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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
DEBATES

67th. Session

8th Assembly

Official Report

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1979

pages 775 to 829

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1979

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

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

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Are there any returns? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Further Return To Question W20-67: Detah Telephone Service

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, Question W20-67 was asked on January 26, 1979, by Mr. Nickerson concerning Detah telephone service. Canadian National Telecommunications have confirmed that the expansion of telephone services to Detah will be completed during the second quarter of this year.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further returns? Written questions? Mr. Nickerson.

Question W69-67: Federal-Provincial Relations Office Paper On N.W.T. Political Development

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1979, this House passed a motion for the production of a document entitled "Political Development in the Northwest Territories" by Peter Jull of the federal-provincial relations office. Why has this not been produced?

MR. SPEAKER: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

Partial Return To Question W69-67: Federal-Provincial Relations Office Paper On N.W.T. Political Development

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, the Commissioner contacted the proper offices in Ottawa by telex requesting that this paper be provided and to this date we have not had a response.

MR. SPEAKER: Further written questions?

Item 3, oral questions.

Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, reports of standing and special committees.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on February 14 I shall move that Bill 4-67, An Ordinance -- I am sorry Mr. Speaker, I think that comes under Item 10.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motion.

Item 7, motions for the production of papers.

Item 8, motions. Are there any motions, Mr. Clerk? There are no motions for today.

Item 9, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the following document:

Tabled Document 24-67: Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, 1979-80, Estimates.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further tabled documents?

Item 10, notices of motion to introduce bills. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 10: NOTICES OF MOTION TO INTRODUCE BILLS

Bill 4-67: Legal Services Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on February 14, 1979, I shall move that Bill 4-67, An Ordinance Respecting the Provision of Legal Services to Certain Persons, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further notices?

Bill 14-67: Municipal Ordinance

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I give notice that on February 14, 1979, I shall move that Bill 14-67, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Tom Butters.

Bill 4-67: Legal Services Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on February 14, 1979, I shall move that Bill 4-67, An Ordinance Respecting the Provision of Legal Services to Certain Persons, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Pardon me but is not that the same notice Hon. Arnold McCallum just read? No?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well I have my name on it but it could be. Anyway notice has been well given.

MR. SPEAKER: Well there is certainly no Rule against too much notice, it is insufficient notice that we are concerned with.

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

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

Bill 7-67, Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, that is correct, Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, and I think we are with the Department of Public Works.

MR. SPEAKER: 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 continue its study of the main estimates.

The Department Of Public Works

We are dealing with the Department of Public Works, and at the conclusion of our work last night we were dealing with page 7.03, highways. There was a corrected set of figures given yesterday on this particular item and total O and M, the corrected figure is \$6,952,000. The total expenditures, the corrected figure reads \$7,622,000 and the corrected total operating income now reads \$6,512,000.

Highways, Total O And M, Agreed

With these corrected figures, gentlemen, page 7.03, total O and M, \$6,952,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Highways, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$670,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Highways, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$7,622,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Highways, Total Operating Income, Agreed

We will now note the correction to the total operating income which is \$6,512,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Repair And Upkeep Of Buildings And Works, Total O And M

We now turn to page 7.04, repair and upkeep of buildings and works and the total O and M is \$11,968,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I notice that there is a new activity within the Department of Public Works, that of accommodation and services, and I still notice that under repair and upkeep of buildings and works, that deals with staff houses. What is the split between accommodation services and repair and upkeep of buildings?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, if I interpret the question correctly, Mr. Nickerson wishes to know what elements of staff housing are covered in repair and upkeep of buildings and works.

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

MR. NICKERSON: That is correct. Which elements would be included under repair and upkeep of buildings and which elements would be included within accommodation services?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: If I may be permitted I will ask the director to consult with Mr. Scott for just a moment on that question and in the meantime I might provide one or two pieces of information that I had promised yesterday.

With regard to the utilization of brush cutting equipment, mechanical means are used at a cost saving. However, under rough terrain conditions the use of mechanical equipment is often prevented and manual methods must be used. In addition we are committed to using manual methods where the size of the brush to be cut makes it sensible to do it by hand.

With regard to the Rae access road, the road is not scheduled for widening until 1980 and further surface improvements in 1982. In 1979 normal maintenance activities will be continued and the improvements planned for future years will cost somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$850,000.

On the subject of the vehicular axle weights, these vary from 37,000 to 64,000 pounds and as I advised yesterday the limiting factor is the size of bridges over which vehicles must pass. The cost of reconstruction of 16 miles of the Ingraham Trail is estimated at \$2,741,000. Now, I have to qualify that figure because we do not intend to spend that amount of money, nor do we expect that amount of money to be made available to this department, but that cost includes an asphalt finish to that road which, of course, would cure the dust problem. The cost of the asphaltic treatment is something just over one million dollars, if memory serves me correctly, and that means to bring it up to a standard short of paving will be approximately one and a half million dollars.

Mr. Chairman, with regard to the question on the amount of expenditures under repair and upkeep of buildings and works that are in there for staff housing, we will have to put an answer together and provide it to you as soon as we have done that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Mr. Nickerson, does that satisfy you and can we continue with page 7.04 or do you wish to set it aside?

MR. NICKERSON: No, continue with it.

Repair And Upkeep Of Buildings And Works, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Total O and M, \$11,968,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Repair And Upkeep Of Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$812,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Repair And Upkeep Of Buildings And Works, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$12,780,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Operation And Repair Of Equipment, Total O And M, Agreed

May I direct your attention to page 7.05, operation and repair of equipment, for a total O and M, \$3,483,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: At this time last year, Mr. Chairman, we were told that the government was going through an exercise to reduce and rationalize inventories in the various machinery repair shops throughout the territories. I wonder if this has now been completed.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am sorry, I missed one word, the Member said to reduce and something else the inventory in our shops.

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

MR. NICKERSON: The word was rationalize. I understood from the testimony I think it was of the Assistant Commissioner last year that in a number of warehouses there were obsolete parts and equipment stored and the idea was to reduce the inventory and rationalize the whole scheme of keeping this material in stock maybe at some centralized warehouses and in other places you could have decentralized warehouses.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would appreciate it if the Member could put that question when the Department of Finance is being examined because it is that department that manages practically all of our warehouses.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Total O and M, \$3,483,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Operation And Repair Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$289,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Operation And Repair Of Equipment, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$3,772,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Utilities, Total O And M, Agreed

I direct your attention to page 7.06, utilities, total O and M, \$14,219,00. Is it agreed? I have only had two agrees. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Utilities, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$14,219,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Architectural Division, Total O And M, Agreed

I direct your attention to page 7.07, architectural division, total O and M, \$576,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Architectural Division, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$684,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Engineering Division, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 7.08, engineering division, total O and M, \$871,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I have received complaints from contractors, Mr. Chairman, and the nature of the complaint is this. They are asked to bid on jobs which they do and it costs them a fair amount of time and money to submit bids. Afterwards they find out that this job has been awarded to, say, a hamlet council or perhaps done by the government with its own staff and they suspect that they were asked to tender only because the government wanted to justify the price asked by a municipal council or that the engineering division just wanted to find out how much the job would really cost. In other words, the tenders were not called in good faith. I want to know the extent of this practice, Mr. Chairman, because it would seem an unreasonable burden to put on contractors if this is true.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I simply must advise we do not follow that practice. If any contractor or the Member can provide me with examples then, of course, I will have it investigated but it is not a practice that we follow. I suppose there have been circumstances whereby we have called a tender and been very unsatisfied with the results which may have resulted in the negotiation or the price extension, or something of that nature, but that would be a rare occurrence.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Total O and M, \$871,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Engineering Division, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$871,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total O And M

I direct your attention to page 7.09, accommodation services, total O and M, \$9,782,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Two points on this, Mr. Chairman. I understood at some point in time the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation was going to take over the responsibility for employee housing so that instead of having the Department of Public Works and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation doing very much the same thing for different groups of people that they were all going to be put under the jurisdiction of the corporation. Has this happened or is this happening or is it now a policy not to do this?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it was never the policy to do it and I do not know where the Member got the information it was going to happen. I have spoken to the House on a number of occasions and this was not an action we were contemplating within the next few years. If I remember my words correctly, I indicated that it was something that certainly could and would be considered at some time in the future. The choice of that date would depend very much on the ability of the corporation to meet its primary need and that is the provision of housing in a general sense. The Housing Corporation is a relatively young corporation with a tremendous load to carry and as such it has not seemed appropriate to add to its load the very specific problem of staff housing. For one year we included the staff housing construction program under the Housing Corporation. In effect, the Housing Corporation acted, did it as a subcontractor and that worked fairly well but it was a real strain on the corporation. There is close co-operation but at the present time we have no plans to turn the whole thing over to the corporation.

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

Housing For Civil Servants.

MR. NICKERSON: The second question, Mr. Chairman, is that the Legislature has stressed on many occasions and we were under the assumption that the policy had been adopted by the Executive that the government should try and get out of the employee housing business at least in places such as Hay River and Yellowknife and that civil servants should find their accommodation on the open market. I would like to know whether this policy has been actively pursued and how many units of housing have been turned over by the government to employees in the last year.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to say that it is indeed our policy, that is particularly on the Mackenzie highway system, to take steps away from providing housing. We have built, practically speaking, no new houses on the highway system for some time. We have sold, during this past year, 18 houses to our employees and that program is moving ahead very well. I am personally delighted with it. These sales have ranged from employees in a number of different departments filling jobs from the top of the system to the bottom of the system and we will continue with that program. Obviously we will continue with that program. We have taken a number of other steps which will lead to people owning their own homes, the principal one being that the employee rents have been raised rather substantially and we have given indications of continuing increases in staff housing rents.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I am pleased to hear that, Mr. Chairman, but if we had only persuaded the federal government to do the same thing.

Accommodation Services, Total O And M, Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Total O and M, \$9,782,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total Capital, Agreed.

Total capital, \$1,412,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$11,194,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total Operating Income, Agreed

Total operating income, \$5,084,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Operations, Total O And M

Page 7.10, operations, total O and M, \$265,000.

MR. WICKERSON: I know there is a subdepartment concerned with the compilation of data to deal with energy. I think when we were concerned with the Department of Economic Development there was a science department attached and they had very much the same objective. Are we having two groups within the government doing the same thing or can this one function be assigned to one group of people?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of different approaches in the matter of energy conservation. First of all there is no identifiable staff in the operations division which is responsible for energy conservation. In other words, the whole matter of energy conservation is a matter of importance and interest to a number of people on the staff and there is no one person concentrating on it. We have had one really successful program and that is using waste heat in Cambridge Bay for instance. We intend to increase that sort of thing. In addition to that we have had a fairly major amount of catch-up work done in the way of adding insulation to buildings and again this is not planned or done by a separate staff but simply the staff of the department. The approach that is taken by the people in the Planning and Program Evaluation under the science adviser is oriented, I believe, more closely to advising and assisting the public with energy saving ideas. In order to draw all of these functions together we have established a committee or a task force, whatever, of our own people headed by my executive assistant, Dan Billing. That committee has serving on it people from appropriate departments within the government so that our total input toward energy conservation would be drawn together in one point.

Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Operations, total O and M, \$265,000, on page 7.10. Agreed?

---Agreed

Operations, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$265,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Regional Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

Regional administration, total O and M, \$1,442,000 on page 7.11. Agreed?

---Agreed

Regional Administration, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$1,442,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total 0 And M

I direct your attention to page 7.01, the dollar summary, total 0 and M, \$49,731,000. That figure is not right any longer. Deputy Commissioner Parker, what is that figure now?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: That should be increased by \$300,000, so that would be \$50,031,000.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I have a question, a series of questions relating to the Off-road Vehicles Association in Yellowknife. They appear to be having a number of difficulties with the Department of Public Works. First of all they set up their race track in the clay pit and I understand there were some difficulties existing between the department and the Off-road Vehicles Association. I wonder if that has been clarified, whether you are going to allow them to use the park in its present location.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am advised that the difficulties have been overcome and we have found it possible to leave them alone in their clay pit.

