



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**DEBATES**

65th. Session

8th Assembly

Official Report



THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1978

Pages 368 to 391

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1978

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Steen, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Lafferty, Hon. Tom Butters, Mr. Fraser,  
Mr. Whitford, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Hon. Peter Ernerk, Hon. David Searle,  
Mr. Nickerson

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

MR. SPEAKER: Item 2, questions and returns. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

Return To Question W13-65: Jean Marie Sawmill

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, on May 11, 1978, Mr. Nickerson asked the following question. Has the administration any plans to see that the, as of yet, unpaid creditors of the Jean Marie sawmill are properly compensated?

I have the following reply. In late 1976 the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs made a \$100,000 contribution to cover part of the Jean Marie River sawmill's outstanding accounts payable. However, because of a technicality in the written agreement, the accountant was unable to pay off the accounts. The agreement eventually lapsed, therefore it was directed that the funds be returned to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

The Yellowknife office of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs has gone through an internal process of attempting to provide funds through the stabilization fund. They have recommended to Ottawa that a contribution be made available and this recommendation has been approved by the review board. Unfortunately, these funds were not budgeted for this year, therefore it is necessary to identify these funds within the existing budget. However, the Yellowknife office of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs do not anticipate a problem in locating the funds and once they have been identified, a trustee will be appointed to disburse the funds. The Yellowknife office of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs anticipate that the matter will be cleared up in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Further Return To Question W29-65: Management Of Dempster Highway

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: As a further response to the question asked by Mr. Nickerson some days ago with regard to the Dempster highway management plan, I am pleased to advise that the administration will be tabling this plan today as a discussion draft.

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

Question W32-65: Medical Legislation, Tungsten.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, at the 64th session it was a recommendation of this House that Tungsten be considered a settlement for the purposes related to medical legislation. What has the administration done in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Partial Return To Question W32-65: Medical Legislation, Tungsten.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I think that the question, there was an item and I think I responded to that particular question earlier in this session. I believe that I made a preamble to the remarks at the time indicating that I had a reply to Mr. Nickerson and he came in in the midst of that reply but I think there is a particular reply that has been given in terms of the question that was raised by Mr. Nickerson at the 64th session. We have been involved in a study of single industry communities. I indicated at the time that I would be able hopefully to come up with a document for this House for discussion and would be able to report further on that at the next session of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, Mr. Nickerson?

MR. NICKERSON: Another question.

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

Question W33-65: NCPC And N.W.T. Public Utilities Board.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, has the Government of Canada indicated that it will or will not require the Northern Canada Power Commission to be subject to the rulings of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Return To Question W33-65: NCPC And N.W.T. Public Utilities Board.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that the Government of Canada has indicated its intentions with regard to the jurisdiction of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board. However, a senior official of NCPC has indicated that the corporation intends to act as if it were a normal utility under the direction of the utilities board and perhaps I could add that in the last several months the corporation has submitted its proposed rate changes to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions.

Item 3, oral questions.

Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 6, notices of motion. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 6: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 21-65: Appointment To N.W.T. Housing Corporation

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would have to get some kind of direction from you or a possible ruling on it. I am not sure whether there was notice given yesterday of a motion to recommend that this House would recommend to the Commissioner the name of an appointee to the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. If there has not been, I would like to give notice that I intend to introduce the following motion and hope to obtain unanimous consent of the House to do that today, to give notice now and to make the motion as well. Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the number of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation was recently increased;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. James Arvaluk be appointed a director of the said corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Are there any further notices of motion?

Item 7, motions for the production of papers.

Item 8, motions.

ITEM NO. 8: MOTIONS

Is there unanimous consent for Hon. Arnold McCallum to move his motion now? Are there any nays? I did not hear one but is there one? Proceed, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Motion 21-65: Appointment To N.W.T. Housing Corporation

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

WHEREAS the number of directors of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation was recently increased;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Assembly recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. James Arvaluk be appointed a director of the said corporation.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 21-65, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: The question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Are there any other motions, gentlemen? Motions 19-65 and 20-65. Motion 19-65, Mr. Fraser.

Motion 19-65: Financial Assistance, Organized Caribou Hunts.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS most of the funds allocated for organized caribou hunts is spent in the Yellowknife area;

AND WHEREAS other communities are in need of assistance for organized caribou hunts;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner that the financial assistance provided to organized hunts be more equally distributed among the communities requesting such assistance.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Did you wish to discuss this, Mr. Fraser?

MR. FRASER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Briefly I would like to outline the funds that were allocated which were presented by the Minister of Natural and Cultural Affairs for caribou hunts in 1977-78. In the Yellowknife area they got \$21,049 for organized caribou hunts. The Mackenzie Valley consisting of Fort Good Hope, Colville Lake, Fort Norman and Fort Simpson received \$4340. The Arctic, Resolute Bay, Frobisher Bay, Cape Dorset and Rankin Inlet received \$7778. I think the funds should be more evenly distributed amongst the communities that request the assistance and it would be a help to some of the communities. Some of them do not even know that these funds exist. I think if the administration would take more control and distribute the funds evenly, it would be a benefit to all the communities.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the motion, provided Mr. Fraser can assure us that he can come up with something better than three dollars a pound.

MR. SPEAKER: Further discussion?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 19-65, Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Motion 20-65, Mr. Nickerson.

