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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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1978

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Item 2, questions and returns.

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Are there any returns? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Return To Question W13-64: RCMP For Holman Island, Gjoa Haven And Pelly Bay

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Question W13-64, on Thursday, January 26th, Mr. Lyall asked what progress the territorial government is making with the RCMP concerning the upgrading of police services in Holman Island, Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay.

MR. SPEAKER: Excuse me, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Is there no one in the interpreter's booth? In that it is five minutes past one they should obviously have been here. We will recess for ten minutes until we dig up the interpreters. The House stands recessed for ten minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: Gentlemen, if the House will come to order. Could we, Deputy Commissioner Parker, continue with returns?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Question W13-64. On Thursday, January 26th, Mr. Lyall asked what progress the territorial government is making with the RCMP concerning the upgrading of police services in Holman Island, Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay. Inspector G. Rechner of the RCM Police met with the people of Holman Island on January 17th, 1978 and advised them they would be receiving regular visits from the RCMP from Coppermine and Inuvik at least twice a month. This seemed to meet with the approval of the community. A patrol cabin is in use by the RCM Police at Holman Island for overnight visits. Both Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay are to be equipped with RCM Police patrol cabins this summer. They now receive visits from the RCMP at Spence Bay and Cambridge Bay from time to time and emergency trips are made when needed. Inspector Rechner expects to be speaking to the people of both these settlements in the near future. More regular and longer patrols will be made when the patrol cabins are installed. There are no plans at present for permanent RCMP detachments at any of these three settlements.

Return To Question W22-64: Evacuation Of Port Burwell

Question W22-64, on Monday, January 30th, Mr. Pearson asked whether the administration had plans to evacuate the settlement of Port Burwell. The Government of the Northwest Territories has no plans to evacuate the community of Port Burwell. The status of the settlement is as follows: In September, 1977, four families living in Port Burwell let the territorial government's regional office in Frobisher Bay know that they wanted to move to settlements in northern Quebec. They could not afford the costs of moving and were asking for financial assistance. Members of the regional staff, including the superintendent of social services, visited Port Burwell and talked to the families who wanted to move. It became clear during the visit that other families were also thinking of moving and that everyone presently living in Port Burwell, 44 people, would probably move to settlements in northern Quebec if they could get some assistance in meeting the cost of charter flights. It would not be practical for them to move before some time in February when the sea ice would be thick enough for DC-3 aircraft to land.

Soon after Christmas, letters were sent to all the families in Port Burwell asking them if they still wanted to move. They were asked to contact the communities in northern Quebec about housing and jobs. It is clear that the communities welcome the new families and have gone to considerable trouble to find them houses. The territorial government is, therefore, prepared to give the people who want to leave Port Burwell assistance in arranging charter flights and we will bear the cost of the moves if the people themselves are unable to pay. This is in keeping with our policy of assisting people to relocate, to improve their social or economic circumstances.

With the population of Port Burwell having dwindled over the past ten years from about 200 to less than 50 people, economic conditions in the community have also deteriorated. Because of its location and because it is not economically feasible to build an airstrip at Port Burwell, government services have not improved as they have in other settlements of the Baffin region. It is not surprising that the people still living in Port Burwell would like to join their relatives and friends in northern Quebec.

The Northern Quebec Inuit Association, NQIA, has a proposal to build a new settlement at Bell Inlet about 40 miles from Port Burwell in northern Quebec. They would relocate the families from Port Burwell in this new settlement as well as some people from communities in northern Quebec who used to live in Port Burwell. The territorial government has told NQIA that this proposal is outside our jurisdiction and we could not get involved. We have also told NQIA that we are not prepared to stop families who want to leave Port Burwell and that if they need help in moving, we will give them the same level of assistance as we would give to people in any other community of Baffin region who wanted to move in order to improve their social or economic circumstances.

Return To Question W24-64: Land Leases, DEWline Sites

Question W24-64, on Monday, January 30th, Mr. Lyall requested information as to the status of land at abandoned DEWline sites in the Northwest Territories. All land formerly leased to the United States government for DEWline sites in the Northwest Territories which have subsequently become abandoned has now been returned to the federal government, under the administration and control of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any written questions? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: First of all, Mr. Speaker, I must protest on a point of order. It was my understanding that the House was recessed for ten minutes and I came back precisely nine and a half minutes later and found it already in session.

Question W29-64: N.W.T. Gazette

My question, Mr. Speaker, is: In the Commissioner's Opening Address he referred to publication of an official Northwest Territories gazette. When is this expected to take place and when will the Regulations Ordinance and the Public Printing Ordinance be proclaimed?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I am not certain of the dates and therefore I had best take the question as notice and provide a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions.

Item 3, oral questions. Oral questions, Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, I arise on a point of privilege to first of all apologize to the House for not being here on Monday and Tuesday but I had other commitments of very grave concern in my constituency and I would like to ask unanimous consent of this House to explain to them some of the concerns that are affecting the native people within my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you asking to do that now, Mr. Whitford?

MR. WHITFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford is requesting unanimous consent to depart from the Rules and the orders of the day to permit him to explain to you now the concerns, some concerns of his constituents. Is there anyone expressing a nay? No nays, Mr. Whitford, proceed.

Briefing At Snowdrift On Russian Satellite

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, these concerns are in regard to the Russian satellite impact search. At the request of the community chairperson, I led a party comprised of myself, General Ken Thorneycroft, Captain Caesar Jordaan, Mr. Dan Billing, chief emergency measures officer, various military radiation monitoring personnel and three members of the local press, to Snowdrift by military aircraft at noon on January the 31st, 1978.

We met in the community hall after surveying from the air the security and monitoring activities on the north shore of the Great Slave Lake. At the meeting the people were given a very thorough briefing on details of the impact search and the effects of radiation on people, animals, fish, etc. At the end of the briefing which was accompanied by diagrams and maps of the area, a lively and far reaching discussion ensued.

The questions posed displayed an intelligent understanding of the problems associated with the search. During the meeting, the military monitoring staff individually measured anyone who came forward, for radiation levels. No high levels were found. At the end of the meeting, the chief of the band expressed his appreciation for the visit and many persons stated their relief at the explanations offered. General Thorneycroft said that he and his staff would be willing to answer any individual questions which might arise during the search. He also offered to give messages to individual families who were trapping in the area and whose presence was indicated by their relatives at Snowdrift.

Mr. Speaker, the problem of all this or why it has occurred is because the CBC is not informing the people of what is going on with the military and the activities within the area. At the moment, there is one United States Convair,

there are two Canadian Argus, five Canadian Hercules, two Canadian Twin Otters, two Hughes helicopters and three Canadian Chinook helicopters and these aircraft are all flying within the area in which it is believed that the missile has landed or particles of this missile has landed. With that and the armed forces coming into the community and taking radiation checks, the people in the community were awfully frightened about as to what was going on. By having this meeting with General Ken Thorneycroft, we were able to explain to the 100 people that were there, about the many things, questions that they had in regard to where was the reactor, why did not the Russians blow it up in space, why if the reactor landed is it going to destroy the animals, these kinds of questions.

CBC Could Have Helped

Mr. Speaker, when they had the Berger Inquiry, there was a lot of air time let to the people and their concerns. Now I believe, Mr. Speaker, that if last week, had they been on for half an hour each night explaining to the people in the surrounding area, in this case Snowdrift, in the Chipewyan dialect it would have given the people an opportunity of understanding all these things that are happening such as the aircraft and the number of personnel that they have within the area.

As well, Mr. Speaker, they have got armed forces troops in the area guarding the particles that are now discovered. I believe, Mr. Speaker, once again that somehow through a motion in this House, we would be able to get CBC off their butts and have half an hour per night, for perhaps maybe four or five days, to have an interpreter explain through the native language the things that are happening with the Canadian Armed Forces and the particles there, rather than having, Mr. Speaker, indifferences between personnel from the CBC who feel that they should get the top stories and nothing else, Mr. Speaker. I thank the honourable gentlemen for giving me the time to speak, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Pearson.

ITEM NO. 3: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 030-64: Plans For Port Burwell

MR. PEARSON: In reference to the reply made by the Deputy Commissioner, what, if any, plans then has the territorial administration made for the future of Port Burwell, a community which has some extremely valuable assets there in the name of a fish plant, a tremendous number of houses and many other facilities? That is the question.

Return To Question 030-64: Plans For Port Burwell

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, we have been very much aware of the fluctuating population in Port Burwell over the years but it has only been in very recent months or perhaps recent weeks that there seems to have been a concerted move on behalf of the people, or perhaps I should say a concerted decision to relocate. We will now have to consider this situation very carefully and if in fact they do relocate, in the short run we will have to have a caretaker in the settlement. In the long run, we will have to formulate a plan for using the assets. Knowing that the people have come and gone from that area, I suspect that we will not rush into any plan to remove all of the facilities in the first year.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pearson.

Question 031-64: Administration's Attitude To Port Burwell

MR. PEARSON: A supplementary to the comment made by the Deputy Commissioner. I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the reason for the interest in the people in moving is the total lack of interest in that community by this administration.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions.

Item 4, petitions. Mr. Commissioner.

Return To Question 031-64: Administration's Attitude To Port Burwell

COMMISSIONER (Mr. Hodgson): Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, but if that was a question, the answer to it is that it is not true.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 6, notices of motion. Mr. Lafferty.

ITEM NO. 6: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 8-64: Distinct Native Groups In N.W.T.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice tomorrow, Thursday, the 2nd of February, 1978, I will introduce the following motion:

WHEREAS clause 14(3) of the Northwest Territories Act protects and guarantees rights of native people of the Northwest Territories, specifically Indians and Eskimos, thusly, "Nothing in subsection (2) shall be construed as authorizing the Commissioner in Council to make ordinances restricting or prohibiting Indians or Eskimos from hunting for food, on unoccupied crown lands, game other than game declared by the Governor in Council to be game in danger of becoming extinct.";

AND WHEREAS the Hon. Hugh Faulkner and his predecessor, the Hon. Warren Allmand, have unequivocally indicated the federal government's desire that the land claim of Northwest Territories Metis should be presented equally and concurrently with the land claim of the Indian people of the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Prime Minister and his cabinet be advised that the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories recognizes as an equal unique and distinct group within the native community of the Northwest Territories and that such recognition be enshrined in the text of clause 14(3) of the Northwest Territories Act.



MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motion?

Item 7, motions for the production of papers.

Item 8, motions. I take it, Mr. Clerk, there are no motions for today?

Item 9, tabling of documents.

Item 10, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislature and other matters.

ITEM NO. 10: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OTHER MATTERS

I know that there are representatives of Petro Canada here today. I do not see them present, I am wondering therefore what the wish of the House is. Do you want to go into the budget and then when you determine where these gentlemen are, go back out? Agreed?

---Agreed

That being the case then this House will resolve into committee of the whole for continued consideration of Bill 11-64, Appropriation Ordinance, 1978-79, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

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

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

Department Of Health And Social Services, Social Services Branch, Supplementary Benefits To The Elderly, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I now call the meeting to order. We are on page 11.10, supplementary benefits to the elderly. I do not believe this was agreed to yesterday. Do we have agreement on this now? Agreed?

---Agreed

Dollar Summary - Social Services Branch, Agreed

We will then go to page 11.01, dollar summary, 0 and M, \$17,022,000; capital, \$2,123,000. Having interpreter trouble? Okay now on the interpreter? Direct your attention to page 11.01, the dollar summary, 0 and M, \$17,022,000; capital, \$2,123,000; revenues, \$6,845,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. PEARSON: Under the heading social services branch it administers the corrections service and I would like some indication from the department as to the status of the correctional facility in Yellowknife and the kinds of programs that are available in there for inmates for attaining trades and skills and I recall many debates in this House in the past and concern expressed by this House regarding the lack of those facilities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Well Mr. Pearson, you are out of order unless you get the unanimous consent to pursue this matter. We passed that section, we are just clearing the summary and we are going back through the process. I have no objections if nobody else does but basically your question is out of order at this time.