---Laughter

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

MR. NICKERSON: The second point is that the Off-road Vehicles Association suspects the Department of Public Works as having pulled down their road signs. Looking through the proposed highway signs policy that we have as a recommendation to the Legislature it would seem that the easiest way out of this problem would be for the Department of Highways to erect an official sign of their own design pointing to the race track. I wonder if that could be done.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I missed part of that; at the location of the race track or where the road turn-off is, is that the area you are speaking of?

MR. NICKERSON: That is the area I am speaking of, yes.

Highway Signs

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am sure that can be worked out. To the best of our knowledge we have not interfered with their signs, but I can not say that it may not have occurred, if the signs were not either very well put up or were in contravention of the regulations. Members should note that the one recommendation to the Legislature deals with highway signs and in that recommendation you will see that we have proposed a softening in our approach in line with the recommendation of a few Members given at the last session.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I am sure that the Off-road Vehicles Association would be most grateful if a proper highway sign could be erected at the turn-off to the race track. Now that there seems, Mr. Chairman, to be a new spirit of co-operation between the Department of Public Works and the Off-road Vehicles Association, would it be possible for the department of highways to allow them the use of a grader for about three or four hours sometime in May because the association is

having difficulty getting a grader from private businesses in Yellowknife. A lot of equipment at times has been donated by various contractors in Yellowknife but they have not been able to get a grader and they would appreciate it very much indeed if a grader could be made available to them for a few hours in order to get the race track up to standard.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Deputy Commissioner Parker, I thought this took place in your office, this kind of request, but apparently not. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I am sure we can find some means of accommodating the association. We hope that the requirement does not escalate but on the basis of three or four hours, it does not sound too bad.

Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Congratulations, Mr. Nickerson. Page 7.01, total O and M, \$50,031,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$4,508,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Revenues, Agreed

Total revenues, \$12,016,000.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: That is \$12,316,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Please note the correction in the revenues figure. It is \$12,316,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

That concludes the estimates for the Department of Public Works and highways division. What is the desire of the Executive, Hon. Arnold McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we would want to continue with the Bill 7-67 and go into the Department of Finance.

Department Of Finance

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I direct your attention to page 6.02 and at this time I would like to change the chairman. Do we have your agreement in having Mr. Lyall sit as chairman?

---Agreed

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to read a brief, and I mean brief, introduction to the department and then ask if the committee would agree to having Assistant Commissioner Mullins and the director of Finance, Mr. Nielsen, appear as witnesses.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): It is agreed?

---Agreed

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Thank you. The Department of Finance during the year 1978-79 concentrated its efforts on improving financial management procedures, departmentally and government-wide. This direction, of course, would continue within the coming year. There were six man years added to the department in the 1979-80 estimates, the cost of which is expected to be more than offset by direct revenue returns to the government. Those positions were applied to four different areas. The first area, the management of government's cash flow and investments, one and a half man years were applied to this particular activity. The second activity, or division if you like, was in assistance development and there were two man years added there. In the petroleum and oil lubricants, POL activity, one and a half man years were added there and finally in the financial capital planning another man year for a total of six man years.

Mr. Chairman, in the estimates of this department the Northwest Territories Liquor Control System has been excluded from the totals in the 1979-80 estimates for the department. If 1978-79 was restated on a comparable basis the total O and M and continuing man years for the department would be \$14,452,000 for the total O and M and 230 man years, which of course differs from what it is within the estimates for 1979-80. The department has identified \$102,000 of O and M funding which will not be required in 1979-80, and a supplementary estimate to be presented later, in that we will be asked to approve the purchase of the government's Hewlett-Packard computer which is now being leased for a capital expenditure of \$382,000 at this time. The government will save \$43,000 on the present value or \$162,000 over the life of the lease and will reduce future years O and M expenditures by \$102,000 annually; that is in leasing costs.

Significant Improvements In Department

The department has made significant improvements in the processing of payments and replying to inquiries to suppliers in the budget and financial management process, in examining efficiency and effectiveness, in documenting procedures, in developing new policies and in steadily implementing the recommendations of the financial management and control study report of the Auditor General. Work is progressing on a bill to establish a new financial administration ordinance and it is expected that this will be introduced during the January, 1980, session.

Mr. Chairman, the department's estimates show a decrease in funding of \$450,000 in the transportation activity. This decrease comes as a result of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation being billed directly for sealift costs. At present the Government of the Northwest Territories pays these costs and reinvoices the Housing Corporation. As well, Mr. Chairman, there has been an increase in the non-discretionary expenditure for telecommunication services to reflect more actually the costs, the actual costs in this activity. Telecommunication services have been underfunded, Mr. Chairman, in prior years. I think, Mr. Chairman, with those introductory remarks I would ask the committee's approval to have Assistant Commissioner Mullins and the director of the department to appear before the committee as witnesses.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Is that agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Mullins and Mr. Nielsen, please, I direct your attention to page 6.02, directorate, Department of Finance. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Does the chairman of the finance committee have any comments to make? Oh, he is not here.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The chairman is not here.

MR. PEARSON: In absentia. I see he sent us a letter.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Comments of a general nature? Page 6.02, directorate, total O and M, \$113,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$17,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$130,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Systems And Computer Services, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.03, total O and M, \$1,462,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: The only comment I can make is that the finance committee did examine the supps and under the supps was a provision for the organization to buy a computer. I guess that was about the only significant thing that was discussed and I suppose that it was approved in committee. So, I really suppose there is not much to add to that. The argument the government put up seemed to make sense.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Pearson, could you move your mike a little bit closer so that we can hear you?

MR. PEARSON: I have no further comment.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Page 6.03, total O and M, \$1,462,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Systems And Computer Services, Total Capital, Agreed.

Total capital, \$95,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Systems And Computer Services, Total Expenditures, Agreed.

Total expenditures, \$1,557,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Financial Services, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.04, financial services, total operations and maintenance, \$2,733,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Financial Services, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$3000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Financial Services, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$2,736,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Supply Services, Total O And M

Page 6.05, supply services, total O and M, \$3,207,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: A couple of points, transportation particularly. Does the department have any knowledge as to what will take place if and when the Government of Canada decides to give that route from Yellowknife to Frobisher Bay to a carrier? What will happen to the present service? Also the question of sealift and what is the status of it for the 1979 sealift? How much longer will we have to deal with this Ministry of Transport who in my opinion are solely responsible for the fiasco last year?

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

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the transportation from Yellowknife to Frobisher Bay the position of the government has been made clear that we would like to have a service at least equal to the present service provided by the supply services division and in each of the proposals made to the Canadian Transport Commission that service was, in fact, improved to two trips per week. I think the position will be based upon the results of that hearing, that we will evaluate the results of the winning carrier over a period of time. I would suspect that if that service is inadequate there is no requirement on the part of this government to use the services of that carrier except we would have a moral obligation to do so, so I think we would be in a very strong negotiating position because we are probably responsible for 90 per cent of the load factor on routing.

Could I have the second question? The sealift, as we all know, had its problems this year. I believe that in the reply that was previously presented to this chamber it was made clear that as far as the Government of the Northwest Territories is concerned, while we are certainly going to review our part in that process, our evaluation to date has certainly indicated that we have conducted

ourselves professionally and we have no reason to believe we were in any way responsible for any of the difficulties. With respect to placing the blame in any way federally, I think the major cause of the sealift difficulties is the cut-off date for shipments to the marshalling yards for shipments. We had some difficulty getting some of the participants in the sealift to agree to that cut-off date. This year I am quite certain that cut-off date will be adhered to and allow for an earlier sailing schedule for the last ship. There will also be a complete evaluation done and it is already started; a committee will be set up to evaluate each role for the sealift. Four or five alternatives have been presented by this government in an approach to, hopefully, determine which is the best way to handle that, even including possibilities of delegating that responsibility to the private sector.

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

Longer Contracts With Shipping Companies.

MR. PEARSON: I agree with Mr. Nielsen to a point. I think the problem is the Ministry of Transport and the way they operate. They have insisted on this contract being renewed each year and any company that has to invest or make an investment in the North that only has a guarantee of one year at a time is not likely to make a worth-while substantial contribution to the contract or to the place he is supposed to haul his goods. The concept of using a very large ship and packing all the stuff into it is totally wrong because the off-loading facilities are such that the risk becomes incredible. At Frobisher Bay, of course, the solution would be a dock. We have all heard that before, but for other communities there is no reason they have to suffer the same silly consequences again.

The contract, whatever you decide to do, I would hope would be for a minimum of three if not five years for the shipping company so that company may make an investment in the North, may establish itself as a partly northern company anyway at least for the term of the contract. So the facilities can be prepared in the communities, whatever communities they may be, to simplify the off-loading. I mean we are still operating on exactly the same basis, if not in Frobisher, as 300 or 400 years ago. There have been no improvements and I suspect they could have done a much better job if they were in fact able to load 2000 tons of worthless rock on their ships, 44 foot boats, and haul them back to England. I do not think they could do that today. They do not have the know-how. That is right.

So, I understand that this government is tied into a contract with MOT for this year but after this year they have no further commitments and I would urge you and your department to, as you say, use professionals and set the thing up properly, consult with the people in the regions, the experts who know about these things and let us see if we can not improve the situation, because the alternatives at the moment are such that the cost to the consumer in these communities is astronomical, a cost of 55 or 56 cents a pound in Frobisher Bay. I was informed the other day of someone who shipped 90 pounds of meat from the Territorial Fancy Meats shop to Spence Bay and the shipment on Pacific Western to Cambridge cost \$19 and from Spence to Pelly -- I am not sure which -- it was \$74. So, you know, those are the alternatives, so let us try to do the sealift properly

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Pearson. If you have any questions, the questions should be answered. Mr. Nielsen, did you hear the question?

MR. PEARSON: Those were just words of wisdom, Mr. Chairman.

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

Earlier Studies For Port At Frobisher Bay

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Since Mr. Pearson has raised the matter of sealift and docking facilities at Frobisher Bay, Mr. Chairman, I seem to remember four, five or six years ago this same body, although made up of different people, discussing this very same matter. I thought that there were studies then well under way to determine the proper deep water port for Frobisher Bay and I was wondering what happened to all those studies. Were they done? What was the result of them?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the cost estimates were carried out by the federal Department of Public Works and we were supplied with some over-all figures. I can not remember now what they were. Certainly they developed a conceptual plan as to how they would put a dock in there and I think Mr. Pearson is aware of that. In fact he has suggested a time or two that their conceptual plan was a very expensive one, that there is a much more reasonable way of approaching it. Our problem has been that it is very much a federal responsibility. If we were able to negotiate substantial amounts of extra capital, then we would be delighted to put the dock in, but we have not had that right so far. That does not mean that we should not take another run at it and perhaps with the experience last fall, with the sealift in the federal mind, it might be appropriate for us to reapproach the problem.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, it is much like I suppose, the bridge across the Mackenzie that we have all been working for. It seems to me there are certain projects like this that have to be regarded as inevitable, but I suppose maybe you just have to live with them an awfully long time, you have to live with it for 150 years. That is the impression I get.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. David Searle. Comments of a general nature. Mr. Pearson.

Potential Of Northern Seaport

MR. PEARSON: Just to comment, yes, there were studies done as the Deputy Commissioner says. The cost was around I believe \$11 million or \$12 million, the initial costs. It was a very sophisticated facility they planned. They in fact, did do the diamond drilling in the site area and lost some of the equipment through the ice, but the need is important. The facility I think can now be justified even more so by the fact that the offshore drilling exploration is likely to take place in the next couple of years. This would make Frobisher Bay a seaport and bearing in mind there are no seaports in northern Canada north of Newfoundland -- other than Greenland -- it would enhance the resupply operation, that is for sure and it would also provide the makings of a very interesting tourist development, allowing tourists to travel from Montreal up the beautiful Labrador coast up to Frobisher and back or fly in and sail back. It has all kinds -- a dock would have tremendous benefits to the community so perhaps the Deputy Commissioner could poke the coals a bit more when he has the opportunity.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Certainly, I would certainly hope to stir up the fires a little bit more. We must do that because obviously that is within our own interests. Just on the matter of tourism though, there is no use basing it on that because any ship that would carry passengers up to Baffin

will have the necessary tenders to carry people back and forth. You could not base a dock on that kind of an operation.