Motion 20-65: Dempster Highway Management Plan

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS there is in the possession of the Government of the Northwest Territories, a document dealing with federal government plans for the management of the Dempster highway;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has instructed the Commissioner not to release this document to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this House indicates to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development its dissatisfaction and displeasure at his refusal to make the Dempster highway management plan available to this Legislature and urges him to reconsider his position on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson, before we call for a seconder, under returns, Deputy Commissioner Parker, did you not say this document would be tabled under Item 9?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson, I take it you did not hear Deputy Commissioner Parker say under Item 2, that under Item 9 he would table that very document which is the subject of your motion?

MR. NICKERSON: No, I did not hear him say that, Mr. Speaker. If that is exactly the case, then, of course, I withdraw this motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Is that the case, Deputy Commissioner Parker?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The document in question, one copy of it is in Hon. Tom Butters' hands and the other copies should be made available to the House in a matter of minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to say, sir, it indicates the power of Mr. Nickerson's notices of motion.

Motion 20-65, Withdrawn

MR. SPEAKER: If I may be permitted to say so, I saw it being reproduced upstairs. That Motion 20-65, is withdrawn.

Item 9, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document:

Tabled Document 18-65, Dempster Highway Management Plan and, as Deputy Commissioner Parker indicated earlier, it will be circulated as soon as it is down here.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Further tabled documents?  
Hon. Arnold McCallum.

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

Tabled Document 19-65, Froment and Co. Chartered Accountants, Auditors' Report, dated May 5, 1978 and dealing with the review of accounting records made necessary by a case of fraud at Tuktoyaktuk.

MR. SPEAKER: Other tabled 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

Is it the wish of the House to complete Tabled Document 4-65, the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council Annual Report?

---Agreed

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I think yesterday when we were dealing with this topic, this tabled document, I indicated before I made a motion to report progress that the topic was of such considerable magnitude and importance that listening to the discussions of other Members who are not here, who I believe would be very much interested in this particular document, I would suggest, sir, that this tabled document again come before the House at the next session so that all Members could participate in the discussion on the recommendations to the regulations and changes in the ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, Hon. Arnold McCallum, the record should show there are ten Members in the House.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I agree, sir. I indicated yesterday there were ten, but there was still a number of Members from the East, especially, who have consistently talked about the seriousness of the liquor situation in that part of the territories as well as the liquor situation across the territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum, the problem I have is a simple procedural one, I guess, and that is the matter is on the order paper. I think I am obliged to move it in committee of the whole. I think the comments you have made here and now can be the subject of a motion in committee of the whole, that the committee report progress. If you win that motion, then obviously, I then have the direction of the House, but I do not see how I can not permit the debate to carry on here.

---Agreed

That being so, who chaired that? Mr. Fraser, I think chaired that discussion. This House will resolve into committee of the whole for continued consideration of Tabled Document 4-65, the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council Annual Report, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Tabled Document 4-65, Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council Annual Report, March 31, 1978, with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER TABLED DOCUMENT 4-65, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES ALCOHOL AND DRUG CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT, MARCH 31, 1978

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The committee will come to order to study Tabled Document 4-65. I believe we went through the recommendations on page ten and recommendation 6 was rejected. I think that was the last one we were dealing with. Recommendation 7. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I do not want to mislead the House into thinking that I do not want to discuss this particular document. I think again though that the entire question of recommendations by the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council dealing with amendments to the Liquor Ordinance and dealing with these kinds of recommendations to regulations is of a serious nature and one that invokes a serious discussion and debate among people. Sufficiently so, that I would want to know that the Members who are absent at this time for whatever reason, and I do not think it is necessary to get into a discussion as to whether or not if they want to discuss it they would be here but nevertheless, I think the situation or the topic is sufficiently intriguing and interesting and very debatable that I would prefer to have all Members have the opportunity to discuss these recommendations. Again I am not suggesting, nor do I want Members to draw from my comments that I do not want the topic discussed. I think it should be but I really am of the opinion that although we are ten in number now the other five Members are not present have in the past raised very pertinent remarks concerning the whole topic of liquor control, the Liquor Ordinance and the liquor regulations.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: I think, Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member from Hay River had his hand up before I did.

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

MR. STEWART: It was my understanding yesterday that we voted on setting this particular document aside until the next session in October and I concluded that it would not show up on the order paper. I think an error has been made. In view of that I make a motion that we report progress and request that the administration bring this paper back in October.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): To the motion. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: That is basically what I was going to say also. I think the Members from the Eastern Arctic would be very interested in this piece of paper because there are a number of things here that deal with alcohol problems in the Eastern Arctic as well and I would support that motion to say that we bring this back for our October session in the fall.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. The Legal Advisor is going to look up the motion that was made last night before we reported progress to see. The Legal Advisor will read the motion that was made prior to reporting progress of last night.

Motion That Further Discussion Of Tabled Document 4-65 Be Deferred

LEGAL ADVISOR (Ms. Flieger): The motion was from Hon. Arnold McCallum "I would move that we report progress on this and come back to it at another particular time when we have more Members, possibly the next session."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I believe that motion was passed.

