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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
DEBATES

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8th Assembly

Official Report

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1979

pages 609 to 655

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1979

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Steen, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Lyall, Hon. Tom 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. Are there any returns? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

Criticism By Parks Canada Officials On CBC

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege if I may first, with respect to Rule 38 of this Legislative Assembly, the Rules and regulations and procedures. Mr. Speaker, for two days last week we met and talked about and I particularly talked about the federal bureaucracy, specifically the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and more particularly Parks Canada, and I spoke about their intentions as did many other Members in this House, of their intentions regarding land useage within the Northwest Territories, the past, the present and the future, that they know what is best for us in determining what land should be reserved for park purposes and that they are going to be the protectors for this land for all of Canada, regardless of what we want to do.

They would like to control all of the lands within the monolith called the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but specifically Parks Canada. Now, this morning the CBC carried the comments of a federal bureaucrat, Mr. Carruthers of Parks Canada, that really did reinforce what we were saying about Parks Canada officials and about Indian Affairs. He questioned the integrity of this House, in my opinion, regarding what we were telling the witnesses from Parks Canada. He indicated that we had sought to draw attention to ourselves, implying if not explicitly but the implication was there that because we are coming towards an election for the Members of this House that we would simply draw attention to ourselves, and that our goals were less than truthful and that when we chastised, as we did, quite correctly, Parks Canada officials, it was done to simply gain attention for ourselves.

Now, the unmitigating gall in my opinion of the federal bureaucrat to suggest that we are less than honourable is beyond my imagination, but again it only reflects what I said when I talked about land claims and what I said to the department officials about Parks Canada and what they intend to do. It would seem to me that we had the assistant deputy minister of Parks Canada

here, he explained what he wanted to do and neither within this House nor outside did he suggest we were laying anything on him that was less than truthful or less than what should be done. You have a Parks Canada planner suggest that we had better take it cool, re-evaluate what we are saying so that Parks Canada can get on with the job of preserving vast areas of this Northwest Territories for future generations of all Canada, because they are the only people who can do it. It would seem to me, Mr. Speaker, that not only should I take exception but each Member of this particular Assembly should take exception to what that particular gentleman said in terms of the integrity of this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I fully intend to do so, not only from within this House, but on a personal basis as well.

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any returns? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Further Return To Question W11-67: Harbour Control Policy

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Question W11-67 was asked by Mr. Steen on January 24, 1979, concerning harbour control policy.

As I advised earlier, the Northwest Territories government does not have a policy on harbour control and since this is a federal government responsibility, we do not plan to formulate a policy at this time. The administration is, however, in the process of arranging discussions between the Ministry of Transport, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and ourselves in order to delineate the responsibilities of each agency with respect to harbours in the North. The result of these discussions should be made available at a later date.

Further Return To Question W42-67: Minister's Task Force On Regulations And Administrative Procedures

Further to my reply on Friday, February 2, 1979, to Mr. Nickerson's Question W42-67 regarding the Minister's task force on regulations and administrative procedures, I now wish to advise the House that I have given a copy of the Queen's University report to Mr. Nickerson. I have here additional copies of the report if other interested Members wish to obtain one.

Return To Question W50-67: Freezing Water Pipes, Resolute Bay

Question W50-67 was asked on February 1, 1979, by Mr. Pudluk concerning freezing water pipes at Resolute Bay.

The Resolute Bay water system is now into its second full year of operation. This winter an abnormally high number of house service line freeze-ups have taken place. There was also a freeze-up in the main transmission line from the pump house to the treatment plant and a line break at manhole number three in the community. The main problem area, however, is the repeated pipe freeze-up in the house service connections. Investigations at the regional and headquarters' level are under way to determine if the cause of the problem is related to a design defect, contractor's defect or other unknown factors. If it is found to be a defect in design or construction then the Department of Public Works would bear the responsibility. Until the cause of the problem is solved, regional Department of Public Works will be installing circulating pumps in the houses affected and the situation is expected to be under control shortly.

Further Return To Question W55-67: Winter Road To Contwoyto Lake.

Question W55-67 was asked Mr. Nickerson on February 5, 1979, concerning a winter road to Contwoyto Lake. The territorial government has no direct information about plans for such a road. However, an inquiry was made to the regional manager of land resources of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, whose office has advised that an application for a land use permit for such a road has been received from Robinson Trucking Limited of Yellowknife. Details of the amount and type of material to be hauled were not available. A further inquiry to Robinson Trucking Limited has revealed that while the application has been made with a proposed commencement date of February 15, 1979, plans are still indefinite.

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

Question W59-67: N.W.T. Old Age Supplement.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, this is a question of some urgency as several elderly people have been in touch with me and require this information so they can complete their tax returns for the last taxation year. Is the Northwest Territories old age supplement to be considered as income for purposes of the federal Income Tax Act and the Income Tax Ordinance? Even if it is not considered as income, is it reportable in the same way that the guaranteed income supplement payments are and, if so, will the Government of the Northwest Territories issue a T4-A or similar forms as does the federal government for the guaranteed income supplement? Could this information be made available to all old age supplement recipients so they can send in their tax forms as soon as possible?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and attempt to file a reply with the urgency that Mr. Nickerson has indicated the question requires.

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

Question W60-67: Amendment Of N.W.T. Act.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, two sessions ago, I moved a motion seeking amendment to the Northwest Territories Act regarding Metis persons in the Northwest Territories. I have not received a reply. Would the administration tell me what happened to this motion?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and file a reply.

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. Mr. Lafferty.

ITEM NO. 6: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 20-67: Migratory Birds Act

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker, on February 9, 1979, I give notice that I will be moving a motion re the Migratory Birds Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motion.

Item 7, motions for the production of papers.

Item 8, motions.

ITEM NO. 8: MOTIONS

Motion 18-67, Mr. Fraser.

Motion 18-67: Outfitters Licences And Naturalists Lodges Withdrawn

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, I wish at this time to withdraw this motion pending further information that I have not yet received.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 19-67. Mr. Lafferty.

Motion 19-67: Relocation Of NCPC Offices

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has instructed Northern Canada Power Commission to move their headquarters from Edmonton, Alberta, to the North;

AND WHEREAS CNT has recently moved a large staff to Whitehorse, Yukon;

AND WHEREAS the economic situation in the Northwest Territories particularly in the Mackenzie Valley as a result of the no-pipeline decision is in dire straits;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that the Minister instruct NCPC to locate their offices in the Northwest Territories at such a place that requires economic stimulus such a move would stimulate.

MR. NICKERSON: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, in that this motion purports to instruct the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and as far as I know only the parliament of Canada is in a position where they can do that, I wonder if technically this motion is in order, Mr. Speaker.

Motion 19-67, Ruled Out Of Order

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson, the Chair takes the same view of the motion as you. I do not think the motion is in order as it is currently written. Mr. Lafferty, for that motion to be in order you would have to draft it in such a way that it would say that we recommend to the Minister, or request of the Minister, but I do not think you can purport to instruct the Minister. As Mr. Nickerson has indicated, that is really for parliament or for the Prime Minister to do. The motion therefore is not in order. You may wish to draft another one similar to this one that will be in order and to that end you can seek the assistance of either the Clerk or the Legal Advisor, but you may not proceed with the one as it is. Because it is not in order you can not amend it at this point. All right?

Item 9, tabling of documents.

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Return To Question W60-67: Amendment Of N.W.T. Act

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if I may. Mr. Lafferty during the question period asked a question regarding a motion he had made back in the sixty-fourth session regarding distinct native groups in

the Northwest Territories, trying to have the recognition of the Metis as a distinct native group under the Northwest Territories Act. For his and other Members' information, the answer to that is Information Item 4-67. It is two pages and you may have difficulty finding the second page of that particular item, but it is under tab 5.

MR. SPEAKER: 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 presume you wish to proceed with Bill 7-67, Hon. Arnold McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart, I believe you are in the chair on this one. This House will resolve into committee of the whole for continued consideration of Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 7-67, APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1979-80

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order to study Bill 7-67. We are on page 8.06, Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs, wildlife service of the main estimates. This particular section was set aside until such time as Mr. Lafferty could produce a motion. Mr. Lafferty, are you ready with your motion yet relative to this section?

Motion To Seek Changes In Fishing Regulations, Withdrawn

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, as I have indicated in my notice of motion I will be introducing motions relative to this. I will withdraw that request I had yesterday.

Department Of Natural And Cultural Affairs, Wildlife Service, Total 0 And M

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Under total 0 and M, page 8.06, \$4,497,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I believe, Mr. Chairman, that some time ago the Government of the Northwest Territories was approached by organizations representing trappers in western Canada with a view to the provision of funds for taking over or purchasing one of the auction houses. The one under consideration at the time was the Dominion-Soudack Fur Auction Sales Ltd. I believe that one is no longer available and that this organization, the name of which I have forgotten, is now searching for another fur auction house to purchase. I wonder if we could be advised what is the intent of the Government of the Northwest Territories with respect to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Hon. Peter Ernerk, would you like to call some of your witnesses? I am sorry we should have done that first.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Briefly my understanding is and I might be wrong at this point, but Dominion-Soudack was purchased some time ago by the Hudson's Bay Company. As to the fur auction business I will have to get some further information.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Is it agreed that Mr. Stewart should join us as an adviser?

---Agreed ..

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, further to that I am advised that there is going to be a meeting sometime during this month to discuss the whole matter of whether or not to finalize the plans for purchasing Dominion-Soudack and some other aspects of this business. Mr. Chairman, I am further advised that members of this government will also meet with members of Dominion-Soudack to discuss the problems that are presently existing and as a result some recommendations will be made to myself and then again of course it will be up to me to make some presentation to the other Members of the Executive at some point in the future, most likely sometime around this month or next month.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I wonder if we could be advised of the name of the organization and the number of the people who support that particular organization in the Northwest Territories that are soliciting funds from the Government of the Northwest Territories for this purpose.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I am stuck. May I ask this committee to invite Mr. Rupert Tinling who is aware of the technicalities of the whole business and perhaps some Members would direct their questions to Mr. Tinling?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Agreed?

---Agreed

Call Mr. Tinling please. Mr. Tinling, if you would move that microphone closer to yourself, have you heard the question and are you prepared to answer or do you wish the question restated?

MR. TINLING: If it pleases the House, I would like the question to be repeated.

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

Purchasing Of A Fur Auction House

MR. NICKERSON: Perhaps now that we have extra advice available to us the whole story can be told. What is the name of the organization that is applying for funds from the government for the purpose of purchasing a fur auction house? What has been the substance of the negotiations between this body and the Government of the Northwest Territories? Are any promises being made? How far along the road are they to actually purchasing some fur auction house?

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

MR. TINLING: In reply to the question, the company is Nor'West Fur Federation which is a federation representing the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan. I believe British Columbia is in there, and also the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. The intent of the federation was to set up an organization whereby trappers could market their furs in competition to the other fur auctions in Canada. The prime intent of the federation was to purchase Dominion-Soudack and Edmonton Fur Auction Sales (1972) Ltd. However, the negotiations were for all intents and purposes finalized but the Hudson's Bay Company stepped in and have purchased the controlling shares in this company now.

There have been no promises of financial support from this government. The only promise is support in principle for the concept of the federation. There is a meeting being called in Winnipeg the last week in February for the Nor'West Fur Federation and we have been asked to send a representative down there, also one or two representatives from trappers' associations in the Northwest Territories. I assume we have not received the agenda of the meeting but it will concern the continued formation of the Nor'West Fur Federation and possibly the purchase of another fur auction outlet within western Canada.

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

Funding From The Government Of The N.W.T. For Fur Auction House

MR. NICKERSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Just one last question on this subject. How much money would they be looking for? This is several questions phrased as one. How much money would they be looking for from the Government of the Northwest Territories, and obviously you can only give an approximate figure? Where would this money be found within the budget we have before us and, lastly, have the hunters or trappers or Game Advisory Council or an officially recognized body of the Northwest Territories, have they any recommendation with respect to this matter?

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

MR. TINLING: There is no definite figure to my knowledge as to how much money would be involved. I believe that there was a figure bartered around but we have never been specifically asked to earmark a certain amount of funds for this program, to my knowledge. Where the money would be found if we request for it, I would not know at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

MR. TINLING: I believe the concept of the Nor'West Fur Federation was discussed with the Game Advisory Council. It has also been discussed with several hunters' and trappers' associations throughout the Northwest Territories. The reaction from the hunters' and trappers' associations has been that some are for and some are against because the explanation, possibly, for the whole concept has not been clear enough for most of the trappers to comprehend.

