxed and/or assessed they can go to an appeal board and can state their case.

#### The Appeal Board

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. If I could just ask one question, Hon. Arnold McCallum, if you have to go to that appeal board, who pays the cost of transportation or does the appeal board come to the communities?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I believe that the appeal is held in the community, at least in the communities that I am familiar with. The process is held in that community and you simply make application, file an appeal, and the board sits in that particular community.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. Is that clear then, Mr. Lafferty? Mr. Nickerson I think was next.

MR. NICKERSON: The more, Mr. Chairman, these discussions proceed, the more clear it becomes that this matter of taxation in municipalities is one of prime priority and prime urgency and I am sure that the Members of the committee would appreciate it very much indeed if the department could present us with this paper they plan to in May rather than October. I think that we would like to deal with it at the earliest opportunity. Therefore, I would ask the Minister if he could undertake to get it to us in May, if at all possible, and if it is not possible to present it to us in a final version, perhaps he could deliver a preliminary paper just to make sure that we agree with him and that the department is on the right track.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. I think the Minister has indicated that he would do his utmost to get this paper to us in the May or the next session.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, Mr. Chairman. You know, I do not want to try to lead the Members down the path by saying yes, we will. If it is possible to bring the final version by that spring session we will, of course, do so. If not, I would follow the advice and suggestion of the Honourable Member and try to bring an interim report so that in fact we are on the right path as regards assessment, taxation and the whole gambit of things.

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

Elements For A Solution

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You know, as Mr. Nickerson has indicated as well, it is of a great concern but let us not fool ourselves. It is as well a very complex issue and I do not know if there is any really simple solution to it and we would like to explore a number of avenues. There were certain elements for a solution to the problem, but there just is not one problem involved, there are a number of problems.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Steen I think is next.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Nickerson has expressed my desire to have that paper as soon as possible. So, I refrain from further comment.

O And M - Municipal Affairs, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. \$12,807,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Airports, Agreed

Page 9.05, in the amount of \$204,000, airports. Agreed?

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Now we will go back to page 9.01.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, could we go into town planning and lands and do the same, page 9.06?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Sorry, we missed page 9.06, town planning and lands in the amount of \$1,081,000. Agreed? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: One question, Mr. Chairman. Would I be correct in assuming, Mr. Chairman, that this is another activity of the Department of Local Government that is more or less completely centralized, all the people that work for this activity are located in Yellowknife?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: To some extent the Member is correct but we have just within the past month and a half, established a position in this activity in three of the regions; in Inuvik, Fort Smith and the Baffin region. We would hope to be able to put one of these officers in the Keewatin region, so there are three but to a great extent Mr. Nickerson is correct that the majority is involved in here because the majority of the land problems are associated with the federal branch of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and of course it allows for their -- we as well of course utilize a great deal of professional services as is noted in the detail sheet in connection with this particular activity.

0 And M - Town Planning And Lands, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. \$1,081,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed

Now if we will go back to page 9.01, a total of 0 and M budget, \$16,434,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Loans, Agreed

Loans totalling \$4,800,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Revenues, Agreed

Revenues totalling \$1,900,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Nickerson, please.

MR. NICKERSON: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if I could have some clarification in respect of what quarries and what forest lands do we collect quarry and timber fees? I was always under the impression that these revenues went to the federal government.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Nickerson, I think on page 9.16...

MR. NICKERSON: I am just wondering with respect to what lands we collect these moneys. I am more or less certain that for most of the land in the territories the money is collected by the federal government. Would this be lands within municipalities or Commissioner's land or what land would it be?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The Member is correct, Mr. Chairman, it would be for Commissioner's lands and he is correct as well in stating that most of the land fees and whatnot, quarry timber fees were payable to the federal government. This is for Commissioner's lands. That is why the amount is so small.

MR. NICKERSON: Has, Mr. Chairman, the Department of Local Government ever thought of the possibility of delegating to the municipalities revenues derived from satellite landing fees?

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Revenues totalling \$1,900,000, agreed?

---Agreed

Is it the wish of the House then that we have completed Department of Local Government? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, there is one question which I asked a couple of days ago to do with local government that has not yet been answered and the question was: Are there any communities in the Northwest Territories which do not levy user fees on truck water delivery services for which we pay the municipalities a subsidy? The answer I believe at that time was that the Minister thought there were no such communities but would check and make sure.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I must apologize. I thought I had gone back to most of the questions that had been raised. My information is not any different than what I offered previously, that in fact there were none. I will have to go back to the department and ascertain for sure now. I apologize for not having that, again as far as we know from the department that there were none.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, that is a satisfactory answer. I will not refuse to vote for the Department of Local Government budget on account of not having received a full answer to that question and I would be quite satisfied if Hon. Arnold McCallum would communicate the full answer to me privately. That would satisfy myself, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. This now completes the Department of Local Government with the understanding that you will bring back that information at a later date and what is the wish of the administration now; that we call progress or go into the next item of business, the Department of Education?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I think that is the correct schedule. It is Education. However, Mr. Chairman, may I just say to the Members that I appreciate the advice and suggestions and the concern that they have for the entire Department of Local Government and the direction in which we are going and I would ensure all that the department, I and the officials of the department, would certainly take into consideration and be guided by the advice and suggestions of each Member who has contributed to this particular debate. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum, and again I would take this opportunity to congratulate you on your new position and I think you have done very well.