LEGAL ADVISOR (Ms. Flieger): Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think that the item correctly appears on the order paper. I think that the decision of our Speaker is correct when he referred it to committee of the whole. I think that we should vote on Mr. Stewart's motion as to whether to proceed. However, before I give up the floor I think we should continue to debate this matter. I think referring it to some session possibly at some time in the future is to a degree irresponsible. The

Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council has developed these recommendations. I think that it is in the interests of not only the Members of that council but the general public to have the opinions and directions of this committee. I think that we should proceed. There is a real possibility that such a matter on being referred to the October session would once again see it relegated to an item of minimal priority and again be pushed to the end of our agenda so that when it comes up we are once more faced with the situation of having a partial House in attendance. I feel that we should continue to debate this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. I think you will have to recognize the Chair. The motion was made last night and you all have a copy of it in the reports. The motion was made by Hon. Arnold McCallum that we do not discuss it until we get more Members and we have no more Members than when the motion was passed. I do not think we can discuss it any further at this time and I would wish to report progress. Is that agreed?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Tabled Document 4-65, Northwest Territories Alcohol And Drug Co-ordinating Council Annual Report, March 31, 1978

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, your committee went into committee of the whole to study Tabled Document 4-65. However, on closing last night the motion was made that we do not complete the discussion of the document any further until we have more Members. At this time I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Information Item 2-65, Federal-Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping. I assume, Mr. Stewart, you could take the chair on that as Mr. Fraser may wish to comment. This House will resolve into committee of the whole for consideration of Information Item 2-65, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Information Item 2-65, Federal-Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER INFORMATION ITEM 2-65, FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMANE TRAPPING

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): This committee will come to order to study Information Item 2-65, the Federal-Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping. Are there any witnesses to be called? Do any of the Honourable Ministers wish to give us any background? Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not request witnesses for this particular item because I feel that the background information contained in Information Item 2-65 is complete and explains the reason for bringing this matter back to the House. By way of providing a bit of background I would remind Members that during the debate on estimates of the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs, and particularly the grants and contributions section, a motion was made that suggested that a grant which would be destined for the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping not be so disbursed but be spent in the territories as an encouragement to the development of a humane trap within this jurisdiction.

The motion was not discussed at any length but it received the support of ten Members of the committee including myself. In the interim I have become a little more knowledgeable on the background to this grant, and as a result, would like to ask Members if they would reconsider the vote that was made at that time and rescind that and permit the grant to go ahead to a federal-provincial committee for humane trapping.

#### Fifth Payment Of Commitment

The reason I do so is that first of all, the grant as indicated in the estimates of last January and February was a portion of a commitment which this government had entered into over four years ago and this was to be the fifth payment of that commitment, so it was not a new item but a commitment which the territorial government had made years ago.

I would like to point out too that in the debate relative to the motion it was suggested that the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping might be a group of bureaucrats who just kick around ideas and concepts and really were non-productive and of no particular value and advantage to the people, particularly the trappers of the Northwest Territories. Investigation has indicated to me that this is indeed not the case. The reason that the territories funded this organization to begin with was that it recognized, as did many jurisdictions, that the current process of trapping is inhumane and is cruel and, in some cases, may cause not only lingering death but entrap other creatures, birds and other animals which the trapper was not seeking to take in the first place. The five year program of this group was to develop a humane trap, a trap which would kill quickly and as humanely as possible.

Initially the research was being done by the Canadian Wildlife Services. About two years ago the Canadian Wildlife Services withdrew its support and the organization had to proceed on its own.

It has been very successful, to my understanding, towards obtaining its objective. To date it has received a total of 231 submissions, trap designs and proposals and all of these traps and designs have been evaluated by the technical and scientific subcommittee of this group. Some 25 or 30 devices are now being actively tested and many devices have been taken out of the test stream for further development and will be reintroduced with modifications. The House of Commons standing committee examining the private member's bill to ban the leg-hold trap has recommended the support of this committee so that it is a very legitimate body and it is doing productive work.

I do not know how many Members might have seen the final television program of "Ombudsman", but on that show Mr. Robert Cooper, the ombudsman, paid a visit to the testing facilities of this organization and for a few minutes the viewers could see the approach testing that is being done by the committee.

N.W.T. Not Beseiged By Lobbyists.

To assure Members that a territorial inventor would not be at a loss if an instrument that he developed was admitted to this body, any such designs and plans are taken and patent rights are protected by the group. So, what I am suggesting to you is that in the Northwest Territories, our jurisdiction, the jurisdiction at the present time for which we have sole responsibility for the management of wildlife, which has not really received the full brunt of environmentalists and wildlife lobbyists who are coming down on the trapper and the people who make their livelihood from harvesting our wildlife resource. I realize that the Northwest Territories seal hunter has experienced such a situation but this has not been the result of a direct attack by these anti-trapping groups, as we all know it is a result of the attack on the harp seal hunt off Newfoundland. I think one of the reasons we have not been beseiged by the anti-trapping lobbyists and Greenpeace is because we have been a member of the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping, encouraging this committee. I would suggest that the only responsible position that we can take is to continue to give that committee strong support. That is why I say it would be a very responsible and productive act if we rescind that motion and permit the government to fulfil its obligation and its commitment to the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping, and even, if deemed necessary increase our contribution. Thank you.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I disagree with the Honourable Member wholly. I do not believe that a committee like this has any business telling the people of the country who have been trapping for hundreds of years and using different types of traps how to trap. I have trapped for many years myself and sure some of the wild long-haired fur is caught in a leg trap; beaver and muskrats if the trap is set are drowned, by the way. I do not know how much sooner you can kill them if they are drowned as soon as they are caught. It looks to me like another money scheme the government is setting up, to set up another department that wants funds to do something to try to stop something the people have been doing for years in this country. I would not give them any support at all myself.

The money that is going to be spent, a large amount of it is going to the committee that is set up. Once they get the money they get into cahoots with the manufacturers of traps who there again are going to make some money. That is all they are out there for, to make money. It is just another money making scheme as far as I am concerned and I would not support it at all.