Supply Services, Total O And M, Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Comments of a general nature. Total O and M, \$3,207,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Supply Services, Total Capital

Total capital, \$4,425,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I have a number of questions on this particular activity, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, I would like to know what is the "Government Oil Company" which is referred to in the text under supply services there?

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

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, you will notice that the government oil company has a capital letter "C", where it should be with a small "c". The government oil company as such is exactly that, it is simply not incorporated. One of the things that has happened over the last few years is that the oil distribution, fuel distribution, has become a big business and I think that what we are simply doing in the main estimates is recognizing that it is a big business. It is not incorporated, it is simply an attempt to recognize it as a separate entity which I propose that we will show as a separate activity in the following years budget. At the present time we are distributing in the North, between \$15 million and \$20 million worth of oil products.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Surely the administration here should be getting out of the oil business, that is the last thing we want the government to be in. I would hate to have it thought of us that we were pursuing policies such as those pursued by the Government of Canada. The distribution and sale of oil, that is something that can certainly be left to free enterprise. What is the government doing to get out of the oil business and to allow private individuals and private corporations to take it over?

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

Opportunity Rejected By Communities

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, the Member's suggestion is exactly what we are attempting to do. One of the difficulties is that the government is only involved in those communities where private entrepreneurs have not expressed an interest or where the utilization of private entrepreneurs suggests that the price to the community would be exorbitant. At present the fuel oil prices in the communities are heavily subsidized because there are large administrative costs which are not charged in the rate to the communities. We have in the past year, attempted to work with one or two small communities where we felt a level of expertise had been built up either in the co-operatives or in the municipal offices.

Interestingly enough, from my point of view, it would be an excellent opportunity for local entrepreneurs to become involved in a business and yet our original attempts to devolve this activity have been very unsuccessful, they have in fact been rejected by the communities. We are not giving up and we

are continuing to work and in fact at the present time our Fort Smith office and our supply services division are working with the communities in the Mackenzie area in an attempt to get at least one community interested. My personal opinion is if we are successful in doing this with one or two communities it will rapidly spread throughout the Northwest Territories, but I think regardless of all of that it will take five or ten years. All we are attempting to do is recognize the big business that it is and try to do it in a more efficient manner than has been done in the past.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Nielsen. Could you please slow down a bit, the interpreters are having a bit of a problem? Mr. Nielsen.

MR. NIELSEN: I should mention as well that I understand that we are, in isolated communities, specifically providing this service at the request of the Assembly.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Nielsen. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Just as long as it is not a case of sneaky socialism. The second question I have, Mr. Chairman, is the same one I asked under Public Works, and that is how is the warehouse rationalization program going?

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

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, at the present time with the exception of record storage and some minor maintenance items, all warehousing is presently at the central warehouse in Yellowknife.

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

Obsolete Equipment And Parts

MR. NICKERSON: I believe we were told before that there was a problem with Department of Public Works warehouses whereby there was an awful lot of obsolete equipment and obsolete parts in storage. You were in the last fiscal year going to have a hard look at getting rid of the equipment which was no longer of use, or at least you were going to pull it back into a warehouse where it might then be distributed where there was a need for it.

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

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, that is correct, the items referred to, I believe, are bench stocks and it was the intention of the supply services division in co-operation with regional offices, to examine the stocks that were held in some of the remote communities. In fact that has been fully completed with the exception of the bench stocks in Frobisher Bay which are expected to be completed this year. That has been rationalized and a large number of items have been centralized and the amounts which have not moved over a number of years will be written off if we can not dispose of them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Nielsen, I have to remind you again to slow down, I am getting a signal from the girl back there. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: My last question deals with the question of payment of bills. We have been told on numerous occasions that department is doing all it can to pay bills as quickly as possible, recognizing the handicap that it puts on local businesses when they are not paid on time. I am still getting a number of complaints from businesses who frequently have to wait 60 days or more to get paid, or this is what they tell me. I wonder if we could be given some statistics on the speed at which the government pays its bills.

Errors On Invoices.

Also, while you are looking at these figures there seems to be a complaint that very often a business will give the department an invoice and there will be something wrong with that invoice, maybe it is only five copies and it should have been submitted in six, or the purchase order number is wrong or something on it, and what seems to happen in these cases is that 60 days later the firm gets a note from the department saying that this thing can not be paid because it was submitted wrongly and these people would like to know that as soon as possible, not doubling the time. So, if a bill comes in and for some reason it is not payable, is there any way you could get back to the firm as quickly as possible to tell them what the matter is?

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

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, the normal period for the payment of bills at the present time is between 30 and 45 days. There are exceptions. Some bills are paid more quickly and some are paid over a more extended period. We have taken a number of options which has improved the speed with which accounts have been paid, and in fact in the last year I have perhaps received two queries from suppliers with respect to the late payment of accounts. The problem does not just lie within accounts payable but rather, is partially due to the relationship with the supplier and the originating area. We have recognized that there is an overlap of responsibilities and we have attempted to work with departments towards a process whereby the department accepts more payment responsibility. So, we expect that within the next six months to a year there will be significantly more improvements made to the accounts payable process. It is by no means perfect but we have identified a number of areas where there are problems and action will continue to be taken.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Nielsen. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Nickerson brings up an interesting point on the fuel delivery business. I totally support him on his suggestion that the government should get out of the fuel delivery business and I believe that it is a real good viable business for local people to get into in the community. I believe that the department is not trying hard enough to locate people in the communities. I understand they have gone to the co-operatives and to the councils, but they have never approached anyone else; they do not advertise, they do not make the word known around the community. Perhaps it would be a good suggestion for Economic Development to look into this and perhaps the two departments should get together and see if they can begin putting people into that type of business. I do not think that anyone would refuse to have to pay for the delivery of fuel, the price for delivery, they may not be able to pay the price of the fuel, but they can surely pay for the price of its delivery. I wonder what they think of this suggestion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Nielsen.

MR. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I would strongly support that suggestion.

Supply Services, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Nielsen. Any more comments. Can I direct your attention to page 6.05, total O and M, \$3,207,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Supply Services, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$4,425,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Supply Services, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$7,632,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Transportation, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.06, transportation, total O and M, \$3,017,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Transportation, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Page 6.06, total expenditures, \$3,017,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Telecommunication Services, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.07, telecommunication services, total O and M, \$845,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Telecommunication Services, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$845,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Budgets And Fiscal Planning, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.08, budgets and fiscal planning, total O and M, \$403,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Budgets And Fiscal Planning, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$403,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Amortization, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.09, amortization, total O and M, \$2,877,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Liquor Control System, Total O And M, Agreed

Liquor Control System, information item, total O and M, \$1,222,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Liquor Control System, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$1,222,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

Page 6.01, total O and M, \$14,657,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$4,540,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Revenues, Agreed

Total revenues, \$243,446,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

What is the direction of the administration?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would like now to go into the Executive department. I move that we thank the witnesses.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you very much, Assistant Commissioner Mullins and Mr. Nielsen. Which department was that, Hon. Arnold McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Executive, on page 1.01.

Department Of The Executive, Executive Offices

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you very much. Page 1.02, Executive offices. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Does the salary of the Assistant Commissioner come under this particular activity, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, no. I am sorry, did you say the Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner? The Assistant does and the Deputy Commissioner does not.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I am not suggesting we do this at the present point in time, Mr. Chairman, but it would appear on numerous occasions this House has said it would not like to have the Assistant Commissioner sitting on the Executive Committee. In fact we see no need for an Assistant Commissioner at all. His duties could very easily be filled by a Member of this Legislature.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

MR. NICKERSON: It would appear if we wished to force this point, it would be very easy to do so under this activity by refusing to vote the salary of the Assistant Commissioner or voting him one dollar. Maybe the incoming Legislature should keep that in mind at this time next year, Mr. Chairman, if something has not happened in the meantime.

Executive Offices, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Nickerson. Any comments? Total O and M, \$2,444,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Executive Offices, Total Capital

Total capital, \$20,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: How many people comprise the land claims secretariat and what are their duties, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, at the present time the land claims secretariat has a co-ordinator, a clerical assistant and there are other personnel seconded to the activity dependent upon the kind of -- whatever issue has arisen within the total land claims. Its primary function at the time is, of course, to concern itself with representation at claims policy committee meetings with the federal government. It is involved with meetings, consultation with the Office of Native Claims. It provides and keeps the Executive and hopefully this body, the elected Legislature, aware of the status of those claims. It must, of necessity, do a great deal of research in carrying out its particular function, being aware of the views not only of the government, putting forth the position of the Legislature and it involves to a great extent, as I say, carrying on dialogues, meetings with both claimants and with the federal government in the over-all land claims question. A great deal of its expenditure is involved with travel because of the need to meet with those particular bodies I have previously indicated, Office of Native Claims and claims policy committee.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Hon. David Searle.

Motion That Position Of Assistant Commissioner Not Be Funded Next Year

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to return to the matter of the Assistant Commissioner and in that regard I have a motion that I would like to put.

My motion is as follows: I move that we recommend that the position of Assistant Commissioner not be funded or filled in the 1980-81 -- that is next year, not the budget we are now talking about but the next budget and upon retirement, this fall or whenever, of the current holder of that office, the position not be filled.

MR. NICKERSON: Hear, hear!

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Question being called. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Just one clarification point from the Honourable Member. Does that mean to remove the funds for that position or will the funds remain in there to pay an Executive Member of this Assembly?

HON. DAVID SEARLE: First of all, Mr. Chairman, the motion deals not with the budget we are looking at but the budget that will be considered by the next House this time next year. What it would amount to is a recommendation from this body to our Executive Members who will presumably continue on through the normal course of budget review and be preparing a budget for the Legislature which is either elected this summer or this fall. What it is saying to our Executive Members and to the new Commissioner is that we at least, if it passes, want to see the termination in an orderly fashion of the position of Assistant Commissioner. The motion is worded in such a way as to say really that when the current Assistant Commissioner leaves which I understand he is planning to do, that his position not be filled when he leaves and the position itself be removed from future budgets. It is not saying that this year you cut out the money because he is going to be here as I understand it for some time this year so you do not want him working for nothing. So that essentially is the purpose and the obvious objective for the record is so that the responsibilities be turned over in an orderly fashion to elected representatives of the people from the next Legislature.

That may entail a realignment of responsibilities, for instance, a new Deputy Commissioner, I could see having some of the responsibilities that the current Assistant Commissioner has but I am not going to go into those details. That is for the Executive people to sort out amongst themselves. The principle I am enunciating here I think surely should be acceptable to elected Members which is basically that you do not fill the vacancy when it occurs, as it surely will, the position of Assistant Commissioner.

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

Motion Should Indicate "Why".

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Hon. David Searle has clarified his intentions or the intentions of the motion in his last comments. I suppose my only comment would be that his motion would have been stronger had he indicated why, in the motion. Obviously the "why" is the most important part of the piece. The motion itself just indicates some desire to reduce the Executive by one, but the description which he followed it with indicated the real desire and that was to have those duties reassigned either to an elected Member or through the increase in the Executive Committee by one elected Member so that the duties could then be taken up in some fashion as he has outlined.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Could I have a copy of the motion, please? It looks like a doctor's handwriting. I move that we recommend that the position of Assistant Commissioner not be funded or filled in the 1980-81 budget and that upon his retirement this fall, or whenever the current holder of that office retires, the position not be refilled. To the motion. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: You probably should have said "henceforth" after 1980-81.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I am always grateful for the lucidity of Mr. Steen and for his assistance.

Motion Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): To the motion. The question. The question being called. All in favour of the motion? Seven. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Total capital \$20,000. Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: One of the questions that has bothered me for quite some time in dealing with the Executive and secretariat, etc., was the question I asked quite some time ago, in fact by motion to Hon. Jean Chrétien when he was minister, that the Assembly be given a secretariat, so that Members of the Assembly, and I did not use those terms, but used the words "research assistants" or "staff" to enable Members of the Assembly to gather information, to use the services of people who can help them do their job more effectively by providing them with all kinds of information and getting sandwiches and that kind of thing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Pearson, would it be appropriate to bring that up when we came to the Clerk of the Council which is two pages further on?