---Applause

It is the wish now of the administration that we go into the Department of Education. Agreed?

---Agreed

Department Of Education

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): It is on page 13.01, starting with administration on 13.02, operation and maintenance in the amount of \$3,313,000. That is on page 13.02 with Deputy Commissioner Parker in the hot seat. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Question of a general nature, Mr. Chairman. I believe the new school ordinance or Education Ordinance was brought into force on July the 1st or something like that, I just wonder if the Deputy Commissioner could advise us now of the progress being made and how the new legislation is being implemented in the communities and whether it is achieving the objectives which this House foresaw for it when we debated the legislation and presented it to the Executive.

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

Education Boards

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the regulations which followed the new ordinance came into effect during the summer and in December, in conjunction with municipal and settlement elections, there were elections for education boards, the new boards. These were first time elections and the officers of those boards and at the various levels took up their duties on the first of January. There was a good response for the call for nominees and the elections went off in pretty straightforward fashion. It is too early to say what kind of results we can look for from these new districts. I think it is fair to say that thus far any reactions that we have had have been of a positive nature. I think that they are being very well received but I think

that it will take us probably at least a year before we can begin to make any statements that will be truly definitive as to the effectiveness of the new ordinance.

With regard to boards dealing with regional schools, and I refer particularly to Sir John Franklin and to Samuel Hearne at Inuvik and the Gordon Robertson Education Centre in Frobisher Bay, we have a plan in mind for expanding the boards that have been elected to include people from representative communities on the board and these further regulations should be ready very shortly. What we see happening is the communities who are represented in these schools within reason are sending in or inviting the chairman of their education advisory boards to attend up to four meetings a year of the board that is established for these central schools and thereby giving the people from the communities a very major input into their operations.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Your remarks sound encouraging. Mr. Nickerson, comments of a general nature.

#### High School Boards

MR. NICKERSON: I together with Mr. Butters and undoubtedly many other Members are concerned about what type of boards are to be established for overseeing the operation of the high schools. Perhaps we could have some more information on this. Pursuant to the legislation three types of local education authority are envisaged and I wonder what type of authority is it expected to have for the high schools. Will it be a committee, a society or a board and what is the situation at present? The Deputy Commissioner has referred to people being elected to some kind of boards having something to do with the high schools. Are these solely advisory boards, do they have any executive authority at all, any policy making authority rather than just being able to give advice and how were the people elected because I can not recall seeing any public notice of an election to take place in the local newspapers, for instance?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Nickerson posed this question during the question period yesterday and on Monday I propose to give him a formal reply to his question. However I would like to also give the information now. I said at that time I was not certain as to what action had taken place with regard to Sir John Franklin and I now find that Sir John Franklin and the Akaitcho Hall have not been included in a district. A district has not been set for them as yet and so therefore there has been no election and there is no advisory board constituted under the ordinance or under the regulations for that school. But we do contemplate getting on with that, well sometime during the first six months of this year. The problem was that our regulations did not encompass representation from outside of the district itself and that is what the director and I have been working on and we are just ready to produce additional regulations that will cover that situation.

Now with regard to the earlier part of Mr. Nickerson's question, the boards all start out, unless they have already taken a step to organize themselves, they all start out of course at the lowest level, at the advisory level, and then they may advance through the stages to the two higher levels. Now in the case of Yellowknife, of course, the two school districts already exist and they are automatically part of the highest level of organization. The middle level has been achieved in Eskimo Point, for instance.

MR. NICKERSON: Just to clarify that, the Deputy Commissioner is repeatedly referring to advisory boards and actually is it that he means education committees as defined in the ordinance, will be the local education authority for the high schools, at least initially?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am sorry, I consistently use the wrong term there. It is the committee structure that is foreseen by the ordinance and the regulations.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): That is affirmative, Deputy Commissioner Parker, that is right. Thank you. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask a question before but I got the Inuktitut copy that I am on now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Pearson.

#### Vocational Education

MR. PEARSON: I would like to get back to an issue that I mentioned briefly this morning, that of vocational education in other regions other than Fort Smith and I note -- one has only to look at the budget in 13.09, for example, to see where the money is going, millions of dollars into the Fort Smith region and according to my book here, not a penny into Inuvik, Baffin or Keewatin. Whether that is a fact or not, we know that there is very little emphasis being given to vocational training in any other region other than Fort Smith. I see now that even some of the apprentices in Frobisher go for further training to somewhere in northern Alberta; Fort Vermilion or something like that. I do not know where it is exactly, but it is not in the Northwest Territories and it is a hell of a long way from their homes.

We have been over this many times over the years that I have been on this Legislative Assembly, I think now is the eighth year and I think in those eight years I have brought this subject up each time. There was a hope at one time when the education training program for native teachers was established in Frobisher Bay for a very short period of time, in fact one year but it was then, the plans were abandoned and it was moved to Fort Smith. Does Deputy Commissioner Parker, as the man responsible for this department, foresee any hope in the next eight years for the establishment of vocational training centres of a primitive nature? I am not talking now of a fancy, elaborate facility but of using the existing facilities in places like Rankin up on the Arctic coast, Cambridge Bay, Frobisher Bay, so that we will have some meaning and some benefits to the people that live in those regions because they do not like to go to Fort Smith. They do not like to travel thousands of miles away from their homes and why the hell should they?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Pearson, I guess this is comments of a general nature. Deputy Commissioner Parker, can you explain?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I think we are running ahead of ourselves. On page 13.05 we have vocational and higher education programs but we are on comments of a general nature, if you want to go ahead and answer that.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, that is a comment of a general nature. It is dealing with a very important thing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I did not say it was not important. I just said we were dealing with administration, but that if it is comments of a general nature, go ahead and answer the question, Deputy Commissioner Parker.