Cost Of Traps

Plus the fact if they put this legislation through, they are going to come out with a different type of trapping and if it is accepted, then you have to buy all the traps back from the people who are using the leg traps now. You could not begin to think of how many dollars that is going to run into when traps are about \$16 a dozen and a lot of trappers in the Arctic and in the bush country are holding maybe 1000 traps, 500 anyway, most of them, 500 to 1000 traps. If they are going to buy those traps back at \$16 a dozen, the bill alone is enough money that can not be justified plus the fact that this committee -- I do not know who they have been talking to in the North, but I have got static back from a lot of people in my constituency who said not to support this humane trapping whatsoever. They want to trap the way they have been trapping and they are tired of people telling them how they should trap, what they should trap and when they should trap. I have no support for this at all, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I was going to talk about the cost but Mr. Fraser mentioned that as well. I am sure he has laid it out quite well to Members of this committee and all I can do is support him and hope that this Information Item 2-65 be further discussed in the communities.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Any comments? Mr. Lafferty.

Change-over Expensive

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate these kinds of studies that have been undertaken because it draws a lot of light to the problem of trappers. I do not see anywhere in this report where they are dealing with the cost of change-over from leg-hold traps to humane trapping. I think that Mr. Fraser touched on matters that are of most grave concern to trappers who are in the North. Most of the trappers in the North, Mr. Chairman, are using leg-hold traps and the cost of changing over from the leg-hold to humane traps is expensive. We ran a little bit of a questionnaire among the trappers at the Fort Simpson Hunters' and Trappers' Association and you will find that the cost of the conibear trap, which is a humane trap, is an average price of about nine dollars so the change-over would be very high. There are some people who I know are engaged in full time trapping and they use in the neighbourhood of 600 to 1000 traps. This is a lot of traps at an average cost of nine dollars a trap and you are getting up into thousands of dollars. The change-over for these trappers would be a very costly thing and I think it would be affecting part of the northern economy.

Perhaps before we discuss this type of thing in great detail we should be developing also, because of the political nature of this document, we should be looking at the possible assistance, financial assistance to trappers who would be required to change over. Mr. Chairman, we have an obligation here in this case because the territorial government did finance to some degree the research that is being done and the financing of the committee which is quite a detriment to the trappers who are with us today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Are there any other speakers who wish to speak for the first time? Mr. Nickerson.

#### Other Types Of Traps Needed

MR. NICKERSON: First of all, Mr. Chairman, I have to agree with Hon. Tom Butters that as yet we have not been subject to the full force of the environmentalists who will undoubtedly be down our backs pretty soon over the matter of leg-hold traps. It is my personal opinion that I do not see any great difficulty in the use of leg-hold traps but this does not say whether or not we like it. We should be thinking about the problem and, if at all possible, we should support the development of some other form of trapping. I think it is interesting to note that some of the work that has been carried out by the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping has shown particularly in drowning sets, the leg-hold trap is probably the most humane type of trap for that type of set because there is apparently less stress on the animal when drowning than any other type of test.

I guess the committee itself has come under a lot of criticism in the South over some of the testing that they are doing, because obviously they have to be fairly cruel to animals to measure the amount of stress they were subjected to at the time they had been experimentally killed. They had some work going on at the university in Regina I think, drowning tests where they were drowning certain animals and this got into the local press and there was a hullabaloo about that. The way they got around that particular problem was not to call the tests drowning tests any more but to call them terminal dive tests.

I have been in correspondence with and have had the opportunity of meeting people involved with federal-provincial committee. They have assured me that the steering committee that oversees the research work being done has people from all walks of life on it. It has people who are members of the humane animal society or whatever they call themselves, it has professional trappers, it has professional research people.

#### Areas Of Research

The work that they are doing is really fourfold. One is establishing mechanical design criteria for traps. A lot of mechanical testing has established energy levels needed to kill various types of animals and that type of thing. The second area of research is in experimentally killing animals in various ways and monitoring the various vital signs I guess you call them to see how much stress an animal suffers as it dies by various methods. The third area of research is the one Hon. Tom Butters has already referred to, experimentally trapping the animals in confined areas and having television cameras shoot at the traps so they can monitor the approach of the animal and how it actually gets caught in the trap. The fourth thing they do is to test traps submitted to them by inventors, either model traps, prototype traps or sometimes they will make the prototypes from drawings submitted by inventors. The inventor will retain the patent on any trap developed on the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping in conjunction with other arms of government will help the inventor to take out his patent.

If I have any criticism of the federal-provincial committee, it is that it is twofold. The first is that most of the money is not necessarily going to bureaucrats as we accused them of before. It is going to southern universities, to people doing postgraduate research and that type of thing.

That is not necessarily bad but I would like to see some money retained in the North. The other thing is that there is no immediate return to the inventor. The inventor who comes up with a good design for a trap -- it still might be many years before he can get his patents out before he can interest a manufacturer and before he can start obtaining royalties from his invention. There is not that immediate financial incentive.

I think I would, after having found out more about the activities of the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping, have to back off a little from some of the criticism I subjected them to earlier. I think they are doing a fairly good job. Our financial commitment to them is only in the region of \$5000 a year, I understand. It is not that great and we could presumably continue to give that to them if that is what this committee decides.