One Of The Principles Of The Nor'West Fur Federation

I might add on here that one of the principles of the Nor'West Fur Federation is that all fur from the Northwest Territories, providing our trappers agree, would be funnelled through the federation and that as well as the other provinces, the net profit would be split among the trappers' associations, provincial trappers' associations and in the event we had a Northwest Territories hunters' and trappers' federation, part of the fund from that net profit would come back to this federation to be used to further education and the improvement of the trapping industry as a whole.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Peter Ernerk, you indicated you had something to add.

HON. PETER ERNERK: I was just going to indicate to Mr. Nickerson that there is no budget that has been set aside in the 1979-80 main estimates for that sort of thing. There is no budget set aside for that kind of thing from this government.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Page 8.06. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I think what I am going to say is relevant to this budget. Last night the CBC, and I do not listen to it that much, but they reported under the Council, 1979, that the one thing that was passed was the increase in funding for the library. Afterwards they said there was not really very much else to report and that the Assembly was dragging slowly through the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs. It is unfortunate, Mr. Chairman, that this kind of reporting is going on because, for instance, Mr. Ludy Pudluk, Mr. Pearson, Mr. John Steen, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Fraser, myself and Mr. Lafferty are native people -- I am sorry, Mr. Pearson -- we are speaking on behalf of the native people.

MR. PEARSON: I am flattered.

CBC Not Reflecting Members' Views

MR. WHITFORD: Then good. However, Mr. Chairman, in this kind of reporting we are representing the people who are concerned about this, Natural and Cultural Affairs, because it means a lot to the people on the land. Also, Mr. Chairman, we have a Minister who is a native, who is trying his best in the government to compete in his own portfolio to give proper answers to people around the table who are asking them. I think the newscaster came on afterwards and between Mr. Erasmus and the reporter, that was a pile of bull shit because we hear that so many times, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hold it, hold it!

MR. WHITFORD: We hear about the Dene Nation trying to do this and that but in the communities the people are suffering and not knowledgeable about the different types of programs that are in Natural and Cultural Affairs. The questions that Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Steen and the rest of us are asking are those kinds of questions which the people want to know the answers to. It is unfortunate that these broadcasts do not relate at least in the Council, 1979, report for that 15 minutes, the views of the people that these representatives represent, Mr. Chairman. I hope that somewhere along the line that the CBC will try and correct itself.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I will take that as a point of privilege you are speaking on. Page 8.06. Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Minister whether or not the department is looking at something that may one day become a policy with the government whereby they will not fund any organized hunts such as have been taking place because of the fact that I believe, and everyone should know in this House, I strongly believe that organized hunts should never be funded by the government, especially by the department who are supposedly there to protect all game in any way that they can. I would like to ask the department whether it is five years down the road or ten years down the road, or if it will be happening forever and ever.

Incentives To Go Back To The Land

I believe in this day and age, Mr. Chairman, that getting around in a country such as the Northwest Territories now is so easy for people that I think that the native peoples have said that they want to go back and live on the land, and live as they did many years ago. We have seen in this House, in the last two weeks, we have seen Indians before us, appearing as witnesses and I heard them two years ago stating publicly that they would like to go back and live on the land as they used to. The questions I asked I never got any answers for, I did not get the answers I really sought. I believe that people, if they really want to go back and live on the land they should be given -- or I think it would be cheaper if this department would give them help by buying them dog teams. I think it would be a hell of a lot cheaper and that would be giving them incentive to go back on the land if they wish to do so.

However, I think more likely it would buy them all bows and arrows and dog teams and more likely the dogs would all be dead by the end of the year. I think, in my own mind, Mr. Chairman, I feel that the only thing that these people are asking for is to be put back on the land, they can support themselves, but now, in this day and age, all we are doing is supporting them with high priced welfare schemes. I believe that if a man is always asking to have his own way, such as he had 20 or even 50 years ago, he loses pride when he starts collecting welfare.

Mr. Chairman, I believe it is on their own onus that they do this; it is not really the federal government or territorial government who does this for these people, they do it for themselves. So, I think that this department should be looking at ways so that eventually they would stop providing them with airplanes, free guns, free gas, free skidoos. We are not poor little Eskimos that you always hear about from the white man from the Eastern Arctic. I do not like to be called a poor little Eskimo.

Natives Need Chance To Prove Themselves

I have my own pride and I think a lot of the other native people have their own pride. If they want to do so they should be given the chance to prove themselves. The only way you will do that is to provide these people with what they really want, or what they wanted two years ago. They wanted to go back to the land, so give them that opportunity. I wonder how those people in some of these settlements right close to Yellowknife used to go and get their caribou. I understand they used to paddle up river and we hear them say that they want to go back to the land still and they do not want more development. Development in my mind, Mr. Chairman, is that you want new roads, new houses, new airports, more aircraft, and that is development, but how the hell are we going to provide that sort of stuff if we have nothing coming back from the land itself?

You heard on the radio two weeks ago the people in Fort Resolution brought into that settlement thus far, this year, \$450,000 worth of fur and still they want funding to go caribou hunting. Fifty years ago I would not know where they would have got that funding from. My question, Mr. Chairman, is what steps is this department taking to get this funding away from the people who really say that they are able to go out and do things for themselves? I feel that the money that we are putting into these communities, instead of giving them welfare cheques we are giving it to them in a different way by chartering aircraft or whatever, for these people.

Topic Of Organized Hunts Ruled Out Of Order

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Before I call on the Minister, I think I am going to have to read part of the Rules. I know that this committee has been allowed to stray frequently because it is a learning process. However, there are some Rules that we are going to have to put into effect if matters continue along these lines. I direct your attention to Rule 20(c) of your Rules and it reads as follows: "persists in needless repetition or raises matters which have been decided during the current session".

Now the matter of the funded hunts was decided by way of motion and has been dealt with. So, in strict adherence to the Rules I would suggest that the last speaker is out of order. However, if the Minister has a reply then we are prepared to accept it and I feel that we are going to have to draw this committee back within the bounds of the Rules because we are going so far outside of them on occasion that we are really operating essentially with no Rules at all. Mr. Minister, have you a reply to that that you wish to make and if not, we will go on to the next speaker?

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I am going to try to reply to the question because it requires an answer.

MR. LYALL: I beg your pardon?

HON. PETER ERNERK: I said it requires an answer.

MR. LYALL: I hope so.

HON. PETER ERNERK: That is what I am doing. The question is, are we doing anything to cut off funding of the organized caribou hunts. The answer is no, not within the next year or two years, but what we are doing is continuing to review the situation with respect to community caribou hunts. We have put together a policy with respect to this matter and this is something that I tabled on the very first day of the session. The thing that we are trying to do, Mr. Chairman, is to look at the crucial areas of the caribou herds in the Northwest Territories. At this moment, the way we look at it, is that we will not allow community organized caribou hunts where the caribou are in decline. The thing about it all is that we are committed as a government to assist different areas in the Northwest Territories, for instance, in the Rae Lakes area, because my knowledge tells me that from what Mr. Whitford and his witnesses the other day indicated to us that the caribou are very far away from their areas. There we will provide assistance to an organized community group, providing the people in that community are benefiting from such an organized hunt.

Community Must Benefit From An Organized Caribou Hunt

If that is not so, then we will have to say no, no assistance will be provided to such an organization. If somebody happens to call us from Repulse Bay, for instance, for an organized hunt in terms of seeking assistance we will not allow any assistance to that community because all you have to do is look out your window and see ten or so caribou. I may be exaggerating a bit, but that is a case where we do not assist but the whole thing about this is that we have a policy where we will work with the hunters' and trappers' associations. My officials in the regions will decide whether or not a community is in need of assistance. It is up to them, but no, we are not planning to cut off assistance for community caribou hunts in the Northwest Territories in the near future.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Lyall, as long as there is no further debate on the subject of funded hunts, you have the floor but I will not stand for any further debate on organized hunts.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I am very disappointed that a Member of this House has to read -- a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman -- a Member of this House has to read out the Rules to a person who has been sitting here for the last four years, who I think is trying to get a point across. My colleague, the Honourable Mr. Pearson, has been sitting in this House for the last eight years and time and time again for the last eight years was speaking about the same thing, every day when he was sitting in the Assembly. He speaks about too much money being spent, too much money being spent, what we are doing about these Eskimos? Give them more. Put them out there. It is not out of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NICKERSON: Order, order!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Order, please, Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I did not write the Rule book.

MR. LYALL: The point I am trying to get across...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The reason basically you are out of order is because the subject of hunts was dealt with by way of debate, by way of motion and it has been fully dealt with. All I am asking you to do is refrain from the subject of the funded caribou hunting. That is all I am asking you to do because it was debated by way of motion, so it is repetitious in my opinion. If you do not wish to accept that opinion, you can appeal it to the Speaker.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, the point I was trying to get across is that my honourable colleague and friend of the Eastern Arctic has never been read out this Rule although he is very repetitive. It is too bad it only takes one person to get this kind of whatever you call it from the chairman of the committee, but I do not wish to appeal it to the Speaker of the House. That is the point I am trying to get across, that I should be able to speak on whatever I wish and I think right now that it is my right to speak on the organized hunts, if I wish to do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Under normal circumstances if it had not been by way of motion and the motion was defeated -- it has been discussed previously. Further to page 8.06? Mr. Nickerson.

Man Year Requirements

MR. NICKERSON: I notice, Mr. Chairman, that there has been a very substantial increase in the man year requirements of this department. The 1978-79 main estimates gave a figure of 73 man years; whereas one year later the main estimates give a figure for a requirement of 88 man years. What has been the reason for this extremely substantial increase at a time when we are supposedly short of funds and having to adopt certain austerity measures?

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, an increase in six wildlife officers, level one, two biologists, one wildlife management officer. I count so far nine.

MR. NICKERSON: You have six to go.

MR. LYALL: They make good money.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, is Mr. Nickerson talking about the whole department or just the wildlife service?

MR. NICKERSON: The total man years.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Wildlife service, Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: I can only count nine but perhaps there are more. I will get a figure.

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

Input Of Wildlife Service On Fisheries Research

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister what, if any, input the wildlife service will be putting into the fisheries and research for the fisheries in Wellington Bay, in Spence Bay/Pelly Bay/Gjoa Haven area, what input the department is going to have with respect to the research that the federal fisheries are going to be doing, or have been doing, in these areas such as I stated, the area around Cambridge Bay, Spence Bay, Pelly Bay and Gjoa Haven. The reason, Mr. Chairman, I asked the department is that generally when they are doing fisheries research it tends to only be the people from the federal fisheries who are doing research and I think that the fish and wildlife officers

of the territorial government should be involved to some point. I do not say they have to be active in all areas but they should be there participating so that they would have answers for the people of the Northwest Territories when the time comes that an answer needs to be given to the people. I think all federal departments tend to do research and never give the results back to the communities where they are doing their research. So if the Minister would indicate to me they are going to have an input I would be very happy that at least we have part of our government that is going to be active in this regard.

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

No Territorial Funds For Fisheries Research.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I wish my answer would be more optimistic than it is going to be. This is a federal matter under the federal fisheries. I am given to understand the fact that if we have any input it is going to be very little because we on our part, simply do not have the funds to have such participation at this point. However, if the question comes up and I would certainly hope that the federal fisheries will want to work with us in this matter, then we will do everything we can to see that we could take part in the process of the research, but again without funding, without having any actual responsibilities for fish, I can not be much more optimistic than that just now. Perhaps somebody else in this Executive might have something more to add to it than I.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Lyall, did you indicate you had another question or are you finished?

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have another, not a question but just a comment, I guess. I personally would like to see the Minister undertake to very strongly try to get the support of the Executive Committee so that at least some of the people in the area are more active in regard to research so that the people around there could know the answers to the questions they may have in the future about this. I think this is a very serious problem that is happening today, that it is shameful I think that the federal fisheries or any part of the federal government could do this kind of research and the territorial government is not involved. I think they should be involved even on a one to ten basis, in that scope. I think one person to every ten federal fisheries men should be coming from the Northwest Territories government and I hope to see the Minister undertake that we do have a bit of an input into the research that is going on concerning the fish that we take out of the Northwest Territories.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Lyall. Hon. Peter Ernerk, do you have any comments on that?

Department Will Try To Participate In Research.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Just to say that I will take the advice of the Honourable Member and I will discuss it with my officers and we will see what we can do in terms of stressing the fact that we participate in the research itself.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I just feel that we are having great difficulty getting the answers we are looking for from the department. I sort of feel that since the Minister of Natural and Cultural Affairs has been in the business of that department for so little time that he is not quite aware of what is going on in that department, that he has not had ample time to consult with his department and he is having great difficulty in answering some of our questions. So I was just wondering whether or not we should lay this department aside until he is able to answer our questions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Are you putting that as a question to the House to stand this department aside? Is that what you wish to do, Mr. Steen?

MR. STEEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I get the feeling that the Minister is not quite up-to-date on what is going on in that department and I said I feel sorry for him. Perhaps at a later time in this session we could come back to this department and so it is question to the House, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I am sorry, I did not get your last statement.