#### Teacher Training Program

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I realize that Mr. Pearson has consistently recommended to this House that the facilities for vocational and I believe vocational adult training be spread out. Although it may not always be the case that is our continuing desire. I believe the situation with regard to the teacher training program was that the numbers of people attracted to it just were insufficient to set it up as a separate organization in Frobisher.



It just was not viable and we put a higher stress on having competent instruction and we just could not diversify that to the extent that was requested. However, we are anxious to extend vocational training in a very meaningful way to the East in particular and I think that there is a good chance of us using the facilities that already exist, either in Gordon Robertson Education Centre or in the Department of Public Works tradeshops that are already in use in Frobisher Bay.

There are specific courses though that we will continue to have to teach on a centralized basis because they require equipment that is highly technical and very expensive and they require space and they do not lend themselves to hiring additional instructors. Now, I do not mean to say that Mr. Pearson is saying that we should not have central courses for some things, but the sort of things that I am talking about consist of the electronics training, for instance. Now that I think will have to continue to be centralized at the Adult Vocational Training Centre and I think that is an example of the kind of thing that makes sense there.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Pursuant to those comments, when will this administration commit itself, I want a commitment from you for the establishment of training facilities, be they trades or academic, for example classroom teacher's programs, I want a commitment, I want to hear some dates. Promises I have been listening to for a long time, now I want to see if you guys really mean what you say before I will support or vote for this Education budget at all.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would be foolish to give that kind of a commitment right now but could I say that before the end of the debate on education I will be prepared to make a definitive statement which I hope will be acceptable to Mr. Pearson. I can not guarantee that it will be but he has put forward his request in a formal and serious fashion as well he should, and I would like to have the opportunity to respond the same way.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. If there are no further comments of a general nature, can we go into administration?  
Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I have to go along with Mr. Pearson. I think we have been fighting with this for a long time and do not seem to be getting anywhere with trying to get the school to the people instead of the people to the school.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

#### Reopening Inuvik Hostel

MR. STEEN: In Inuvik when we were having this regional meeting on economic development and work, people reiterated or expressed their desire again to try to get some parts of the hostel that are in mothballs there reopened, even only part of it. Dome Petroleum has expressed interest in paying for some of the cost and I think that when people are closer to home they will stay and I really do not think that we should continue sinking money into Fort Smith education building there, whatever it is, adult education...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STEEN: ... when we have other places. I would like to see a real breakdown on how much it costs to operate that school and how much it costs to transport students back and forth. I can not see the reason why we should continue to put more equipment in a place when we have been saying stop spending more money in that area. So I can not agree, we are getting all tired of this and I think we are going to sit down and say no we do not want it and we are not going to vote for money to be sunk into that school or that hostel or whatever you call it there. Just because the federal government moved out of there I do not think we should feel sorry for them and keep sinking money in there. You know the federal government moved out when the territorial government moved into the territories and just because the capital was not moved there instead of Yellowknife, I do not think we should keep them quiet over there.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Have you any comment on that, Deputy Commissioner Parker?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I have, Mr. Chairman. It is just not possible to put facilities everywhere where everyone wants them. Now the people of the area in most of the Mackenzie I think recognize that Fort Smith is a reasonable place for training and I do not think that they would want to be transported somewhere else.

#### Central Facilities Necessary

In other words if you stop doing something in Fort Smith you are not going to make anybody any happier by then training them in Inuvik or training them all in Frobisher Bay and there are simply some facilities that simply have to be central in the territories. You know we are told so often as an administration that we are not to have such a big staff and why are we spending all this money and yet you can not duplicate some facilities without adding to the staff and adding to the expenditures very very substantially.

So, we try to bring the two together and we try to find the best fit solutions and that means, in fact, centralizing some of the vocational education. Now, having said that, when we held our economic employment opportunities conference in Inuvik on the 22nd of November there was no question but what we were told loud and clear that the people wanted more training and if they could, they would like to have the training as close to home as possible. We have given a commitment to look at the possibility of opening Stringer Hall and using that as a base for further vocational training and we are examining that. I can not give you an answer to that just yet, Mr. Chairman, but we are certainly examining that as a possibility for certain levels of training for the Delta area, for the Inuvik region and perhaps beyond that as well.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. I wonder if I could get permission just to comment on that subject. Agreed?

---Agreed

#### Using Vocational Students For Road Building

When we had this economic meeting in Norman Wells, we had contractors from two different settlements that had heavy equipment and one of the things that came up was roads for the immediate area from Fort Franklin to Fort Norman, Norman Wells to Fort Norman and possibly from Norman Wells to Fort Good Hope. There are contractors in three of those settlements that have the equipment and they have qualified teachers. I would not say qualified, they do not have a certificate, but they have been in the contracting business for years and they asked if it was possible to send some of the students from Fort Smith Adult Vocational Training Centre into these communities, utilizing the equipment that was available in these communities and building these roads.

Instead of having contractors coming in from the outside, this way they will be using native labour and utilizing the contractors in these communities. Now, I wonder if Fort Smith vocational centre has ever thought of something like that when they have work to do in a certain community, they contract it out. They could take these students who are on heavy equipment training and continue their training and do something constructive instead of building a road and tearing it out and then rebuilding it again.