#### Prizes For Inventions

But nevertheless I do not think that is the whole answer. I am still very much in favour of establishing prizes for Northwest Territories residents who make inventions and that would give them an immediate return. I can see a guy making a trap in his basement and giving it some real thought if there was the likelihood he would have an immediate \$2000 from it if that amount was found to be suitable. He could still patent it and license it and hopefully get a lot of money eventually. It is my understanding that there are some five million traps in Canada and about 50 million traps in the United States. If these all have to be replaced by some person's invention there are a lot of royalties going to accrue to somebody.

I will hear out what other Members of the committee think of this subject and it is my intention later, if it seems to be the general wish of this committee, I would like to move a small amendment to the recommendation contained in this report.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Are there any other Members who wish to speak for the first time? I have Hon. Tom Butters and Mr. Fraser next. Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Honourable Member for Yellowknife North for his complementary remarks to my opening position. He indicated that I was going to provide an answer to the very real concerns of Mr. Fraser and Mr. Whitford. As he mentioned, and I will just corroborate this, the scientific and technical subcommittee is comprised of a trapper, a biologist, a mechanical engineer, a humane society representative and a veterinary pathologist.



#### Expenditures On Research

The work being done, and I am looking at the budget for 1977-78 and in the research areas again, and this only underlines what Mr. Nickerson said about \$18,000 is being spent on mechanical evaluation of traps, mechanical development, \$8000, approach studies, which we saw on television, \$25,000, terminal dive or drowning, \$11,000, and lateral impact, where the trap closes on the sides of the animal, \$37,000. In that year on research alone there was almost \$100,000. Again, as Mr. Nickerson pointed out, the territorial contribution to this is only \$4620.

I recognize that there is a very real concern in the trapping community that if the equipment which presently keeps the trapper in business, which are his traps, are suddenly ruled illegal, that he is going to be required, to operate next trapping season, to find somewhere, \$3000 to \$5000 to replace his traps. I do not think that that concern should be part of this committee's responsibility. I think this is something else that Mr. Lafferty, if he is still finance chairman when that matter comes back to the House, will have to examine with his committee. There will have to be some program of assistance so that people replacing the leg-hold trap currently in use, with the more humane trap, if legislated, should be permitted to do so without any cost to themselves.

I recognize the point, as I said, that Mr. Whitford and Mr. Fraser made. It is a very valid one and can not be ignored. I recognize, also, that the incentive proposition, or proposal that we all voted for I think unanimously, when the point was first raised in the estimates, is a good one and it should be pursued. I think that if such money exists in the department in the current budget, such could be developed, or again, the finance committee might look at this for the estimates which we will be approving next year.

#### Market For Furs Needed

So, again I would just point out that to remove, to refuse to commit this money would create a very difficult position for us politically. I think we must recognize that the trapper is only going to continue to trap as long as he has a market. If environmentalists and people who go around and say "You should not wear fur on your back, you are wearing death on your back", if they can convince the luxury markets and fashion markets of the world that fur should not be used, then the trapper could have all the traps in the world and not make a dollar. I think this is a reality that we as managers of wildlife and managers of the renewable fur resource must recognize. I think we would be very remiss and very irresponsible if we did not continue to finance the committee for humane trapping.

#### Motion To Continue Support To Federal-Provincial Committee For Humane Trapping

I would formally make that motion, sir, the committee motion of last year during the debate on Natural and Cultural Affairs, that it be rescinded and the financial commitment of the territorial government be maintained to the federal-provincial committee on humane trapping and that we refer to the finance committee the two other concerns that were raised during this debate, which are replacement of traps in the event of the development of the humane trap and the development of a grant to encourage Northwest Territories inventors to develop such a device, a humane trapping device.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Tom Butters, the length of that motion, we do not have a transcript here. Could you give us a written one, please, so we can get what you want down?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): You were going too fast and we do not have the ability of shorthand here, and it was that long. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: To assist Hon. Tom Butters, as far as I can see, the recommendation in the information item is that we recommend that the Government of the Northwest Territories continue to support the federal-provincial committee on humane trapping. Is that not really what Hon. Tom Butters would like to say?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That is correct.

Motion Amended

MR. NICKERSON: If that is to be Hon. Tom Butters' motion, I would have liked to have added an amendment to this effect, and if it so meets with Hon. Tom Butters' approval, I would move. The amendment I would like to move is: "and by the establishment of prizes for the best humane trap developed within the Northwest Territories directly support the objectives of the committee".

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I agree with that.

MR. NICKERSON: Then I would so move, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Then, as I understand it, Hon. Tom Butters, you made the following motion: "This government agrees to provide financial support to the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping." Pardon me, "I move that we recommend that the Government of the Northwest Territories continue to support the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping." Is that your motion, Hon. Tom Butters?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Then, it was amended by the addition of the following words by Mr. Nickerson: "and by the establishment of prizes for the best humane trap developed within the Northwest Territories directly support the objectives of this committee". Is that your addition, Mr. Nickerson?

MR. NICKERSON: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Now, I am not sure of the technicality, so I might seek legal advice. There was a motion to discontinue funding and this motion does not say, basically, necessarily, that you are going to continue funding. I just wondered technically whether you are accomplishing what you wish to. Madam Legal Advisor, would that be sufficient? Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The only thing that could be defined as support at the present time is the four years of contributions that have been made by the government and this recommendation just requires that that support be continued, that that financial support be continued. However, I will accept the direction of the Legal Advisor as to a more concise and explicit wording.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Tom Butters, the advice is that we should put the word "financial" in there in the proper place. You will notice that there are actually two recommendations, there is another recommendation on page two, or the first page of this particular document that: "The mandate of federal-provincial committee for humane trapping expires in March, 1979," but the recommendation may be made that the mandate be extended for a further two years. Do you want to put a date in here so we can clear this matter? If there is an extension, do you wish to continue financial support or just for the present program?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: With the word "financial" added to the second recommendation, would it not just be implicit that since there is no time or date in the first one, that it could be extended as the requirement seemed to exist?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): That is correct, if that is the direction you want to go.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you.