MR. STEEN: It is a question to the House, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Steen is asking that this department be set aside. Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Nay.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I have a question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The vote has been taken and the vote is nay so we are not setting it aside. Hon. Tom Butters.

Involvement Of N.W.T. In Research Aspect

HON. TOM BUTTERS: If Mr. Steen is referring to the Honourable Minister's last reply it is exactly correct, the territories have no research responsibility or responsibility for fish. This matter is one that is of interest to two departments; the Department of Economic Development and Tourism as well, since this department has an interest in the commercial use of fish stocks where such stocks lend themselves to such exploitation. I have not discussed with my colleague yet, but this morning I was in touch with the senior departmental adviser of the Hon. Roméo LeBlanc on this matter with regard to the involvement of the territories in the research aspect, just to be involved in an advisory capacity and to determine the amount of money that the federal government has currently budgeted for the carrying out of such research. My estimation is, to do the research that is required, to ascertain whether fish stocks have a commercial possibility, we are looking at something in the order of between one million dollars and two million dollars in research alone. Certainly that figure is far beyond the ability of the Northwest Territories to put forward.

I advanced to federal fisheries the concept that as this is their responsibility the cost of such research should also be theirs but indicated, as Mr. Lyall has just pointed out, that the people of the territories would like to be involved in the research going forward in a very real sense and in a very practical sense. The immediate response received from the federal department of fisheries man was that he was in 100 per cent agreement and recognizes that this is a justifiable and understandable desire on the part of the people of the Northwest Territories and that the federal government would move to do this if they could. However, as yet Hon. Peter Ernerk and I have not discussed how we could jointly take advantage of the seemingly federal initiative to involve us.

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

Fisheries Also Involved With Land Claims

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, perhaps while Hon. Tom Butters is talking about having just discussed with the federal department the concern of his department regarding this particular topic, so also should I say as well that not only are the two departments involved, but of course, it is a concern with the responsibility I have under the land claims. I think it is well known that, of course, during the discussion of the land claims, especially with the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, the federal department of fisheries refused, I guess the proper name is Fisheries and the Environment, the Hon. Roméo LeBlanc and they refused to release anything from their jurisdiction.

However, I have written the Honourable Minister about the concerns that this government would have in the management of the resources. The scientific research, professional research and management of those resources, that is. I have proposed to him that in fact, under an agreement or an understanding or accord between the federal Department of Fisheries and this government, that we would act on their behalf and provide for the management of the resources in the land settlement areas, along their principles and dictates. We would then expect to be involved in the research, although the federal department would carry it out, we would want to be involved with the resource, research and other aspects of it. So, I think that just adds to what my colleague, Hon. Tom Butters, has indicated, that there is a concern. My other colleague, Hon. Peter Ernerk, has suggested and we are in fact doing something within the limitations that we have, but it is a proposal I have made to the Hon. Roméo LeBlanc, that we would in fact take over the management and together would be concerned with the research on that renewable resource.

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

MR. WHITFORD: No, Mr. Chairman, all I was going to say was that I wanted to continue with the budget on Natural and Cultural Affairs, that is all.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I heard no "yeas"; I heard nothing but "nays"; so we are continuing. Mr. Lyall.

COPE Boundaries

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I understood that the Hon. Arnold McCallum to my right has stated that, that the federal fisheries are not releasing anything until the COPE, Committee of Original Peoples Entitlement, land claims are finalized or whatever. The material I am trying to get recognized I think, by this House, does not involve anything pertaining to COPE; the concerns that I have at the present time, Mr. Chairman, are those which are east of the COPE boundaries which I do not recognize to any extent at all. The ones I am interested in are to the east of the COPE boundaries.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, page 8.06, 0 and M, \$4,497,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I am waiting for the answer to my previous question on this.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): You are absolutely correct, Mr. Nickerson, as usual. Hon. Peter Ernerk, have you the answer for Mr. Nickerson?

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, we have the answer and I would like to say that often I have to refer these questions to my director because sometimes I have a little difficulty in understanding some of the phrases, for instance, man years. Could I ask him to reply to Mr. Nickerson's question?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Are we agreed?

---Agreed

Go ahead, Mr. Stewart.

MR. IVOR STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, if I might, I would like to apologize because I believe I misled my Minister and I offer my sincere apologies. A further point and it is not a point of apology, but I would like to mention that the Minister is reasonably new and so am I. There is a great deal, as you know, in the department to understand and to come to grips with, especially the technical matters and I apologize for not being possibly as knowledgeable in certain areas as I should be.

Man Years, Department Of Natural And Cultural Affairs

However, to answer Mr. Nickerson's question, initially in the main estimates of the 1978-79 budget we were authorized 62.1 man years and 11 casual man years. During the last year, and in supplementary estimates there was approved an addition in the man years for three wildlife officers level one, which would be placed in specific communities throughout the Arctic. In addition to that, because of the tremendous strain being placed on the department to do surveys and determine the status of the caribou herd, two biologists were also approved, and that brought us to 67, roughly 67 man years and that was the revised forecast for last year.

This year headquarters itself has not received nor asked for an increase in staff. However, as you realize with the decentralization to the regions, the regional director now has within his authority the reallocation of man years within the region. In the case of Baffin the regional director felt that he could, because of the priority he placed on the wildlife and on the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs, he felt that he could, and did in fact, reallocate from other sources four man years. The Inuvik region did exactly the same thing, they found a man year they could spare from some other program and allocated it to our department. This is the reason for the changes and increases our man years to 72.1.

In so far as the increase in casuals, there is a certain amount of money determining or establishing one casual man year. Again with the increase of the activities, particularly in Rankin there has been an increase in funding for, basically, the Eastern Arctic to cover the additional work that will be required to assist in the surveys, particularly of the caribou herd. Thank you.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Thank you very much for the explanation, Mr. Chairman. I suppose just as an aside one might note that for the price of one biologist and maybe two wildlife officers, if you want to include their salaries, fringe benefits, travelling expenses and office expenses, for the sake of one biologist and two wildlife officers we could probably implement a pharmacare scheme for the elderly. That is just a matter of assigning priorities, I guess, Mr. Chairman.

Wildlife Service, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Any comments, Hon. Peter Ernerk on that at all? Page 8.06, total O and M, \$4,497,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Wildlife Service, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$631,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Wildlife Service, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$5,128,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Hon. Peter Ernerk, we have set aside page 8.05 waiting for further information on the library services and also page 8.03. Which of these pages would you like to deal with at this particular time?

HON. PETER ERNERK: I would like to give you a breakdown firstly with respect to the museums but before I do that do I understand that Mr. Lafferty had a motion while discussing wildlife?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Lafferty had withdrawn his motion he said and unless he wishes to reintroduce something that matter has been concluded. Will we direct our attention to page 8.03, which is museum and historical programs? Mr. Minister.

Funding, Prince Of Wales Northern Heritage Centre

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, if I could be given just a few moments to explain the funding of museums in the Northwest Territories. The total of the museum funding for the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is \$5,882,741. That, Mr. Chairman, is the cost to date since 1973 through 1975 as I received it in terms of information. Year by year from 1975 to 1976 I do not have the operation cost because at that time it was under the Executive Committee. The cost, operating and maintenance cost was \$38,000, that is to say, actual cost. In 1976-77 under the main estimates the O and M cost was \$198,300. The actual cost at that time as well was \$115,000. The 1977-78 main estimates were \$418,000, but the actual cost was \$276,000. Last year, 1978-79 under the main estimates the figure was \$616,000, but the actual cost last year was \$506,000. Under the capital expenditures from 1972 to 1979, in 1972-73 fiscal year the capital cost was \$22,506; in 1973-74, \$41,543; 1974-75, \$505,750; 1975-76, \$916,854; 1976-77, \$1,532,053; 1977-78, \$1,928,035; and in 1978-79, \$936,000 for a total of \$5,882,741.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. Page 8.03.

Funding, Community Museums

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry I failed to mention the other part with respect to the community museums. First of all, the Fort Smith museum, the O and M cost was during 1978-79, \$23,000. The capital \$5000. For Fort Providence under O and M, \$2000, nothing in capital. Frobisher Bay, under O and M, \$2000, under capital, \$12,000. Norman Wells, I do not have the figures under O and M, but the capital was \$8000. Holman Island capital \$9000, and the Old Stope Association in Yellowknife under O and M, \$1000.

For 1978-79 the O and M total for these communities was \$45,000, and under capital the total for these communities was \$50,000. We recently received in addition to this a \$4000 request from the community of Pelly Bay that is presently under review by the officials of the department and I am given to understand that Igloodik will be applying for funds as well within the near future.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. Page 8.03. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could tell us if we have had any reports back from Norman Wells on that library, this \$8000. What was the money spent for?

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, this is under the community museum grants. Is the question have we received any application from the community of Norman Wells for library services?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, my question was have you got any progress reports as to what work was being done for \$8000?

Norman Wells Library

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, this \$8000 apparently was given to the community of Norman Wells so that they could get a consultant to design a building for the purpose of a museum.

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

MR. FRASER: If I understand you right, \$8000 went to a consultant? Is that right, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): That is the answer the Minister gave, for consulting fees to draw up a set of plans for a museum at Norman Wells. In view of the hour, should we recess for 15 minutes for coffee? Agreed?

---Agreed

---SHORT RECESS

Museum And Historical Programs, Total O And M

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls the committee back to order. Page 8.03, O and M, \$622,000. Hon. Peter Ernerk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I misled the committee a bit with respect to Norman Wells. The information tells me that the \$8000 that has been set aside for the Norman Wells historical society was used for building a building. The pad has been laid, the gravel, labour costs, lumber, and I understand that the foundation is laid, the walls have been started. The only thing about it, of course, is that it is a summer project. The money was paid to a gentleman by the name of Mr. Dennis Gamache, the contractor, on behalf of the Norman Wells historical society. The society has apparently submitted financial statements but we have not received the most recent one. It most likely will be in our office fairly soon. The building itself was designed by a local man, Mr. Meredith Park.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. Page 8.03, O and M, \$622,000. Agreed? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Yesterday I asked the Minister two different questions in regard to the museums. As long as he can table that information I am prepared to go ahead, but one was with respect to the returning of the artifacts to the communities whenever they request them or build their own museums. That is the ones that are now in the larger centres. The other one, the other question, was in regard to the satellite, as to the satellite of course, that crashed in the Northwest Territories and part of that debris should have been left here, just a small particle of it even left in the Northwest Territories because of the fact that we were the first to receive the satellite.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Peter Ernerk, do you have a reply to this?

Russian Satellite Is A Federal Responsibility

HON. PETER ERNERK: Let me try to reply to the last part of the question first. Comrade, the way I understand it is this and my answer will most likely be very similar to the one yesterday which I gave to this House. Providing that particles or parts of the satellite that fell in the Northwest Territories, providing the Russians pay for it all, pay for the something like \$12 million for the search and things of that nature, if they pay the bill then they will most likely take all of it back, take everything that was found in Canada back to Russia. However, I am also advised that if the people of Canada pay for some parts of it, since it is a federal responsibility that will most likely be dealt with by the federal Government of Canada. Certainly we in our department, this government will want to have a say in it and try and make an attempt to take some parts of it. Mr. Chairman, we are going to take a further look at this with respect to the satellite and we will have to find out sometime in the near future as to how far we can go by taking some of the parts of that fallen satellite.

Policy On Artifacts

With respect to artifacts that you asked about yesterday, we have written a paper which lays out the policy, or at least it says in the policy that was approved some time ago by the museum advisory committee, as well as the Northwest Territories Heritage Council and the Executive Committee, and what we say is this, that we do not purchase historical artifacts or items from individuals in the Northwest Territories because this only encourages the looting of archeological sites and artifacts. We also say that we do purchase fine and decorative arts in the North as well as museum-quality reproductions from such groups as the Rae women, the Jean Marie River native arts group and so forth. The question

you asked I think, or your question is partly answered by the policy which we have laid out, but if the Honourable Member could be more specific perhaps we could take it as notice and check into it because what we have laid out is simply what we have been trying to do and we will attempt to do so.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Does that conclude your questions, Mr. Whitford?

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I was referring not to the artifacts or arts and crafts that have been purchased in most recent years, or in fact which have in fact been given to the Commissioner, or Commissioners now I guess, but rather more to the fact that there have been artifacts that were taken from various communities a number of years ago that illustrate -- say, a copper kettle set or whatever, has come from a community along the Mackenzie Valley or in fact, some of these have come from just past Snare Lake where there has been a historic site. I am saying that these kinds of artifacts which are coming into the museum, will they, at a day yet to come, be returned to the communities? The kind of artifact I am talking about? People have become more aware of the meaning of artifacts now than they were a number of years ago and they now say "We did not realize the importance of that but would like it back." Is the department prepared to do that, that is the question?