That is my comment on that of a general nature and I think it is along the line that they have been talking about. So, if we recognize the clock now as being 4:00 o'clock, we could recess for fifteen minutes and come back to these general comments after coffee. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Prior to proceeding with Bill 11-64, I would like a reply from the Deputy Commissioner on the comments that I put forth before recessing.

Heavy Duty Equipment Training

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, with regard to your proposal to use equipment in communities for training, this is a program that we have in fact had under way for more than a year. We have two travelling instructors; they are not necessarily the same two people all the time but we have two heavy duty equipment operator/instructors who travel from community to community and using available equipment give training to whatever local candidates show up or are proposed by the hamlet or the settlement or whatever.

The idea of the program is to train people right on-site, using equipment that is obviously familiar to them with particular stress on tractors, bulldozers, graders and trucks. Now they spend anywhere from one week to four weeks in the community that they visit and this is all set up and co-ordinated ahead of time by the officers of the Adult Vocational Training Centre. They manage it but this is strictly a field program. We think that it has been very well received. Thus far I do not believe that there have been any instances where we have leased or used contractors' equipment, so far we have not needed to, but I would not see anything the matter with us doing that if there was a requirement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Mr. Lafferty, do you have any comments? Any more comments of a general nature? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Well Mr. Chairman, I have a little more information on the situation with regard to vocational education and since it is of a general nature, perhaps I could be permitted to give it now. It particularly refers, or I would particularly like to refer to the Baffin region. In the Baffin region, we have 11 adult educators, or rather there are adult educators in 11 different communities and they are concentrating at the present time on bookkeeping and small business management. This is one of the things that these adult educators are concentrating on and that is being done right in the people's own communities.

Adult Education Courses

In Pangnirtung we have just established this January a cooking course, drawing applicants or students from all over the Baffin and that course has been initiated as a result of the initiative of the regional officers in Frobisher Bay. In Frobisher itself, we have offered for some time and continue to offer a housing maintenance course to adults in the Gordon Robertson Education Centre and in addition to that we are operating and will continue to operate a clerk-typist's course for adults again and this is a Manpower sponsored course.

I say this because I want to indicate to you that we are in fact diversifying the vocational training and we have these three specific training courses being offered on an ongoing basis in the Baffin region. Part of the requirement for upgrading of facilities in Fort Smith at the Adult Vocational Training Centre is related -- I should not say part, I should say the major part of the upgrading is related to the Northwest Territories apprenticeship program. We at the present time can offer territorial apprentices their classroom work at levels one and two only.

We have been advised by the province of Alberta that they can no longer handle our apprenticeship people for their classroom work as they have in the past and they must gradually step out of that, because all of the training spaces that they have are taken up with their own people. We do not want this apprenticeship program to fail because it is a very important program and we must offer classroom apprenticeship training within the territories.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: And this is the reason for the facility that will be under construction very shortly. We will then be able to offer level three and four at the Adult Vocational Training Centre for apprenticeship training.

#### Number Of Apprentices

At the present time we have 28 apprentices taking their classroom work in Fort Smith and of that number, 12 of them are from the Eastern Arctic. We have 36 apprentices taking classroom training in other sites in the territories and 11 of those are from the Eastern Arctic. So, we have a total of 64 in training and 23 of them are from the East. I would hope that that would indicate to you that there is a pretty reasonable level of acceptance of the apprenticeship program by apprentices from all parts of the territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Two points, one just to follow the Deputy Commissioner, that all the apprentices are not necessarily native people. In fact, a large majority of them are non-native people. With regard to the housing maintenance training program, Sanavic it was called, that was established in Frobisher, it has done a tremendous job due to the competence and the efforts of one Mr. Carl Georgian who subsequently left and left a person that he trained to run that for him. Unfortunately the Department of Education and the territorial government were unable to provide that person, Mr. Mosesee Itorcheak with any assistance, aid or help whatsoever and as a result, he has quit. It is a great loss because he is a very hard guy to replace.

So that thing is now at a standstill, as I am sure you will admit, until you come up with either a southern Canadian or a northern person competent and willing to take on that responsibility. So, that came to a halt. It is encouraging to hear that the Deputy Commissioner is prepared to make some concessions in this area and I look forward, earnestly look forward to seeing the establishment of training programs in the Baffin, the Keewatin, Fort Smith and the Inuvik region so that, in keeping with the recommendations made by Justice Berger that we prepare the northern people for the onslaught that you guys are talking about and so far we are not doing that. So, let us get cracking.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it is true that the housing maintenance instructor position has been vacant for a short while and I am pleased to say it has now been filled and of course we will be able to proceed. I do not know who is the person hired.

MR. PEARSON: You are not aware, would Mr. Lewis happen to know? He does not know either.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, we will find out who was hired.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Comments of a general nature. Mr. Kilabuk.

### Training Instructors In Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, I wish to ask a question. The question is directed to Deputy Commissioner Parker. He mentioned that the instructor for the heavy duty equipment instructors have been visiting. I just found out that in Pangnirtung two people came over to visit, to handle the duty. Nobody knew that they were coming to Pangnirtung. Nobody was notified. They had to return to Fort Smith because nobody planned what they were going to do in Pangnirtung. I think this should be looked at because it cost a lot of money to send people up to Pangnirtung and up to other settlements and they are not going to be doing anything. They came all the way to Pangnirtung and they left without doing anything.