Motion Reworded

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Tom Butters, do you wish then to change your motion to read as follows: "I move that we recommend that the Government of the Northwest Territories continue financial support to the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping." Is that the motion as you would like it presented? Is that agreed, Hon. Tom Butters?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Then we have the amendment, of course. To the amendment, Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I think with all due respect, that this matter, a very serious one, should be held over until the fall session when the eastern Members are here. Right now, there are only two or three of us in the Legislature speaking to this particular motion.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, two Members support these funds to this committee. Neither one of them trap but they must have some people in their constituency who trap and I do not think they have consulted them, not one bit, because anyone I have talked to who tried to change the type of trapping has been against it and they do not have a bunch of trappers to answer to if this is passed.

I in no way will support this motion because I do not think it is the time and place right now. I know a lot of -- like Mr. Whitford said -- there are a lot of trappers in the Arctic who would not support something like this and it is not fair to them. I know they should be here, they are interested, but unfortunately they are not here. When you have to go back into your constituency and answer to a bunch of mad trappers, you might call them, to let something like this go, there is no way, there is no way I can support something like this. I do not think it is fair to the rest of the trappers who are not here who would have support for it. My friend to my left says it is research, but I do not care, it is still out of my books completely. It is just another way to spend money, taxpayers' money.

Southerners Tell Northerners What To Do

Mr. Chairman, if I might go a little further, I would say that the people in the North are getting fed up with people in the South telling them what they should do, how they should trap, what they trap and when they should trap. It is about time we sat back and said "Let them trap and use the type of traps they want", but why should someone in Ottawa tell us what type of traps we should use and when we should use it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I wonder, as chairman, if I am allowed to ask one question. What do the trappers' associations of the Northwest Territories have to say about this particular item? Have they been consulted or is there any information with regard to this?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the initial expenditure or contribution was made some four years ago, I do not know exactly when, in the previous House, so I do not know what groundwork had been laid at that time with the various hunters' and trappers' associations. We have voted it every budget since we have come into being, so the Members who are now rejecting it have already given it approval in previous budgets but I do not know what the initial reaction to this was when it was first brought up in the settlement hunting and trapping associations.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. As chairman I am not taking any particular side. My area does relatively little trapping but I see we are reaching a point. Mr. Fraser is in a position where he is opposing this motion until other people are here and there is one technical way you could do that if you want to try it and that is to move that we report progress and then we do not defeat it. We leave it open until there are more people here if that is what you want to do.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I so move that we report progress.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): That is not debatable. There is a motion on the floor to report progress. All those in favour? You lost that round.

---Defeated

That is the best I can do to help you, Mr. Fraser. To the amendment on the motion. Mr. Steen.

#### Comparison Of Traps.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I see nothing wrong with carrying out, as Hon. Tom Butters mentioned, the amount of money that has been recommended to support the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping. I tend to agree with him. I was a trapper at one time myself and I know what it is to trap. I know how much a trap weighs. I know what kind of humane traps they have now. It is no match for the old trap. The humane traps you have now, if you ever catch anything in them as far as setting them on the coast, then the animal freezes in the trap and you have to bring the whole trap back into the house and wait a couple of days to thaw it out. Those kinds of humane traps, about ten of them is a load; whereas with the present trap you can haul as many 100, 200, or 300 and that for the trapper is feasible, for him to work with the present trap. I will say that I agree perhaps to a certain extent that there should be a humane trap but it is going to take money to find out. The Northwest Territories should share the responsibility and put some money into that program. I would have to support the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you for that dissertation with regard to the amendment, Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: That is all right.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The amendment of the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Amendment Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): To the amendment, all those in favour? Five. Opposed? Two. The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Motion As Amended, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): To the motion as amended, those in favour? Four. Opposed? Two. The motion as amended is carried.

---Carried

Is it the desire of this committee that I report this paper then as being studied and the motion as presented?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Information Item 2-65, Federal-Provincial Committee For Humane Trapping

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Information Item 2-65 and the study is now completed. The following motion was carried: We recommend that the Government of the Northwest Territories continue financial support to the federal-provincial committee for humane trapping and the following amendment was also carried: And by the establishment of prizes for the best humane trap developed within the Northwest Territories directly support the objectives of this committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Gentlemen, Motion 7-65, Development of a Hamlet Ordinance, has to be stood down because the mover of that motion is not here and he indicated to Hon. Peter Ernerk that he would prefer the matter to proceed next session when he is here. That leaves the two Information Items 12-65 and 13-65 which I propose to put in committee together at the same time.

Recognition Of Distinguished Parliamentarians

Before doing so, however, I would like to take this opportunity of recognizing some very distinguished parliamentarians in our gallery. First, I would like to introduce Hon. Erik Nielsen, Member of Parliament for the Yukon and with him a colleague of his as well, Mr. Stan Darling. Though not from the parliament of Canada, from another legislative body very similar to our own, from the Yukon Legislative Assembly, the Minister of Local Government, the Hon. Ken McKinnon. Welcome parliamentarians, on behalf of this Legislature.