MR. PEARSON: I am easy; sure.

Executive Offices, Total Capital, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Total capital, Executive offices, \$20,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Executive Offices, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$2,464,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Regional Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

Regional administration, total O and M, \$2,009,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Regional Administration, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$67,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Regional Administration, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$2,076,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clerk of the Council.

MR. PEARSON: The chairman is stumbling over the millions he is going so fast.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I will recognize the clock now and break for coffee for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

Clerk Of The Council, Total O And M.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls the committee back to order. Page 1.04, Clerk of the Council, total O and M, \$1,209,000. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, when I made my reply to the Commissioner's Address I indicated that with respect to our Legislature, I would make the following recommendations: (1) that the Clerk's position be upgraded to directorate's level in pay and benefits; (2) that the Clerk should report for all purposes and for all year round to the Speaker, not the Commissioner; (3) that all and any future research staff assisting Members should be responsible to the Clerk.

Obviously, those thoughts can not be implemented in the current budget because it is built on an entirely different basis. But as with the position of Assistant Commissioner it is timely now for us if we think it appropriate to recommend these things for the future, for next years budget in the reasonable expectation that the Executive Members who do stay on will take the advice of this House and construct the budget for next year based on these principles and policies as we outline them today. I want to say that I am proposing, Mr. Chairman, to make a motion to implement those recommendations but I think before making a motion I should like to say, so there will be no misunderstanding, that in putting those thoughts down as I did, I did so completely and utterly without any counsel from our current Clerk, in case there are any doubting sisters among us who think that he was involved with me in promoting his own job and his own position. Indeed, I purposely refrained from discussing these matters with our Clerk so that he could honestly say, as he can, that he knew nothing whatsoever, nor had any discussions with me whatever, about the recommendations which I have made. I think I should say that publicly on his behalf so that he is not under any suspicion.

A Case Of Serving Two Masters.

Now, the reason of course I am doing this is because firstly, it is done elsewhere by and large, but that in itself of course is no justification, it is a question of we, as a Legislature, having complete authority and jurisdiction over the people who are responsible for serving us and for them not in turn serving two masters. The arrangement, as you know that we currently have, is for the Clerk to be responsible to this House through the Speaker only while the House is in session, but to be responsible to the Commissioner and indeed part of the public service for all of those days of the year when the House is not in session. Obviously there is a great overlapping and no matter how you look at it and in what terms, it means that your Clerk has two bosses, and I may say that although I have tried personally to make sure that it is not necessarily a matter of public discussion but not always do the two bosses agree, and you therefore put your Clerk in an impossible position. I would hope therefore that Members of this House would see the justification and the sense, indeed the logic, in having your staff serving you and you alone.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DAVID SEARLE: The third part of the motion deals with research staff, and as you know we have had a rather on again, off again arrangement when it comes to getting work done for committees of the House. By and large those people who have assisted committees and Members, and I refer specifically to the constitutional committee, they have again been members of the public service, responsible to the Executive through the Planning and Program Evaluation department or to some special department and the Clerk's office has been somewhat

bypassed. It is my suggestion that these people working for Members and Members' committees be responsible, in the normal course, to the House through the Clerk.

MR. PEARSON: That is right.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Those are the reasons and background why I make these recommendations. I hope I can regard it as being objective in this. I am not coming back to this body. I will not be your next Speaker and I hope you will accept what I am doing is solely in the best interests of the House and not building up my own staff because I will not be here. I hope that that degree of credibility and objectivity can be allowed me on this one occasion.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear! Well said, Hon. David Searle.

Motion Concerning The Position Of The Clerk Of The Council

HON. DAVID SEARLE: So, with that in mind I would like to make the following motion if I could, Mr. Chairman, and I would move that with respect to the 1980-81 budget we recommend that the allotment affecting the office of the Clerk of the Council proceed upon the following bases: (1) that the Clerk's position be upgraded to director level in pay and benefits; (2) that the Clerk should be responsible for all purposes to the Speaker, and by that I mean the Speaker alone; (3) that all and any future research staff assisting Members should be responsible to the Clerk.

MR. PEARSON: Assuming they get some.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. David Searle. To the motion. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask a question of the mover of the motion, and that is this. In his review of the situation did he find that the normal practice in legislatures across Canada was to attach research staff to the Clerk's function or to the function of some other part of the government?

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

Research Staff

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, with respect to research being done for Members or for committees of the House, I would say that it is done not consistently in all jurisdictions the way I am suggesting it, that is, through the Clerk but what I think I am saying is that when seen and looked at, the ones who do it each way, Mr. Chairman, there seems to me to be some advantage in having it done through the Clerk. Many provinces have, or are studying the intern system where young university students come in three or four at a time and they are the nucleus, they are graduates with various degrees and they will serve doing research, briefing papers, etc., for committees of the House. That is not to mean to say that you necessarily could not draw on obviously much more experienced and talented people in various parts of the government but the essential day-to-day staff assistance to Members I am suggesting should go through the Clerk. We, of course, have not yet got to the stage where we have adopted the apprentice system, and I forget exactly what it is called, but I think that this motion is suggesting the principle that this should be done where possible and what we must recognize is that it can not necessarily be done in all cases. It depends entirely upon what expertise you would need.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Just one moment and I will get a copy of it. The motion reads: I move that with respect to the 1980-81 budget we recommend that this allotment affecting the office of the Clerk of the Council proceeds upon the following bases: (1) that the Clerk's position be upgraded to director level in pay and benefits and; (2) that the Clerk should be responsible for all purposes to the Speaker; and (3) that all and any future research staff assisting Members should be responsible to the Clerk. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

MR. PEARSON: I do not wish to prolong the debate. I fully support the views of the Speaker and the thing that he has passed on in his wisdom as a nice parting gesture. It does not cover the thing I wanted and the thing I have sought for many years is the fact that the Assembly should have a staff of research assistants and the motion does not cover that but I will come to that later. Anyway I support the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Question being called.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion Concerning The Position Of The Clerk Of The Council, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): All in favour of the motion? In favour, 12. Unanimously passed. There are 13 Members in the House right now. I did not vote so I only counted 12.

---Carried

Page 1.04, please.

The Position Of Legal Advisor

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, to appear to be holding this up, but I think that although the position as Legal Advisor to this House does not fall under this allotment but indeed to an entirely different department, the Department of Public Services, that in itself points out the other problems that some day we may have to come to grips with and that is to get down to a serious discussion with respect to our Legal Advisor. I say that and I think at the same time I want to make it absolutely clear my remarks do not amount to any criticism of our current Legal Advisor. To the contrary. I think that she has done a commendable job for this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. DAVID SEARLE: She has faced the difficulty of serving two masters, of being on the executive side of government very, very clearly for all purposes for 365 days of the year, heading up the legal section of the Department of Public Services and yet at the same time having imposed upon her the responsibility to this House. I think it is safe to say that it is a pretty tough position to be in and I think that if she would permit me to say so, probably one she would prefer not to be in.

I do not know how we come to grips with it. Either you recommend for the future you have your own law clerk in effect in the Clerk's office who spends a great period of time, with a lot of time on his hands, or you maybe want to contract the job to someone. I hesitate to raise that latter aspect for fear you think that I am looking for a job, but seriously you want to consider some of these alternatives for your next House. It is difficult to put forward a convincing

argument that it is a full time job or should be a full time job for a lawyer. On the other hand, it is sufficient a job of such importance that you want to somehow alleviate the position of serious conflict that one could find oneself in. I am not saying our Legal Advisor has found herself in that position, but it is inherent and it is going to happen some time. I have no motion to move. I would think that you would want to as a Legislative Assembly discuss that further.

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

Research Assistants Available To Members

MR. PEARSON: I wonder if this is the appropriate time, Mr. Chairman, to raise the matter I raised earlier, the question of executive assistants for research. I hesitate to use the word "executive" because that is a little frightening. Research assistants made available to Members of the Assembly. I just want to throw it out to see what Members think of that idea and perhaps we could make a recommendation to the Executive that funds be provided to enable us to do that and to provide that capability which I think would enhance the work of this Assembly.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Steen. Are you going to answer for the administration? Did you raise a question, Mr. Pearson? You can raise the question you asked now. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I think it is a very good point that Mr. Pearson raised to this Legislature as one of the wise men from the East. I said I think earlier in this session that I saw a need for assistants for Assembly Members during the debate because there are some things we want to search into or look into and we can not at all times have the time to take part in the debates and at the same time have the information at your fingertips.

With the next Council there are going to be a lot of new faces here and I think that it is a waste of the first two years for the Members to learn the ropes of this Assembly and the Rules and everything. If we have new people here it is going to be difficult for them, especially for Members who can not write letters very well or are not sure of how to communicate with -- to work with his own job. Not only that, but I think out in the field also there are Members who can not write, especially native people who get elected. If you get 22 Members the next time around, there are going to be a few people here who have difficulty writing letters, knowing who to contact and all that. There should be assistants to the Assembly in order to do the proper job and we have to have assistants. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Any more comments of a general nature? The Clerk of the Council, total O and M, \$1,209,000. Hon. Tom Butters.

Dual Loyalty Of The Legal Advisor

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I am sorry, sir. I did not wish to see the point raised by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South dismissed so quickly. Both the previous House and this House have recognized that the Legal Advisor who serves both the Legislature and the administration has a most difficult role to perform. I think we all recognize that our present Legal Advisor who has served us for the past two years, has served us competently and capably and very well. But I think we have in some way to cut this Gordian knot that exists with regard to the dual loyalty which the Legal Advisor has at specific times of the year. I was hoping that possibly the Honourable Member would have indicated through a motion the way by which this end could be achieved, but if we do not suggest it, I can not see the next House recognizing the difficulty in the early stages of its life and resolving it. I would hope that possibly we could develop the means by which the problem could be resolved and rectified.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, if I may say in response, I think I did indicate that there are probably only two courses of action and that is to have either a Legal Advisor who is responsible to this House and the staff of the Clerk's office but that the difficulty with that alternative is that person may have a very difficult time filling one's day at those times of the year when this House is not sitting.

The second alternative might be to go out to the private practising bar and try to get a lawyer on contract to come in and spend in the service of this House that amount of time you are sitting. That is done in British Columbia, by the way, by the legislature with respect to the function of the Clerk. There is a lawyer who is on contract and in that case the Clerk is a lawyer which often is the case, but in the province of British Columbia they have a lawyer who is in private practice for about ten months of the year and he is appointed Clerk of the House and works for the British Columbia government for those two or three months of the year when the House is sitting. That is a possibility but it seems to me the way you go could well be an Executive decision. It is not something where you have to weigh the odds and I think it is essentially to decide which way they go. If they accept the inevitability of the conflict that we put him in, I can not say which way you should go sitting here.

There are three alternatives. You could continue the same way you are. I think you have got those three courses of action and I think you have to take an Executive decision as the Legal Advisor currently works for you, which way you want to go, weighing the financial problems.

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

An Executive Decision

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that the Member is correct, that it would be an Executive decision. I think as well that there has been some preliminary discussion at the Executive level on this. We recognized the difficulties and there is the possibility of three particular options, two of which are alternative options and I think that it very well may be that we can propose something, taking into consideration what has been said here, and that we would pursue it as an Executive and then quite possibly make a recommendation to this House.

As to the conclusion of that I think it is recognized by all Members that it presents a very difficult situation at the present time. It has been indicated for a number of years that it will pose a problem, and the problem may surface even more so than it has. So, I think it would suffice to say that we would take the advice of the Member and try to come forward with a proposal to the House before the House is finished. When I say that I mean possibly before it, knowing full well that should we end this particular session, or stop, or adjourn, or whatever, this week, that we would have planned to come back to it at a later date.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS. No thanks, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): You got my attention and then you did not want to speak. Mr. Pearson.