When they had an election in Fort Smith, I had indicated to them that instructors should be located in the Baffin region area rather than in Fort Smith. I have been thinking that they should get some kind of a vocational education in Baffin region area so that the Inuit could participate in their particular region where they will have a cultural school in Baffin region area. The problem seems to be that there is not enough money to do that kind of a project and the teachers' associations do not seem to have enough Inuit and Indians involved as it is now. I think if they are involved the Inuit, even though they might not be teachers it will be giving some kind of information from the Inuit. In this way they would have more understanding between each other, even if they involved the Inuit people more, this way they will know exactly what the Inuit's feelings are towards education. I would like to tell the administration that if they are going to send an instructor to any communities, I think they really should inform the communities where they will be going, and that they should inform the hamlets where they might be going, before they actually get to the community for in fact it is quite expensive to be travelling back and forth. That is all I have to say for now.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, this is the first I knew of this instance. I am sorry that it worked out that way. It sounds as though the arrangements were not properly made and I will certainly look into it and will take that advice for the future to ensure that proper arrangements are made with the municipal authorities and others in the community before any course is started so that there is good preparation for it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Any comments of a general nature? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say something to the administration while they are here. I believe the administration does not do what they should be doing because of the difficulty in money. Maybe try a little harder, or if we try a little harder maybe we would not have so much difficulty in money. Not very many people agree with Fort Smith school. A lot of people go to Fort Smith and they do not really like to go there. The students who go to Frobisher Bay do not get very much education but still it is closer, so it is all right. It is a lot closer than Fort Smith.

### School Grades

A few people happen to know about this. My personal feelings are maybe that grades in school should be higher, like in Pond Inlet the grades should be higher. Maybe the people from Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay and also Igloolik would not mind going there instead of Frobisher Bay and the grades should be upgraded and the smaller communities would be going over there instead of going to Frobisher Bay. Also I heard, I was told by the people in Repulse Bay they did not want their kids to go to school in Frobisher. Probably it would be a lot better if they were able to go to Coral Harbour or Rankin Inlet. A lot of parents do not want their kids to go to Fort Smith for education. I would like to know if this is true because I have heard it is very dangerous even when you are walking in the streets alone because you get ganged up in Fort Smith. I would like to know if this is true or not.

Also, they are very concerned about their children, especially when they are away. They are interested how they are and phoning long distance costs a lot of money. I would also like to ask about the money while we are on the subject of education. I would like to know how much money is going to be available to use for cultural inclusion in the schools in the territories and I would like to say that I would like to see another vocational school other than Fort Smith in the territories. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you very much. Deputy Commissioner Parker, I guess you will have to reply to that. I do not think he is satisfied with the education they are getting in Frobisher Bay.

#### Incidents Involving AVTC Students

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Everybody loves home but nowhere else, I guess. First, I would like to make sure that the Member understands in Fort Smith there was a problem for a while but it was nearly two years ago. There was a problem of arguments and even some fights between the Adult Vocational Training Centre students and a very few of the town's people, but that matter was cleared up right away and I can give every assurance that that is no longer the case, that there is a very good atmosphere there. People are getting along very well now. It was regrettable that there were some incidents, as I said, about two years ago but that is no longer the case. The mayor and the council of Fort Smith went right to work on that problem and I am confident that it is straightened out.

Now we take as advice what Mr. Evaluarjuk has said regarding the need for more vocational training closer to home and obviously closer to home does not necessarily mean Frobisher Bay. It could mean other centres as well. We are attempting each year to extend the grade level taught to higher levels in as many places as we can. However, we will not be able to have high school grades taught in every community for some time, simply because of the cost and the small number of students available, but we are moving the grade level up as quickly as we can.

#### Plans For New High School

We are doing the research now for our next high school and the decision on the location has not been made, but there will be a high school built which will be closer to the people in the Keewatin in particular and I think that will be of assistance to the people of Repulse Bay that Mr. Evaluarjuk named as being concerned.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Evaluarjuk asked another question concerning cultural inclusion, a subject which has bothered me considerably for some time and it was necessary again this year for the elementary school in Frobisher Bay to go to the federal government and apply for a Local Initiative Program grant to be able to include in their curriculum some cultural inclusion lessons, subjects.

It is amazing to me that we who are charged with the responsibility of educating the native people in the Northwest Territories have to go to a federal agency on our hands and knees and beg for federal funds to teach the very basic things that are essential to the lives of the native children in those schools. That is a basic thing; Inuktitut lessons and all the other things and we have played it down for so long. When will this administration change its policy or when will this Legislature, because it is the Legislature's responsibility; when will this Legislature get off its butt and insist that the Department of Education increase the amount of money that is set aside for cultural inclusion? It is our responsibility, nobody else's.

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

Cultural Inclusion

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pearson knows full well that this Council and the administration have made very very major moves away from the old policy of 15 years ago toward a recognition of the various cultures in the North and the steps that have been taken are concrete and you know, I think he knows many of them so I do not need to repeat them. But we have come a long way, we have a long way to go but we certainly have come a long way so it is simply not a case of when are we going to turn around and go in a different direction. We have come around a major curve and we are now going in a different direction. It has been a gradual process, speeded up very much in the last three or four years but we now recognize and put very great emphasis on the cultures of the people within our schools. At the same time, we recognize that we happen to be in the 20th century and that we must be able to offer people alternatives and that they can not live in seclusion.