---Applause

We are very pleased to see you here. I know that there was a very good meeting, an excellent meeting this morning. With these gentlemen there is another distinguished parliamentarian who unfortunately is not in the gallery. I would love to introduce him. I am sure all of you know him and remember him well when he was minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Hon. Walter Dinsdale and maybe as he joins us later this afternoon the Chair can recognize him. That, as I understand it, makes the complete delegation. Mr. Stewart, are you prepared to continue to chair Information Items 12-65 and 13-65?

MR. STEWART: I do not have my copies here. What are they, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Information Item 12-65, Snow Clearing Contracts and Information Item 13-65, Escheats and Bona Vacantia. I do not know who put that on, but I have my suspicions.

MR. STEWART: I had better decline, sir, because I can not say some of these words.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser, would you act as chairman of the committee?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, if he can not say them, how does he expect me to say them?

MR. SPEAKER: There is only one lawyer in this House and I can not do it. Mr. Stewart, will you try?

MR. STEWART: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will resolve into committee of the whole for consideration of Information Items 12-65 and 13-65, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Information Item 12-65, Snow Clearing Contracts and Information Item 13-65, Escheats and Bona Vacantia, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER INFORMATION ITEM 12-65, SNOW CLEARING CONTRACTS AND INFORMATION ITEM 13-65, ESCHEATS AND BONA VACANTIA

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order to study Information Item 12-65 and Information Item 13-65. I recognize the hour as coffee break. We will recess for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum. The committee is studying Information Item 12-65, Snow Clearing Contracts. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the question that was asked originally on snow clearing in the Delta area is not really answered by this response and I must accept some responsibility for that. It is for that reason that I would like to make just a very brief further explanation. Previously the contract for both summer and winter work was let as one contract. The maintenance of the portion of the Dempster highway that lies within the Northwest Territories, that is, from Fort McPherson to Inuvik, is being let as one contract and invitations to tender are out now. The successful bidder on that tender will do the summer maintenance and the winter maintenance on that highway. For the winter roads that are constructed in the Delta, whereas previously we let those all under one contract, in the next winter season we propose to call those as separate segments, that is, the winter road to Aklavik can be bid on as one contract. The winter road to Tuktoyaktuk can be bid on as a second one and so on. Therefore, we hope that we have complied with the request that was made.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I was just wondering if the Clerk could tell the House who asked for this Information Item 12-65 to be on the order paper because if that person does not happen to be here then I suppose we could dispose of it very quickly.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Mr. Chairman, that was a joint request by Mr. Steen and Hon. Tom Butters. They are here.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Thank you.

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

Winter Road Between Tuktoyaktuk And Fort McPherson

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to hear the Deputy Commissioner say just those very words. That was my main concern, the way the report came back to us, the contract was split up or being let at the present time and my suggestion was to split Fort McPherson and Inuvik. What my real concern was about the contract for the winter road between Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik, especially that particular road. The contractor was from Fort McPherson and he tried to open the roads but as soon as it became a blizzard condition he beat it back to the bush and it made it very difficult for anybody to travel on that road. I am very happy to hear the Deputy Commissioner say that they are going to look at the contracts for the next winter. As far as I am concerned, it is not necessary for further debate.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Information Item 12-65.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Information Item 13-65, Escheats and Bona Vacantia. Mr. Nickerson.

Motion To Attempt To Enact N.W.T. Legislation On Escheats And Bona Vacantia

MR. NICKERSON: I do not think the discussion on this particular subject will take very long, Mr. Chairman. I wish to move a motion dealing with this information item. The motion reads as follows: I move that the administration be requested to (a) reopen discussions with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with a view to enabling the Legislative Assembly

to enact its own legislation dealing with escheats and bona vacantia and (b) report back to the Legislature at its fall sitting the results of these discussions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I have a motion on the floor. To the motion, Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I will speak briefly to the motion, Mr. Chairman. It appears that in 1971-72 this matter was raised with the department. There were a number of discussions that took place at that time. I understand there are a number of various proposals put forward jointly between the governments of the territories and the federal government. I think there was a general consensus at that time and the best method by which this objective could be accomplished and then for some reason or other it was not dealt with. It is obviously not a matter of great priority and there must have been something else which came up in the meantime.

I think that now would be an opportune time to get things rolling again, it has been six or seven years since the subject was last broached and mainly it is a series of technical amendments that are necessary, I presume, and these things all seem to get put on the bottom of the list because it is not an item of top priority. My motion is just requesting that after this period of some six years we reopen the subject.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary?

---Carried

May I report Information Item 13-65 as completed with the motion just approved?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Information Item 12-65, Snow Clearing Contracts and Information Item 13-65, Escheats and Bona Vacantia

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I would like to report that your committee has completed their study on Information Item 12-65 and they have also completed their study on Information Item 13-65 with the following motion: I move that the administration be requested to (a) reopen discussions with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with a view to enabling the Legislative Assembly to enact its own legislation dealing with escheats and bona vacantia and (b) report back to the Legislature at its fall sitting the results of these discussions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Stewart. Gentlemen, as I read the order paper, Item 10 is completed.

Item 11, time and place of next session. I believe it is customary to invite the Commissioner up here to indicate the time and place of next session and deal as well with Item 12, prorogation.