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

Artifacts Removed From The Communities

HON. PETER ERNERK: As I indicated to the Honourable Member, it is not our policy to take things away from the communities. What may have happened in the past is that some of the artifacts that were removed from the communities may have been donated to, perhaps the Commissioner or perhaps to some other officials of this government and as a result we will take them and will display them in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. That is all I can say at this point.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. The Honourable Member from Foxe Basin, Mr. Evaluarjuk.

HON. PETER ERNERK: May I be first, please? Can I ask my director again to add to what I have said, to fully answer Mr. Whitford's question?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Proceed if there is more information for Mr. Whitford. Go ahead.

MR. IVOR STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it is so that over the years, and the Honourable Minister has mentioned that certain artifacts that have come to Yellowknife from other communities. It was our intention initially to set up a travelling display which will take these artifacts back to the various communities for them to be on view. Hopefully, in the years to come when those communities have developed suitable facilities to handle them, then it would be our intent to return them, but we hope that we can also set up a system whereby we can exchange artifacts so that a greater number of people can see them and remember some of their history and culture. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. The Chair now recognizes the Honourable Member from Foxe Basin, Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Funding For Igloolik Museum

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask a question. The Minister mentioned yesterday that Igloolik is included for a museum, it is included in the funding. It seems to me that he mentioned that Igloolik might request funding for a museum and I would like to know now if the Igloolik people, if the people for the museum have requested funding. Could I get an answer to that, please?

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, what I was trying to say is that the Igloolik museum committee was planning a request to the museum society of the Northwest Territories, for the reason that the museum committee felt, the Igloolik committee felt that it should request funding. Now, we have not received any requests for funding.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 8.03, total O and M, \$622,000. Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, or I would like to say that we have also a museum in Pangnirtung and it is run by the local people. Have they been funded or are they not being funded by the museum society? I would also like to get some clarification on whether or not they have been funded. The museum is run by the people of Pangnirtung and I would also like to find out if they are being funded. That is my question.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I have not yet received any request from Pangnirtung requesting funding up until now.

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

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, maybe all the people are not too clear as to how to get funding and when I get back I will tell them about how they go about getting funding. I wonder if they want assistance, would you be able to help them?

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

Funding For Pangnirtung Museum

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the people in Pangnirtung concerning the museum committee, before they ask for funding from us we will have to investigate on our own and investigate fully whether we have the funding available or not and hopefully, we can assist them then. There are two ways they could probably get the funding. First of all, maybe they could write a letter to ask people from, say, Frobisher Bay, people from our department to write for them or they could write directly. So, if they could follow this procedure perhaps that would be the most appropriate way. So, if they could contact us directly, or via Frobisher Bay requesting funding, we will see what we can do for them on that. Thank you.

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

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for that clarification and I am pleased to think that they will be able to build a building for a museum. As I am sure you are aware they already have a building for a museum and they are now using the old hospital since it is closed; they are using that for a museum. So, I know they will not be asking for a building and I will tell them what you said, Mr. Minister.

Museum And Historical Programs, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Page 8.03, museums and historical programs, total O and M, \$622,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Museum And Historical Programs, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$208,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Museum And Historical Programs, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$830,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Hon. Peter Ernerk, are you now prepared to go ahead with page 8.05, library services?

Library Services

HON. PETER ERNERK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The information I received as a result of a question by the Honourable Member from Yellowknife North with respect to libraries is as follows. First of all, with respect to subscription fees or membership fees, I am advised that there is no such thing as fees at this point. There used to be fees, membership fees, charged but as a result of an ordinance passed, our legislation, as a result of our legislation there has been no such fee charged for membership.

Secondly, fines for late books, again this is not being done at this time. The reason for this apparently is that it may inhibit library users from coming back and making further use of the library's services. So, there is no such fine for late books. However, fines for lost or damaged books, apparently last year, in 1978-79, the Yellowknife library collected an amount of less than \$100 or so and, of course, the money that was collected went into the government's revenues.

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

MR. NICKERSON: With respect to the collection of fees for the late return of books, in Yellowknife there is a committee which runs the library, a very good committee. Why will you not let them make the decision as to whether or not they are to collect fees or charges for the late return of books? Why does the government tell them that that is not their decision?

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, why? Now, that I can not tell you but what we can do at least on the part of the departmental officials is to talk to the people on that committee and find out if they can make some recommendations as to what the best way would be for fines for late books.

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

Yellowknife Library Board Should Be Able To Make Decisions

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, that is not the question at all. I think the library committee in the city of Yellowknife is quite capable and quite competent to be able to make that decision themselves, whether or not they want to collect fines for the late return of books. In my humble opinion, Mr. Chairman, the Government of the Northwest Territories should not have any part in this decision. All I want the government to do, and I am trying to find out whether this is contained in legislation or whether it is just departmental policy, is to allow the Yellowknife library board to determine themselves whether or not they want to collect these fines for late returns.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I did not copy the question properly to begin with. When I was talking about the library committee of Yellowknife I merely meant we could sort of consult with them, talk with them a bit. It is not stated in the legislation that they can not set up their own system for collecting fines for late books or anything like that. We personally do not see any difficulties.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I hope that will be communicated to the chairman of the library board in Yellowknife, that that is his decision and the Government of the Northwest Territories will not direct them to either collect or not collect fines for late returns. The first question was much more important. Mr. Chairman, I would now like to know which legislation, which of our legislation prevents or prohibits the collection of subscription fees.

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I do not have the legislation with me offhand but we will find it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Nickerson, would you like to request then that page 8.05 be set aside until the answer is forthcoming?

MR. NICKERSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Is it agreed to set aside page 8.05 until we have the legislation? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: On a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman, I had one question on recreational and cultural programs that I neglected to ask at the time. I must apologize. I had it on the list here but I did not ask it. Could I beg the indulgence of the committee to ask that question at the present time?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Are we agreed?

---Agreed

Igloo Building In Sir John Franklin Schoolyard

MR. NICKERSON: What has happened to the igloo building which originally housed a swimming pool on the grounds of Sir John Franklin school at Yellowknife? Is the building available for use by other sports organizations? I ask this question, Mr. Chairman, because people who are keenly interested in the sports of boxing and wrestling would like, if at all possible, to have the use of this building for those particular sports and they feel it could be used for other sports also.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could answer this one because I am pretty sure that the building disappeared before either the Minister or Mr. Stewart were anywhere near their present jobs. The building was dismantled a number of years ago and the material has been used for other purposes, so it is no longer available for any use.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I wonder if I could ask what other purposes.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: The recoverable parts of the building were taken into our maintenance unit and used for maintenance purposes. Some of it may have been given to public bodies doing things with buildings. I really do not know but there really was not much recovered from it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. I understand the direction of this committee is to set aside page 8.05, so that concludes all we can do at this time on the estimates of the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs. May I have the government's direction on what department we are to handle next?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if we are finished with this part now under Natural and Cultural Affairs, then we will go into Economic Development and Tourism.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Tom Butters,

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, it will take me a few minutes to transfer over to the other seat and set up a table so if Members will be patient we could possibly declare a five minute recess until we set up.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will stand recessed for five minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

The Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls this committee back to order. We are dealing with the estimates under the Economic Development and Tourism section to be found on page 12.02. Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, as the Honourable Member from Western Arctic earlier pointed out the inexperience of my colleague in his department, I will mention that obviously I am likewise inexperienced in the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. In saying that I am in no way attempting to dull the barbs and arrows or reduce the number that Members may wish to discharge at the administration or the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

The Commissioner, I think, has made it known that there are four priorities of this government and they are in order of diminishing importance I believe: constitutional development; the early and pragmatic resolution of the land claims situation; economic development and the development of responsible municipal government. I suggest that the priority of economic development is to a large measure within the purview of the government to make or break, to improve or diminish and as a result of that situation departmental officials, myself and the administration in general are extremely interested in hearing from Members of the committee ideas, suggestions, criticism, constructive or destructive.

A Number Of Economic Development Conferences

Members will recognize that within the past year we have seen occur in the territories a number of economic development conferences. We have seen employment opportunities conferences; in Inuvik, Hay River and Fort Simpson. We have seen a maxi-conference at Hay River put on by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and follow-up conferences to that conference at Hay River were generated by my predecessor, Hon. Peter Ernerk in two regional conferences, one in the Keewatin and one in the Baffin in December. There is likewise in the planning stage, a conference for the Inuvik region in the weeks to come. However, having said that, I would point out to Members that in effect what we hear in this chamber and what we hear from Members is probably of prime importance to the department, for as we have made it clear many times, it is from this chamber and this body that the department draws its philosophical sustenance.

Maybe Mr. Nickerson could help me. I would like to enjoy the joke too. So that we are looking forward to much lively discussion from the Honourable Members from Yellowknife both and from the other Members around the table.

We have heard over the past year and a half, ever since the disappearance south of the Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas Berger, we have heard increasing cries of gloom and doom and pessimism and recession, that we are all going to hell in a basket economically and socially and whatever. I would suggest to Members and I would suggest to the people of the Northwest Territories that that is where we will go and that is the manner in which we will depart -- in a basket -- unless we start hustling, unless we start taking advantage of the opportunities that exist in the territories, unless we develop the resources that exist in the territories and ensure that the people who live in the territories become actively involved in the economic opportunities that appear before us. I think we have a good example in the attitude, in the positive approach that has come out of Hay River.

Positive Active Approach To Economic Development.

If anybody has taken a kicking it is that community at the south end of our transportation systems and people certainly in that town of Hay River, if you will pardon the word, Mr. Chairman, have shown us the positive and active approach we must take to right our own problems and to correct to the greatest extent possible the economic conditions under which we now find ourselves. So, having said that, I think I certainly feel this department accepts to as large a measure as possible that we will do what we can to turn things around, to get things moving. To do that it requires the positive contribution of everybody in the territories. We have got to quit crying and we have to start moving. So taking that as the approach we look forward to, as I say, positive suggestions as to what we can do to help ourselves.

However, one thing that does disturb me, if you will look in -- you have all got these little books. I think Members all have these little books. If you will look on page 15, there you will see two pies, one showing the distribution of 1978-79 planned expenditure for the Government of the Northwest Territories in the top right hand corner of the page. Page 15, Mr. Nickerson, in your book, Annual Northern Expenditure Plan, 1978-79. Underneath it you will find the Government of the Yukon Territory. I realize that it is difficult to make comparisons between the two administrations because the Yukon does not have a department of economic development yet, but it is interesting to note that in the Yukon, 22.6 per cent of their budget is indicated as being spent for economic growth. If you look at the budget of the Northwest Territories there is an item showing only 8.9 per cent spent for economic growth.

Members have probably also looked and recognized on page 12 that there is another interesting pie. The one at the top of the page which indicates the total proportion of moneys available for expenditure North of 60, in the Yukon and in the Northwest Territories. However, it is interesting to see that almost 50 per cent of that money is spent by an administration and bureaucracy over which we have no control whatsoever and that is the federal government. If you want to get some indication of how involved the federal government is in things northern then that little graph gives you a very good indication. With your permission, sir, I would like to make brief, a general opening statement on the department.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Major Services Of The Department

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The departmental activities for which the Legislative Assembly is being asked to approve funds include three major types of service. There are services to the business sector which includes the provision of loans, loan guarantees, contribution to industry and local development groups, services to co-operatives, tourist promotion and development assistance and operation of campgrounds. Secondly, there are services to labour which includes training programs such as apprenticeship and in-service training, employment development schemes, job rotation, labour pools, the operation of a skilled data bank tariffs and the funding of the STEP, subsidized term employment program. Third, there is business management services, through funding operation of 33 developmental projects and related marketing and arts and crafts advisory services.

The 1979-80 budget for the department's programs is \$16,263,000, an increase of ten per cent from 1978-79. The main increases occur in the activities that provide funds for projects and enterprises, business services and tourism and any activity that is responsible for employment training, placement services and development of new employment opportunities. The department's programs are delivered by a staff of about 113 man years of which 60 are located in the field and regional offices, and one is providing special services in the field. The department funds an additional 166.4 man years in training positions for all departments and apprenticeship positions in the private sector. The total man year figure you will find in the estimates includes therefore both staff and training positions.

Keynote Among Activities Of The Department

The keynote among the activities of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism this past year has been consultation with the people of the Northwest Territories on matters relating to economic development as the department shifted its emphasis from preparing for the Mackenzie Valley pipeline to one of defining new alternatives to stimulate the economy. The employment conferences held in Fort Simpson, Norman Wells and Inuvik in November of 1977 were followed by the Hay River conference on economic prospects for the Northwest Territories in May of 1978.