The question that was asked regarding cultural inclusion, the money for cultural inclusion for the territories amounts to \$290,000. Now this works out on the basis of \$28 per student. Of course there are some schools who do not use this amount of money and there are others that do. That money though is basically designed for one of the three levels of local organizations to manage. You know the community education committee, the education society or the board of education. That money basically is under their direction.

In addition to those funds that are identified directly for cultural inclusion, the whole matter of handling of the culture and recognition of the cultures of the people is highlighted in a number of activities. It is highlighted by the fact that we have 128 classroom assistants, each of whom speaks one of the native languages. We have 33 graduates of the teacher education program that are at work as full time teachers and each of those persons either teaches in or uses a native language. We have an additional 30 students in training in that course. Now those are just to name a few of the things.

Work With Written Material

We have put out a tremendous amount of material in different languages. We have restructured a whole portion of the educational structure under Mr. Mallon who concentrates on paying attention to the language of the people. It is a full time occupation of his and his staff and they move about and within the territories enhancing the use of native languages and in fact working to create written languages where they did not even exist before, particularly in the areas where Indian languages are spoken. They were not written languages and we are working with a number of other people to make these into written languages. So I think we can say honestly that the corner is turned and that we are paying very very great attention to cultural matters. There is a long way to go, I freely admit that.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I think that certainly in the last ten years that I have been involved in this House, there has been a very very substantial change in the attitude of educators. I am not going to go over the history of it but going back to when it was thought that all native children should be shipped off to hostels, with the emphasis that this House has had over the years of putting schools back into the communities, the emphasis of native language in those community schools, particularly in Grades one to three and it has been a real conscious attempt.

Now as Deputy Commissioner Parker said, it may not have gone yet far enough but



I think with the determination that this House shows, that we will in the next ten years complete this program. There is one aspect that I see nothing being done about that I would like to touch on. In my view, it is not just important that we have native cultural inclusion courses in native settlements, I think it is just as important, if not more important, well I would not say more important, but just as important to have such courses in the non-native centres.

#### Cultural Inclusion For Non-native Schools

In other words, I would very much encourage cultural inclusion and by this I mean Indian language and Inuit language courses and courses about their culture in what I would call the white schools and let us be frank there are such schools. Here in Yellowknife the public schools would have to be called white schools. Now, there are some native children there, a lot of Metis children, but by and large the student population is white and they have been taught exclusively in English. The only other language offered would be French and it is being offered at an early age. It seems to me that to make sure we do not have a bunch of our children, by that I mean my children, being subjective here, growing up with the "we and them" attitude that they should learn a good healthy respect for native language and culture.

When I was going to school here from grade four on, starting in 1946, if you could believe it, we only had one little school in the School Draw and there were more native children there than there were whites because that was the population make-up of Yellowknife. Certainly when I grew up there was never any difference. We all played together, belonged to the same organizations, etc., so that there was not a problem then.

But I think a problem could develop now because of the larger population and the fact that many more children and you could easily get them segregated. Indeed what often worries me is that again looking at Yellowknife, we have a separate school here and just because the people in this area who are Indian are generally Catholic, you get almost invariably those children going to the separate school and the non-native children almost invariably going to the public school.

#### Yellowknife Public School

Though it has nothing to do with government policy, design, racism or anything else, it is just one of I think the unfortunate circumstances that you have most of the Indian children in one school and virtually none in the other school. I am worried that the children going to the public school, because they do not have the day to day physical contact with native children, I am worried that they might grow up with the it is the "we against them" attitude. So the best way I think of solving that is to have these courses taught in the schools by native people so that we make sure that if they are not getting it in the home, they are not getting a healthy respect for our native friends, cousins; if they are not getting that at the home, at least they are going to get it in the schools.

So I am just wondering if the Department of Education is taking any steps in those directions with respect to the public school system here in Yellowknife in particular? It may not be a problem anywhere else but I suspect that we could have a problem in time here unless we are doing something.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. David Searle. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we make available to the school districts here in Yellowknife, any and all cultural material that we have produced and that is a significant amount of material which is attuned to the northern cultures. They have not or do not at the present time offer anything in native languages. This very much is a matter of local school board concern and direction and since the local organizations have reached the level of school boards and have been school boards all along, we feel that that is an area of local initiative and we would perhaps, I just say perhaps have some difficulty in pressing that point.

Parents Must Generate Interest

I would hope that the parents and the -- well yes, the parents, would impress upon the board members their desires in this area. I agree with it, I think it is a very good thing but I must also say that attendance at board meetings or annual meetings is, for all intents and purposes non-existent, and maybe there is a job to be done on the parents first to generate a little interest. I support what Hon. David Searle says. I just say that it is an area since they are organized into school boards, in which we of course have less freedom to move and they have their own freedom to operate.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. I do not know about the rest of you but I have never been out of this building since 8:30 this morning and I am getting a little bit carried away. Is it the wish of the House that I call progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Do I hear enough agrees?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Nay.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Would somebody make a motion then that we adjourn, or call progress? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: I would be happy to take the chair for you to give you a rest if Members wish to continue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): A quorum is eight and we have a quorum. Hon. David Searle, go ahead.