ITEM NO. 11: TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

COMMISSIONER HODGSON: Please be seated. The proposal for the next session of Council, the fall session of the Legislature I submit to you for your approval, the dates October 16th to 27th to take place in the city of Yellowknife. I am sure that some of you must wonder what goes on between the Speaker and myself when I come up here. I will not tell you everything that is said. He is usually very kind and he welcomes me to the dais and I thank him for the use of his chair. Today in conversation I said I lost my button and I could not find anybody in the chamber to sew it back on for me.

On a more serious note I want, before proroguing to say a couple of words to you. The first is that I believe even though you will be through a day earlier than was originally envisioned, we do set aside two weeks at this period of time before we prorogue the spring session of the Legislature. Normally we look toward a two week session. If it does last three then the time has been set aside.

Proposed Wildlife Ordinance

One of the reasons that perhaps you are through earlier than originally envisioned is the fact that the administration decided not to bring forward at this time the amendments to the Wildlife Ordinance or the Game Ordinance. The administration does believe however that before too long we must come to grips with this ordinance and make a decision one way or the other as to what we are going to do with it.

Like the Education Ordinance it has been discussed widely by almost every community, certainly in the regions and the Game Advisory Council. That has been their principal preoccupation since they were formed in 1974. So it is probably the most consulted, the most reviewed document in the history of the Northwest Territories. There are some things that we recognize and that is the business of land claims and development and land freezes and things of this kind, and we believe that they must be made note of but nevertheless the business of the territories which is a responsibility legislatively of this House must be to come to grips with something as important as this and can not forever be expected to tread water. So, your administration, particularly the Executive Committee will be giving this very serious thought over the summer months.

#### Municipal Leaders Conference

The other thing I wanted to draw reference to was the meeting that is taking place at the present moment in the city of Yellowknife, that being the municipal leaders conference of mayors from the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Greenland. While we are actually dealing in four languages it is interesting to note how the people are able to communicate and how similar the solutions are. I think that these kinds of things certainly indicate to me and I believe it would indicate to you as well, as the people of the territories, that we do not necessarily have to invent new means of government, new systems to be able to come to grips with the problems that affect this part of the world. The idea of a national government, of state or provincial government and municipal government is indeed the simplest way, most direct and most democratic way of everybody having a say in the things that affect their lives.

I have been privileged to travel much of the world, some before I entered government and some since I have been in government and whether it be behind the so-called "Iron Curtain" or in the so-called "Free World", call it what you might, they are two different systems altogether. It is interesting to note that there, as well as here and in the emerging countries there is this recognition that there must be a government, an authority, that represents not only the various views but represents all of the people on the things that affect people's daily lives.

It seems to me as we are once again coming to the conclusion, as we have seen it happen so many times in the past, with the recognition that collectively while we may have differences of approach with those who live off the polar seas or to the south of us, that nevertheless there must be institutions in which people can get redress if we are going to be able to solve these problems of which I speak.

#### Celebrations And Invitations

I expect this summer to be a busy summer. I have already told you of some of the things that will be transpiring. This year the Canadian government looks forward to celebrating Canada Day and there will be a number of festivities that will take place in the Northwest Territories and we believe that we should recognize not only ourselves but our nation and what binds us all together as Canadians. I will not be here for the July 1st celebrations as I have to go to Ottawa in late June to talk about some of the things that you have raised here and some other things we will have to be thinking about for the next six months ahead. I have been invited, along with Hon. Tom Butters, to the Commonwealth Games which will be taking place in the city of Edmonton later in the summer and while there of course we will be representatives of the people of the Northwest Territories.

Earlier this morning I was invited, along with your Speaker, to attend a 250 year celebration of the founding of the capital city of Greenland, Godthaab and so later this summer, if plans can be worked out the Speaker and I along with our wives will be going over, as I accepted the invitation to attend, representing the Northwest Territories.

I told you that I intend to continue to promote and publicize as much as I can the Northwest Territories. I think this is imperative because I do believe that this fall, this winter, we will find ourselves facing some economic hardships but regardless of that it will be up to us all to work now and plan now and not only for the years ahead but for the immediate future. Your administration has already begun work on them. I have been in touch with Mr. Jim Robertson the head of the committee that I announced at the beginning of the session and they are beginning their work on Friday night and will begin working on the recommendations, the briefs and all of the pertinent points that came out of the economic policy conference which took place in Hay River earlier this month.

The Federal Election

So I envision a very busy time until we meet again next October. I do not know what the political situation will be when we next meet again in October, whether we will be in the midst of an election or not but I do not expect it will affect me one bit. I am not sure I can say the same for every one of the Members of the House. That is one of the things we may have to face but nevertheless I still have great faith in the elective process and I am sure once the Canadian people have been given the opportunity to decide they will make the right choice for the government on a national basis for the next three or four years.

As for ourselves, we now face two more sessions. We have the session in October and then the budget session in January. One way of saying it is it is your last kick at the cat. Another way of saying it is you should be very astute and careful in your handling particularly of the legislation and the budget. Two standing committees, one on finance and one on legislation have a heavy responsibility in deciding on what the allocation of the funds should be. We will do everything in our power to get the maximum amount of financial resources out of the federal government and of course we have the prerogative of offering our opinion but you know that your advice and your opinion will weigh very heavily in the final analysis as to where those funds are spent. We will do everything in our power to continue as the Government of the Northwest Territories economically, constitutionally and politically. I see no difference of opinion between the views of this House and the administration and for that matter the people of the Northwest Territories.

ITEM NO. 12: PROROGATION

So on that note I prorogue this, the 65th session of the Legislature of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

---PROROGATION

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