MR. PEARSON: Well, it is a point of...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Do we have unanimous consent to let him proceed? All right, go ahead, Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Thank you. But in speaking to that point I want to raise a point of general concern to my colleagues. Several days ago we passed and approved the Department of Education budget and I did not realize in doing so that I eliminated 27 teachers' positions. Now these things slip by very quickly, we go through millions here in a matter of minutes. Now I do not want this kind of thing to continue. I want time, you know, it is not that I am backward, I just do not learn as quickly as the other guys, but the fact is that we have to examine this. It has to be done honestly and I would not, I did not, condone the removal of 27 teaching positions. I think particularly of areas where they could be useful and that area of course is the cultural inclusion.

Correctional Facilities In N.W.T.

Now I would like to know and I think it is a legitimate request, how we are progressing down at the correctional facilities in the Northwest Territories with the training scheme. Are long-term prisoners getting some benefit from being in there and not just stuck in a facility and come out of there with absolutely no training or having learned nothing in the time that they have been in there and some people are there for quite a long time?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister. While the Minister is looking over his papers there, possibly we might recognize that our other Honourable Minister, Hon. Peter Ernerk, is 21 years old today:

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the kind of programs that we are able to develop or able to use in terms of inmates at the institute, of course, are limited because of space and because of other factors. However, there is an active program of academic upgrading in terms of educational programs to some of the younger inmates and some adults and there are some basic introductory programs, small engine repair, for example, in terms of painting and in terms of maintenance.

It is true some of these programs are fitted directly to the maintenance of the facility. We attempt through a kind of life skills, if you like, program to have inmates to regulate their habits in terms of taking on responsibility. We have a work release program. These are some of the things that are going on within the institute, recognizing the limitations that can be placed on such a program by the kinds of facilities and both physical and other kinds of resources, human resources, that are there, that we have within the institute itself.

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

MR. PEARSON: So, my suspicions then are confirmed that there really is not very much going on in the institution itself for the education and training of inmates. Now, this has been going on now for...

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I would not agree with that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PEARSON: Well that is my interpretation of the Minister's comments, that within the limitations of the facility, within the limitations of this, within the limitations of that. I mean we spent some time in there on several occasions a couple of years ago visiting the facility to see what kind of amenities there were and we expressed very grave concern at that time that a lot of these prisoners were spending hours doing nothing and that they could have been better occupied.

#### Training Programs For Inmates

Does the Minister anticipate some more worthwhile training programs in the correctional facility? Does he foresee the long-term prisoners getting more benefit from being in there so that they can come out with some kind of skill that they could put to use when they get home? Is this reflected in the budget? Is there any consideration given in his budget for the upgrading of the facilities that exist there? I mean it is fine putting people in jail, but having them just sitting around looking at the walls is the most unproductive thing.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, while it is true that there could very well be an improvement, I think at the same time we have to consider that the institute is there not as a vocational institute or a vocational school. Inmates are incarcerated there because of difficulties they have had within society. We attempt to provide some things for them in the way of getting them back into society on work release programs, that I think has worked very well. On occasions that I have been there and knowing some of the individuals, I know that the upgrading courses that they have been taking are in fact going on. But we are not contemplating any great amount of vocational or educational, in any large degree, any increase in the kinds of programs that are there. The inmates are there for a particular reason, not to again set up another vocational institute. It is a correctional institute, an attempt to correct their life habits as they live within our society.

#### Work Release Program

We do not anticipate putting a great emphasis on terms of introducing a great number of courses. We think that the work release program for people who have been there for an extended period of time is working very well and that inmates are able to go out on a release and to get back into employment. The great expectation is that they would, of course, upon their release, full release, be able to take up worthwhile employment within the community or wherever they would want to go or from which they came.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to make a comment on this seeing we are...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I can not hear you, Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: I say seeing we are going back into the budget again, I do not understand it myself. We have finished that part of it and now we are back in training inmates to come out as professional tradesmen when we have a vocational training centre in Fort Smith where they can go for that type of work, teaching. Personally I think if a person is in jail, he is in there for a reason, he is not getting along with society, with the rest of his community and I do not see any reason why he should come out a qualified tradesman after spending a year or two in the correctional institute. As far as having more funds available for this type of work, I disagree with the Honourable Member from South Baffin, just a comment I wanted to make, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am getting rather tired of listening to the Honourable Member for South Baffin's interpretations of things that are told him in plain and simple English. He has nobody else but himself to blame for not recognizing the decrease in staff that we dealt with in the Education budget. It was there in black and white for everyone to see and if he did not see it, it is probably because he never bothered to read it.

#### Programs Now Available

On the matter of the training of inmates in our houses of corrections, I think that the corrections department are doing an excellent job, remembering that these people are primarily there for punishment or as a punishment. There are a wide number of programs available for them in the academic field, there are classrooms there, people can occasionally attend schools and also they can take vocational training at the Yellowknife institute itself. Occasionally inmates go to the Adult Vocational Training Centre at Fort Smith. There are also programs in effect, I believe, to train people in wilderness skills. These are operated out of the Hay River institute and also at the Quyta Lake camp and I think if anything, the chief of corrections and his staff, both at the Yellowknife and at the other institutes, ought to be given a great deal of credit for the improvements that they have made in our corrections system over the last year or two.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I have toured the facilities down there and certainly we were taken everywhere to see what was going on in it but the question I have got now is that there is a training program going on for native people to get them involved as correctional officers within the institute. What is the number of trainees and what is the intention of the department? Is it going to expand the facilities or are they going to build other facilities somewhere else to accommodate these people after the training program? I would believe that the program, the intention of training them, would be to have permanent jobs and as well I do hope that they be senior ones for those that are capable of handling those senior jobs.

The other part of the question that I have would be that some of the inmates are taken out to a camp just north of here and I believe when Mr. Nickerson was the minister responsible for social development he also went out and had a look at this facility. He indicated he was very pleased with the way in which the program was being carried out by Mr. Cadieux. Is the department again going to continue or expand this program as well?

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

Native Correctional Officers

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I guess I, like the Member from Mackenzie Great Bear did not know that we were coming back into the discussion on this particular area. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I think that Mr. Whitford asked two and maybe three questions. The first question dealing with the program of training native people as correctional officers, ten people were recruited; three dropped out and seven are continuing.

The second question he asked; whether in fact after the completion of the training program these people would be employed. Quite obviously there would be no sense of us beginning this kind of a program if in fact we were not going to employ them. We would expect to employ them at any of the correctional institutes; Yellowknife, Hay River, Frobisher and in other places. We expect that the normal turnover rate of employees would allow us to employ these people upon completion of their training.

The third question in relation to Quya Lake, yes we intend to continue that. We have no real plans for the expansion per se of that area or facility but we would hope to be able to do something in other areas of the territories, for example, in the Inuvik area.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to at this time to maybe call a point of order. I said, when they asked for unanimous consent to go back to the corrections, I said nay but I thought he was going to talk for five minutes and then we could carry on.

Motion To Return To Discussion Of Social Services Branch Budget

I move now that we carry on with the budget as scheduled and turn to page 11.01 and then go ahead with the budget.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): We have a motion on the floor. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Question. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Well, gentlemen, you make it very difficult. This House has its own Rule, that is, made up and passed by the House and you continue to break them. If you do not want to abide by your Rules, would you please change them? Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate that fact. I appreciate the House has Rules but I also appreciate that we have responsibilities. I do not think there is anything devious going on here when any Member of this House should be able to ask a question of the administration, of the Minister, about the budget or any other thing. I mean it is a democratic institution I hope.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Yes, Mr. Pearson. However, on your Rules you have adequate opportunity through the budget to bring up any discussion you like but you are to do it at the proper time and we are past that time relative to the questions that you are asking. You had an opportunity all day yesterday and the day before and the day before that to do it. We are going back all the time and that is against your Rules. If you do not want to follow them, fine, change them. Page 11.01.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Nay.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Now, gentlemen, we have a problem when we go back now to health. We did part of the capital and at the direction of this committee we went on then to social services. What is your wish at this time? Do you wish to open this health now to discussion of a general nature or do you wish now to proceed where we left off, or do you want to start all over again? Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I recommend that we proceed where we left off.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that there be an opportunity for general questions on this section because there was some confusion. I think some Members were looking at social services and others were into medical services so it might be just as well to ask for...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Will you so move, Mr. Butters? I can put the question.

Motion To Proceed With General Discussion On Health

MR. BUTTERS: I so move that we begin as we usually do.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The motion on the floor is to open with general questions. To the motion. All those in favour?

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, point of order.

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

MR. LYALL: There is another motion on the floor which we did not deal with yet. That is Mr. Fraser's motion to go back to where we left off.

Motion Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): It was a recommendation, I did not take it as a motion. If it had been a motion I would have dealt with it. I took it as a recommendation. To the motion on the floor at the present time that we proceed by way of general questions on health. All those in favour? One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine. Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Then, health, starting on page 10.01, points of a general nature. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Is it possible that the administration now has received the schedule for turnover of the medical responsibilities from the federal government to this administration and if the schedule might be available to Members?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, no we have not.

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

MR. NICKERSON: This matter, Mr. Chairman, of the transfer of the remaining health responsibilities from the Department of National Health and Welfare

to the territorial government is one of great concern to us. We have on many occasions expressed our wish that this transfer take place as quickly and as expeditiously as possible. Health is, under the British North America Act, one of the main fields of jurisdiction of provincial governments and the system we have in the territories at present is very difficult because of the split in responsibility.

#### Progress On Transfer Of Health Responsibilities.

I wonder if we could be advised of two things, Mr. Chairman. The first thing is what has happened since the last session of the Legislature? What meetings have been convened, what correspondence has been entered into by either the two Ministers involved, Hon. Monique Begin and Hon. Arnold McCallum, or senior civil servants of the federal and territorial governments?

And secondly, at the last session we had tabled and briefly discussed a proposal put forward by the Department of National Health and Welfare for the transfer, a proposal which would allow for special representation to be made in the field of delivery of health for Indians and Eskimos for whom the federal government consider themselves to have some form of additional responsibility. I wonder what has been the reply given by this government to the Department of National Health and Welfare on that particular matter, on the proposed contract arrangement.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Member raises a question regarding the number of meetings involving departmental officials and/or correspondence with the federal minister or departmental officials regarding the proposal. There have been two or three meetings of departmental officials with officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare regarding the financial aspects of hospital construction, particularly regarding the Stanton Yellowknife and of course with the kind of facility. There have been as well within those meetings or as part of those meetings, discussions on the actual proposal as put forth, as Mr. Nickerson indicates with regard to the responsibility for health service to indigenous people, that is Indian and Eskimo.

Our problem that we have now is attempting to determine whether in fact the original correspondence was a final stand on the part of the Department of National Health and Welfare to this government, or whether there is room for flexibility. I think the Member will recall during his tenure that it seemed to be that it was an absolute stand. Subsequent meetings to that have indicated that indeed, there is flexibility. The administration's stand, that is the administration of this government, is in fact that if health services are to be transferred from the federal government to the Government of the Northwest Territories that this transfer be absolute and that this government would then be responsible for all health services in the Northwest Territories. I think that is an indication that we were able to determine from what has taken place in the past; if we are going to have a transfer, that it be total and we do not want to make deals for exclusions or exemptions.

#### Stand Of Federal Officials

So there has been little correspondence in terms of that total transfer, but there have indeed been meetings of departmental officials, such as the director, the assistant director who is responsible for the health component of this department, with other officials of the federal Department of National Health and Welfare. Nothing has been done in terms of communications with the present federal Minister other than what has gone on in the past, as I say, under Mr. Nickerson, when he had this mantle. The reason for that is because we wanted to determine just how absolute the stand of the federal department officials was in relation to this transfer.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I understand that Petro Canada's people are here now. Is it your wish that I report progress at this time?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, before you do, may I go back to a question that was raised by Mr. Nickerson I think a week ago Tuesday, I think, the 24th, regarding a flow sheet type analysis of health care financing. The question was raised and I would like to table a copy of this. I think we have sufficient copies, although there is no interpretation but it primarily deals with the graphs, I think, that Mr. Nickerson was looking for. We are attempting now to get the interpretation done but there are sufficient supplies for Members if they want it. So, I would like to table the document and then pass copies out this way to Members. Remember it again is a very complex subject. I do not intend to try to explain it.