Direction To Department Of Education

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Butters, if I could just make one last point along the lines I discussed and that is this: I can understand very ably the business of local autonomy and you know how the school board certainly has to have the power but I am wondering if there was any formal and official way we could express, not we as the Legislature so much, but the Department of Education as an administration which has in the final analysis, everything to say about curriculum, if we could not express to the school districts that notwithstanding the fact that they are autonomous, we think it would be a darn good idea to consider offering such a course, particularly in those schools where there are not even a good minority of native children because you know it is one thing if you have a school which maybe is fifty-fifty. At least in those cases, the children of non-native parents are rubbing shoulders with native children and just through that interaction, culture and language, etc. rubs off. I am thinking particularly of Yellowknife, I wonder if the Deputy Commissioner would be prepared to ask his director of Education to make a strong suggestion of encouragement to the school district firstly to see how it washes.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, certainly we would be happy to do that. I would think that the chances of success are probably greater in the area of history, that is the history of the Northwest Territories and the history of the involvement of the native peoples than it would be in the language area. In fact, there may well be programs under way in each of those areas that I am not aware of. So, I would not like to say that the boards and their staff are not doing some of these things now. But with that in mind, I think we would be quite happy to put this proposal to the boards and perhaps one of the ways in which we would do this would be to provide them with copies of this debate, so that they can get the full flavor of what we have been getting at.

#### Native Languages In Schools

I would just like to add that in any community in the North, the native languages are used only with the agreement of the local people. In other words, it is to some extent at their initiative, their agreement is sought. This is a local decision everywhere, not of course just here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Deputy Commissioner Parker, I understand that you will be making an approach, either oral or written, along the lines suggested by the Honourable Member?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Right.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Yes, I would like to compliment the administration and in particular Mr. Lewis and some of his staff, in the way that they are trying to implement the recommendations of this committee. I certainly think that a lot of criticism levied particularly by the Honourable Member for South Baffin are somewhat unfounded.

Mr. Mick Mallon to whom the Deputy Commissioner has made reference is doing an excellent job of trying to develop particularly Athapascan language curriculum. He is deliberately doing it, maybe not quite as quickly as it might be possible and there is a very good reason for this. Now, the easiest thing that the government could do the quickest way would be to hire a bunch of professional linguists, go in there, develop a grammar, develop an orthography, write everything down as a school curriculum and start teaching it in the schools. But I agree fully with Mr. Mallon and Mr. Lewis that this is not the correct approach. I think that they have adopted the correct approach in getting the backing and the expertise of the local people and what has happened is that a steering committee has been formed to oversee the operations of the professional people.

#### Steering Committee On Athapascan Committee

This steering committee is comprised of representatives, in the case of Athapascan languages, from all the areas that speak these languages; and this steering committee, they themselves want to take a slower and more purposeful approach. They think that at the same time as the professional people carry on their work of committing these various languages to written form and putting out a grammar and vocabulary, that at the same time local people should be trained in the techniques and the profession of linguistics. So, the two go hand in hand, so that when this material is developed there will be local people who can teach it and know what it is all about and I think that that is an excellent approach. So, I give my full support to what the Department of Education is doing in this very important area.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Deputy Commissioner Parker, would you like to respond to those warm words of praise and approbation?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Right, hallelujah! I am very pleased to hear those words.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Steen, the Honourable Member for the Western Arctic.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I have a question here pertaining to grade ten in communities. I wonder, does this government have a policy or are they starting to think about setting up a policy to include grade ten in communities where the population may be of 800 or more?

I noticed in Inuvik there were a number of children in grade ten that are being held in the hostel and they are pretty tough kids to handle for the nuns there in that hostel. I have heard complaints that children when they get reprimanded by the sister, that the children would turn around and slap the sister and kick the sister. Yes, that is happening. If they had grade ten in the communities then probably they could kick their old man or something. You know, at least they get pretty sure that the kid will get something back. I am just wondering about this; does the government start thinking about a policy where we can start keeping the older kids until they reach grade ten?

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

#### Advantages Of Consolidated High Schools

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we recognize the desires of the people, of all the people, there is no question. Practically all the people of the territories wish to see their youngsters stay at home for longer periods of time, and we support that. We are interested and willing to offer grade ten in an increasing number of schools, but what has to be borne in mind is that in making that offer we are not able to offer as full a high school program as we can offer in the consolidated schools.

Now, I think that that is understood but I think I have to underline that fact, that in the consolidated schools we offer a broad range of courses, academic and vocational, commercial and so forth. We offer the straight academic courses and the many options that go with them and we think that when the student has the opportunity to choose from among those courses, then he or she is going to get a much more rounded and much more acceptable and valuable education.

However, that has to be balanced against the fact that for many of them they have to go away from home to get these courses. So we are willing to offer a restricted program in their own communities at the grade ten level and I think it is quite obvious why I say restricted, because we just do not have the facilities, nor can we afford to have the facilities and the staff to offer a really broad high school program. But we find evidence that many of the parents are satisfied that their children receive a rather more restricted grade ten education and have it in their own communities than to get really the full treatment, I guess I could call it, by going to a consolidated school. What we want to do is to leave both of those options open, and that is that if they wish their children to go to a hostel and to have a really broad high school range of courses available, then they can do so, but we will on an increasing basis offer grade ten in the larger communities.

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

MR. STEEN: Just a little bit more. Just when would you say that you may start? You do not have it now and I just want to satisfy my constituents, that I can go back to them and tell them that okay, the government is willing at this date to begin negotiating for funds or something.