Motion To Examine Concept Of Staff For The Use Of Members

MR. PEARSON: I would like to get back to the issue I raised earlier if Members are finished with that part and move a motion. The motion would be, Mr. Chairman, that the Executive be asked to examine the concept of a staff for the use of Members of the Legislature. I have learned over the last eight years to tone them down a bit and you usually have more chance at a success in making demands.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

MR. STEEN: I have another motion, but I think his motion is a little bit, shall we say bland, it does not give too much direction. I do not know but I think myself and Mr. Pearson should get together and probably get the motion together. We can probably come up with one which would save time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): There is a motion on the floor right now, Mr. Steen, and I do not have a copy of it so I do not know how it reads.

MR. PEARSON: You should have.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I move the Executive be asked to examine the concept of a staff for use of the Members on this Legislature. To the motion.
Mr. Pearson.

MR. PEARSON: Well, just for my friend's information, this is not the first time I have put a similar motion. In past cases the motion I put has been tough, straightforward and straight to the point, demanding that this be provided. If Mr. Steen will recall the minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, in fact I believe both ministers, both Hon. Jean Chrétien and Hon. Warren Allmand said no. Now, I would not want to get another no, so I thought I would aim a little lower, lower my sights a bit and hopefully achieve some measure of success. As I say, if there is nothing else I have learned in eight years it is that, compromise or they will shoot you down in flames. However, the intent of the motion is still the same, Mr. Chairman, and that is that there be a research staff provided for the use of the Assembly and I think Members would agree. I know that some Members have already discussed it. So if Mr. Steen wishes to amend it that is entirely up to him but I think that in its form they will give it a lot of consideration, or at least five minutes anyway.

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

MR. STEEN: The only part I am concerned about, and I agree with the motion wholeheartedly...

MR. PEARSON: Good.

More Immediate Results Needed

MR. STEEN: The only thing that bothers me is that it recommends or asks the administration to investigate the possibility of that.

MR. PEARSON: Right.

MR. STEEN: By the time we get an answer on that we will probably all be gone and will never see the results of it. That is the thing that is bothering me. I thought perhaps if we were a bit more specific we might be able to give them direction. I do not think they would turn us down on that one, would they?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Never.

MR. PEARSON: They would not do a nasty thing like that.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: A nice bunch of guys.

MR. PEARSON: They will shoot it down in flames and would say it is not in their best interest.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Pearson, Hon. Arnold McCallum and Mr. Steen -- the works. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman...

MR. STEEN: I still have the floor, do I not?

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): You are quite welcome.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I think this would probably serve one of the interests I have on many occasions expressed, that of the means by which we could examine some of the programs. I understand Mr. Pearson is asking for research and I think of the political assistance that is necessary in some research fields to look at programs, and that is inherent in this motion. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would lend my support 100 per cent to this motion.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Steen, I fully understand what you are saying and in view of that would you like to amend this motion?

MR. STEEN: I just wanted to listen to some of the comments, I wanted to hear what some of the other Members had to say, and I also wanted to hear what our new Commissioner thinks about it. Will he turn us down on something like this? I would be agreeable to the motion and if it is necessary to amend it then maybe I will but I want to hear what he has to say.

MR. PEARSON: What is catch-22?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Deputy Commissioner Parker, do you want to comment on that?

Views Of Deputy Commissioner

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have recognized for some time that there is a need for a level of service for Assembly Members, Members of the Legislature, that has not been met or that is not being met at the present time. I think it is particularly appropriate that this increased level of service be introduced at the time of the election of the next Assembly.

MR. PEARSON: Ha, ha! How do you like them apples?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Steen, are you satisfied?

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I will agree with his motion as it stands.

MR. PEARSON: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): To the motion. The question being called. All in favour of the motion?

MR. NICKERSON: What is it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I have read it twice already: I move that the Executive be asked to examine the concept of a staff for the use of Members of this Legislature. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I was just voting in favour of it, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PEARSON: It was a belated vote.

Motion To Examine Concept Of Staff For The Use Of Members, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Let us call it once again. All in favour of the motion? Nine. Against?

MR. PEARSON: Unanimous.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): It is not unanimous. I would call it unanimous if we had 13 votes, but there are three not voting so it is not unanimous as far as I am concerned.

MR. PEARSON: Why did you not vote?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): It is carried.

---Carried

Clerk Of The Council, Total O And M, Agreed

Total O and M, page 1.04, \$1,209,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Clerk Of The Council, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$1,209,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Audit Bureau, Total O and M, Agreed

Page 1.05, Audit bureau, total O and M, \$619,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Pearson, that is the first time I have heard you agree.

MR. PEARSON: These are the small ones, wait until we get to the big ones.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Are we now successful in submitting to the Government of Canada our bills in respect of cost shared programs? I notice on previous occasions the Auditor General has brought to our attention that we have been very slack in this regard and there have been bills that we have not sent in, some of them outstanding for a number of years. I wonder what the situation is now, especially with respect to Canada Assistance Plan payments.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: It is true that we had fallen behind in the preparation of our claims under the Canada Assistance Plan. We have put on a major drive in this past 12 months to have all of these claims concluded and it seems to me, having just reviewed it within the last month that we are making satisfactory progress, that the claims are in fact properly filed, and we certainly have no intention of permitting ourselves to fall behind in that fashion again.

Audit Bureau, Total Expenditures, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Any more comments? Page 1.05, total expenditures, \$619,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Grants To Organizations, Total 0 And M, Agreed

Page 1.06, grants to organizations, total 0 and M, \$258,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Grants To Organizations, Total Expenditures

Total expenditures, \$258,000.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I have just one simple question here that I would like to ask. I would like to ask the administration if part of this money goes to arts and crafts development in the North. If somebody was to apply to the Executive for assistance in developing arts and crafts and for the purposes of education, and I think it is part of their cultural education, would they be able to get a little bit of money from this organization?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty, I like your simple questions. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am not sure, did Mr. Lafferty say certain arts and crafts producers?

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I just asked the question if there was a native group or somebody who is developing some kind of arts and crafts for the purposes of cultural education, would this activity lend them money or give any assistance?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we would not lend the money, but we would give consideration to a grant depending upon the nature of the project. If the project seemed to fall more readily into the field of Economic Development, then we would refer it to that department. If it fell into the Department of Natural and Cultural Affairs more readily, into one of their defined projects, then we would refer it to that department for that department's consideration. If it was truly oddball, then the Executive Committee would look at it under this vote.

Grants To Organizations, Total Expenditures, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Total expenditures, \$258,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

I direct your attention to page 1.07, Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, could I ask that this particular item be stood aside because the Housing Corporation is expecting, that is, in the person of myself as chairman and Mr. Forrest as managing director to appear and answer whatever questions the Member would wish to pose on the operation of the Housing Corporation. The Housing Corporation has been having one of its regular board meetings yesterday and this morning and some committee work will continue this afternoon. Therefore, I beg your indulgence that this be set aside until

tomorrow, at which time we could produce the details. Just while I am speaking could I remind Members that the Hon. Arnold McCallum tabled today the details of the Housing Corporation budget and I would recommend them to you for your study in preparation for tomorrow.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. What is the administration's wish now?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we would obviously then have to stand that down and go on to the next department and that would be the Department of Personnel. That is section four.

Department Of Personnel, Directorate

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I direct your attention to page 4.02, directorate, Department of Personnel. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if I may make a very brief introductory remark concerning the department, if it is necessary to provide a witness for the department, I have the director of the department, Mr. Rod Morrison available for that particular purpose. Just in the form of general comments, Mr. Chairman, the Department of Personnel historically has been referred to as a service department. The department is engaged in administering pay and benefits, allocation of housing units, administering inward and outward removal and doing pay research and of course are involved in the staffing classification of all public service positions.

Personnel services by definition in nature are sensitive. Of course, they hold a high profile. This sensitivity comes as a result of its dealings with people and it is the responsibility of the department to maintain that very delicate balance of fairness and equality in all areas of personnel service. It is through the department that the administration's goal of employing northern natives in the public service is actively pursued and I am pleased to report continuing to achieve the encouraging results it has. In 1979-80 the department will continue to ensure that all employees regardless of level and location acquire a sense of commitment to the process of sound government administration for all northern people. It is hoped that a new system of orientation will be put into effect for all new employees since it is the opinion of the administration that investment in a proper orientation program will pay dividends in the form of higher productivity and healthier staff morale.

Relationships with the two employee associations that is, the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association and the Northwest Territories Public Service Association can be described as good and there seems to be a spirit emanating from all parties of wanting to maintain this relationship and improve upon it. The committee will observe as we go through the department estimates of various financial activities and a considerable amount of the money can be pegged or described as non-discretionary inasmuch as this money is expended under authorities such as a collective agreement and the Public Service Ordinance. As for the discretionary part of the budget, it should be stated that what is reflected in the departmental estimates is reasonable and completely proportionate to the level of service that is demanded by other government departments. Mr. Chairman, if there are more technical questions to ask of the department, I would ask that the director of the department, Mr. Morrison, come into the committee of the whole.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Morrison. Page 4.02, directorate. Hon. David Searle.

Executive Members Responsibility Over Staff

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I want to say how pleased I am to see Hon. Arnold McCallum speaking to this matter of the Department of Personnel and providing from the Executive side of it the opening statement. I say that because I had understood the terms of reference of elected Members on the Executive to exclude all and any responsibility for Personnel. As Members know, we have never concurred in that approach to life. If you deny Executive Members responsibility over staff and staff matters as well as matters of finance, then there is not much of an incentive for the public service to respond in a positive way to your direction, but having spoken as Hon. Arnold McCallum has, in introducing this department I can only assume there has been a change of policy and hence that the wishes of this House are now being followed. My question, therefore, is may we have reassurance that that is indeed what is being experienced?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, committee Members will hopefully recall that when we dealt with the Department of Finance I read some introductory remarks as well on that. I think that by and large we, that is, the Executive, have come to the conclusion that it is best for an elected person being within the confines of the committee to read introductory remarks concerning a department and where it may be necessary to get technical questions of a department answered we would try to provide expert witnesses. I would hope that in the future that elected Members of the Executive would be responsible totally for all departments and I think this may be one small step towards that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Any more questions or comments? I direct your attention to page 4.02. Mr. Pudluk.

Government Employees In The Communities

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question regarding the Department of Personnel. Sometimes it is embarrassing when I go through my constituency and the people who do work for the Government of the Northwest Territories, when they are in the communities -- the employees of the government earning wages a lot of times the people who work for the territorial government just hang around in the Hudson's Bay store or the co-op for hours. It is embarrassing. Some of them are just hanging around in the communities when they are supposed to be working. It is obvious a lot of the government bosses are not aware of this. I would like you to be aware of this problem as to how you would inform your employees in the communities. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I did not really get the question. Did Hon. Arnold McCallum or Mr. Morrison get the question?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I would simply say it very well may be. I am not aware of the incidence, the rate of those kinds of instances of Government of the Northwest Territories employees as the Member says hanging around during working hours and how you make their managers aware of that. I can not comment as to the incidence of it. This may well be. I guess I notice many things now about Education that I did not notice when I was in Education. Maybe it is a case of not seeing the trees for the forest or vice versa. However I can not comment on it. If there are instances we would try to take managers that we have in the field, we would have them take every precaution that is necessary to ensure that we are getting a just return for the investment.

MR. PEARSON: That is wonderful.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I was just told by Mr. Pudluk that it was an information item that he wished to pass on. Page 4.02, total O and M, \$98,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$98,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance And Benefits Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 4.03, finance and benefits administration, Department of Personnel, total O and M, \$2,054,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Has the Hay plan exercise now been completed and if so is it working out to everyone's satisfaction?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, perhaps it may be better if Mr. Morrison answers this. It is my impression that the Hay plan exercise has been completed and Mr. Morrison may have something more, but whether it is to the complete satisfaction of everyone or not that may be an evaluation that one or more people could get, but I think in general it has worked out well but maybe Mr. Morrison might want to add something to that.