Now, I say that not to slough off something but it is a complex financial set-up with organizational charts to it. If we would want an explanation, I am sure that we could have somebody come in to do a better job than I, on explanations.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Minister, we will accept it for distribution. I do not think at this stage we can actually officially table the document. You might wish to take the opportunity later to do that; but distribution, fine. Shall I report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

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

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying the budget and wishes at this time to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Gentlemen, if you will look at your orders of the day, under Item 10, you will notice consideration in committee of the whole, Petro Canada operations in the Northwest Territories. We have with us today, pursuant to a motion passed by this House, Mr. Bill Hopper, who is the president and chief executive officer of Petro Canada. He has brought with him someone who you will recall, Mr. Bob Foulkes who at one time was an executive assistant to the Hon. Judd Buchanan; as well as Mr. Andrew Janisch, senior vice president and chief operating officer; and Mr. Bob Meneley, vice president of explorations.

They are prepared to, first of all, make a brief opening statement and then discuss and answer questions with respect to Petro Canada's operations. I wonder if we might therefore go back into committee of the whole and have the chairman invite these gentlemen forward to make their presentation. I notice Mr. Fraser is not in the chamber. Mr. Stewart, do you mind taking the chair, or would you sooner have me ask someone else to take the chair?

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I would sooner you ask somebody else if you could.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a volunteer for the chair? Mr. Pearson. This House will therefore resolve into committee of the whole for consideration of the item Petro Canada operations in the Northwest Territories, with Mr. Pearson in the chair.

--- Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Petro Canada Operations in the Northwest Territories, with Mr. Pearson in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER PETRO CANADA OPERATIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Is it Members' wish that we invite the gentlemen to the witness stand?



SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Mr. Janisch, Mr. Meneley, Mr. Foulkes and Mr. Hopper. I beg your pardon. Mr. Hopper, I would imagine that you would have a brief that you would like to make and that being the case, you have the floor.

MR. HOPPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have read your agenda for today and I know you are very busy. What I would like to propose is that if you would give us a few minutes of your attention, I would like to have Mr. Bob Meneley, our vice president of exploration go through a general industry background of activity in the Northwest Territories and in the Yukon over the past several years.

I would like then Mr. Janisch to speak generally to the problems that we have faced over the last few years and what has happened very recently and to date and talk about some of the emerging problems that we are going to face in the next few years in terms of activity. I would then have Mr. Meneley return to tell you specifically what Petro Canada proposes to do and some of the limitations that are placed on Petro Canada in its efforts to increase Canada's oil and gas potential supply. If that is acceptable, Mr. Chairman, I would ask Mr. Meneley to set up an easel at that end of the room with a map on it, so he can speak to it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Before you go any further, I wonder, for the benefit of the interpreters, if you would speak clearly, precisely and slowly as it is very difficult if they are going to be effective at all.

MR. HOPPER: We will attempt to do that, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you.

Past Activity In N.W.T. And Yukon

MR. HOPPER: I would ask now Mr. Meneley to take you through the first part of this small presentation.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you.

MR. MENELEY: Mr. Chairman, is this clear enough if I hold the mike this way? In this portion of my presentation I will use a map of the Northwest Territories. The southern boundary of the Northwest Territories is at the bottom of the map, the Great Slave, Great Bear Lakes are outlined in brown, as is the Arctic coast. The map area includes both the mainland portion of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon and I will go later into the significance of the coloured codes on the map.

Exploration activity both in terms of oil exploration or mining is something I think that all of you people have some background knowledge in and what I will speak mainly of today is the rather cyclical nature of exploration and how it has proceeded to the position which we are in today.

The earliest cycle took place long ago with the exploration and discovery of the Norman Wells oil field in 1920. Coming up there was a long period following that in which there was very little activity and the next major push of exploration took place in the 1960's, mainly progressing from south to north as exploration moved from Alberta into the Northwest Territories. In total since 1967, over 400 wells have been drilled in this area from the southern boundary of the territories up to and including the offshore Beaufort Sea. The graph which is shown here illustrates the number of wells drilled each year in the area under discussion and shows that the peak level of exploration took place in the years 1970 through to 1973, during which period over 50 wells per year were drilled.

Following 1973, there has been a steady decline in the number of wells drilled in the area. Now, just to examine the reasons for this, on the map, shown in the black dots are the unsuccessful or dry holes which have been drilled and these tell a story of a long period of unsuccessful exploration which really extended through the mainland territories up to the Mackenzie Delta.

During the period 1970 to 1972 we saw the discovery of oil at Atkinson Point and a major gas field at Taglu, and followed by a gas discovery at Parsons Lake. Since that time, there have been a rather disappointing number of relatively small discoveries made since. In total, in the order of six to seven trillion cubic feet of gas and a rather very small amount of oil has been discovered. The reason for this is basically the geology of the area. Through the southern part the geology has not proven to be too attractive from the point of view of oil and gas accumulation. In the Mackenzie Delta the geology is more attractive. However, the exploration has proven to be much more difficult and much less quickly rewarding if you like than had been anticipated and this certainly has contributed to the status of exploration at this point in time. I will now turn the discussion to Mr. Janisch who will comment further on the status of exploration.

#### Decline In Level Of Exploration

MR. JANISCH: Mr. Chairman, gentlemen, I will examine very briefly some of the reasons for the decline in the level of exploration activity that Mr. Meneley has just discussed. Firstly, it is quite clear from what Mr. Meneley has explained to you that the results of exploration activity to date have not been encouraging. Undoubtedly, although this is not the only reason, it is one of the primary reasons for the decline in activity, but it is only one of a number.

The pipeline decision that was handed down last year, firstly the Berger Report and then followed by the National Energy Board decision, which indicated that there would be some delay, perhaps substantial delay, in bringing to market the gas that had been discovered has had certainly a substantial effect on activity. It has also resulted in some uncertainty which always then delays risky exploration projects.

In recent years the need to be very concerned about the environment and to ensure that the environment is protected, the need to proceed in the correct way on land use requests to obtain approval for operations has also had some effect on activity. The process of securing these approvals and ensuring that all the necessary things are done has from time to time been somewhat slow, which has added to uncertainty.

The industry has also been concerned, perhaps unduly so, with the status of the Canada oil and gas act which led to uncertainty during the early and mid-seventies. That act now is before the House and should be beneficial to clearing some of these uncertainties and perhaps giving promise of more activity.

#### Effect Of Gas Reserves In Alberta

But another very significant impact on activity has been the development of substantial additional gas reserves in Alberta, creating a present surplus situation which is quite different from the picture that we saw two or three years ago. At that time, as you will recall, there were many statements made that the gas discovered in the Mackenzie Delta would be required by the early 1980's. The picture now would seem that Canada's needs could perhaps be taken care of right through to the late 1980's, if not beyond, by the recent increase in reserves in Alberta.

That very briefly is where we stand today, the things that have happened and what they have done to exploration activity. Perhaps of more importance in a sense,

is the psychological impact that these events have had on industry's thinking and the decisions made then in the corporate boardrooms. The psychology of the industry is important. Momentum can be built up when discoveries are made and there are indications, good indications of early market possibilities. That momentum will sometimes sustain activity even during periods of uncertainty but by the same token then, when the uncertainty starts growing in the minds of the industry leaders and the momentum is lost, it takes some time to rekindle that and rebuild what is needed to increase activity.

One other inescapable fact is that as the activity in the area that we are discussing decreases, the cost per well or per unit level of activity, be it seismic or drilling increases substantially and that is where we find ourselves today where we have had this reduction from some 50 to 60 wells per year down to ten, 15 or 18 wells. The operation becomes increasingly more expensive because there are fewer wells to share the burden or the infrastructure costs, the logistical problems and so forth. This does not mean that the present decline of activity must continue, no, but it is an indication where we are at this point in time. I would like to turn this back to Mr. Meneley who will talk about some of the plans that we have.

#### Petro Canada's Future Plans

MR. MENELEY: Thank you, Mr. Janisch. I will continue with the discussion of, first of all, what Petro Canada is doing at this point in time. First of all on the map and perhaps it is a little difficult for all of you to see, I have indicated the Petro Canada lands where Petro Canada has some interest in the land, some ownership interest in blue and the remaining permits in purple.

Now Petro Canada acquired land first of all in the purchase of Atlantic Richfield. Atlantic Richfield did have some land ownership with partners in the Northwest Territories. Now in addition to that, in order to continue with exploration activity and to stimulate exploration activity, Petro Canada has farmed in or earned an interest in some lands by drilling wells and in this way, we have joined with industry partners and essentially the party earning the interest pays 100 per cent of the cost of the exploratory well to earn about a 50 per cent interest in the land on which the well is drilled.

Now during the last year we drilled three wells; at Fish River in the south Delta, just in the vicinity of Aklavik; at Peel River in the eastern Yukon and at Sabine just north and west of Colville Lake. None of these wells were successful, although we did encounter a small show of gas in the Peel River well. In 1978 we will participate once again with partners and drill a well at Colville Lake and another close to the south boundary of the territories in the vicinity of Fort Liard in the Arrowhead area. This level of exploration will have Petro Canada participating in two of the forecast ten wells which will be drilled in this area in 1978. This is admittedly a low level of exploration but until we can acquire more land and do the required seismic and preparatory work to develop new locations, it represents about the level that we can maintain. The situation stands at this point in time with the Canada oil and gas act not yet in position; that Petro Canada has not received any land to which it is entitled under its preferential rights. So the only source of land for our exploration activities is via the farm-in route.

Studies On Mackenzie Delta

We are, however, conducting extensive in-house studies of seismic, acquiring seismic data and preparing to relook at the Mackenzie Delta. The exploration there has proven to be much more difficult than we thought, than industry as a whole had thought in the early stages. The prospects still remain that significant oil and gas can be found there. Similarly, in the Colville area, we are examining an exploration play and testing an exploration play which could, if it were successful, extend over a broad area and it is only success in an oil or gas play that will really see the exploration levels return to what they formerly were. Without success, changing the other factors is not going to substantially increase activity levels. The current success of Dome in the offshore drilling can only lead to additional higher exploration level if either more ships are brought into the Beaufort Sea, or if the drilling season can be extended somehow.

So, the forecast for the future would see I think for the next few years a relatively low level of exploration which given success can perhaps return close to the levels which have been enjoyed in the early 1970's. Thank you.

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, that completes our short presentation. We would be happy to answer any questions which we can or are able to.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you very much, gentlemen. Mr. Pudluk.

Number Of Wells Drilled In 1973

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, just a very small question. You were saying in 1973 there were 53 drills here. Is that including the Arctic Islands?

MR. MENELEY: No, the number of wells drilled have excluded the Arctic Islands. In that year there were approximately 20 wells drilled in addition in the Arctic Islands.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you.

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

MR. LYALL: A very short question: I heard that Petro Canada was moving equipment around Swimming Point, is this true or am I hearing rumours?

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

MR. MENELEY: The only possible equipment that may have been involved there involved stockpiling some gravel for a potential future location. I believe it was a relatively small operation. It is just some preparatory work that was done.

MR. LYALL: How soon are you going to be starting to work up there? I am just thinking about Gulf Oil moving out and laying people off work. Some 60 people from Coppermine went out of work when Gulf moved out.

MR. MENELEY: At this point in time, we are running seismic with one crew in the south Delta area which is one of the two seismic crews that are still in the Northwest Territories. When we have interpreted that seismic data, we potentially may have some drilling which would not take place then until 1979 at the earliest.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman and Members, I welcome the executive of Petro Canada to Yellowknife and Mr. Bill Hopper, the president, I congratulate him on his elevation to that high office. When he and Mr. Maurice Strong, the

previous president brought their board of directors to Inuvik for a board of directors' meeting in that community, he was at that time not only very ill from his travelling around the North but in the vice president's role.

#### Northern Representation On Board

Relative to the board of directors' meeting, I wonder if there was some discussion at that time or since, of the advantages to be gained or to accrue to Petro Canada if a northerner were named to sit on the board of your corporation, commission, company, whatever it is. As you are aware, a northern resident, Mr. Richard Hill of Inuvik, sits on Panarctic's board and a former member of this House, I mean a Member of this House formerly sat on the board of Panarctic. Many similar corporations, I believe, are adopting this policy of including, as it were, a voice from the North and I wonder if Petro Canada is also welcoming this opportunity.

