



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**DEBATES**

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Official Report

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1979

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. David Searle): Item 2, questions and returns. Are there any returns? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 2: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Further Return To Question W68-67: Fleming Report

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, Question W68-67, a question asked by the Honourable Member from Yellowknife North, Mr. Nickerson, regarding the Fleming report. The response to Mr. Nickerson's question concerning the tabling of the Fleming report is that the department has been discussing the matter with the assistant deputy minister of medical services, Health and Welfare Canada. I have been informed that the Fleming report was an in-house document of medical services, Health and Welfare Canada. It was prepared two years ago and therefore it has been superseded by events since that date. Therefore, the document is not available for tabling. The assistant deputy minister, medical services, Health and Welfare Canada, is also concerned that discussions in relation to the transfer of the responsibility for health services proceed at an early date.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there further returns?

MR. STEWART: A point of privilege. Mr. Speaker, the News of the North has proven again that they should be call "North of the News" inasmuch as they have incorrectly quoted me and their headlines read "\$4.2 Billion Slated for 33 Projects in the Northwest Territories."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STEWART: I just wish it were true. However, the point of privilege is that I am quoted as saying that the sewing centre at Baker Lake, the project, the costs for running this project was \$160 million in 1979-80 compared to \$36 million in the estimates returned by way of revenue. What I said was \$160,000 in 1979-80, with estimated revenues of \$36,000.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not want to be associated with that famous politician who said "What's a million?" Are there any further returns? Hon. Tom Butters.

Return To Question W67-67: Training Of Paraprofessional People

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, on February 12, 1979, Mr. Pearson asked Question W67-67 regarding the training of paraprofessional people as parapsychologists. The administration wishes to advise the House that the planning of paraprofessional training in allied health services is well under way. The work is a major joint endeavour between the Departments of Health, Social Services and Education. Although the training of a special category of paraprofessional psychologists is not contemplated, mental health will be one of the major components of the training program for the basic health worker. This basic health worker will be a community generalist with paraprofessional training in fields as diverse as nutrition and mental health. The program is well along in its development and will be ready for implementation in the fiscal year 1979-80.

MR. SPEAKER: Further returns? Written questions?

Item 3, oral questions.

Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 6, notices of motion.

Item 7, motions for the production of papers.

Item 8, motions.

Item 9, tabling of documents.

ITEM NO. 9: TABELING OF DOCUMENTS

Hon. Peter Ernerk, please.

HON. PETER ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a document from the community of Sanikiluaq.

Tabled Document 25-67: The Belcher Island Char Fishery, a Statement of Concern, Sanikiluaq Hamlet Council, November 1978. It pertains to the sports fishing lodge at South Camp, Belcher Islands and I table it for the Members to see.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 10, first reading of bills.

Item 11, consideration -- Hon. Arnold McCallum.

ITEM NO. 10: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, may I go back to Item 10, first reading of bills? I think I gave notice of first reading yesterday on bills. I think Hon. Tom Butters and I may have been mixed up yesterday on two bills but I think the bills were Bill 14-67, and I will just have to check the other bill. If Hon. Tom Butters would like to move his bill -- I think we had a mix-up as to who should have given first reading and I think that he has a particular bill yesterday I gave first reading to one bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum, if you would care to sit down and get your act together I will ask Hon. Tom Butters to move his bill. Hon. Tom Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 4-67

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

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Hon. Peter Ernerk. Question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? First reading is carried.

---Carried

First reading of bills. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

First Reading Of Bill 14-67

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 14-67, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Lyall. Question. The question being called. All in favour? Down. Contrary? First reading is carried.

---Carried

Is there first reading for any further bills?

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

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

I assume you want to finish Bill 7-67, do you, gentlemen? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, yes, we would like to finish Bill 7-67, the Appropriation Ordinance, and we are now ready to deal with the Housing Corporation. Members will know that their particular budget was passed out I think yesterday or the day before and you should all have that information. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if when we get into committee of the whole we may then call witnesses at the same time.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lyall, do you want to take the chair?

MR. LYALL: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: This House will therefore resolve into committee of the whole for continued consideration of Bill 7-67, Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, with Mr. Lyall in the chair.

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

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

Department Of The Executive, N.W.T. Housing Corporation

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The committee will come to order. Comments of a general nature? Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman...

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, if the committee is agreeable I would propose that I would move to the witness chair and speak as chairman of the corporation and when Mr. Forrest arrives I would ask that he be permitted to join me as Mr. Forrest is the managing director.

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

---Agreed

Thank you. What was that gentleman's name?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Forrest.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Do all the committee members have the little blue book on the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation? Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Forrest will be here shortly. He had received some bad advice on the timing for some reason or other this afternoon but he will be here very shortly. Perhaps I could proceed with a brief review of the 1978 activities of the corporation and the activities that we anticipate for 1979.