This conference was the first time people from all backgrounds from throughout the Northwest Territories came together to discuss economic issues and opportunities. It was followed by similar conferences organized by the department in Rankin Inlet in October and Frobisher Bay in December of 1978. Plans are being made for a conference in the Inuvik region later this year. The chief feature that these conferences have brought home to me, and senior members of the department, is the diversity of economic conditions and needs of the territories. A business advisory committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Jim Robertson was established following the Hay River conference to monitor government response to the issues identified at the conference. The committee also reflects the continuing interest of the people of the Northwest Territories in participating in economic planning. Its report will be presented to the Commissioner and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs in the near future.

International Sealskin Conference Co-ordinated By The Department

The department also co-ordinated in August, 1978, an international sealskin conference in Yellowknife to determine the strategy for off-setting the decline in sealskin markets. After that conference the department aided in the formation of Kissiliriyeet, a committee which would provide information to hunters to assist them in upgrading the quality of skins, encourage the total utilization of seals and to establish a public information program. That item was tabled yesterday evening, Members will recall.

Recently I met with the Alberta minister, Hon. Bob Dowling and I reported that meeting to the House the other day. I am hopeful that as a result of that meeting and meetings which will be organized between Alberta and the Northwest Territories officials that there will be a number of very promising results and opportunities developed. At the present time in the planning stages there is a meeting with the Yukon officials to discuss matters of mutual territorial concern in tourism, employment and in economic planning. Although the Yukon does not yet, or has not yet established a Department of Economic Development, I believe it is soon to be set up and I will be meeting with the minister named to be responsible for that department.

Under DREE, the Department of Regional Economic Expansion's Special ARDA, agriculture and rural development agreement program, 73 applications for assistance were received in 1978 of which 42 were approved; 37 of these accepted funding totalling approximately \$1,141,000 from DREE, and \$70,000 from the Government of the Northwest Territories. The preparation of a general development agreement and interim subsidiary agreements which contemplate spending in excess of seven million dollars over the next two years is in the process of being completed. I am hoping we will get something tabled at this session relative to the progress being made in that area. Primary areas of activity will include tourism, renewable resource use, work rotation plans, community planning and development, and the preparation of economic development strategies for the Northwest Territories. I am hoping that possibly we will be receiving suggestions for such subsidiary agreements from Members of this committee.

In conjunction with these initiatives the department will continue to promote the widespread use of DREE, and the Special ARDA program.

Major Tourism Plan And Tourism Strategy

In the tourism area preparations have been made to undertake the development of a major tourism plan and tourism strategy for the territories in co-operation with the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and CGOT, the Canadian Government Office of Tourism. As well TravelArctic has joined or become partner with the Canada West, an alliance to promote travel to northern and western Canada in North America and in the overseas markets. Arrangements have been negotiated to provide support to develop a strong industry travel association active across the North. A major study of territorial parks policy and legislation is nearing completion and I am quite sure that that policy will be strengthened and much affected by the contribution that Members made last week to the debate, on the occasion when Mr. Al Davidson attended with us. The territorial parks people in no way see Members as mere attention-getters and they recognize the contributions made by Members as important direction and should serve as a foundation for any policy which this jurisdiction puts forward to Members for approval.

The year 1979 will also mark the twentieth anniversary of co-operative development in the territories. Plans are under way to commemorate this anniversary of the institution of the co-operative method and systems in the territories. As well an extensive new program of management and retail training for co-op managers together with education for co-op members and directors of boards will be introduced. I anticipate that these activities will greatly improve the quality and the scope of Northwest Territories co-operative operations and enhance the position of these enterprises as an important component of the northern economy.

Business Projects

During 1977-78 there were 33 business projects active, providing employment for more than 800 people and generating revenues estimated at \$2.7 million. The coming year will see an emphasis placed on improving efficiency, performance and self-sufficiency. Efforts will be concentrated on establishing project monitoring and assessment criteria, management and financial control systems by strengthening the market organization.

In the area of employment and training, 1977-78 saw improvements on our relationships with Canada Employment and the Immigration Commission and continuing efforts were made to develop employment opportunities for northerners on the Alaska highway pipeline and in the transportation and tourism industry. The STEP program provided 4000 man weeks of employment. Five trade advisory committees with memberships from the private sector were established in addition to the apprenticeships and tradesmen's qualifications board were very positive effects in the apprenticeship program. Right of way clearing for the highway is under way in the area of Fort Liard under the Hire North program which is co-ordinated through the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The project in this area will provide to continue training and employment opportunities for approximately 55 or 60 people, the majority of whom are residents of the Liard Valley. A major emphasis of the program is now to provide subcontracting and other business opportunities to residents of the region. The direction of the program comes from the steering committee composed, in the majority, of native residents of the valley and the result is strong community support for this concept developed over the past year. It is expected that the chairmanship of the committee will pass to a community representative early in 1979.

Funding For Job Creation Activity

The programs I summarized earlier will not create an economic base. Our funding is too small in size -- in fact, the operative money, the active working capital of the department is only five per cent of the total budget of the Northwest Territories -- to enable us to do more than supplement the job creation activity in the private sector and to direct employment by government. Our program efforts can be classified broadly as training and development. These are designed to improve northerners' access to opportunities, both in employment and business, to provide skills not otherwise available in the territories and to develop the secondary and tertiary sectors that provide the services to the major sectors.

Based on our reviews in the past three months, however, departmental planners recognized that the department must broaden its scope and take a leading role in facilitating and planning for the development of major resource projects. Our fundamental premise is that such development is necessary to provide jobs for the 1000 northerners entering the labour force annually over the next ten years. Growth of jobs and of business opportunities in the service sectors similarly depends on a large measure of continuing resource development. It is unlikely that government expenditures will continue to grow in the future unless resource development is encouraged and looks promising.

I have other material but I think I have spoken for a long enough time, Mr. Chairman, so before we get into questions or remarks or comments of a general nature I wonder if the committee would permit me to invite the director of the department, Mr. Barry Shead to join me.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): A request to invite Mr. Barry Shead, agreed?

---Agreed

Thank you, Mr. Minister, for a very thorough introduction to your estimates. Comments of a general nature.

Recommendations From The Economic Prospects Conference

MR. NICKERSON: This is probably an unfair question to the territorial Department of Economic Development and should more correctly be addressed to the federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but I, as did other people, had the privilege of attending the Hay River conference last year and to be quite frank about it I do not see very many results out of that conference. We seem to have had a number of committees established and people are supposed to be looking into this and looking into that, but at that conference some very

specific recommendations were made by the participants and I would like to know in four areas what is happening. These areas are specific. They are not setting up committees or the types of things that the government bureaucracy favour but the first one is, the conference came out strongly in support of the construction of a dam on the Slave River just south of Fort Smith so I would like to know what has happened with respect to that proposed dam.

Secondly, the conference came out strongly in favour of the establishment of farms in the Northwest Territories and they wanted an agricultural policy whereby people could acquire agricultural land. That is the second point.

The third specific point is that they favoured the establishment in Hay River of a housing construction plant, prefabricated housing construction plant to supply the needs of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. I would like to know what has happened to that suggestion.

And fourthly they strongly recommended the continuation of the highway programs in the Northwest Territories and reference was specifically made to two roads. The first one was the Liard highway and we understand that the Minister's response to our earnest pleas to speed up construction of that Liard highway was to stretch out the construction program period for an additional year. The second highway, apart from the Dempster which of course is under construction, but the second one specifically referred to, was a highway between Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. What is happening with respect to the Tuk highway?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Hon. Tom Butters, those were four dandies to start you off with.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I do not know what your clock says but mine says coffee time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mine does too. Are we agreed that we break for coffee?

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): We will recess for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Hon. Tom Butters.

Results Of The Hay River Economic Prospects Conference.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just before my good fortune to break for coffee there was a question loaded on me relevant to the Minister's Hay River conference and what might have transpired as a result of recommendations and resolutions developed during that conference. I do not know whether I can satisfactorily answer the Member because as he is aware many of the projects that he has indicated fall within the purview of federal officials, but I will do my best.

With regard to the dam which some committee Members on their tour -- at least they did not overfly the dam but they overflowed the proposed dam site on the upper Slave River on the week end. This project, as Members, know, is currently the subject of a feasibility study, I believe being carried out through or under or at the request of the Government of Alberta, the provincial jurisdiction that is keenly interested in the development of that hydroelectric project. Members probably are aware too that if the feasibility study currently being carried out suggests that the project go ahead, the completion date is somewhere in the order of 12 years in the future. The only thing that we have been able to do as far as this government is concerned is inform Alberta last week that we want to be involved in the planning and the planning projections as soon as possible. I believe we received positive encouragement from Alberta that this will be the case.

Transfer Of Commissioner's Lands For Agricultural Use

With regard to the second point raised by the Honourable Member on agriculture, I think that we recognize that the federal position has been that there will be no further transfer of Commissioner's lands. So to gain control of agricultural lands and be involved in the development of such lands the territories would have to receive such lands through that process and procedure. Members will recognize that the federal position has been that until the native land claims in the territories are settled there would be no further transfer of Commissioner's lands for agricultural use. I believe the argument of the Minister being, and I am certainly not here to defend the Minister or make arguments for him, but I believe the argument of the Minister is or would be, that such transfers would be prejudicial to the eventual resolution of land claims, especially in the southern Mackenzie. So without land being transferred, it is doubtful that this department could become involved in assisting agronomists or agriculturalists to the extent that we would wish, regrettably.

On housing, I am going to pull a sneaky here and possibly ask if the Deputy Commissioner who is chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation might respond for me on that also at the same time that he take a look at the two questions or the question dealing with the Northwest Territories highways program. I would just point that with regard to the Liard highway program and the Hire North aspect of that program, at present there is in process a right of way clearing exercise or contract in an amount of between \$500,000 and \$600,000. There has also been a construction contract let to General Enterprises Ltd. for an amount of some \$3.9 million. It is anticipated that the implementation of that contract will see between 30 and 32 workers from the Liard area and Fort Simpson employed through the service of the federal Canadian Department of Employment and Immigration. So perhaps I could just ask the Deputy Commissioner to comment on the matter of highways and housing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Building Of The Liard Highway

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the recommendations for highway construction that were made at the Hay River conference there was one body of opinion there which suggested that the Liard highway should be built more quickly than over the five year time span, but that is not a universally supported view. Nearly two years ago now I visited a number of communities affected by the Liard highway and in all cases, except for one group of people, the view was held that the highway should be built over the span of a number of years, preferably five years, in order to ensure that the people of the area could take full advantage of the jobs that were going to be created through the construction of that highway. They also expressed the view that by taking a certain length of time to build the highway they would have an opportunity themselves to get ready for the further economic benefits that might and will accrue, such as the operation of tourist facilities, the possible operation of lumber mills and so forth. The only group who opposed that view and wanted to see the period shortened to two or three years, was a group of businessmen in Fort Simpson. They wanted to see the highway built as rapidly as possible so that the flow of tourists and the perhaps redirection of freight away from Hay River and toward the Simpson area would take place more quickly.

In the recommendation we made as an administration to the Minister we supported the longer period because we could clearly identify the jobs and benefits which would accrue to that kind of construction period. I think the work that Assistant Commissioner Mullins has done in chairing the Liard highway committee, and in gradually turning that into a citizens' committee or communities' committee has been just excellent. He has involved the people in the planning of that highway and in the planning of the work. I think that the administration to a very great extent will be able to step out of the lead role there and the lead role will be taken over by community people. So, with regard to that highway I think that the decision to look at it on a five year basis is a very good decision.

Inuvik/Tuktoyaktuk Highway

Now, the Liard highway has been for a number of years, quite a number of years and continues to be territorially, our number one priority for new highway construction. Our second priority is for the Inuvik/Tuktoyaktuk highway and we have used all the strength at our disposal to place that before the Minister and before federal officials. However, they do not disagree with us but they do not have a major highway program for this year or next year beyond the completion of roads already under way. In other words, they have been forced to restrict the total number of dollars available for highway construction because we have a great need for more money in reconstruction. There are two or three major highways to be completed and I speak of course, of the Liard, the Dempster and on the Yukon side because they share in the total program, they have one or two highways that they are completing. So, we have taken as many steps as we can that are at our disposal to press for the construction of the Inuvik/Tuktoyaktuk highway. It remains in our planning framework and since highways, that is the construction of new highways, is still entirely a federal matter, we are left in the position of only being able to advise and bring pressure to bear. We can not make the decisions, we do not have those funds. Mr. Chairman, with regard to the question of housing I am afraid I would have to ask Mr. Nickerson to rephrase the question.

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

MR. NICKERSON: In which way would the Deputy Commissioner like me to rephrase it? Is it because he never got the question?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, say it again I mean.

Housing Construction Plant In Hay River.