MR. HOPPER: I can say, Mr. Butters, that we are well aware of the motion passed by this House encouraging Petro Canada to put a northerner on the board. Hon. Alastair Gillespie, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has been informed of that. As you know, it is not the board of directors that appoints additional members but the Government of Canada. We have had several discussions with my Minister and others about this situation and we hope that we can, or I hope personally that the government will see fit to appoint a northerner to the Petro Canada board as soon as possible.

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Just a word from the Chair, would Members kindly slow down a little when they are asking the questions and the responses also please. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I am very interested, Mr. Chairman, in the question of a slow down of exploration activity. I am more interested in the reasons for that and appreciate what Justice Berger said which was, you may recall, that in his opinion even if there was no pipeline for ten years, he had the greatest of confidence that exploration nevertheless would proceed at the level that it was at.

#### Reasons For Slow Down

Of course you have graphed this and have shown us that exploration indeed has not proceeded at that level, that whereas some 50 wells were being drilled at the height of optimism, this is now reduced to some ten wells. Naturally the press will not report that Justice Berger was wrong in view of the support in the wholehearted way they gave him but would it be the poor results of the previous drilling that caused the slow down or is it more the government action and of course there is much government action? By that I mean the decisions of Justice Berger, the decisions of the National Energy Board, the land use environmental legislation, the oil and gas act; I guess my question is, is it the poor drilling results or would it be the government action in those areas I have outlined that have in your opinion caused the drop-off of exploration activity, or is it a combination of both and if it is a combination of both, what would your weighting be?

MR. HOPPER: Hon. David Searle, I suspect that I probably can not give you the answer that you would like. Without any doubt, activity of one sort or another and it may not be exploratory activity but the construction of gas processing plants, the drilling of development wells, would have taken place if a pipeline decision had been made to go through the Delta and it comes as no surprise to anyone that because that decision was negative, that industry has in fact slowed down. The judgment call that you wish me to make as to the weighting of poor exploration results, the pipeline decision, environmental concerns and the problems in getting drilling permits and the whole changing supply/demand relationship in Canada is a difficult one to call for anyone and I will have to beg off it. Clearly they have all been important and their importance changes over time.

Reserves In Alberta And British Columbia

There is no question that if we continue to add significant, substantial reserves of natural gas in Alberta and British Columbia, that is in the southern basin, the anxiety to tap into northern Arctic reserves will be reduced. That is a fact of life. The argument put forward by Gas Arctic, of course, was one that you all know very well and that is without a threshold in the Delta and with an increasing thought that there might not be a threshold, they wish to piggyback the Prudhoe Bay system. It seemed sound at the time and it is still, of course, a very controversial decision and one that we obviously know will have its impact in this territory. I am not sure that I can weight those factors any more than just what I have said, sir.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Well very much what I was going to say, Mr. Chairman, has already been said by my colleague, Hon. David Searle. I would just like to re-emphasize the extent to which it appears the decline in exploration activity and consequently the general level of economic activity in this area is attributable to government policies.

I think it is important to remember that these are federal government policies, because the Government of the Northwest Territories and this Legislature at the present time has no say in natural resource matters. It is important to remember that these policies are developed in response to southern viewpoints and they are certainly not policies developed by the northern people themselves. I think, had that been the case, things might well have been very different.

Privileges Given To Petro Canada

I have one question, Mr. Chairman, and that is I would like some elaboration on the privileges that have been given to Petro Canada as a crown corporation to opt into exploration plays. I understand it is rather complicated and the extent to which Petro Canada can get involved is dependent upon the percentage of foreign ownership of any particular land holder but I wonder if we could have some explanation as to what the rules of the game are.

Also, perhaps we could have some, again a guesstimate as to what this procedure, this opt-in arrangement, what deterrent is that to other companies operating in the Northwest Territories, because I am sure that that might affect their decisions if they know that a certain percentage of what they find could be taken away from them.

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, I will just make a preliminary comment and let Mr. Meneley go through the provisions in the act, which is not passed. First, I would like to say that Petro Canada, as pointed out earlier, has been given no privileges whatsoever to date because the legislation has not passed through the Government of Canada. It has received first reading. I do not know when second reading is and when it will go into committee or when indeed it will be passed. Clearly, I think we all must speculate, if there is an early election this year, it may not get through the House this spring. We are as concerned about that as industry is.

Before Mr. Meneley goes through the details, I would like to express a personal view, that I doubt very much whether the Petro Canada privileges will deter in any serious way industry activity anywhere in Canada. In saying this, I am not saying that they will not say that it will deter. I mean, this industry will say almost anything that would serve their interests and I do not think that that is surprising. But the privileges that we are being or at least proposed to give Petro Canada are not all that substantial and I would like to ask Mr. Meneley to run through them.

No Preferential Rights To Petro Canada

MR. MENELEY: Yes, I think the most important thing and it keys into your statement, sir, there are no preferential rights to Petro Canada on lands where a significant discovery has been made. So there is no way industry loses a discovery that they have made, by virtue of any preferential right of Petro Canada. Now the so-called back-in clause very briefly works in this way; that where the Canadian content of a company or group of companies is less than 35 per cent, but more than 25 per cent, Petro Canada has the right to acquire a ten per cent interest by participating in the exploration program that gives rise to the special extension of the permit.

To the extent that the Canadian content is less than 25 per cent, then Petro Canada has the right to acquire a one per cent additional interest for each one per cent of Canadian content less than 25 per cent. This would put Petro Canada, therefore, into a maximum working interest position of 25 per cent in the case of a company which was completely foreign-owned. And in that position, Petro Canada would not be the operator, they would not be the dominant owner in any case. They would be a direct paying participant in the exploration programs because if they are not, they can not take the back-in.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Anything further, Mr. Nickerson? Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I have got a couple of questions for the witnesses. First of all, I was pleased to hear the witnesses speak as they did on this land that was released by Ottawa...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Could you speak into the microphone please, it is difficult to pick up your comments.

Locations For Exploration Work

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I was pleased to hear the witnesses speak as they did on the land, the crown land being released from Ottawa because of the rumours that we had in the North here that Ottawa was releasing certain areas for exploration work and that Petro Canada had 35 per cent of this released land tied up for exploration work but I guess it must have been a rumour the way they are talking right now. Another thing I would like to know from the witnesses if they plan on doing any exploration work, have they any chosen locations where they plan to do this exploration work?

MR. HOPPER: I would like to, Mr. Chairman, clear up one aspect of the proposed land regulations. Mr. Meneley's comments were directed to land that was already under the control of oil, of the oil industry, oil companies and industry. In addition to the land that is already under exploratory permit, there are of course crown lands. The proposed legislation allows Petro Canada to choose a certain portion, up to 25 per cent in certain areas of federal lands for their own exploration before that land is then offered to the industry.

As you know, the federal government has not offered land up for bid or exploratory permits since the early 1970's and to this date they have still not offered any. I understand the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs are in the process of preparing some sort of land sale. We are not quite sure how that is going to work and we are not quite sure as to what Petro Canada's position would be in that land sale but it is not going to be certainly within the next few weeks, I can tell you because we are not prepared yet.

On the question of exploratory locations, I think Mr. Meneley went through the two wildcats that we are looking at for this year and unless something unforeseen happens that we currently do not know about, we feel that that will be our activity in the territories this year.

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

Work After Settlement Of Land Claims

MR. FRASER: Just another supplementary question. Do you anticipate any major activity and exploration work in the Mackenzie Valley after the land claims have been settled?

MR. MENELEY: Our current plans in the general Mackenzie Valley area do involve a seismic program in the winter season of 1979 and the ongoing drilling really is dependent more on what happens in the current drilling wells and what prospects arise from our reinterpretation of existing seismic data. At this time it is too early to say just what our level of drilling might be in 1979.

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, I might add to that that the question of land claims, native land claims, has not, I really think, in any way deterred our exploration activity. We have not been concerned about that issue.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the witnesses, Mr. Hopper in replying to Hon. David Searle's question, I think provided a position that was certainly not new to this House. In fact I think that this House in its representation, or this body in its representation to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry indicated that the situation which you described would occur unless there was encouragement for the developer and less indecision on the part of the federal government relative to its northern areas. So the whirlwind we are reaping now of economic dislocation is not totally unexpected. However, we do welcome the small rays of sunshine that one does see about us occasionally and one of those is found in the comment of Mr. Meneley that Petro Canada is preparing to relook at the Mackenzie Delta.

The executive, Mr. Chairman, of Petro Canada recognizes how important the exploration activity has been in the territories and the Mackenzie district of the territories these last ten years. They heard the Honourable Member to my right indicate that 60 Coppermine people alone have lost their employment as a result of Gulf Canada's withdrawal from the Delta.



Use Of Local Goods And Services

But to look at your expectation of relooking at the Delta, I wonder if you are aware of the Dome/Canmar Beaufort Sea Project Report of 1977. This report on pages 40, 41 and 42, lists employment contracts and various other services which Dome/Canmar has purchased locally from the community and from the businesses in Delta communities. I wonder if the Page would take the booklet, marked as it is, to the witnesses and draw their attention to it and indicate possibly to us if Petro Canada's activities in the North in the future would parallel that of Dome/Canmar and would include similar use of local goods and services.

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

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Butters, let me say that before even looking at the book that you hardly would expect me to say otherwise. We obviously try to hire local people and to use local contractors and to buy local equipment and services. That has been a policy from the start and we would be terribly remiss in not doing so.

The Canmar operation is a very large one. One that is heavily supported by income tax measures taken in Ottawa. I can not promise here obviously to spend as much money as Dome and their partners are because probably over 90 per cent of that money being spent in the Beaufort drilling is being deducted from income taxes. In fact, it is your money being spent. We are not opposed to that, so long as we hope we think we will be successful up there.

We have looked at the opportunities in the Beaufort and have not felt that we ought to get involved at this time but that decision for Petro Canada not to go into the Beaufort has not detracted in any way from the level of activity. The activity in the Beaufort is limited by the capacity of the three ships that Dome Petroleum has there and those ships have been fully utilized in the past and I expect them to be fully utilized in the future, at least next year and the year beyond. So because Petro Canada has not entered the picture, it has not in fact slowed down any activity. There was no incremental activity we could have sponsored there.

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

MR. BUTTERS: I did not understand that I suggested that your absence from the area until recently had slowed down any of the activity. You replied to my question in the manner in which I hoped and anticipated, that your company would utilize local services to the utmost extent possible. My understanding of the amount of any tax dollar that is being spent by Dome/Canmar is closer to 97 per cent rather than 90, but that is all in the way you figure, I guess.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Steen.

Lack Of Local Employment

MR. STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the witnesses for the wonderful picture of doom and gloom. Some of the questions that I was going to ask have already been asked by the Honourable Member from Inuvik but the answers to those I do not believe. I mean they are encouraging but they did not convince me too much pertaining to local services and local work or employment. I think that I have a letter of complaint from my constituency saying that they could not get work for their own contractors or rather, probably Petro Canada did not come to the communities to say, well this is what we are going to need and can you supply? I wonder if Petro Canada is willing to change their policy and approach the communities and just see how many contractors are capable of doing such contracts for seismic and other work and even if the service companies to your company are too small there could be probably two or three companies that can take on a bigger undertaking.

Another area that I believe that Petro Canada has had difficulty with in the past is coming and speaking to the community pertaining to their proposed seismic works or drilling plans. I think that you will continue to get quite a bit of opposition if this measure is not changed. So, I think that perhaps you may like to comment on some of the things I have said. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Hopper, I beg your pardon.

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, if I may reply, the specific case which was referred to I believe, deals with Cats contractor, who would be involved in moving the seismic crew and involved in clearing trails for the seismic crews. The seismic crew in question was positioned in Inuvik and the move from there to the work site west of Aklavik required the service of Cats. Therefore, the contract was given to a local contractor at Inuvik to do the work on what is really a very small seismic program and certainly in the over-all sense, Petro Canada has and will continue to use local contractors. It is perhaps a little difficult to say that an Inuvik contractor is not local and an Aklavik contractor is local. It is a pretty fine distinction.