In 1978 the corporation initiated a new rental scale and we have found that this rental scale has proven to be much more equitable and it has provided a different and more equitable ratio between territorial public servants and public housing. The stick-built housing program in Pangnirtung conducted last year was successful and employed eight Inuit workers. We have expectations of continuing that kind of program. The corporation has increased the contracts to northern contractors for the erection of buildings, to 79 per cent of the total program and we anticipate a continuation of an increase in the amount of stick building in this coming year.

#### Emphasis On Energy Conservation

The Western Arctic and northern Mackenzie housing conference held in Hay River in December was attended by 78 delegates and provided us with 17 resolutions from 21 communities. This was a major step in community participation in our housing program. The task force on northern housing chaired by the corporation and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is active and will present its report in 1979. The Departments of Health, Social Services and the corporation have entered into a working agreement in the designs, delivery and operation of senior citizen housing, along with town planning and lands and the territorial Department of Public Works. The task force on tenant responsibility will implement its findings in 1979 with an emphasis on energy conservation. This program ties into new design concepts which are presently on the drawing boards and which will become part of the corporation's construction program this year.

In 1978 the corporation was successful in completing 305 units. Many of these were units which had remained uncompleted from 1975-76 and subsequent construction seasons. In 1979 the corporation will be continuing its stick building program and approximately 65 per cent of the units produced this year will be built in that fashion. We will be continuing to stress energy conservation and the houses, buildings or units that we will be erecting will be better insulated and better designed than ever before. We are drawing up management agreements between associations and authorities, and some of these will be executed in March of 1979, and that will provide the housing associations and the authorities with a clearer understanding of their contractual requirements and it will also give them good working documents.

#### Rehabilitation Of Older Housing

We recognize an urgent need to rehabilitate an older stock of some 1700 units and for that purpose we have designated a certain unit within our construction division to concentrate on this problem of rehabilitation. We intend to set up bid depositories in all districts and several isolated communities to ensure fairness to northern contractors tendering on housing projects. The corporation does not consider that financial incentives are necessary for northern contractors and in fact would be detrimental to our industry. Rather than that we feel that the methods that we have at our disposal of approaching northern contractors through bid depositories, through the negotiation, in some situations, contracts would be much more beneficial to contractors in the North.

We are commencing a warehousing study because we see a great need for the corporation to have at least a minimal amount of warehousing available so that associations which must look after the maintenance program have somewhere secure in which to store their materials.

We have developed, together with the territorial Department of Local Government through its town planning and lands division, a co-ordinated approach to planning in which the roles of the territorial government and the roles of the corporation are clearly outlined. Town planning and lands have the responsibility for the first step in town planning, the major step in the planning of communities and the corporation has the second responsibility and that is the planning of the subdivisions themselves. To that end, of course, they must work and do work very closely with our territorial Public Works and Local Government in the provision of services.

As we move into the 1980s we are taking on as one of our thrusts a desire to make home ownership more attractive. This is a very difficult proposition in an area where costs are so high, but this is indeed a major thrust of the corporation. In addition we will have as a major thrust the provision of houses which are energy savers rather than energy wasters. We have already commenced, as I have said I think on previous occasions, to set pile foundations for most of our buildings rather than the more wasteful method of using gravel pads. We will continue to use gravel pads in a few locations but gravel is becoming such a scarce commodity that it makes sense to move to a foundation of piles.

#### Liaison Between Housing Associations And Councils.

One of the things that we must do better is to train and assist the housing associations in the Northwest Territories to take up their very onerous and important responsibilities because it is the associations who deliver the maintenance and manage the housing stock which the corporation owns. To this end we are attempting to establish a relationship between housing associations and settlement and hamlet councils, so that there is very close liaison between those two bodies. In fact, in Frobisher Bay we are working toward a situation where the housing association there will have members on it appointed by the village council. This situation is much more critical in smaller places than it is in larger places. We recognize in the smaller communities in the Northwest Territories there is an absolutely essential need that the hamlet and settlement councils know very well what the housing associations are doing and that they work in conjunction. Mr. Chairman, I do not have any further remarks of a general nature.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Comments of a general nature. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, in the communities I am sure it is easy to tell about this. First I would like to ask if the corporation have been having meetings with the housing associations. I would like to ask whether this is so, if in the High Arctic the housing situation affects the cost of the housing, if the rents are higher. For instance, in Frobisher Bay the rent cost is low but in the High Arctic is it higher because the weather is colder? I would like to know whether this is true or not.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question I received I think is, is there a difference in the price of rents in different communities? Why is it? That is the one I got anyway. Is that right, Mr. Pudluk?