MR. NICKERSON: Thank you very much. My concern is with the housing construction plant in Hay River. It is my belief that a strong recommendation came out of the Minster's conference that such a plant be established in the Hay River area to manufacture prefabricated housing units for the use of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. I wonder what progress there has been towards that recommendation. I asked four questions and I knew that the answers to at least three of them would be negative so I put in one which would allow the administration to come out of the whole thing not looking too bad.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am grateful for whatever scraps can be thrown our way. However, I would not put the box score as one up and three down because I think the answer on the Liard highway is at least a draw. We think that both levels of government are doing the right thing.

With regard to housing, I think we can report progress there. A committee has been formed in Hay River, soon to become a community corporation, I believe, to take on a number of projects. I think one of the first ones that will be taken on will be the building components for the Housing Corporation for part of its construction program this coming summer. The Housing Corporation is designing its program in such a fashion that we hope to force a certain amount of work to be done in the Hay River area this year and I say "force" because if we were to put the houses and the component parts out for tender as per usual then clearly, with lower overheads involved and so forth, all of the work could be done in southern Canada, but we have taken a conscious decision that this must not be permitted to continue to happen. Although there may be a financial penalty involved, we believe that that will be offset due to the jobs that will be created and the assistance that will be given to the local economy. Therefore, we would hope that somewhere in the neighborhood of say, 20 houses would be built in this plant in Hay River and the government as well as the Housing Corporation will be lending every support to getting that operation going.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Commissioner. Hon. Tom Butters.

Business Advisory Committee.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: One further footnote to the question of the Honourable Member and that is that the business advisory committee chaired by Mr. Jim Robertson, I believe was given a commission, along with a number of residents of the territories, to put into some kind of workable whole or package, the objectives that were achieved at the Hay River conference. One of the members of Mr. Robertson's committee fortunately is a Member of this House, Mr. Lyall. I believe that that committee has developed its general approach. It has developed its summary and it is almost to the point where a letter of transmittal is being drafted for presentation to the Commissioner. So, it is possible that that report could be available to Members before this House prorogues this session.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Mr. Nickerson, are you through, are you satisfied?

MR. NICKERSON: I would not say that that is a satisfactory answer but the best answer we could expect under the circumstances.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. I have Mr. Lyall next on the floor.

MR. LYALL: Thank you, Mr. Fraser. I do not know how you got my name because I was not here when you started on this subject but I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism what, if anything is being done -- I asked this of the Minister of Natural and Cultural Affairs and I personally do not think I got the correct answer, or the answer I wanted to hear. I would like to ask the Minister whether they are going to be looking forward to tabling the results of the study being done by the federal Department of Fisheries and the Environment this summer, whether they would be looking forward to the next House in tabling the results of the studies that they will be doing in the Wellington Bay area, in Spence Bay, Pelly Bay and Gjoa Haven. Are they looking forward to getting that before the next sitting of the new House, before the day that we have elections?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated during the debate on Natural and Cultural Affairs, the Department of Economic Development is most interested in the results that will be obtained from that research when it goes on. I think that the Member from the Central Arctic is aware that the recent program is a two year program and will cost something in the order of \$100,000 plus. As the Minister of Natural and Cultural Affairs pointed out today the responsibility for the fish stocks and for doing the research on those stocks in the territories falls to a federal department. I am now embarked on a meeting to determine where the funding will come from for the research work which has to be done before a commercial operation is initiated. I assure the Member that as the information becomes available it will be provided to Members of this House. That would have to be to the ninth Assembly and it will be provided to them when it is available.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you. Mr. Lyall, have you got a further question?

Using Cambridge Bay Fishery As A Model

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. That study that is being done will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000 and the money is now available. It is available and I would like to ask the Minister whether or not the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is doing a study to see the type of buildings that they will be needing, whether the fish plant is located in Spence Bay, Gjoa Haven or Pelly Bay, what type of building are they looking at? Is it something in the neighborhood of what we have in Cambridge Bay? Just for the information of the House I think that the fish plant we have in Cambridge Bay is one of the best in Canada. Are they looking at such a building, like the one we have in Cambridge Bay?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, yes, the department recognizes that the Cambridge Bay operation is a model fishery and if and when research permits commercial enterprises or an operation to be developed east of Cambridge Bay in the rivers along the coast the basic design and approach will be that which is already in operation in the Central Arctic now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. I have Mr. Steen on the list. Mr. Lyall, are you not finished? Mr. Lyall.

Wardair Tourist Charters

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, I would also like to ask the Minister what is the status of the Wardair charters that are going into the settlements? What is the status of those tourists who are supposed to be going into Coppermine homes? Also lately I hear they are going to be looking at another link to that. Is there a possibility of going into Gjoa Haven? Is this rumour true? What is the status of that run right now?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I trust that members of the department who are responsible for tourism will have heard that question and when we come to the specific item might be able to correct me or provide more detailed information in response to the question. But my understanding is that last year the plan or package was put together too late for them to get off the ground during the 1978 tourist season, but it would appear that they are looking at becoming operable in 1979. If there is any change to that, I will ask the official responsible for tourism to correct me later on.

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

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I took this as being a general comment so that is why I commented at this time on tourism. Another thing I would like to ask the Minister is whether or not they looked very seriously at such places as we have around Cambridge Bay, the Arctic outpost camps mainly. The people who operate such tourist lodges, is the Department of Economic Development going to try and get them to hire as many native people as possible in those lodges? What, if any, of that money that has been collected by those operators of fishing lodges is left in the Northwest Territories? Is 90 per cent taken out of the territories? Is ten per cent staying in the territories? What wages percentagewise are left in the Northwest Territories and what is the division of tourism doing to try to make sure that these people operating lodges in the territories are hiring the people from the Northwest Territories? In the past five years the lodges in the Northwest Territories have had people working for the lodges who were from universities outside of the Northwest Territories and in some cases university students from down in the United States. Is Economic Development going to press little harder on these lodge owners to try and hire people the closest to the lodge, wherever it may be?

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

Difficulty In Approaching Lodge Operators

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The answer is yes, Mr. Chairman. We recognize that this has been a concern of Members for many, many budgetary sessions. I think that the Members will also recognize the difficulty of the department in that the private entrepreneur is very jealous of his prerogatives to run his business his own way and determine whom he hires and where he purchases stuff and it is very difficult, as you can understand, for us to request of him or to require of him that he uses a certain percentage of Northwest Territories goods or Northwest Territories labour. All I am saying is -- I am not defending the position of the department -- but I am just trying to indicate to the Member the difficulties that departmental officials have in approaching lodge operators. We have no big stick as it were. We can do our best to suggest such utilization of northern peoples and northern goods but I do not think we have any other recourse at the present time. I will try and determine if there is any estimate, it is really a guesstimate of how much of the gross return developed by an average fishing lodge, remains in the territories. The question is pretty theoretical and hypothetical. If such an estimate exists, I will provide it to the Member, but I think it will only be a guesstimate.

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

Aid To Private Entrepreneurs In The N.W.T.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, to that answer I kind of thought that -- when the Minister stated private entrepreneurs in the Northwest Territories it kind of opened new words in my mind. I wonder if the Minister could tell me, do the private entrepreneurs in the Northwest Territories, whoever they may be, as we call ourselves today Indian, Eskimo and others, what help is Economic Development giving to the people who are starting their own business in the Northwest Territories? That question, Mr. Chairman, is -- I am kind of jealous of that one because I really feel that private entrepreneurs in the Northwest Territories, especially even if you call him an "other" in the territories, if he is a long-time resident then he should be given a kick at the cat as we say to be -- at least try for yourself before they say you are a failure or you are successful.

I would like to ask the Minister what kind of help they give these private entrepreneurs to obtain licensing or obtain whatever type of material they are seeking to open up new businesses. I feel that this department should be giving more help to those types of businesses, especially for the people who are long-time residents of the Northwest Territories.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct. The type of service which he has outlined I think both of a financial and of an advisory nature or special resource nature is made available by and through the department. It may not be to the extent that the Member would wish it to be, but a beginning has been made and with him I would hope this beginning could be enlarged and increased. In the financial area there are financial resources available in the Small Business Loan Fund and in this current year some \$672,000 were made available to private business people in the territories. There is the Eskimo Loan Fund and this year there were \$827,000 in loans made and \$211,000 made in contributions. I have already mentioned the Special ARDA, Agriculture and Rural Development Agreement contribution which includes both the federal and the territorial, totalling some \$1.5 million. There is funding for co-operatives as well. However, he did not refer to the co-operatives. I think he was referring here to the private businessmen in that question.

New Business Development Division

In terms of service to northerners who wish to get into business, the new business development division of the department which includes financial services to co-ops will offer specialists who could assist business people in their starting up or carrying on their business function and operation. I would agree that we have not yet achieved, and it may be a long way in the future the degree of service that Members have requested in the past. There is almost an ongoing monitoring of all loans that have been made to ensure that northern businessmen are indeed carrying out proper business practices and not getting into trouble. I do not think we as yet are providing the amount of service that the Member has in mind, but we are moving in that direction.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not intend to be too hard on the Minister over there because he is new, but I think this is one of the most important departments in this government. I think it takes priority with just about everyone in this government and with the people of this country. I feel that we have to develop this department a little bit more, give them more direction and even establish more money in this department. It seems that the Department of Social Services has more of a priority to this government than the economics of the country. I am under the impression and I believe that the people in this

country must have money in their pockets. People are powerless when they have no money in their pockets. This should be a concern to this government, to put money in people's pockets so that they can determine at their own discretion when they should travel here or there or do whatever they want with it. I say you should not keep them broke and then rule them. I feel that we have to give the people of the Northwest Territories priority, especially in this department, less than the other. I am not saying we should cut down on services. I say that we should develop this department.

I was astounded the other day when I read in a magazine, it was one of the magazines from Yellowknife here, the Yellowknifer, I believe, and there was an article in there where the Germans are becoming interested in the Northwest Territories, in areas south of Hay River, where they believe is one of the best soils in the world for growing barley. It makes me wonder why all of a sudden another country is interested in this country and we are not really interested, we are not even looking at our surroundings.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

Government Has Little Interest In The Economy

MR. STEEN: I just can not understand how much little interest this government has in the economy of the Northwest Territories. There is another area near Norman Wells where a fellow set up his own sawmill there and bought his own planer and we in the surrounding Delta did not even know he was operating. You know, we get our stuff from Hay River and I do not want to say we have anything against Hay River, but we have to use our resources the best way we can, the cheapest way, and I am still kicking myself as to why I did not find out about this other place instead of getting materials from Hay River. I know that Mr. Stewart here, the Honourable Member for Hay River, is wanting development in his area, more economy and he is concerned since the Berger Inquiry or he said at the last session, I believe he said that the economy of Hay River had gone down the river, but I am still waiting for his economy to reach Tuktoyaktuk.

---Laughter

MR. STEWART: Zero plus zero still equals zero, Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: I just feel that with the sawmill that much closer to where we can use it or where people can use it, that is of benefit to the development of the country, when it is closer. I would feel that this government would help people know what is going on, who is in business, how they can get their stuff cheaper. I feel that the Dempster highway must be reopened so that all the relief money we are getting from the federal government, which is being dished out to us can be used to the best way, or in the cheapest way. I feel that opening of the Dempster highway will, or should be a priority of this government. It should be providing money at this time to remove snow from the highway so we can use it in the wintertime, even if it is not completed. Perhaps this government and the Yukon government and perhaps also the federal government should get together and provide the funds to open it so that the people of the Delta can achieve or get their materials in the most economic way.

There are all kinds of things that we could be doing and to try and name them all now would take a lot of the Members' time, but I feel that even land claims, I feel that the decisions that they are making with Ottawa is destroying some of the capabilities, some of the ways that we may be able to achieve or get some of the resources that lie underneath our feet. For instance, the COPE, Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement claim; there is a well three miles away from Tuktoyaktuk and the claim does not demand that a pipeline be built between the community and the well, it just makes a circle around it. The feds keep the well. The communities will not benefit from nothing. I think we just have to do something.

A Brewery And A Tannery Needed In The N.W.T.

Now, getting back to the barley story. For a long time I have been thinking that some of these Members around here, they like to drink a beer once in a while and it should be made in the North. There are so many backhauls, empty backhauls, materials shipped into the North and then the backhaul is virtually nil. If you combine your backhaul with your incoming materials surely the price must go down.

The same thing applies to the fur shops in the Delta. One of our biggest industries in the North, outside of this government, is fur and there is so much fur in the North that we should be looking at a territorial tannery instead of shipping our furs to the South and then shipping them back to the North after it is completed. Even if some of these things are not viable or economically sound, it is still a beginning. You may say that it is cheaper to send your furs to the South and have them tanned there and ship them north again but here you leave your people behind, you leave them behind and there is no one who can work at doing these things. Even if it loses a little bit at least some of the money stays in the country and the work does not go to the South.