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

Contracts And Contractors From The South

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I do not believe this is what I was talking about. What I am talking about I believe is there are some larger contractors that are brought in from the South and the contracts are let in the South and they come in where people in the North have already had their machines and equipment up there but it seems that no thought has been given that there might be some people up in the North that want to take on this work. I believe that in order to keep the people, and this is what we really need, is the work. People really do not want any drilling up in this country unless they get some benefit out of it and I think emphasis has to be put on the people who live here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you, Mr. Steen. The Minister of Economic Development, Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I would also like to say that I am very pleased that you three have been able to come. I used to be a member of the Panarctic board with Mr. Meneley, I am very pleased to see you here today also.

There are one or two questions that I would like to ask with regard to employment. One or two of them were answered earlier, that is to say that local people are taken on with regard to employment with Petro Canada. However, one question firstly I would like to ask is with regard to training of local people in various types of positions or jobs. What type of training facilities do you provide for various people who work for the company or the corporation in the area you are in?

Training Programs.

MR. MENELEY: To speak to this, at this point in time Petro Canada has not been the operator of any exploration operations to date with the exception of the Colville Lake well which is the first, actually it is a one well program at this point. Once we get into an operation that has more scope to it, certainly we would anticipate training local people for the specific oil industry jobs. It is difficult though, to set up a training program on the basis of a single well.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: With regard to employment programs again, in various regions in the Northwest Territories, especially with Gulf Oil, as well as Panarctic, the program that has been operated by those two companies; they have rotational programs in which people for example in the Arctic Islands, Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay as well as one or two other communities, they have taken on so many people for so many days and back home for ten or 20 days or something like that. Do you have that kind of program in the Delta area?

MR. MENELEY: At this point I would say no, we have not, simply because we are not drilling. We do not have a continuous drilling program. We only have in the Colville Lake area a single well and it is just not practical to set up this training arrangement for a single well which would only be drilling for perhaps two months and then finish. We would have to establish, you know, a continuous exploration program or at least a seasonal exploration program in the future. If we get to that level, yes, I think we will certainly be looking at a Panarctic type of rotation which has been very successful and is working very smoothly.

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

Activity Between Rae-Edzo And Fort Providence

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, back in 1969 and the early 1970's there was quite a bit of exploration going on between Fort Providence and Rae-Edzo. I am just wondering if there was anything found or in fact is this drilling going to continue. I suppose it would be more for the benefit of the people in Fort Providence.

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

MR. MENELEY: Mr. Chairman, the area that was referred to has had several rounds of exploration, both seismic and drilling. The exploration success, however, has been practically none in that area. However, we are conducting the re-examination of the geology and geophysics in that area and as you may not be aware, there are things happening. There is technology, particularly in geophysics now, that is much better than has been available in the past. So we will relook at the situation there and determine if there is room for an additional or further round of exploration, either to be done by ourselves or with industry partners.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you very much. My list is now complete. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, do not confuse me with that type of spelling. It is with an "a" not with a "u". You get me confused with another McCullum who is presently in town.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask Mr. Hopper one question, and it relates to some degree to the question that Hon. David Searle asked in the beginning of this session. He referred to the increase in the potential and known reserves within southern Canada, specifically in Alberta and you will recall, sir, that the last time we met with you, you had indicated that your company was exploring various new methods of transportation of gas from the Arctic and other areas and at the time I think you even mentioned the possibility of using large aircraft. Now, to do this, though to me at the time it sounded rather preposterous, my question would be, in light of these new finds, potential and known in southern Alberta, is your company actively pursuing new means or mechanism or agents of transportation of this resource?

Transportation Of Resources

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, my answer is quite simple. The last time we were here we did talk briefly to a number of people about our views on Polar Gas as a means of transportation of gas from the High Arctic and also our LNG, liquified natural gas scheme. We have moved ahead aggressively on the liquified natural gas proposal and we will probably take that proposal to Petro Canada board sometime before mid-year, mid this year. That proposal would involve a pipeline from the Drake field to a port on Melville Island and south of Melville Island, a liquification facility for 250,000,000 cubic feet per day and the use of two very large icebreaking LNG tankers. Our target market for that LNG would be the United States because the price or cost of that LNG is higher than what Canada can absorb currently. We have not made up our minds on just exactly how to proceed with LNG but we are completing a number of rather expensive studies. On the question of aircraft, every time that is brought up people chuckle a little bit to themselves. I can tell you from my own personal point of view that I will look at any possible way to bring resources out of the Arctic regardless of how wild they may seem at the time. Aircraft incidentally are not probably as wild a scheme as it appears to be but we have got to the point where we believe LNG may well be a viable alternative to a pipeline, although we can not say with assurance that will be the case until we put a system in place.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you very much. I gather there are no further questions from the House. That being the case, I call a recess for 15 minutes for coffee. I wish to thank the gentlemen. Perhaps we should report progress. I would like to thank you for your time in coming here, on behalf of my colleagues, and wish you well with your endeavours and I trust that we will see you again. Mr. Hopper.

MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Members of this Assembly for giving us the opportunity to come to Yellowknife. We are increasingly sensitive to the needs of the North. I am concerned with comments made by Mr. John Steen. We are going to try to have a more meaningful presence in the North and to be more sensitive to the work requirements, contractors and so forth.

I would welcome any Member of this Assembly to write to me directly if he has a problem in his constituency that he feels either we can help him with, or that we have caused. I am not saying that we can solve all the problems, indeed I know we can not, but at least we can listen. I myself hope to come back to the North more frequently and I hope that I can bring my board of directors also on a northern tour some time this year. Thank you, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pearson): Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pearson.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Petro Canada Operations In The N.W.T.

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Speaker, your committee met with the gentlemen from Petro Canada. An interesting discussion ensued and we thank the gentlemen for their attendance.

MR. SPEAKER: I take it that matter is now completed?

MR. PEARSON: That is correct.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pearson. This House will recess for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER: Members of the Legislature, in that there would appear to be a quorum, Item 10, consideration in committee of the whole of bills. I presume that we want to go back into Bill 11-64, the Appropriation Ordinance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will resolve into committee of the whole for continued consideration of Bill 11-64, the Appropriation Ordinance, 1978-79, with 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): We are on Bill 11-64, general comments on health services. Mr. Nickerson.

Motion To Transfer Health Responsibilities To Territorial Government

MR. NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we were in the process of discussing the long awaited transfer and although I know this is not going to do really that much good, it will provide another indication of our strong desire to see this go forward with all possible speed, so I would move now Mr. Chairman, the following motion: that this committee calls upon the Minister of Health and Social Services to pursue with renewed vigour, the transfer of the remaining provincial-type health responsibilities from the federal to the territorial government.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Comments of a general nature? I beg your pardon, I was talking to the Legal Advisor. Sorry. Repeat the motion, Mr. Nickerson, for the Clerk of the House.

MR. NICKERSON: The motion reads as follows. Mr. Chairman: I move that this committee calls upon the Minister of Health and Social Services to pursue with renewed vigour, the transfer of the remaining provincial-type health responsibilities from the federal to the territorial government.

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

MR. PEARSON: Mr. Chairman, I support the motion, I have done all along. One of the questions I have now is in anticipation of the territorial administration taking on this responsibility, how much preparatory work has to be undertaken by the administration, by the Department of Health and Social Services? How many people do they need to be in a position to even begin thinking in these terms? When we take a look at the manpower of this department -- and I am concerned also with the general question of a switch in the approach from positions to man years. Are there enough positions or man years in this department, to enable them to take on this responsibility effectively and efficiently so that when the transfer takes place they will be prepared and ready to do it? Something tells me with the present state of the department's manpower that it would be a major hurdle for him to accomplish this. In switching from position to man year, I think this is where I got confused. Obviously Mr. Nickerson did not get confused but I got confused on the Department of Education vote, and the loss of 27...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Are you speaking to the motion, Mr. Pearson?

MR. PEARSON: Yes, of course I am speaking to it.

---Laughter

### A Major Operation

MR. PEARSON: The loss of 27 positions in the Department of Education is a major step backwards. Now I would hope that in keeping with the motion of Mr. Nickerson's, that there would be enough safeguard built into the organization to be able to begin to plan to take on the responsibility, to get some extra people out in the field or whatever, to go down to Ottawa to talk to them, as to how they will go about setting it up because it is going to be a major operation. All the nurses or all the doctors will suddenly become employees of this government and it is not just a paper transfer, it is a major operation. There will be dozens of new homes, dozens of new buildings required, offices, stationery by the tons, I mean a major undertaking. It is fine to say do it, but give us the men and we will do the job.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. For the benefit of the Members that just came in, we had a motion on the floor. It was moved by Mr. Nickerson that this committee call upon the Minister of Health and Social Services with renewed vigor the transfer of the remaining health and welfare responsibilities to the territorial government. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

### Transfer Of Funds And Personnel

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the motion is very straightforward. In supporting it, I support the implication it contains that with the responsibility will be transferred the necessary funds to carry on the current programs being provided by the federal government and also the capital facilities that are presently possessed on the inventory of the federal government. I just hope that we do not get stuck with paying for these and that we find more money in our budget to pay for this service which is now being provided by the feds.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister, would I be safe to say that to Mr. Butters' question and Mr. Pearson's question on the possible takeover of health and welfare responsibilities the answers would be a little premature, or could you maybe give us some indication as to whether you could provide an answer to those two questions in the near future?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, it is rather difficult at the present time to do much more than simply take the direction that this committee and House have given. It goes without saying that we would anticipate and press for, not only the status of physical and human resources that are now allocated by the federal government for the delivery of health services in the Northwest Territories to be turned over to us, but indeed that we would be able to enrich those programs and go even further. The department is obviously looking at this total transfer. As I indicated earlier, we are in the process of trying to determine how much flexibility there is in the original proposal. We, as well, recognize that the federal government is concerned at the present time with the transfer of this activity from Ottawa to the Yukon Territory and I would expect that once that is well under way that it will come our turn.

Now we do not anticipate trying to wait until that has been finalized. We are in the process now of negotiating that transfer and we would take under consideration the advice that both the previous Members have expressed in relation to the number of people involved in that transfer. When we come to some kind of an agreement with the federal government on this transfer, we undoubtedly will come back to this House with supplementary requests for additional personnel and additional funds to enrich the program that is already in existence.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Does that satisfy your question, if he could come back at a later time with more detail as to your question, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Butters?

MR. PEARSON: Yes.

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

Negotiating The Transfer

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, one of the things that I was going to mention was that I think as far back as 1976 when we really started to discuss the transfer of health responsibilities to the territorial government, since then various meetings have taken place between our own health officials and the officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare. I do not think we have ever met yet to discuss the transfer of health responsibilities with the federal government senior officials in public. That is to say I do not think that any Member, other than perhaps Dr. F.J. Covill from Edmonton has appeared before this Legislature.

One of the people that we are negotiating with for the transfer of health responsibilities is of course Mr. Jack Fleming, who I believe is the chief negotiator for transfer of health responsibilities from feds to the territorial government. I am wondering if at some point during the session if not this afternoon, an invitation could be extended to Mr. Jack Fleming to appear before this House to talk about the kind of things that he has been doing within the past year or so, because he has been travelling to various communities in the Northwest Territories, including I believe Pond Inlet about a year ago.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Hon. Peter Ernerk, we have a motion on the floor. I think you are a little bit off line there.

HON. PETER ERNERK: I know I am off the line but what I am saying...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Let us deal with the motion first and then you can come back and make another motion as to inviting these guests over for...

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes, good enough.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I am in support of Mr. Nickerson's motion. I think I find it very difficult right now in dealing with Northern Health in the respect that we always seem to have to get everything, our orders or whatever comes from Edmonton and I think that is very frustrating. To me it would be a lot better that it be under the territorial government and that we just have to come to Yellowknife to get these problems of importance in terms of health, solved.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Whitford. To the motion. Maybe just for the benefit of Mr. Evaluarjuk we have a motion on the floor. It was moved by Mr. Nickerson that the committee call upon the Minister of Health and Social Services to pursue with renewed vigour, the transfer of the remaining health and welfare responsibilities to the territorial government. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Transfer Health Responsibilities To Territorial Government, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question is being called. All in favour? Contrary? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Hon. Peter Ernerk, please.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, going back to my earlier comments with regard to an invitation being extended to Mr. Jack Fleming, I would like to change that around to invite a senior official, perhaps a member of National Health and Welfare like Dr. Lyle Black, who has spent a certain amount of time up here as well. I personally talked with Dr. Black some time ago when I still had the responsibility for the Department of Health and Social Services.