Grade Ten For Aklavik

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Well, Mr. Chairman, for instance, we are offering the people of Aklavik the option of having grade ten taught in their own school and even though there appears to be approximately or only approximately 17 students that would be going into the grade ten level. But for this coming fall we propose to offer that to them. I think that we will have our superintendents discuss this matter with the people and I imagine that we will, you know, year by year, have a number of different communities coming forward asking for a grade extension to grade ten.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Are there any further general questions? The Honourable Member from...

MR. PEARSON: I have had my hand up for the last half hour.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Well your name is not on the list.

MR. PEARSON: My name has been dragged around this chamber in the last couple of minutes and taken in vain by nasty Mr. Nickerson who again does not sound like he knows what he is talking about.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Order. Are you finished or are you just starting in?

MR. PEARSON: No, I am just warming up.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): I wonder if you would direct your remarks to the question rather than to the Members of the Executive Committee.

MR. PEARSON: Well he made a remark and I can not be bothered answering it because it is foolish.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Well, stick to the subject please, Mr. Pearson.

Funding For Cultural Inclusion

MR. PEARSON: Is it all right then, Mr. Butters, Honourable Mr. Butters? The thing that surprises me and I have said this before, this government funds a cultural inclusion program and stop me if I am wrong, to the tune of about \$28 per student per annum, right? Nodding of heads, but we happen to spend \$3900 per student per annum giving them an education. In other words, it is \$2800 to culturally include and \$2900 to deculturalize or deculturate with the other type of education that we are having to provide.

Now I mean it is 39 million smackeroots and I think that we are not getting good value for the money and contrary to what Mr. Nickerson has to say, the school in Frobisher Bay had to apply for a Local Initiative Program grant to include native culture in the curriculum this year, last year and the year before because of the inadequate funding that is given to those people to teach things of relevance and importance and pleasure to the kids for whom they have the responsibility.

There is not enough emphasis, there never has been -- sure there is more than there was before but it is a hell of a long way to go yet. We have got to have a major push in this regard because I have come to the conclusion after living in the North for 22 years that the native people have by virtue of the Statutes of Canada and the Bill of Rights and everything else that is holy in this country, the right to learn their own language and to learn about their own culture, a number one priority and everything else is secondary. After that it is secondary because that is the language of their lives and without your language you have got nothing. You can not communicate and how many places can you see in the Northwest Territories where we have and in fact in Mr. Steen's area, where the native languages have almost disappeared from common use except in the older people and it is a tragedy.

Now Hon. David Searle makes a very good point of including native cultural things into the non-native schools but I vividly recall an outburst of anger by the people of Fort Simpson a couple of years ago when it was suggested at a public meeting in Fort Simpson, that native culture be included in the curriculum of that school and they went bloody mad. The white parents stood up to a man and said do not you dare, we do not want our kids learning Slavey and whatever languages they were and I vividly recall the debate in this House on that question and that was the tragedy of that. But it should still be done. The effort has got to be made to include the native people, to get them involved in education because by learning their own language and by learning about themselves, then they will begin to participate in this operation of northern development.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Mr. Deputy Commissioner, there possibly is a question that you could answer relative to the amount per capita of cultural inclusion money. Is it sufficient from past experience or is there a project to enlarge the amount in this category? I for one would like to know about these Local Initiative Program grants that are being applied for. Is this a fact of the education life of the Eastern Arctic?

#### Local Control And Initiative In Education

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, first of all with the new Education Ordinance and the regulations under that ordinance, the way is being paved for a very substantial level of local control and initiative in education in the North and I think that we will see an increasing amount of involvement by the parents and they will have an increasing level of control over the total budget, not just the small portion that is designated as cultural inclusion. In fact they will be able to make some very real choices and set some very real priorities on the use of the money that is available for their school. They may or they may not choose to go the route of a higher level of some nature of cultural inclusion.

Now I know that examples are sometimes odious but in the case of Igloolik, Mr. Lewis made the offer to the people there of a very substantially increased level of spending, that is taking the existing budget and using more of it for Inuit teachers than white teachers and they considered this very carefully and I believe that they decided not to substantially change the balance between Inuit teachers and white teachers. So I think that the matter is going to end up in the hands of the local people and I think that they will make this decision.

I agree with Mr. Pearson that the language of a people is a cornerstone, a foundation and we look on it as a foundation for progress but there is not universal agreement with that you know, and it is going to depend upon, to an increasing extent, the views of the people in the communities as to where they place their emphasis and priority.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. The Honourable Member from Yellowknife South.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Well I was just thinking in that it is 5:25 o'clock p.m.. we might report progress, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Would the Honourable Members wish me to report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Butters): Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Bill 11-64, Appropriation Ordinance,  
1978-79

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the bill dealing with the main estimates, and I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters, and a particular thank you, Mr. Fraser, for sitting there so long and I guess I will leave it for you to thank Mr. Butters for spelling you off. Are there any announcements for committee meetings for Monday morning? There would appear not to be. That being the case, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 12: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Orders of the Day, January 30, 1978, 1:00 o'clock p.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Questions and Returns
3. Oral Questions
4. Petitions
5. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
6. Notices of Motion
7. Motions for the Production of Papers
8. Motions
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills,  
Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters:  
Bills 8-64, 7-64, 17-64, and 11-64; Report of the Standing  
Committee on Finance
11. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This Legislative Assembly stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., January 30, 1978, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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