I feel that Mr. Shead's department and Mr. Shead used to be the administrator in Tuktoyaktuk and he was my foe at the time and he still is my foe. Perhaps we could give him a foe or two with no heat, but I have another article on Mr. Shead's department taking a trip to Winnipeg which cost \$5000. I am under the impression that he went there just to see the ball games, the football games. I would like to do that too but I would have to think first that providing moneys to the fur shops, or to where people are screaming for jobs is more important. You know, I think we have to look at what we should be doing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): We will have to get unanimous consent if you want to continue. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

MR. STEEN: I was just winding up, or just finishing rather.

---Laughter

Mr. Chairman, with all due respect I think that I will now defer to other Members and bring up my other comments as we go through this bill clause by clause. I thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): I wonder if your foe wants to answer that. Hon. Tom Butters.

Valuable Recommendations And Suggestions

HON. TOM BUTTERS: We thank the Honourable Member for his comments and I hope that the debate will continue in the same vein with similar recommendations and suggestions. I do not think that anyone can argue with what the Member from the Western Arctic says -- a proud people and independent people are people who have money in their pockets and we recognize that. We recognize that the direction of a department whose responsibility is to assist to put money in people's pockets should be much larger and I think we take and accept the suggestions that the Honourable Member has made as valid and valuable.

I would just comment on the matter of the Dempster highway. The territorial government, this government has been most active in attempting to see that highway opened this past winter. I think as the Member realizes, and I think he mentioned, the highway is not yet completed. He heard, too, the Deputy Commissioner point out that construction of highways is the responsibility of the federal government. Therefore, the federal government has not permitted the inclusion of maintenance money in either the budget of the Yukon or of the Northwest Territories. The Yukon, I believe, will be opening the highway a little bit earlier than what was intended and this government will look favourably at seeing that access is permitted from our side, that is, if the Yukon government goes ahead and does that. It is doubtful if that activity, though, will be of much use this winter. We have approached the Yukon government and advised them of the interest of Delta truckers and contractors of moving loads over that road and have received a good response from our counterpart in the Yukon, but they have just not been able to find an additional \$400,000 to open that road this winter, especially as the money had not been allocated by the federal government.

There is one other comment I would also like to make to correct an answer which I gave to the Honourable Member from the Central Arctic. Apparently the Wardair Dash-7 proposal that he raised and referred to has been cancelled by the company. Apparently the tour program that was originally envisaged was too expensive to carry out. Seemingly documents exist which explain why this decision was made and maybe they could be made available to the Member, but unfortunately, I was incorrect in suggesting that the program would be going ahead this year, this summer.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. I have Hon. David Searle next on the list.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, my question had to do with some of the comments made earlier by the Deputy Commissioner and although they would have been timely at the time I think they are entirely inappropriate now. So, I have no questions, thank you.

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

The Importance Of Economic Development

MR. PEARSON: Is there to be no response from the Minister? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are back to one of our old favourites, an old chestnut. I do not know about Hon. Tom Butters but I have sat here maybe eight or nine years and have consistently, and I think the Members will bear me out on that, we have consistently argued for more direction for this department, for more money for this department. My colleague, Hon. Tom Butters, has also spent exactly the same length of time at this department and now he is complaining that the department is not getting enough money and I fought single handedly for more money for Economic Development. The years of fighting in the wilderness.

MR. STEWART: Shame, shame!

MR. PEARSON: I spent the first four years on this Assembly trying to bring some direction to this organization and I share with my colleague, Mr. Steen, his views on one of the most important departments if not the most important department of all. If you want to put it next to education, I suppose Economic Development would come first because there must be a reason for education and a reason for education surely is development, economic development on a worthwhile base the length and breadth of the Northwest Territories.

One of my concerns is how much direction does this department get now from the Minister, now that this department has a Minister. As I recall in the good old days they would say: "Do not worry about that, Mr. Pearson, in a couple of years there will be a Minister in the department and everything will change completely and it will be wonderful." I see the budget over the years. The taxpayers of this great country of ours have contributed to the coffers of the Department of Economic Development to the tune of \$75 million to \$100 million in the last ten years. Where has it gone? What has it produced? Where are the businesses? Where is the economic development?

Primitive Quality Of Services Available

What has taken place across the Northwest Territories? What new industries have they got? We are still fiddling around with sealskins. We are still arguing about that chestnut, tanneries, that at least some of us know is a total waste of time, but where have they gone? What have they accomplished in the last eight or ten years in this department? Tourism is still in its infancy. There are still no breakthroughs in the tourist industry. The quality of services, facilities that are available in the Northwest Territories are primitive, underfunded, underdeveloped and insignificant in terms of the dollars that they produce certainly in the rest of the Arctic. Perhaps in the Mackenzie it is beginning to show itself, but where has the money gone? That is what I wonder. I know where it went. It went for the wages of civil servants. That is where it went. Vast armies of civil servants who descend on communities such as Frobisher Bay recently for their so-called economic development conference. Just an excuse for a bunch of civil servants to go on a trip.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame, shame!

MR. PEARSON: As you can see, not everybody agrees with you.

HON. PETER ERNERK: We do not have any choice.

MR. PEARSON: The Mackenzie conference, the so-called Hay River conference. I mean if I hear the term the underdeveloped, undernourished, this poor down-trodden community of Hay River again, I will shoot myself. They have got more things going for them there than I have ever seen in my life. The latest thing by this government has been to put the liquor commission down there. What a ridiculous idea to move the liquor commission to Hay River. What benefit that will be I do not know except for more civil servants, the cost of doing that -- that is not economic development.

I recall many years ago visiting a farmer on the border. It must have been near Fort Smith somewhere. I can not remember where it was but it was in the Northwest Territories. There was a farm with a family and they grew wheat, they had pigs, they had all kinds of things but what happened to that little project, to those programs of agricultural development? Where have we gone there? Where have we gone in the last ten years? That farm was a very exciting project, at least I thought so.

When Are We Going To See Some Results

So when are we going to stop listening to these stories about the wonders of economic development, the wonderful things we do and when are we going to see some results other than these few paltry little carving shops here and there, but something worth while? The Eastern Arctic is about to be besieged by the oil development. Thank God something is going on. What has this department done to prepare that area for this exciting development? I refer to it as an exciting development and I am sure there are many in my constituency who do not. There are going to be hundreds of millions of dollars spent in that area by the oil companies, the only economic boost we have seen there at all ever other than the DEWline which was before all of our times really. What have they done to prepare the people for that? What efforts have been made to set things up?

We spent millions of dollars worrying about the pipeline that never came down the Mackenzie but the offshore development over there, I am sure there are all kinds of economic opportunities for people in that region. Just finance a few more small businesses. I see them in the paper occasionally "Another achievement by the Department of Economic Development. They loaned so and so \$6000 to start a new business." Headlines in the paper and pictures. It is just incredible. The department is risking its neck another \$7000 again and it means half the salary of one civil servant per year. What a sacrifice they have to make. But I will tell you it is an appalling picture when you consider the amount of energy and the direction that this Assembly has tried to give this department over the years and you are still listening to the same speeches from me and I am still listening to the same speeches from you guys, the same old stuff. No new enlightenment, no nothing. Really without economic development we are through -- doomed.

Our Greenland Neighbours

In Greenland they enjoy an economy based on renewable resources, to wit, fish and shrimp. They fish in the Davis Strait. Is it funny, is it? They fish and shrimp in the Davis Strait. They produce millions of tons of fish and chips -- fish and shrimp. We share the same waters, the same tides wash on both our shores. Why can we not be developing that same kind of project? Why does someone not take the initiative and go out and have a look and see what lies on our side of the international boundary, how many millions of tons of fish and shrimp we could produce and ship out to markets that are screaming for it and willing to pay incredibly high prices for it and put some of the people, some of the graduates from the schools, if we ever get any from the schools, to work, or the dropouts to set up industries in that area. I mean that is ten years, Mr. Chairman, that we have been discussing these things.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): It is ten minutes too, Mr. Pearson. Is it the wish of the House he continue?

MR. PEARSON: I will not continue.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: More, more!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: More, more!

MR. PEARSON: No. To hell with you. You have not listened to me before so you are not going to get a chance now. I will keep it to myself. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Hon. Tom Butters, do you do any magic?

A Concern Of All

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, I too have heard the oratory of the Honourable Member in years past but I can not agree that he single handedly presented these positions. I think similar positions have been taken by all Members or most Members of the House to improve and increase the amount of effectiveness of the department both financially and administratively. He asked the rhetorical question: What has been done? What exists? There was a long litany, a long catalogue of woe and dark thoughts. He knocks as a swan, civil servants travelling to Frobisher Bay to meet with people from the Baffin region.

I was fortunate to go along on that trip, not as the Minister at that time, but to go with the people who came from here at the request, I believe, and at the invitation of the Frobisher regional office. I must say I was very impressed at the level of the discussions from the delegates at that conference. I realize that the Honourable Member was critical then of the exercise, but he certainly did not stay and listen to the comments of the other Members, the Member from Foxe Basin and the Member from the High Arctic and the Member from Baffin North because they were not critical of what occurred in that conference. I think that they took away from that meeting, as the Yellowknife officials took away from it, a feeling that something had occurred, communication had taken place and that there would be action as a result of that meeting in Frobisher Bay. I think it was a valuable one and it showed to me, where has the money gone? It has gone into people.

There were a lot of people that I saw there and I listened to, native people, who knew about business and were getting an education of what had to be done and what opportunities existed. Maybe the Honourable Member from Frobisher Bay was about his own business when he left the hall at the time but during the three days I listened to that discussion I heard some very sophisticated dialogue on economics, some very pragmatic approaches to how the people in the communities can become more involved in their own development. I must say as an outsider as it were, to the economic development exercise, I was most impressed with what I heard and I believe that this same thing has occurred to a certain extent in the Mackenzie and the Great Slave area.

Opportunities Are Needed

I think that what is needed now are opportunities and opportunities sometimes are hard to come by. We will make the best use we can of our renewable resources but our renewable resource base is limited. We will have to look at other resources, non-renewable resources and the development of those resources. The Member recognized that the offshore dimension that is occurring in the Eastern Arctic now offers many opportunities for the people of the Eastern Arctic and the native people of the Eastern Arctic, but you can lose that if there is too much resistance to such development, if there is too much nit picking with regard to such development. The developer will not be operating out of Frobisher Bay. They will be operating out of St. John's, Newfoundland, where they are wanted. This is the danger, I think that we have faced in the North, that we not only kicked the goose that lays the golden egg but we crushed its head. I warn you in the Eastern Arctic and I warn the Member from Frobisher Bay that the oil companies may have now centered there but they could depart for St. John's very, very quickly.

I admit that the department probably has not been as active and as available to the Baffin Regional Council and to maybe other community councils in providing expertise and advice relative to the non-development, non-renewable resource development that is currently being proposed in these areas. I realize the Baffin Regional Council has criticized the department for not being available when they meet and I think we will have to take steps to correct this situation. I believe that we must ensure as much factual information as

possible is available, to ensure that we do not have the same situation occur in the East as occurred in the West, where people became very afraid of what was proposed and in that fear and in reacting to that fear rejected an opportunity for development that may not come again in our time. What has been done? I think a great deal has been done, but in saying that I do not ignore the fact that there is a great deal more to do.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Are you through, Mr. Pearson?

The Department Has Not Responded To The Wishes Of The Assembly

MR. PEARSON: There is one thing that keeps bothering me and that is my colleague's defence of the department. Hon. Tom Butters is a Member of this Legislature, an elected representative the same as I am. He has taken upon himself the responsibility for this department and was elected by his colleagues, but then as soon as one of the elected Members criticizes one of the government departments it is automatically defended by a Member of this Assembly, and what a dilemma to be in. It is a fact, it is a dilemma and some of us who foresaw this problem occurring, saw that in Inuvik, when it was first discussed, when the whole concept of Executive Members first came to the front. I can sympathize with Hon. Tom Butters but I do not think that this department has responded to the wishes of this Assembly over the years and I do not think it will in future either. It is just pedaling along nice and slowly, do not make too many waves, do not get people too excited.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. I think that was just a statement.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, it requires an answer.

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

The Role Of A Minister

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The situation the Member describes is perfectly correct but may I point out that I did not seek this portfolio, I accepted direction to take it when the transfer was made as I would under a premier. I think what we must recognize is that what is taking place here with the Executive Committee is a step towards the constitutional development that was so much in demand. When people from the Legislature are elected by Members here to the Executive Committee they then at this time become government and we recognize that. I think I mentioned in reply to the Commissioner's Address two or three sessions ago that I have three constituencies, I have the constituency which elected me, I have this constituency which also elected me and I have a constituency of the Government of the Northwest Territories -- the Executive Committee. When I sit in this chair and defend these estimates I am the Government of the Northwest Territories for this particular responsibility and that is what you told me to do. That is responsible government. Face it. Accept it. You may complain about the vehicle which is being used, which is the Executive Committee mechanism, but it was good enough for Lord Durham 130 years ago. This is the only vehicle traditionally that Canada has pursued and this is what we are seeing in place today.