Motion To Invite Dr. Lyle Black To Session

I move that an invitation be extended to Dr. Lyle Black, I am not sure of his proper title, perhaps the Minister of Health and Social Services could let us know exactly what title he holds.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I have not the faintest idea who the guy is.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): He is from Baker Lake.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Somebody that is two doors down from the Deputy Minister.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes. During this session, if not for the May session.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Could you read that motion again for the Clerk of the House?

HON. PETER ERNERK: I move that an invitation be extended to Dr. Lyle Black to appear before this House before the present session concludes, or for the May session in 1978, something to those words, to that effect.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. To the motion. Mr. Minister.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, though I welcome the advice of the Member, it would seem to me that we are actively pursuing negotiations with the federal department. It would be my belief, or I would think the natural course of events would have been to attempt to carry out negotiations with the federal department, both from an official level through the director of this government's department and the deputy minister and other members of the federal government and then of course hopefully at the ministerial level and then come back and report to this House what actually is going on. I do not think that we should at this point in time be discussing or negotiating the transfer until we, in a public sense, actually have something to really report on. I appreciate the idea of keeping you people informed and hopefully we will be able to come back to this House with something concrete in the way of what is being proposed after determining the final position of both governments.

As I indicated earlier to this committee this government has taken the position that the transfer must be complete. There can be no half way measures. It must be a complete transfer of responsibility and I would hope that Members of this committee, in fact Members of this House, entrust to me the responsibility of coming back to this House with the results of negotiations that carry on.

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

A Political Matter.

MR. NICKERSON: It appears Mr. Chairman, that the administration is somewhat in disarray. I appreciate very much the concern of the former minister of Health and Social Services, the Hon. Peter Ernerk. I think that the intent behind his motion is admirable. I think possibly the time is coming where there should be public discussion between ourselves and people from the Department of National Health and Welfare. I personally would prefer to speak with the political people involved, the Minister, the Hon. Monique Begin. I think that there is an outstanding invitation to Hon. Monique Begin to come and talk with us. It is my understanding that the discussion of suitable dates is on the agenda for discussion at caucus. I think that in my view it would be preferable to pursue what we are trying to do along those lines, rather than having to deal through a civil servant. This is largely a political matter. It is not really a civil service matter and I would request that maybe the Hon. Peter Ernerk could reconsider his motion and maybe reword it in such a way that it would be directed more towards the Hon. Monique Begin. Maybe it would be preferable if we were to invite her to appear before us. She will be here sooner or later to speak to us privately. So, maybe it would be better if we could approach the matter that way.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Member wishes to make that change to say Hon. Monique Begin -- invitation again be extended to Hon. Monique Begin, I would go along with that because I think there are a certain number of unanswered questions that we have to be prepared to talk about in public. Mainly as to exactly what, you know, Mr. Jack Fleming does when he visits various communities in the Eastern Arctic, for example. There are many many implications in this proposed transfer. I think we could think of a few items that we could discuss when a political leader such as Hon. Monique Begin comes to Yellowknife to meet with us.

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

MR. PEARSON: I gather then that the thrust of the motion would be to Begin the Begin.

---Laughter

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

Motion Amended To Read Hon. Monique Begin Instead Of Dr. Lyle Black

MR. NICKERSON: Well, if it meets with Hon. Peter Ernerk's approval, I would move an amendment to that motion to make the reference to the Hon. Monique Begin rather than to one of her officials.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Nickerson, can I read the motion then as amended? The motion reads now with the amendment, that an invitation be extended to the Hon. Monique Begin, Minister of National Health and Welfare to appear before this House during the current session or failing that during the next session. Do you agree with that motion, Hon. Peter Ernerk?

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

Further Amendment To The Motion

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, concerning the motion, I would like to support if possible that she come in May. For myself I think that the Baffin regional council will be meeting in March and maybe I will be invited to that Baffin regional council. So, I think they will be talking concerning this matter about that time in Arctic Bay when they have that meeting and we have asked the Minister for National Health and Welfare, but she could not come. So they might invite that person when they have that Baffin regional council, so we will be meeting with them and we will have more things to say concerning this matter and I would like to support this motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Evaluarjuk. To the motion.  
Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I take it then the wording of the motion will change to the May session rather than current session. I take it then Mr. Evaluarjuk is making that amendment?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Nickerson, did you have your hand up? Thank you. I take it then, this is the third time now we have changed this motion. Did you withdraw your first motion or did you just amend it?

HON. PETER ERNERK: I am not making any amendments. Mr. Evaluarjuk indicated that he would like to see Hon. Monique Begin come here to the May session rather than the current session. I take it that he is making an amendment to the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well your original motion was to invite Dr. Lyle Black.

HON. PETER ERNERK: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): That was your original motion.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Nickerson amended that amendment to say Hon. Monique Begin and I agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Now it is amended again to cross out the current session, during the next session then. Mr. Evaluarjuk. To the motion. Well we have amendments to the amendments and Mr. Evaluarjuk wants to hold off the meeting with the Hon. Monique Begin, Minister of National Health and Welfare until the May session.

Amendment To Amendment, Carried

On the amendment to the amendment, all in favour? Contrary? Carried.

---Carried

Amendment, Carried

The amendment to the original motion that Hon. Monique Begin, Minister of National Health and Welfare appear in place of Dr. Lyle Black. To that amendment. All in favour? Contrary? Amendment carried.

---Carried

Well at least we have a motion. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion As Amended, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question has been called as amended. All in favour? Contrary? The motion is carried as amended.

---Carried

No wonder Mr. Stewart got sick. Well back to general comments, health services branch. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could provide in round figures, in millions of dollars, just the amount that the federal portion of our health budget, the O and M for that portion would be for the coming year, 1978-79, in round figures, and the amount of capital holdings that the federal government presently owns in the territories which would be turned over to this administration when the turnover occurs.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if the Member would bear with me until I could obtain those figures, I would be glad to provide them. You will have to wait a few minutes until we do some rapid calculations.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Butters, is that satisfactory?

MR. BUTTERS: That is fine sir, thank you.

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

Nursing Station In Port Burwell

MR. PEARSON: Earlier today I made a statement which was very quickly rebuked by the Commissioner and on reflection, I have considered the statement and decided that I used the wrong term. I used the word "this administration" in relation to Port Burwell and the lack of interest that is taken in that community. I should have said the government because one of the main reasons for the feeling of uncertainty on the part of the residents of the community is, the first move was made by the federal government to close the nursing station at Port Burwell and it was from then on that I think people began to feel threatened. It took myself and other Members of this Legislature years to have that nursing station established in Port Burwell. It functioned for a number of years and then was closed for some reason known only to the Department of National Health and Welfare and from then on, as I say, the community has been in a state of turmoil and uncertainty.

What has happened is that one thing leads to another, the chain reaction in an isolated community such as Port Burwell. There is no airstrip and medical services are kind of important and people feel somewhat uncertain if there are not medical services readily available. There was a feeble attempt at one time by the government to train paramedical people, train people interested, native people particularly, in assuming some responsibility within their community to aid and assist in the provision of health care to the community; a program which I think is very badly needed. It would again give the native people and people of the North some share in the responsibility of keeping the community healthy and of course, it would provide employment for native people. I wonder if any consideration has been given by this department to this matter and when this administration takes on the responsibility for provision of medical services, will it consider the provision or the provision of paramedical people who are skilled or trained to dispense certain medicines and things of that sort. A young lady has sort of looked after the needs of the people in Port Burwell, for example. As the nurse waved goodbye as she got on the plane, she sort of handed her a brown paper bag with some pills and potions and said here, give these to Mrs. So and So once a week and these to Joe Blow once a week and in the time that this young girl has provided this very basic service in the community, she has never received any money. She does not get paid for it and in fact, has on occasions actually performed minor surgery in the way of suturing wounds and this sort of thing. So, in conclusion, I would like to ask if when the time comes will the administration assure me that some attempt will be made to train native people in a paramedic capacity.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, yes.

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

Motion To Have Tungsten Considered A Settlement For Health Matters

MR. NICKERSON: I have a motion to put before this committee, Mr. Chairman. The motion reads as follows: I move that for the purposes of all legislation dealing with health and medical matters, the community of Tungsten be considered a settlement and not a camp.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: That motion, could you reread it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Nickerson, could you reread that motion?

MR. PUDLUK: I do not get it. I am sorry.

CLERK ASSISTANT OF THE HOUSE (Mr. de Vos): The motion as I have it, Mr. Chairman, reads that for the purposes of all legislation dealing with health matters, the community of Tungsten be considered a settlement and not a camp.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. de Vos. Did you get that Mr. Pudluk? Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the mover of the motion to tell the people here what is the population of Tungsten and where Tungsten is and what is it. I never heard of it before personally. I saw a look on Mr. Pudluk's face too.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Nickerson, could you explain then to the ones that are not familiar with Tungsten and the population and so forth?

MR. NICKERSON: I am quite prepared to do so. Maybe Mr. Lafferty, in whose constituency Tungsten is, would prefer to do that, otherwise I would be quite willing to.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lafferty, are you prepared to comment on that motion?

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to know where it is, the population of it -- but not this way, go right there, okay.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, my mind was elsewhere. I did not catch up with what was happening, so I will refer it back to Mr. Nickerson.

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

#### Geographical Location Of Tungsten

MR. NICKERSON: Evidently, Mr. Chairman, they do not teach the geography of the Northwest Territories too well in the schools at which Mr. Lyall has attended, but Tungsten is a community in more or less the southeast corner of the Northwest Territories. It is just a few miles over the Yukon border. All access is generally through Watson Lake in the Yukon. There is an all-weather highway between Watson Lake and the town of Tungsten. There is not that much traffic between Tungsten and Yellowknife and other places in the Northwest Territories because of its geographical location. It is in a mountainous region. It is a mining town; the main activity there is the mining of tungsten and that is why it is called Tungsten. It has a population of about 350 people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Mr. Lafferty, are you familiar with that settlement?

MR. LAFFERTY: Very well, Mr. Chairman. For the other Members that are not familiar with Tungsten, it is completely a mining community, there is no other type of activity there and many people, I suppose you could say, are resident Northwest Territories people although they are not from the Northwest Territories. There are probably half a dozen people working in Tungsten who are from the Northwest Territories. Other than that, the total population you can say is non-native Northwest Territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): It is hard hearing, Mr. Lafferty, could you get your mike a little closer?

MR. LAFFERTY: For the Members who are not familiar with Tungsten, the community you can say is comprised of non-resident -- or largely Northwest Territories residents since they have been in the employ of the company in that community for quite some time. It is a company town more than anything else and they may have two or three native people there in that community.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I am going to have to vote against the motion at this point because there are, as I understand it and as I have looked at it in various budgets of this government, many things involved in setting up another settlement in the Northwest Territories. The questions I think we have to look at are various establishments that we as a government or we as a Legislature should be prepared to look at, such as building of another school, setting up of town services or settlement services, things of that nature.

As I understand it, what has been happening in the past is that a number of people from Fort Simpson, for example, the Honourable Member for Fort Simpson could correct me if I am wrong, is that Fort Simpson has been to a certain extent, used by Tungsten people as some kind of headquarters. I am not too sure on this. Okay. Getting back to the principle of the matter, I think we have to get ourselves thinking in terms of setting up of new municipal type services if that camp becomes another settlement in the Northwest Territories.

For The Purpose Of Health Matters Only

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Hon. Peter Ernerk, for your information, the motion reads that for the purpose of all legislation dealing with health matters, the community of Tungsten be considered a settlement and not a camp. I think Mr. Nickerson is dealing with health matters only. Is that right? Mr. Nickerson, I think Mr. Lyall is next on the list and I will give it...