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

MR. MORRISON: The first part of the question, is the Hay plan in place? The answer to that is yes, and it has just been as recent as a month ago that the regional managers have been included into the senior pay package. As to whether or not it is accepted and working well, like any pay package I do not think that everyone is always satisfied but I would suggest that generally speaking it is accepted now that the Anti-Inflation Board is not with us, not looking over our shoulder and will probably be accepted a lot better.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Morrison. Any more questions or comments? Total O and M, \$2,054,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance And Benefits Administration, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$23,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance And Benefits Administration, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$2,077,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Employee Relations, Total O And M, Agreed

Employee relations, page 4.04, total O and M, \$196,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Employee Relations, Total Expenditures

Total expenditures, \$196,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: What is the nature of the dispute in Edzo? I understand there is a dispute between two separate unions both of which would like to represent the employees of the Rae-Edzo education society. I wonder if we could have explained to us exactly what the nature of this dispute is.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that I would be able to give some answer to this but to get it down maybe in the proper perspective I would ask Mr. Morrison if he would.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Mr. Morrison, and could you move your mike a little bit closer to you and try and talk a bit slower so the girls in the back can keep up with you?

MR. MORRISON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Edzo situation as I understand it, is really a matter that the government is watching but is not an active player or participant in. However, my understanding which I will share with you, is simply that the staff at the Rae-Edzo school are wondering out loud, and I understand they are now seeking legal opinions as to what bargaining agent the majority wishes to have represent them when dealing with management. Management of course at Rae-Edzo is the Rae-Edzo school society and it is that management group that a certain sector or certain group of teachers have dealt with in establishing their terms and conditions of employment, and it is felt by other members of the staff out there that they would like to have the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association represent them. So, the problem as I understand it is one between the Rae-Edzo school society as a management group, but even more than that it is between the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association and a small bargaining agent that exists in Rae-Edzo and which has existed for a number of years.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Thank you, Mr. Morrison. In view of the hour we will break for 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Any questions or comments of a general nature?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We do not have a quorum.

Employee Relations, Total Expenditures, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair now recognizes a quorum. Any comments? Questions of a general nature. Under employee relations, total expenditures, \$196,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Manpower Planning And Development, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 4.05, manpower planning and development, total O and M, \$952,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Manpower Planning And Development, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$952,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Training Assistance, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 4.06, training assistance, total O and M, \$324,000. Agreed? Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: What is the employee data stream system?

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

MR. MORRISON: That, Mr. Chairman, is something that is ahead of us. It is a process of trying to identify the needs of the employees and record them. It is not simply something I can pick off the shelf and say that is an employee data stream system, it is a desirable thing to have.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I am not so sure I understand that reply, Mr. Chairman. "Data" is surely a listing of attributes of certain employees and does it mean to say that you keep lists of employees and what their capabilities are or something? There must be something concrete behind these four words, a method of streamlining the data kept on employees or what exactly is it?

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

MR. MORRISON: The way it is used here was taken from the federal system and what I feel has been lacking in the department is an employee data stream system, and what that is is an inventory of the employee's skills, qualifications, experiences and once into a system we can go to the employee and ask them if they are interested in promotional opportunities or different challenges rather than the employee always coming to us to tell us that they are interested in this job or that promotional activity. So, it is truly a system of trying to be more responsive to the needs of the employees that we have on staff.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Would this involve computerized records of each employee, listing their abilities in different fields and then if you had a job come up you would press a button on a computer and find those people who were approaching or who were close to the skill requirements for that particular job and then you would go and ask these people if they are interested or not? What are the mechanics of the system?

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

MR. MORRISON: It could very easily be a computerized system, but as for whether or not it would be computer, computer and part manual, all manual, I could not say at this time but it could definitely be computer and that is the mechanics.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr Lyall): Any more questions or comments? Total O and M, \$324,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Training Assistance, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$324,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Removal And Travel Assistance, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 4.07, Department of Personnel, removal and travel assistance, total O and M, \$2,800,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Removal And Travel Assistance, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$2,800,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

I direct your attention to page 4.01. Total O and M, \$6,424,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$23,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Revenues, Agreed

Total revenues, \$75,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

What is the wish of the administration?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, to now go into the Department of Information on page 2.02, and I would ask that you thank the witness.

Department Of Information, Directorate

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Morrison. The Department of Information, directorate, page 2.02. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, before we get too involved with the department on page 2.05, the total expenditures should read \$628,000 rather than \$618,000. There is a mistake.

Mr. Chairman, again with this particular department I do not want to go into too much regarding the department other than to indicate that there has been quite a bit going on within the department, and it is necessary for me to indicate what is involved within the department itself. There has been an extension of

the communications programs which basically is a highlight of the years activity of the department. Again in the coming year the emphasis will remain on providing services to all government departments in communicating, to go along with what the Commissioner indicated in his Address as to the direction of the government, communications being one of those three "c's"; co-ordination, co-operation and communication. The radio and television telecommunications program will be extended to take in additional communities of the Northwest Territories. If there are questions of a technical nature with any of the activities within the department, Mr. Chairman, I would ask that the director of the Department of Information, Mr. Sorensen, come in to the committee as a witness if it is the wish of the committee.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Sorensen, please. Under directorate on page 2.02, questions or comments of a general nature. Mr. Nickerson.

Purchase Of Ground Receiver Stations From Telesat Canada

MR. NICKERSON: Some time ago, Mr. Chairman, this House passed a motion requesting the federal Minister of Communications to change the policy with respect to Telesat Canada. At that time Telesat Canada would only lease ground receiver stations for the reception of television signals from the satellite system. Now if it were to be possible for, for instance, exploration companies or mining companies to buy the receiver, it would be a lot cheaper. What has been the response of the Minister of Communications to allowing the purchase of ground receiver stations rather than just leasing them from Telesat Canada?

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

MR. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the response is quite easy to describe. There has not been any. Having said that, we make continual queries of the minister's office. We have been in considerable discussion with Telesat Canada. Everything that we hear strongly indicates that the decision to allow private or community ownership of earth-receive only stations has been decided in favour of that. There seems to be a problem that is all wrapped up in the sovereignty of the whole system and that seems to be causing the department in Ottawa a lot of concern. In other words, they are trying to wrestle to the ground some kind of regulations that would prohibit anybody buying a satellite receive station from a manufacturer and then pointing the thing at a United States satellite so they are developing regulations in that area. It is my understanding at this time that a decision could be forthcoming toward the end of this month or the middle of March. I would hope certainly before an election is called.

Radio And Television Service In Smaller Communities

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall) Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Any questions or comments of a general nature? If I may, I would like to ask Mr. Sorensen what steps the department has taken to ensure that Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Holman Island will be getting radio and television in the near future?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, there are capital funds budgeted for the continuation of radio and television to other communities. In addition there are within the O and M budget funds for maintenance and utility. Within this funding approximately \$300,000, \$285,000 of this funding will allow for the completion of the installation for radio and television facilities at Pelly Bay. We would hope to, along with Pelly Bay, go in other areas as well to provide radio and television facilities but Pelly Bay is one.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. How about Gjoa Haven and Holman Island? How far are they away?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we have a particular priority list with the kind of funding that we have available. There are other areas, some in the East and in the Keewatin as well as in the Baffin. It is not possible to get all communities, but they are on a priority list, but they do not have the priority that other areas, other parts of the territories have at the present time.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. I think all of those three communities I mentioned have submitted petitions and I hope they would be looked at and you would do the best you can as to what you can do for those people. Mr. Sorensen.

MR. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, in discussion with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, I have been informed that it is prepared to put in a satellite delivery system at Gjoa Haven as early as 1980-81, even though the community does not fit the 500 population criterion of the present CBC plan. I think what is happening in some cases is they have seen our program and in some areas are lowering their population criterion. So I would say that within perhaps the next two and a half years radio and television service would be both in Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay. The community of Holman Island, as Hon. Arnold McCallum has pointed out, will be serviced within the next four years.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I was going to ask the same question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Any further questions or comments? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I simply want to relay a question. If the population is below 250 it was indicated that they would be able to get assistance and I would like to ask if the CBC were given \$1000 would we be able to get reception on television and if this would be paid by the government? I would like to know if this is true.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you.

Grant Money For Existing Community Radio Stations

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, could I first indicate that there is a sum of grant money in existence to help existing community radio stations. It is a matching grant whereby the government provides five dollars for every dollar raised by the local community to a maximum of \$5000. Mr. Sorensen may have something further in relation to the population under which this program of this government operates.

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

MR. SORENSEN: Basically what Hon. Arnold McCallum mentioned is the way it is. We have two programs, one of which is designed for existing community radio stations and that is the program that he explained. The second program which is considerably larger is for the satellite delivery of the northern television service plus the regional radio service of CBC. There is a population criterion for that program and the eligible communities have to have populations of 250 to 500 people, over 500, CBC provides the service. We certainly have had a lot of requests from smaller communities. Whale Cove which has a population of approximately 197, is an example. I had a telephone call from there the other day and I take it they are expecting a population explosion because they feel by next fall they will be up to 250 people and thereby be eligible for the program.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I did not quite understand. I will use an example. In Hall Beach I think there are about 300 people and if they want to get a community radio station would it be possible for the government to give them a radio station or would we have to contribute \$1000 before we get the radio station?

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

MR. SORENSEN: The answer, Mr. Chairman, is yes. For a community with a population of 300 they would be eligible for our communications program to receive both radio and television service if the local council wishes that service. There is no \$1000 required in that program, just labour to help with the installation of the facility.

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

Television Services In The Keewatin

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, there have been a number of requests from some of my constituents, over the past one or two years there have been one or two requests from the communities in the Keewatin region for television services. I wonder if Mr. Sorensen could indicate to us what communities in the Keewatin region will be receiving television services in 1979 and how many other communities in the Northwest Territories will be receiving television services in 1979.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Peter Ernerk. To get away from naming all the settlements, -- there are just three? Okay, Mr. Sorensen.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated the funding, that is the capital and O and M funding, what the department has planned is to try to meet the requests of various communities for these facilities on a priority basis. That may not be the best avenue, but within the confines of existing budget limitations we are able within this coming year to complete the installation in Arctic Bay and provide radio and television facilities at, as I indicated, Pelly Bay, Chesterfield Inlet and Fort Liard. So, we have in fact then, if you like, put one in each of the areas and in some cases two within the East, and others as they come along, and the applications are received, and if they fit the criteria for this particular program, they will be looked after on a priority basis.

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

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 2.02. Total O and M, \$229,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$5000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$234,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Public Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 2.03, public affairs. Total O and M, \$368,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Lafferty, please.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, under public affairs I would like to ask a question of the administration, if in the activities of the Government of the Northwest Territories particularly in the south Mackenzie block where there are large numbers of Slavey speaking people in communities, in 12 communities in the southern region, has the government or the Department of Information, do they have in their employ any Slavey speaking people to put out the public affairs information that is necessary to inform the native peoples as to what is really taking place?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Mr. Sorensen.

MR. SORENSEN: We have had on staff, Mr. Chairman, Slavey speaking people in the Information department. At the moment we do not have Slavey speaking people in the public affairs division. It was our experience that at the time we did have the Slavey information officer most of his work was in written communication, in English, and there was very little requirement or request for Slavey interpreters. What we have done however is approach recently the Tree of Peace in Yellowknife and the Native Communications Society of the Western Northwest Territories and it is our hope that we will be able to work an arrangement with those organizations to hire people on a contract basis, thereby assisting them and at the same time assisting us.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Mr. Lafferty.

Need For A Slavey Interpreter In The Department.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I have asked for this information before and for the second time I have got the same reply that there was no requirement for it. I do know that in the communities of Fort Simpson, Jean Marie River, Kakisa, Fort Providence, Nahanni Butte, Trout Lake, Fort Liard and Wrigley there are Indian people who are reluctant to speak to one of their local people simply because, and this is about policy matters, simply because the interpretation is not accurate, the interpretation of government information. Because of this type of complaint that I have received, and I have previously asked the very question I ask again, and in my opinion in using the information that I received by talking to these people, and I speak the Slavey dialect reasonably well to talk to them personally, the things they tell me are not necessarily the things that they have been told. I know from that experience that there is an information breakdown, information that is essential for these people who wish to take advantage of the existing programs. Because of this I personally believe, Mr. Chairman, that there is a requirement and a need for a Slavey speaking person as a member of this department and to act as an interpreter wherever he is needed.