Now, while I am defending these estimates I will do the best I can from the point of view of the Government of the Northwest Territories. I recognize what people say. I believe them. I would point out one more thing. I have been a Member of this committee for nine months so I do not have as much experience as my colleagues, Hon. Peter Ernerk and Hon. Arnold McCallum, but during the time I was responsible for the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs, I in no way received any interference or any direction from the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner, any direction I received and took came from the Executive Committee as a whole. In effect and, in fact, I ran the department. As long as I told the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner what I was doing, I made the decisions and I gave the directions. What that department did in that time -- the good things -- I can take credit for, the bad things I take responsibility for. This is the way I intend to run this department and to date I have seen nothing that indicates that either the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner or the Assistant Commissioner is going to personally instruct me as to how to run this department. If that occurred or that interference did occur, I would have to say "I must resign" and I would advise the House I could not accept the conditions under which I have to carry out the responsibility for this portfolio.

So, what we are seeing is an exercise in responsible government. Now, that is whether you like it or not, but that is the best vehicle we have got. When we get the Ministers and what I look forward to and I hope that you look forward to, is when we get elected people in charge of all the program departments and hopefully that should not be too far down the road and in some of the service departments. As our Speaker said, the Department of Finance, what about that; that will come. Right now, this is a half way house between a colonial government and a responsible government of the people of the Northwest Territories.

--Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters, very well put. I have Mr. Lafferty next on the roster.

Economic Reform In The North

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In looking at my watch I have not got a lot to say because many things have been said but my primary interests are in economic reform in the North and I have always held that line. I was elected on this basis. I am aware of the fact that we have no control over lands, forests or for that matter mining exploration activity and the local transportation systems we have but we do not have much land to control that.

Mr. Chairman, I have heard the efforts that are being put forth by our Honourable Minister and I for one appreciate the efforts he has put forth. Then, I also have other concerns of the way that perhaps some of the activities are taking place. For instance, we should be looking at long-range economic plans which should look at what might happen after the completion of the Mackenzie Liard highway in my case. What would happen, would the native people be in business, would they be in managerial positions or will they all be trained and locked into skills such as catskinners, truck drivers, cooks, etc.? I am a person who believes greatly that we are the product of our training and I see a lot of danger in some of the things that are happening to the native people. In that sense, I would disagree to some degree with the type of education we have, the type of economic development policies we are proposing, are we really looking at the long range, on what effect it will have on people after these things are completed and where are the native people going?

Mr. Chairman, when I look at the budget of Social Services and I see the budget that our Minister is charged with we can not blame him for some of the things no doubt are going on that perhaps he would like to see happen. One of the principal things presently in the Mackenzie Liard, especially in relation to the highway construction, with all respect to all of those good things that have happened is that we should be using local businesses that are found in the community who in turn would put in place, or can carry our immediate needs.

An example is places of recreational activity and supply outlets but these things are not happening. I am sure that we can not leave these things just to the native population hoping that they will come up with a miracle plan to supply the essential services that are needed in the community, because Fort Simpson is a fast growing community and it will pick up again in spite of the no-pipeline decision once the Liard highway comes through. So, this is one area that I think about.

More Agricultural Land Needed

Another area that I think about in relation to the highway construction is the acquisition of more land so that we can expand, if need be, so that our people can take roots in any area that they wish, along the Liard River but they can not do that and we are being pushed into these small towns, Fort Simpson, Liard and Nahanni, with small boundaries and there is no change of boundaries when people come in. Secondly, we should be looking very hard at mining exploration activity which has died out in our country and here again we could be involving native people or making arrangements with these exploration companies or their parent companies to engage native people in that activity.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that creating this type of activity in the economic field, in the southern Mackenzie region, would benefit not only those of us who are living in that area but rather the whole Mackenzie Valley and I think since the river flows down north our Honourable Member here from Tuktoyaktuk would get some of it. We can grow potatoes which he could buy cheaper. They could develop a port harbour or harbour, port facilities whatever he called it, many, many things can happen and these are the areas that I believe the expertise that can be engaged by the administration can concentrate on. The immediate things can be left to our local businesses to develop. Mr. Chairman, I just wish to point this out because it is essential that business and government work hand in hand in developing areas. That is so true. I firmly believe this.

A New Approach Needed

I think, Mr. Chairman, when I see that, then I can say to myself "What is happening to the Indian and Metis people in that community?". We are actually locking them into a training position, just like the soldier who is frightened of the almighty commissioned officer or non-commissioned officer because he is a cook or mechanic and we lock him into a discipline from which psychologically, there is no way out. It is very important how we train these people and do so into managerial positions. I think that that is something that this House has a responsibility to look into. Other than that, I do not wish to comment on the budget because I looked at it other than to say that I think this is one area where we can increase money, in these types of activities I have been talking about, at least to initiate policies that may end up in those areas I am talking about, mining exploration, fighting with the federal government if you have to to get control of more land.

You know what is happening now economically is that the Indians can no longer live off the land because on the one hand their children are in school and there are no homes in the bush, they are in place, they are in communities and if they go out on the land, they have to stay in a tent or you build them a second house, and that does not make sense to me. So this tells me, this simple fact tells me there has to be a new approach. In that sense I am saying that we should be developing an economic reform policy. Again I will repeat what I had said earlier. From a food gathering society to a producing society. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. I have Mr. Lyall next, but he has already spoken so I will have to recognize Mr. Stewart. Hon. Tom Butters.

In Response To The Member's Wishes

HON. TOM BUTTERS: May I just comment on the Member's statement. He raised two points. One emphasizes a concern that has come up on two or three occasions earlier this afternoon and that is the lack of agricultural lands. As I mentioned this apparently is a policy of the Minister that there shall be no lands until land claims are settled. I am very willing if the committee were to put a motion in this area to take this back to the Minister again and say "In view of the fact they have been trying to settle land claims for the last eight years and there does not seem to be any progress yet in the southern Mackenzie yet, maybe they should reconsider this freezing of agricultural lands," if the committee Members wish to make the motion.

The second thing the Member mentioned was the native involvement in mining exploration. Once again we are running into the same situation there. The mining industry would appear to be hampered now in its exploration activities as a result of the same type of strictures of no exploration or restricted exploration until land claims are settled. If the committee wishes to raise this point as well I would certainly be happy to take the motion in an attempt to develop some response to it which would be in keeping with the interest and objectives of Members of this committee.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Mr. Lafferty, are you through?

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I want to get my thoughts together. I appreciate the direction that the Honourable Minister is interested in. I believe that the committee should move that way. Any one of the Members who can make such a motion in the next few minutes we have, I would appreciate it greatly since I am not that well versed or familiar with the existing policies here.

One of the facts I will mention, Mr. Chairman, I would support Mr. Lyall in some instances where I do feel some frustration from the simple fact that every time I have attempted to do anything we have some crazy Rule. Of course, I do not blame the House for that part of our Rules but then there is the question that arises out of the legality of such Rules by a Member. I think we have to push issues and in that sense we are going to have to rock the boat. If we have to grab somebody's curly hair then by all means we should attempt it. In other words, I am saying, Mr. Chairman, there are times we must take some very serious action and let it be tested. I would appreciate any Member here moving such a motion in the next few minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Any comments from the Minister?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. I have Mr. Stewart next on the list.

A Catch-all Department

MR. STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think probably the name of this department is really a misnomer, Department of Economic Development. I am afraid that over the history of this department that it really has in some instances been an extension of the social assistance program in that it has been saddled with or is a catch-all to make things operate that financially are not economically

sound and can not operate. Their budget has been too small so that the capitalization of businesses that they do get involved with is too little and any relief often is too late with the net effect that the businesses are going broke. Not that we do not need in part some of this type of financial assistance for people first getting into business, but to call it economic development and have to accept the percentage of failure that this department is having to realize, in many instances the economic part of it becomes rather too difficult to swallow.

Based on my assumptions I would like the Minister to report to the House the percentage of loss on all loans issued in the last four years in all of the various departments. Inasmuch as stability is also very important as far as economics are concerned, particularly those in charge of economics, the department, I would like to know the staff turnover in the Department of Economic Development in the last four years. I can, for example, tell you that the Alberta Opportunity Company in their speech to us indicated a four per cent loss on the high-risk loans that they are undertaking. I am sure their percentage is going to be far higher for this type of thing. Again this, of course, is opposed to the position of Mr. Pearson in that you must have trained people who can go out and analyse a business, decide how much money it needs for capitalization. If it needs \$100,000, giving it \$50,000 is going to do no good whatsoever.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

Alberta Opportunity Company

MR. STEWART: It is a dead issue. It is defeated before it starts. You have to have people trained to analyse their requirements and put them on paper. Another good thing that the Alberta Opportunity Company does is, it reduces the interest rate on the higher risk loans until they are loaning money today at four per cent, but that is only loans of the very highest risks that they are taking, that the interest rate goes down to four per cent. Until we have a staff in the Economic Development section of this government that can analyse business and go out and check business on a reasonably regular basis for the first year or two years and be able to give the assistance which may be required to those businesses we are really pouring our money down a bottomless pit and we are not getting what we should be able to expect for our dollars back out of it.

That I say is the responsibility of this Assembly and although I have been part of getting money for things that we do -- Slave River sawmill was one for instance and we have given assistance to many industries in the same boat, not that they should not necessarily be maintained, but not under the heading of Economic Development. Surely this should then become a part of this department possibly but with a different heading so -- there are places we should subsidize but let us admit we are subsidizing them. So we are prepared to subsidize that because it is giving "X" number of jobs to the territories and it is needed but do not put it under the Department of Economic Development. That is not the place for welfare or subsidies in my opinion.

The Department Of Economic Development As A Crown Corporation

There has been some suggestion that we might look at this department, putting it into a crown corporation position where it has to be financially responsible and operate as a business. Possibly this is one way of getting it out of the doldrums but certainly today in my opinion the department is in a sad state of repair. Its percentage of losses on loans -- God only knows what percentage it is. I would like to know that. I have asked that as a question. As to stability within the department, from observation it looks like nil in the last four years. I do not think there is anybody left in there who was there four years ago. In any of these kinds of programs you need stability but I would like the Minister when he has time -- I know he can not answer those two questions probably off the top but I would like the answers to those questions during the debate on these estimates.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The words of the Honourable Member from Hay River are most wise and I can not but agree with him wholeheartedly in the statement that he made. I think that the department and the government, too, has set the position that he has outlined as the position we should work toward. Those are telling statements and I think we recognize the truth of them. I will seek to answer the two questions he has asked regarding the dollars lost on loans made to individuals, and I imagine, businesses and co-ops and also give some indication of the staff turnover in the last four years. I was kind of pleased to notice that he mentioned the department is in a sad state of repair. At least he did not say it was in a sad state of despair. We will attempt to have available for him the answers to those questions but I would stress also what he indicated, that you people have a responsibility.

You know, you can not just dump on the department and I think this is what the Member was saying and it is very true. We recognize that the types of projects we are running -- I hope when we get to the project section these will be looked at. We are running a number of projects where we are putting in more money than we are getting out and that is not economic development. We know that but I think we would like direction from you as to, how many dollars of social capital do we invest to get one dollar out? Obviously there are some projects too and programs or businesses which, because of their value to the community, must be subsidized, you know, a recognition because of the service they are providing the community. Some projects obviously are viable and will be on their own in a very short space of time, but those are three categories which we have to define and we have to determine the criteria by which businesses, for want of a better word, that fall within those categories I mentioned, should operate. I welcome the Member's suggestions, constructive criticism and trust that we will get similar direction from the other Members before this discussion is concluded.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. I recognize the clock as 5:56 p.m. Is it your wish that we report progress?

---Agreed

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. LYALL: Before you report progress I would like my name to remain on the list as a speaker for tomorrow and I would also like to suggest that the only reason we do not have any chestnut factories in Frobisher Bay is that they have sent the only nut down here to this House.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fraser): Your name will stay on the list and we have Hon. Peter Ernerk before you tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fraser.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Bill 7-67, the main estimates, and we wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any announcements for tomorrow, any committee meetings? That being so, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 11: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, February 8, 1979, 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 1-67, 9-67, 5-67, 7-67 and 8-67, Proposed Amendments to the Federal Indian Act, Tabled Document 10-67, Information Item 5-67, Tabled Document 13-67 and Information Item 4-67
11. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House is adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 8, 1979, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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