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, is it not usual for the person who moves the motion to be able to put the arguments forward first? As I understand it, Mr. Lyall was on a point of order just asking for the geographical location and I would very much appreciate the opportunity to speak to my motion first before people start debating it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. To the motion.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, we have in the Public Health Ordinance and other pieces of legislation dealt with camps which are generally assumed to be places of short duration, six months or three months or maybe even a year. There are special rules and regulations governing the operation of these camps. They are not entitled to some of the benefits that a municipality would be or even a settlement. They are totally on their own, for instance and are supposed to look after their own medical problems. I guess there is good reason for doing this, but with the case of Tungsten as Mr. Lafferty has said, this is no longer a camp. It can not really be considered a camp at all. It is a permanent community. It has been there for I would say six or seven years now. The ore reserves at the mine are conservatively estimated to last another 20 years. So, Tungsten is going to be there for some time to come. Also, in the Howards Pass area; it is used as a base for people doing mineral exploration and looking into wildlife and doing a number of other things. So, there are getting to be quite a few people there who are not in the employ of the local mining company.

Medical Services In Tungsten

As it is at present, if the Hon. Peter Ernerk were to go to Jungsten in the course of his duties and I hope that sometime he might be able to go over to that part of the country, although it is very difficult to get there and he would have to

go through Watson Lake, if he happened to fall down and break his leg in Tungsten and he went to the local doctor there, Hon. Peter Ernerk would have to pay cash because it is a camp and not a community. The doctor would not be able to accept his Northwest Territories medical card, although Hon. Peter Ernerk is a resident and a citizen of the Northwest Territories and anywhere else in the Northwest Territories would be entitled to use his card with the doctor of his choice. He would not be able to do that in Tungsten. He would have to pay cash and then he would have to go the roundabout route of submitting that claim to the health officers in Yellowknife and waiting several weeks before he got his refund for his medical bill. That is one of the things that irks people in Tungsten.

Now, if we compare Tungsten with other similar communities in the Northwest Territories, you would see that they are getting a very rough deal. If we take Nanisivik, for instance, where government funds to the tune in excess of \$20 million now, I believe, have been expended in putting in roads, putting in all the infrastructure, they put in a nursing station there. They are doing everything in Nanisivik and they have not done one thing for Tungsten. Tungsten seems to be completely neglected by this government and also by the federal government. In any other place in the Northwest Territories, places with a population of less than a 100 people, everything is done for those people and yet the attitude is in Tungsten you can look after yourselves. You are not really part of the Northwest Territories. We do not want you, you know, and I do not think that is right. I think that Tungsten has to be looked upon as an integral part of the Northwest Territories.

The people there pay our taxes. They are obliged to pay our income tax. They are obliged to pay our tobacco tax. They pay everything that we levy upon them and what the federal government levies upon them. I tell you, there is a growing resentment in that community because of the attitude displayed by this government towards those hard working and productive people.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Mr. Lyall, you are next on the list.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, the remarks that were made by the Honourable Member from Yellowknife South about seven minutes ago were taken with a grain of salt considering the source. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I did not understand the purpose that the Honourable Member from Yellowknife North was basing his arguments on. I understood the motion to read: I move that the camp of Tungsten be considered as a settlement. I did not realize the fact that it was based for health purposes and so on. What I was getting at was the fact that if you consider Tungsten today as a settlement and wish to make it a settlement tomorrow, the problems that we might face would include a tremendous amount of money for school services and so on, but after having understood what the Honourable Member said about health purposes and so on, I withdraw my previous remarks.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. Mr. Steen, I think you are next on the list.



### The Importance Of Self-supporting Communities

MR. STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to ask one of the questions that the Honourable Member from Yellowknife North -- I wanted to know the life expectancy of the mine there and he has answered that but I wanted also to say something else pertaining to settlements or communities with their own economic base. I think we should give support to that motion that is on the floor because there is very little economic base in the community, you must bring people closer to the work with their children and be able to bring them to school there and receive all other services. So that was the gist of my comments.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Steen, I did not quite get your comments, the last part. I do not know what happened to your mike, or maybe you are a little bit too far away from it. I wonder if you could repeat your last remarks?

MR. STEEN: Yes, what I was saying was that there are very few communities in the North that have work near their homes or close to the place where they live and that in order to bring people successfully and keep them on the job successfully, people are happier if they are closer to home where their children can go to school and return home with no worry to the worker. I believe that these kind of communities should be helped and they should be entitled to that kind of development, so I support the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Lafferty, you are next on the list.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make some comments regarding Tungsten which I had intended to do at this session. As you are all probably aware, I have made many many efforts to attend community meetings with the game officers and we were unable to do so before Christmas and on a couple of other occasions that I have attempted. To look at Tungsten, you are looking at probably the most isolated community in the Northwest Territories, within the boundaries of the Northwest Territories. The only way of getting out of Tungsten is with a second grade road they have over to Whitehorse and as I sit here before you I can honestly tell you that I have spent in the neighbourhood of \$1000 attempting to get into Whitehorse before Christmas, we could not do it because of the mountain conditions and weather conditions that you find yourself in, in Tungsten most times.

### No Benefits For Taxes Paid

As Mr. Nickerson pointed out, these people pay a lot of taxes to the Northwest Territories government and they are to some degree and maybe to a large degree, at least to my constituency they are very important people in the economics of the south Mackenzie Liard block development. In spite of the taxes these people pay to the territorial government, no doubt that they do and if they do not I do not see any reason for it, these people only receive the per capita grant for recreation of \$5 per year that I know of, to my knowledge. My personal feeling on that community, is that these people as I indicated in my brief reply to the question that had arisen as to the location of this community, is that the resident people of Tungsten are residents of the Northwest Territories. They should be eligible for most of the services that we people get, other communities get, if not all the services of the government available to those people. As I said earlier, because they are isolated and I am certain that if we were to charter a plane to take you over tomorrow, or probably next week, you would find yourself unable to get in. We have discussed this matter at some length in our meetings but the occasion has never arisen for me to bring the matter up and the reasons are as follows. Because of the urgency that is being placed on the community of Fort Simpson and Fort Liard and down through the Mackenzie Valley and that economically, people in the town of Tungsten were quite secure...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Lafferty, are you speaking to the motion or are you just commenting?

MR. LAFFERTY: Yes, I am speaking in support of the motion -- that I felt to delay this and bring this matter up at this time and I am glad that it did arise as it did. Since Mr. Nickerson is probably one of the most familiar men with the things that have happened in government over the last year, I felt it would be better for him to explain the conditions of Tungsten from a point of knowledge that he has, as a past Member of the Executive. I think that that motion should be supported because if we do not we are denying people who are resident in the Northwest Territories.

Health Certificate Cards

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Hon. David Searle, I think you are next, but just before I would like to ask the Minister one question. Mr. Lafferty indicated that these people from Tungsten were residents of the Northwest Territories. I thought everybody had the same rights in the Northwest Territories to hold a health certificate card if they are residents of the territories. I wonder if you could answer that and then we will have Hon. David Searle's comments on the motion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that Mr. Nickerson outlined the status of people in that particular community or in that camp regarding obtaining medical assistance. I think he outlined it correctly.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well do they or do not they? Are they entitled or are they not entitled to a health certificate card? This is my question.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that Mr. Nickerson in the motion indicated that there must be changes made to all legislation dealing with it, under the Public Health Ordinance, the legislation dealing with that, and again Mr. Nickerson referred to that particular piece of legislation. At the present time, because they are a camp, they do not come under that particular ordinance and Mr. Nickerson in his motion as I understand the motion, said that all legislation dealing with health matters would be changed to regard or recognize, I forget the term he used, recognize Tungsten not as a camp but for the purposes of health legislation, as a community. I think that is where the difficulty is, but if you pass a motion, then they will be eligible.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well I am still not quite clear on the question, Mr. Minister. My question was, are they eligible as Northwest Territories' residents for a health certificate or are they not?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if they live in the camp the employer is responsible for providing health services. That is the Public Health Ordinance, regardless of whether they are in the territories or not. Now, in this particular case, the camp is in the territories and Mr. Nickerson wants it recognized as a community and to change the Public Health Ordinance so that in fact they will be eligible under all legislation dealing with medical care and health services.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: First of all, with respect to Mr. Lyall's comments which would be three or four pages prior in the debates at this point in time, they were obviously intended for the Member for Yellowknife North, not Yellowknife South. I want to make sure the record is clear on that. The second thing with respect to the threats of secession by the people of Cantung, it may be that they should go and talk to that chief friend of yours, Mr. Chairman, from Fort Franklin. Finally, but seriously, I support completely the motion made by Mr. Nickerson for the reasons he stated and I do not think there is any need for me to elaborate on it.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Have Tungsten Considered A Settlement For Health Matters, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Question is being called. All in favour? Contrary? Unanimous. The motion is carried.

---Carried

Still dealing with health services, comments of a general nature. If that ends the comments -- Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I have one comment, Mr. Chairman, but it is a rather specific comment but I do not really know where to bring it up and it is a request for some figures which might take some time to obtain. So, if you might permit me, I would like to ask it now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Proceed.

Sterilization Operations

MR. NICKERSON: I wonder if we could be advised, Mr. Chairman, how many operations for sterilization are carried out in the Northwest Territories each year. The information that I am soliciting is mainly in regard to young women. It would appear to me that a disproportionate number of young women in the territories are having these operations performed on them and I am not sure if that is true or not. It is just my impression so I would like very much to get some figures on that, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think we would have to go, as Mr. Nickerson has indicated, and check on those figures but certainly we would attempt to answer that particular question. I would just wonder what he would -- the definition of a young woman, without being too disrespectful to the distaff. Do you have an age?

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

MR. NICKERSON: I presume these statistics are available somewhere and they are broken down into age categories. I am not sure if that is correct.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes I guess then from the information I have now that they likely will be broken down by age.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, if you would like me to give you an age I am sure I could take a guess but I think that these figures are available somewhere and it might be easier just to leave it as originally asked.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Health services, comments.

Federal Component Of The Budget

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I may now return to Mr. Butters' question regarding the federal component of the budget in the Northwest Territories. I can give him an approximation of the amount of money in O and M and in capital. As to getting an inventory of physical facilities and the human resources, I would suggest that we would try to get an answer back by telex from Ottawa on this. That is the latter part. But the federal government spends in the vicinity, associated with health services in the Northwest Territories for 1978-79, approximately \$11 million in O and M and approximately \$2 million in capital moneys.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Nickerson, I think the Minister will have this information for you or try to obtain the information excluding all names. Mr. Minister, you will try to obtain this information for Mr. Nickerson, excluding all names?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, tout de suite.

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

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a short statement. If I am wrong just tell me. Concerning health I would like to say a few things that I think I should say. The health situation in the Northwest Territories is not in the right place yet. It should be looked at very carefully for the future. I also have found out in my constituency that we have a lot of problems concerning health. There are not enough nurses in settlements that have bigger populations.

Medical Services In Panguirtung

In Panguirtung there are around about 900 people. There is only one nurse. She has a lot of problems. People had said in Panguirtung the nurse is the only one and there are three RCMP in Panguirtung that do not have very much to do. It seems that there should be more nurses and less RCMP so they have been asking for three nurses, doctors. They would like to know if they could get more nurses because she has a lot of responsibilities, especially when somebody is very sick, because a baby died in the past because of that. She had too many things to do besides what she is doing. She always has to put the priorities aside so the baby died in Frobisher Bay. She had a lot of difficulties in about two months. I will tell you that the residents would like to see three nurses because sometimes the nurses have to go for vacation. So, I would like this House to consider this very carefully, concerning this problem, so there will be no difficulties in the future, also in the other settlements. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Butters.

Recognizing The Valuable Services Of Nurses

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, this matter raised regarding the number of nurses available to serve the people of the Northwest Territories, I think, is a most important one. I trust that the Minister will be extracting this portion of the debate from the record and sending them off to the federal authorities responsible for hiring and maintaining medical staff in the North at the present time. I am concerned that nurses in the territories today are once again on the verge of withdrawal of services or possibly going on strike. I understand that the federal government has not worked out a satisfactory wage agreement with them and a benefit agreement for a period of something over a year. I believe that the situation now is that this lack of agreement on the part of the two parties has been referred to arbitration.