As an example, in the game department at Fort Simpson we have no difficulty because usually there is a member of the hunters' and trappers' association there. In the social development field we have a Slavey speaking staff member of the government but she does not feel that it is her job and duty to do interpreting work. With the Economic Development people who are essential to that community surrounding Fort Simpson, we have no person there who is fluent in the Slavey language other than a staff member and he too is tied up in the office and can not get out to travel with government officials who may be travelling through there.

So, Mr. Chairman, what I am saying here is that I would like to see a Slavey speaking interpreter with the interpreter corps or at the local level, to just carry out that specific function so that the information that is being put forth by the administration can be interpreted accurately without any fear of any rebuttal on the part of the native organization and that type of thing. It is very essential.

Motion To Train A Slavey Interpreter.

I would so move at this time, Mr. Chairman, that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities.

I think, in speaking to my own motion, it is necessary, very necessary. The information that the director just brought before us saying that there are services available in a radio program that the Liard people have been asking for for many years, and this information has never been received by those people because there was never anyone there to tell them. In other words what I am saying is that you are relying -- if you go to the community and to the band council and say "Can you come with me over here and do the interpreting work for us under contract?" when that person is also interpreting some other idea from the band council to the very people they are serving and it is essential that we have a staff member who can speak Slavey, or one of the Indian dialects from this region. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. To the motion? Hon. Arnold McCallum. I would like to read the motion first.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Suit yourself.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): It reads: I move that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would simply want to ask a question of the Member. Is he indicating that in point of fact information that has been passed to residents of those communities, is he indicating that the interpretation from English into Slavey is in fact wrong? Is the interpretation wrong?

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

Information Is Misinterpreted

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, it may not be wrong as to what the intent might be, Mr. Chairman, but the meaning of the English words into the Slavey dialect, sometimes it is very difficult and subsequently the interpretation of governmental policies, or even news releases are not translated in the way that it was intended. What I am saying here, Mr. Chairman, is that we must have a trained interpreter to really communicate the intent of policies. Because if you just go to any person on the street who is not trained they distort much of the message that is contained in information items and that is all I am saying. There is no such word as "earth" for example, or there is no such word as "gasoline", it always comes down to that one thing, and the meaning for instance of gasoline with reference to fire, and it ends up with the same meaning if you were talking about gasoline and you might be saying that it is part of fire, and those kind of words, and it is not really translated accurately. That is all I am saying, that we need somebody trained in it.

Motion Reworded

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. I have been informed that the way this motion reads now it is out of order but if we put it into the usual way that we move motions and say that "I move that this committee recommend", it would be right but the way that you have handed it to us it is out of order.

MR. LAFFERTY: Go ahead and put it into the recommended form.

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

Insufficient Workload

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: I guess that answers the question I asked. It is the interpretation because of the difficulties from one language to another. That is not peculiar to Slavey I do not think. Nevertheless I should say, Mr. Chairman, the department, the government is not adverse to looking or to taking the advice and the recommendation of the Member or the committee to review a situation. I should though, of necessity, indicate that there was a Slavey interpreter at Fort Simpson for two and a half years but the scope of his duties was not of a sufficient nature to keep him fully occupied and thus he ended up doing, as a government employee, a lot of other work outside the department.

The same holds true for one Dogrib interpreter and because of that experience we feel it best to contract these particular requirements as the need arises from various other agencies where that facility and capability is there. However, as I indicated, the government and the department are not adverse to taking a recommendation to review and to see whether the total situation -- to take the advice and whether in fact we can find an individual. I would take the Member's advice on this as well, in his travels around those seven communities that he named or the 12 communities that he indicated, if he comes across somebody who he thinks may fill the bill we would take that advice as well.

It has been the experience of the department that in point of fact there has not been enough. In relation to the departments that the Member indicated where government people who speak that language will not do that particular job, carry out that particular function, I am sure that both the Members involved from the Executive who have responsibility for those departments would look at that and review that particular difficulty as well. So I guess we are not adverse to it but we can not find people. It has been our experience that it is best to contract out these particular services.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. The motion now reads: I move that this committee recommend to the administration that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities. Any more comments? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Eskimo Supervisor For The Interpreter Corps

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, I thought we were going to vote on the motion. I wanted to ask about the newsletter in Inuktitut and English. I have not seen the newsletters any more and I was wondering if the newsletter was stopped and why it was stopped. I would like to know why they were stopped. If they were stopped, maybe it is probably because we make so much work for the interpreters or there are not enough interpreters. If that is the reason, I would like to know the reason why they were stopped.

Also I would like to ask these people if the interpreters have an Eskimo supervisor. The interpreters are just starting and I do not know why, but they are starting to kick a lot more, maybe if they had an Eskimo supervisor it would help a bit more. Have you ever thought of having an Eskimo supervisor in the interpreter corps? These are the two questions I had. I hope you understand my questions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I asked to speak to the motion and you are way off track from the motion but I let you keep on anyway. Next time I am going to have to stop it.

MR. EVALUARJUK: I just put up my hand and I thought we were going to vote.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I had another name down before your name so he has to have his turn to speak. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: On the motion, Mr. Chairman. Having heard it, it indicates a recommendation to hire an interpreter as required. Hon. Arnold McCallum says there has not been a requirement, but as the matter of whether or not there is a requirement is left open for Executive determination, I am prepared to support the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Hon. David Searle, the way I understood it is that the interpreter goes into the communities as required. I guess the people around me do not know how to write it either. They are the ones who write it out for me. The motion says: I move that this committee recommend to the administration that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities. That is the way it reads. Mr. Lafferty, could you tell us what you mean? Do not give us half an hour. Give us a very short one about what you really mean to say.

Slavey Interpreter Needed To Travel To Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, as I explained, what that motion says is correct, "as required" means here as I interpret what is said or what is contained in that motion is that we would have a staff member with the interpreter corps being trained by the interpreter corps who can travel with our courts into remote Slavey speaking communities as may be required and who could also travel with the Executive Members if they go to visit Trout Lake, for example, rather than having to hire somebody who is available in the community who is not able to interpret accurately the words of English into Slavey because it requires a lot of skill and training. A man has to be fluent in English and fluent in the Slavey language as well.

Just to illustrate what happens, I myself speak Slavey but if you asked me to interpret the English language into Slavey I could not do it. If I was to interpret the Slavey language into the English language, I can not do it. So I use an interpreter in my own travels to interpret what you are saying into the Slavey language and the man who fills that role is Mr. Ted Trindell who is 77 years old and he is the only man in that community who is a very good interpreter. So obviously we have a need for an interpreter. Listening to the words of our director, developing radio programs or developing, not radio programs but some kind of news releases into native dialects, with growing populations in the North in the native speaking languages...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Lafferty, you are supposed to be speaking to the motion.

MR. LAFFERTY: That is exactly what I meant. Turn around and train a Slavey interpreter who would be fluent in the Slavey language as well as the English language and we have not got that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question I think that arises out of that is that they have to have one now on staff in the government. Is that what you are saying? I move that this committee recommend to the administration that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for service as it is required in Slavey speaking communities. Mr. Stewart.

Duties Of The Interpreter Corps.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, the technical type of question I guess: Is the interpreter corps an arm of this House, this Legislature? I am not against necessarily training somebody in the field but really would it not be wrong to the interpreter corps per se because in my understanding the corps really is here to service this Legislature. They do other duties I know, but essentially that is what their duty is. Maybe I am off track. Is that correct or not?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: The interpreter-translator corps provides native language interpretation and translation services for all government departments as well as for the Legislative Assembly and other groups or agencies such as the Game Advisory Council but it is not an arm of this body solely.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, that is a confusing motion. I do not know how we teach Slavey, how this government can teach Slavey. Maybe I have got the understanding wrong. Perhaps the Member is talking about teaching a Slavey speaking person to understand the procedures of government, but I am really confused. I am not prepared to support the motion or to vote even on it. If we are going to take a person and teach him Slavey when none of us speaks Slavey in this government and send this person around wherever it is necessary, this person does not necessarily have to say the things that we tell him to, unless you hire him directly from the government. I am really confused. I do not believe that I can even vote on it. It is not -- the support speech to the motion did not convince me one way or the other, Mr. Chairman, so I am sorry.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I would like to put a question to Mr. Lafferty. The way I interpret the motion is that this administration train someone to do translation and interpretation work, not to teach the language, just to learn how to do interpretation and translation work. Is that true, Mr. Lafferty?

Interpretation Services Should Be Extended To All Groups.

MR. LAFFERTY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. All I am asking is to train a Slavey speaking interpreter. It is certainly not my fault if the Honourable Member from the Western Arctic can not understand what I am saying. My God, what would happen now if we have a Member elected from the Dogrib community of Fort Franklin who strictly is Slavey speaking and he sits in this House? He has a right to sit in this House and he has a right to be heard in the language of his choice. All I am saying is let us train an interpreter who can interpret government information to the people he represents or to the people he lives among. That is simple to understand. That is what we have here in the interpreter corps. If one group of people can have it, then it should be extended to all linguistic groups in the country. That is all I am saying. Let that be known.

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

MR. STEEN: I will ask the question again, Mr. Chairman. What do we train this person in? That is what I am getting at.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Steen, I think the intention here is to teach him the skills in the art of translation and interpretation work.

MR. STEEN: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. I just do not understand. I do not know how you can train someone in the art of translating from Slavey into English. Do you teach the person how to speak English?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): To teach him the skills. Mr. Sorensen, could you give us a breakdown on how you train these people on translation and interpretation work?

Make-up Of The Interpreter Corps Following The Election

MR. SORENSEN: I believe I understand what the Member is asking for, basically a member of the interpreter corps who specializes in the Slavey language. That is number one. Number two, he has a concern for the eventual outcome or make-up of the Legislative Assembly following the next election should we have a Slavey member who does not speak English. That is a separate question.

On the first one, were we to move towards a Slavey interpreter we would have to hire a linguist or a specialist, in the language to instruct him in the various arts of interpreting. On the second question, it begs an Executive Committee decision on what they wish to do at the advice of the Assembly, I suppose, on the make-up of the interpreter corps following the next general election.

It is fairly straightforward and if the House feels that a motion is in order then certainly, but if not we would certainly be prepared to undertake and continue discussions with the various groups I mentioned to see what can be done to obtain somebody who was proficient enough in the language to serve the purposes.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Call the question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Just a comment. It appears from the last answer we got that Mr. Lafferty intends to run for re-election and he needs an interpreter.

---Laughter

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question. All in favour of the motion? Five. Against? I am sorry someone wants to know what the motion is so I will have to read it again. The motion reads: I move that this committee recommends to the administration that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you could have that motion translated for the benefit of some of us here.

---Laughter

Motion To Train A Slavey Interpreter, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I call again. All in favour of the motion? Six. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Public Affairs, Total Capital, Agreed

I direct your attention to page 2.03, total capital, \$263,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Public Affairs, Total Expenditures

Total expenditures, \$631,000.

MR. EVALUARJUK: Mr. Chairman, are the questions I directed earlier not forgotten and can he answer them, and if he can not remember I can put the questions forward again.

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

MR. SORENSEN: In response to the first question we have eliminated the circulation of the Interpreter newspaper for I suppose two reasons; one is that in our surveys of the communities over the years we found there was not a high degree of interest in the newspaper. That is not to say there was not some, but when we looked at the finances involved in putting the publication together, to about \$16,000 a year, we felt it would be much better to direct our efforts towards developing audio-visual information programming, making use of community radio stations, films, or sound-on-slide presentations. There is nothing wrong with written communication, but we believe the North is an oral culture and we should redirect our emphasis in that direction.

As far as the written languages are concerned we will continue to use that medium but not in the same way. So, we are really going through a redirection of emphasis towards the broadcast and oral media rather than having bulk, tons of paper moving out from the government to the communities.