I wonder if the Minister can assure us that this administration is taking steps to encourage the federal government to reimburse the nursing profession in the amount that they are worth, for the very valuable service they perform. As Mr. Kilabuk pointed out, the service performed by nurses in northern communities and especially in small northern communities, is much more demanding and exacting than probably anywhere else in Canada. There should be no hesitation on the part of the federal government in recognizing this and paying them in a degree that recognizes the services they perform and the long hours they may be required to work.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Minister, would you like to comment to Mr. Kilabuk's comments please?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment to both Mr. Kilabuk and Mr. Butters on this particular topic. As regards the number of nurses and taking into consideration what was voiced previously about paramedics, etc., we will continue to press the issue with the Department of National Health and Welfare. Mr. Butters is correct, as regards the situation between the federal government and its employees, nurses within the territories. It goes back close to two years, I guess and we have through our co-ordinating committee in discussions with the federal officials continually pressed upon them the need to reconcile the situation.

Make no mistake about it, some of those talks will come back in terms to this government as well. I think this is a good example of why health should be under this government and then when we have situations such as Mr. Kilabuk has indicated in terms of the inadequacy of medical people, nurses in particular communities, we could resolve that situation. We could resolve it much more speedily and so we would not have the situations that have been outlined not only today but in past sessions of this House. I would assure the Members that we are proceeding with all haste and we will certainly take direction via the motion that was made in this committee about vigorously pursuing the transfer of health services to this government in the hope that we would be able to take it over very quickly and to so reconcile those situations that exist in various parts of the territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Steen.

Medical Situation In Paulatuk

MR. STEEN: I would just like to say that while he is looking at this for more medical people in the communities, I would like them to take a look at the situation in Paulatuk since the person there is taking care of -- or she is the lay person and she has indicated that she wants to resign. Since that community is so far away from Inuvik and with weather conditions and so forth,

I would feel that perhaps we should take a look at it. Try not to wait until the feds come in before we start doing something about it and try not to wait until the feds turn over the medical services to this government before they start doing anything about it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, whilst Mr. Butters was talking about nurses, I hope we are not forgetting the nursing assistants. These are people that go into the homes and discuss problems of different natures and check on the children and explain to the people exactly what to do in terms of medication.

Last fall we had a bad incident where Mrs. Elizabeth Quitte, who is the nurse who goes into the homes and discusses problems relating to medical care, was supported by the community in having the dismissal that was given to her revoked. This was caused by the fact that the nurse who had come from the South was using the car to drive around the community and not being able to talk the Dogrib language at all, did very little but rather most of the work was being done by Mrs. Quitte. Now then there came a time when there was an emergency from Rae Lakes so they contacted her and she in turn stayed up half the night trying to get airplanes into the area as well as get a doctor available to meet the emergency need when the patient arrived but unfortunately when she went back to work the next morning, being tired and came in late at 9:00 o'clock she was sent home. So again I say the community went behind her and supported her in getting her reinstated.

The other thing that was discovered is that she is getting a very very low salary, something not comparable to the work that she is doing so I hope today that the Minister responsible for social development would in fact look into a case like that and at the same time, where we are giving money to and for health services for these people or native people in the North, that they sort of keep tabs on what is really happening in communities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Whitford. I would like to call a five minute recess and get a quick cup of coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Mr. Minister, would you like to reply to Mr. Whitford's comments? Mr. Whitford, your comments, I think you wanted a reply?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just so the committee is not confused...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Hold it. I do not think we have any interpreters. Mr. Minister, your reply. I think we are all set now.

Community Health Representatives

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just so that Members of the committee are not confused as pertains to Mr. Whitford's comments, I think Mr. Whitford is talking about the community health representatives, not the certified nursing assistants and I realize and the department realizes the difficulties that are being experienced in various communities as regards the delivery of health services.

We, as a department and a government, support the community health representatives, the certified nursing assistants, paramedics, the whole gambit. But the department and this government continues to take and receive the criticism on the delivery of health services that are, in fact, now under the federal government. Again, I simply indicate to you and to Members that this is all the more reason why we have to have this responsibility turned over to this government and why we are working and have been going on about this transfer. If we had that particular responsibility, we would be able to act on the requirements and the needs of various communities. We are most sensitive to those particular requirements. We would like very much to respond to them and we would hope with the transfer of the health responsibilities in total to this government that we will then be in a position to respond to such requests, comments that are made by Mr. Whitford and other Members of this House.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what the Minister has just said, Hon. Arnold McCallum, but at the same time my concern was that if we are giving them moneys now to operate facilities there in communities, that whilst this is going on -- what I was trying to point out is that these concerns, such as I have expressed, not only for the community of Rae, but rather using that as an example -- I am sure there are other settlements that need these types of people to work with in public health services, is what I was trying to point out to the Minister.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Whitford, I think we are dealing with health services, not public health. If there are no further comments, Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: I asked a question earlier today and did not get an answer to it and that is in the man year picture and I asked the question sort of on a general basis. Could I ask how many positions were there last year; how many positions are there this year; what did the department request for the number of positions?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Mr. Minister, did you say you would take that and reply?

MR. PEARSON: When?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: As soon as possible, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): At the earliest convenience. Thank you. No further comments. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: I just ask my colleagues to consider the fact that man years are not the same as positions.

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

Defining Man Years

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, if I could just say a very short word on man years, I would appreciate having the chance to do so. We have changed over the past year from using the term "positions" to using the term "man years". Now, they are not the same, but the process is one, in either case, to try and maintain a control on the size of the staff and to be able to account for the staff. The purpose in us moving to what we call a man year system is to provide us with a degree of control but with much much greater degree of flexibility. I will just give a very brief example. Supposing that a certain division of the government has 100 positions. Now, under the previous manner of handling positions, if the division had work during a certain part of the year that required 110 positions or ten more people to do it for a short period of time, they would have to come back to some higher authority, usually the Executive, to get authority to hire more people.

Now when we change to a man year system and if we permit a division to have 100 man years, we do not then have to tell the head of that division how many people he can have on staff at any one time. He may for part of the year have 110 people on staff and for another part of the year he might have 88 people on staff and for another part of the year he might have 96 people on staff. All we are saying is that in the course of one year, the head of that division has a certain job to do, he is given a good deal of flexibility to do that job and he has the money within his budget to pay for the equivalent of 100 man years.

Now that I think is the simplest explanation I can give for it and I hope that you see that by going to that system, we are in fact giving our managers the responsibility for doing a job without us forever interfering and trying to say, for part of the year you only need this many people. They can achieve this flexibility because there is always a certain amount of turnover. There are some people that leave for their own reasons and there is a period in which a position is vacant until they can be replaced and we are giving them those free months in which to provide themselves with a considerable amount of flexibility.



First Year In Use

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. This is the first year you have introduced these man years, is that right?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, we have been working toward it but this year is the first year when we made the switchover completely.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Well maybe you can correct me if I am wrong. I think the federal government has had it for a number of years now and it seems to have worked with them. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, last year the health services branch had 27 positions. This year we have 25 man years, for the purposes which the Deputy Commissioner has outlined because some people are there and we have three, and the man years summary is on page 10.01; 25 continuing positions. In 1976-77 there were 18 or the equivalent of 18.4 man years. Now there are 25 and we have a casual three man years in casual employees.

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

MR. PEARSON: This is all very confusing but I can deduce from that that they had 27 positions last year. How many of those positions were filled?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, at any one time they could all have been filled or it could have gone anywhere from 23 to 25 or 26 positions or 18, that is correct.

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

MR. PEARSON: Now they were positions, 27 of them. Now they have been given 25 man years which is in fact a decrease, it is a decrease in the number of positions.

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

Departmental Reviews

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the number of people who are employed, that is the number of positions that may or may not have been filled last year were 27. We have switched to a man year concept that in fact equates to 25 man years, those positions. We go through a position review within the department, the department would put requests in, they go through a department review, or the person then at the time responsible will go into an interdepartmental review on positions and would finally come to the Executive and come back to the particular department as to what we would be able to employ within that particular department, to the extent of the salary dollars and budget that we would have at our disposal.

Now if in fact Mr. Pearson wishes to interpret the difference between 27 positions and 25 man years as being a reduction of two people, I can not help it, I can not change his interpretation. I thought the Deputy Commissioner explained the situation, the concept behind it, I thought that I did but apparently not to the satisfaction of the Member. I am sorry. I can not do any better than that. We would like very much to increase the size of our particular department and, in fact, the division dealing with health services, but unfortunately from this House and past Houses we can not increase the bureaucracy and we have to be able to justify what we think is an adequate number of people and positions and money to carry on the services of the department.

Now, I realize that the department may very well have asked for additional man years this year. Upon the departmental review and the interdepartmental

review and the Executive Committee review, they were allocated that number of man years to conduct the business and within the confines of a budget. It gives flexibility. It gives a manager of the division and indeed the department the accountability. That is not to suggest that it will remain there. As I indicated, we would like to have more, but at the present time that is what it is and I can not be any more explicit in terms of an explanation. I can not help the Member in his interpretation.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I think the Deputy Commissioner put it quite clearly. I even understood it and I am not educated. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: We are now asking the Department of Health and Social Services to take on the responsibility of working out and setting up the procedures for the takeover of health services from the federal government. Now, Hon. Arnold McCallum admits...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I think, Mr. Pearson, you are putting the horse before the cart. We have not got that assurance that we are going to get a transfer within the next year, and once that comes about then we could maybe talk about how many man years or how many positions we are going to need.

#### An Enormous Responsibility

MR. PEARSON: No, what I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is that National Health and Welfare are undoubtedly going to turn it over and there is a tremendous amount of work to be done in anticipation of that happening, be it this year or next year. In order for this government to take on that role there needs to be some work and there needs to be some careful consideration given to all aspects of it, because it is an enormous responsibility; one of the most important responsibilities that this government will ever have. In fact, I would think for the time being the biggest of them all; all the hospitals and everything else.

Now, in order for them to do that, are we being fair to them? Are we, this Legislative Assembly, being fair to the department in binding them to that number of bodies? We have already done it to the Department of Education and I did it unwittingly because of confusion in switching of the system. We have eliminated 27 positions from the Department of Education with a result that there will not be those teaching positions filled. We have already got a situation in Frobisher Bay where it is necessary for the elementary school to go on its hands and knees to the federal government to be able to teach cultural inclusion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is wrong, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PEARSON: That is not wrong. They have to go and get a Local Initiative Program grant.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is totally erroneous and the Member is not interpreting the information that is in front of him, to say that the government is laying off people. That is not so.

MR. PEARSON: I am interpreting the situation in Frobisher Bay and the situation in Frobisher Bay is that they have to get a LIP grant to be able to teach cultural inclusion.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Anybody in Canada can apply for assistance with the federal government. If the federal government would turn that money over to this government, we would be able to provide it there. We get so much money from the federal government to run our programs and if the federal government would stop interfering with the business of this government, we would be better off.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Let us get back to the comments. Mr. Lyall. Comments of a general nature. Health services.

MR. LYALL: This is very general. I think we should recognize the clock.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): If you are all agreed I wish at this time to report progress.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, the committee has been studying Bill 11-64 and we have three motions that were passed. Do you wish at this time for me to read them?

MR. SPEAKER: Please proceed.

MR. FRASER: Motion one, that this committee call upon the Minister of Health and Social Services to pursue with renewed vigour the transfer of remaining health and welfare responsibilities to the territorial government.

Motion two, that an invitation be extended to the Hon. Monique Begin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, to appear before this House during the May session.

Motion three, that for the purpose of all legislation dealing with health matters, the community of Tungsten be considered a settlement and not a camp. Those motions were all passed.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Fraser. You know that old song, "Begin the Beguine", well this one is "Began the Begin". Are there any announcements? No committee meetings, Mr. Lyall?

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning at 10:00 o'clock, the legislation committee will be meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: Where would it be meeting, Mr. Lyall?

MR. LYALL: Room 303.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 11: ORDERS OF THE DAY.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, February 2, 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, Price Support Mechanisms for Sealskin
11. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 2, 1978, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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