A Bilingual Head Of The Interpreter Corps.

Number two, on the interpreter corps, we are going to put out a job competition within the next month, soliciting, or asking for a head of the interpreter corps, a bilingual head of the interpreter corps. We have had Inuit managers of the interpreter corps, we still do in Frobisher Bay where we have nine positions. We attempted with a previous manager in Frobisher Bay to interest him in taking over the complete responsibility for the interpreter corps, but he decided to move off in another direction after spending a number of years with us. Like any operation we have had a certain amount of turnover or we have lost various staff over the years. At the moment we have a very good complement of people, many of whom are new. We have ongoing training within the interpreter corps that everyone is benefiting from. I feel quite confident at this stage with the calibre of interpreters that we have, they do a hard job and they do it well. That is not to say there are no problems. Certainly there are. But we feel that we are aware of them and are taking steps to correct anything in that respect.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask while we are on this subject, how many communities have asked for radio stations? That is my first question and I would like an answer to that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I would like to inform you that we were on this before while you were out of the House. We were speaking about those under directorate and you were not here, but I suppose I would be permitted to have Mr. Sorensen give an answer. Is that agreed?

---Agreed

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: It would be rather difficult to give an answer as to how many have asked for it. We get requests at different times, and different communities ask for it. There was some, as he indicated before, that in the next year we will be providing, radio and television facilities. One of them as I indicated before, the funding will allow for the completion of the installation in Arctic Bay for next year and the provision of radio and television facilities at Fort Liard, Chesterfield Inlet and Pelly Bay for next year.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Would you like to follow up on that, Mr. Pudluk?

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you. I am not really too sure what subject we are on right now, sir, and I will just leave it for now.

Public Affairs, Total Expenditures, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): We are on page 2.03, public affairs, total expenditures of \$631,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Publications And Productions, Total O And M, Agreed

Publications and productions, on page 2.04, total O and M, \$601,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Publications And Productions, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$19,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Publications And Productions, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$620,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Interpreter-Translator Corps, Total O And M, Agreed

Now, the interpreter-translator corps, on page 2.05, total O and M, \$624,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: How do the salaries paid to our interpreters compare with the salaries paid to interpreters in other jurisdictions?

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

MR. SORENSEN: Mr. Chairman, the average wage for our interpreters is now at about \$21,800. The average benefits are \$3200 per interpreter. I think you will find that some interpreters, in other jurisdictions, are paid higher. Some interpreter positions, for instance, in Ottawa require a university education and a high degree of specialization and their salaries are predicated or based on the number of years experience. As far as other interpreters in the Northwest Territories are concerned, there is not really at this time a permanent force of interpreters outside of the government with the exception of a private enterprise in Yellowknife, Tuki Translation Services, and I feel that we are very comparable to the wages that are paid there on a contract basis.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Total O and M, \$624,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Interpreter-Translator Corps, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$4000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Interpreter-Translator Corps, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, and you will notice that it is shown as \$618,000 but really it is \$628,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed.

Page 2.01, total O and M, \$1,822,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$291,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Revenues, Agreed

Total revenues, \$20,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

What is the wish of the administration?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: We would now like to go into the Department of Planning and Program Evaluation and thank the witness.

Department Of Planning And Program Evaluation, Directorate, Total O And M

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. We will move now to page 3.02, the Department of Planning and Program Evaluation under directorate, total O and M, \$162,000.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if again I would be permitted to indicate very briefly for this particular department, what has and what will occur? The department, Mr. Chairman, functions in support of the Executive and assists various government departments in the areas of policy analyses and development, program evaluation, the development and co-ordination of statistical data and the scientific and intergovernmental liaison. We expect that the department will play a key role in the development of comprehensive policies in the fields of transportation, communications and renewable resources and provide some support to the land claims committee secretariat.

In addition to the evaluation process of continuing government programs the accountability exercise of the government will be reviewed in conjunction with the Department of Finance and a program performance and measurement system will be developed and implemented. We would hope to refine the Northwest Territories population and migration statistics and develop a system of economic indicators and hence, of course, publish occasional statistical reports.

Projected activities of the department are estimated at \$543,000. In the coming year the special projects and planning division will phase out the department's involvement with the operation of the Nanisivik project and will conclude its participation in the planning and liaison activities in preparation for the construction of the Rae-Edzo complex.

New Responsibilities Of The Department

New responsibilities will include the performance of secretariat functions for the interdepartmental committee on resource development. This division will continue to co-ordinate this government's input into environmental and social problems with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. This division's budget is approximately \$800,000 and that includes a grant of \$40,000 to enable the Rae-Edzo Dogrib band economic development committee to employ a full time co-ordinator. This grant is the only grant budgeted for next year by the department.

The activity of metric conversion and government liaison will see the metric information centre continue to operate and as well this activity will continue to co-ordinate government activities concerning the status of women and government input to ACND, the advisory committee on northern development. These expenditures for this activity are approximately \$65,000.

The science adviser works with scientists conducting field work in the territories to ensure that there is compliance with the Scientists Ordinance. It, of course, represents the government on scientific committees and provides advice and information in matters of science, technology and research. The Science Advisory Board with assistance from the science adviser identifies research needs and then initiates or recommends studies to provide this Assembly on scientific matters. The budgets in this particular activity approximate \$290,000. Mr. Chairman, again if there are technical questions to ask of the department, I would ask that the director, Mr. Creery, be made available for this committee.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Is it the wish of this committee that we call Mr. Creery?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

Mr. Creery. Total O and M, \$162,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$4000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Directorate, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$166,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Metric Conversion/Government Liaison, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 3.03, metric conversion/government liaison, total O and M, \$66,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: On government liaison, Mr. Chairman, what exactly are the government activities concerning the status of women?

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

MR. CREERY: Under the metric conversion and government liaison section it takes part in federal and interprovincial committees involved with the status of women across Canada. She co-ordinates the territorial position for these committees and she also brings back the returns from the meetings that have been held and applies them to the programs in the territories. She heads a committee within the territorial government to monitor and develop the place of women in the territorial government service.

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

MR. NICKERSON: That is all very well, Mr. Chairman. That is in general philosophical terms. Could we be given some examples of concrete things that are being done concerning the status of women within the Government of the Northwest Territories? For instance, have salaries been increased to bring them into line with male employees or something specific?

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

MR. CREERY: I think the main problem represented within the territorial government service was whether women have got a fair share of the administrative positions, especially the more senior administrative positions. The committee has done a certain amount of work to determine if this is so or not, but have not yet made that determination. They did request a researcher at one point but there were not the funds available for this. They are, however, undertaking that work independently on their own hook but, of course, it is taking longer than was expected. I do not think that that committee would try and do anything to advance the position of women before they are sure they have got a case.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Any comments or questions? Total O and M, \$66,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Metric Conversion/Government Liaison, Total Expenditure, Agreed

Total expenditure, \$66,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Policy And Evaluation, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Policy and evaluation, total expenditures, \$543,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Special Projects And Planning, Total O And M, Agreed

Special projects and planning, total O and M, \$217,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Thank you. The movement of the area service office from Yellowknife to Rae-Edzo is something we have encouraged on a number of occasions. We were somewhat set back by the seemingly slow progress being made on this. Can we now be given some date in mind when that office might go into effect and when such services like social services will be transferred to Rae?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Creery. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just in reply all I could offer is that we are still waiting for the Rae-Edzo band council specifically and the community council to finalize an indication of their plans for such a complex. We are prepared to enter into this devolution process with the area service office to Rae-Edzo but we are still awaiting further information in terms of what they have really in mind as to the actual complex. We have been carrying on continual dialogue and communication with them.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Is it really necessary, Mr. Chairman, to have this new building completed? I understand that there are houses which are unoccupied in Edzo which could house government offices. Surely it should be a matter of priority to get the services moved out to that location rather than having them in Yellowknife. Could not as an interim measure you house the offices in something other than this proposed new building?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we worked with the people at Rae-Edzo in terms of this. They want to get into an economic activity as well as taking over the operation and they felt they would preferably like to be able to set up a complex that would be involved not only with the area office but with other activities that they may have in mind. We, in discussion with them, because of the total process, feel it is best to take their particular advice on it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Any further comments or questions? Total O and M, \$217,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Special Projects And Planning, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$580,000.

MR. NICKERSON: Whoa! A question on the capital. Where is this expenditure to be made, Mr. Chairman?

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

MR. CREERY: This is phase two of the Nanisivik project and phase two is the development of the townsite -- an addition to the school, construction of a school gymnasium, a food storage warehouse, a maintenance shop, extension to the utilidor and site preparation. It is a two year program, it was to be spread over this year and next year with the bulk of the expenditures next year. As it turned out...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I have been asked by the interpreter corps to have you slow down a bit.

MR. CREERY: I am just talking about the phase two development of the townsite and this was a two year program over this current year and next year, funded over two years.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Is this \$580,000 the very last capital funds which are to be expended in Nanisivik? Can we have absolute positive assurance on that, Mr. Chairman?

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

MR. CREERY: I can see no need for more.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not have anything else. I do not know whether to put it all the way up, but we see no need to have future expenditures for this particular project which is why I indicated in the preliminary remarks that we are getting out of an involvement with the Nanisivik project, other than to have the \$580,000 spread over a two year payment, this year and next year. We will hopefully do everything we can to say "That is it to date -- kaput!", but I do not think that I would be able to take the stack and raise the right hand.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I am very pleased to hear that, I am pleased to hear that that will be the last public moneys going into this particular project. One last question on this subject. In retrospect does the Minister consider the expenditure of in excess of \$12.5 million in Nanisivik justifiable?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, yes, we have spent it and we justify the expenditure once we have spent it obviously.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Total capital, \$580,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Special Projects And Planning, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$797,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Science, Total 0 And M, Agreed.

The Department of Planning and Program Evaluation, science, total 0 and M, \$95,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Science, Total Expenditures, Agreed.

Total expenditures, \$95,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Science Advisory Board Of The N.W.T., Total 0 And M, Agreed.

Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories, total 0 and M, \$173,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Science Advisory Board Of The N.W.T., Total Expenditures, Agreed.

Total expenditures, \$173,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed.

I direct your attention back to 3.01, total 0 and M, \$1,256,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed.

Total capital, \$584,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Hon. Arnold McCallum, what is the wish of the administration?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Progress.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Is it the wish of this committee that we report progress?

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lyall.

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

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Bill 7-67 and in studying the bill we had four motions. The first motion was made by Hon. David Searle:

I move that we recommend that the position of Assistant Commissioner not be funded or filled in the 1980-81 budget and that upon retirement this fall or whenever the current holder of that office leaves, the position not be filled.

The other motion made by Hon. David Searle: I move that with respect to the 1980-81 budget we recommend that the allotment affecting the office of the Clerk of the Council proceed upon the following bases: (1) that the Clerk's position be upgraded to director level in pay and benefits; and (2) that the Clerk should be responsible for all purposes to the Speaker; and (3) that all and any future research staff assisting Members should be responsible to the Clerk.

The third motion made by Mr. Pearson: I move that the Executive be asked to examine the concept of a staff for the use of Members of the Legislature.

The fourth motion: I move that this committee recommend to the administration that a Slavey speaking interpreter corps member be trained for services as required in Slavey speaking communities.

All those four motions, Mr. Speaker, were passed and your committee would now like to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Gentlemen, with respect to meetings for tomorrow morning, I am advised that there is a caucus meeting scheduled in Katimavik A at 10:00 o'clock a.m. and a rules and procedures committee meeting will continue in room 303 at 12:00 noon. Are there further announcements? Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the legislation committee this evening at 7:30 in the Executive board room.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further announcements? That does not seem to leave too much time for sleeping. Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 12: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, February 14, 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. First Reading of Bills
11. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Bills 1-67, 9-67, 5-67, 7-67, 8-67, Proposed Amendments to the Federal Indian Act, Tabled Document 10-67, Information Item 5-67, Tabled Document 13-67, Information Item 4-67 and Tabled Document 11-67
12. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 14, 1979, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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