MR. PUDLUK: South Baffin and the High Arctic.



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Why the rent difference from the High Arctic to the South Baffin?

Rents Tied To Income

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it is not intended that the rent be different, but the rents for the houses built recently, that is, in the last several years, since they are our public housing units, the rent is all based on the income of the person who occupies the house and the rent runs up to 25 per cent of the person's income. It costs so much to operate the houses that there are very, very few people who are paying an economic rent. That is, all of the houses are subsidized and it is for that reason that the rents may vary, but the way they vary is in relationship to the ability that the person has to pay rent. It is tied to the person's income.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Pudluk, just before you answer, the person on the left hand side of Deputy Commissioner Parker is Mr. Forrest. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, my understanding seems to be the Frobisher Bay residents and the Resolute Bay residents are paying rent to the government. We will be having meetings probably about this. There is a great difference between a person who is living in Frobisher Bay in exactly the same house, with the rent. I was informed that the rent was raised because in the High Arctic it is a lot colder. Who made the policy?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I understand they pay higher rent in the High Arctic and lower rent in the South Baffin. The question is, who makes the policies? Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, the policy they have between headquarters and the region seems to be different now than what he is saying.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The policy seems to be different in different regions. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, all I know now is between headquarters and the Baffin region and the other regions, as it is now between headquarters and the Baffin region the policies seem to be different.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The policies seem to be different in different regions I guess.

MR. PUDLUK: You can put it that way.

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

New Rental Scheme

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, under the new rental scheme which was brought into force on April 1, a year ago, the higher cost of living in some regions as compared to other regions was taken into consideration and, therefore, in fact the way that rents are computed for Resolute Bay should result in lower rent in Resolute Bay than in Frobisher Bay for the same kind of accommodation. If it is not working that way, then I can not explain why right now other than to say that we will certainly look into it, but it should be resulting in lower rents rather than higher rents.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I am going to give you a little example like myself. I am living in public housing. To be in the public housing I realize that we have to pay 25 per cent of our salary. There seems to be something wrong; like Mr. Evaluarjuk and myself. He has a three bedroom house and my rent is \$250 a month, my salary is about \$800 a month and I have five kids. His rent is lower than mine. The Housing Corporation in the Baffin region -- I just can not understand them any more. It is really confusing.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I got the figures from Mr. Pudluk but I did not hear him say in his example whose rent was lower than his and what was the other place.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The comparison he was making was to someone living in the Baffin region in a three bedroom house who paid \$230 a month, compared to someone living in Resolute Bay living in a four bedroom house and paying \$250 a month, which to my way of thinking, and from the rates of the Housing Corporation, seems to be in order, the way I see it.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: The one thing that seems to be different between the two is the one at \$230 a month is a three bedroom house and the one at \$250 a month is a four bedroom house. Is that right? So, I would think that that is about right.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Deputy Commissioner Parker, you stated before where the cost of living is higher the rent should be lower but Mr. Pudluk also stated, and I do not think this is the policy of the Housing Corporation, that you pay 25 per cent of your rent. It used to be that way, but I think it has changed now.

#### Explanation Of Rental Structure

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No. Mr. Chairman, perhaps I should try and explain the new public housing rental structure. The structure used to be that the person living in the house would pay up to 25 per cent of his income for rent, that is what it used to be, and that was up to a maximum which in the East was to be not higher than the rent paid by a territorial public servant. Now, we changed that because we said it was unfair for someone who was earning a certain salary in, say, Resolute Bay to pay the same rent as someone who was earning a similar amount of money and living in Frobisher Bay because the cost of living in the two places was different, the cost of living in Frobisher Bay was a little less. Therefore to correct that we established a cost of living figure for each of five regions and the way that we compute the rent now is we take the gross income, that is, the full income of the person living in the house and we deduct from it this cost of living factor. I will get the figures in a minute, as to how much we deduct, but we deduct from the total income a certain amount of money representing a basic cost of living and then the rent is computed on 25 per cent of the remainder, or 25 per cent of what is left after deducting the cost of living. So, it is still a percentage of the income but it is changed by the cost of living for that region.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, is there no percentage deducted off for food? What would that come into effect...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Pudluk, he did not say for food. He said the cost of living, the allowance for five regions is different. So, first of all, they deduct that from your income, and these housing associations are all supposed to have done it. I think that has been in effect for the last two years. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Just a minute. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Forrest advises me that it took approximately nine months from April 1, last year to get all of the rents converted to this new scale. That is, we worked with each of the housing associations in order to explain to them what the new rental structure was and to get them to implement it. So, some people will only have been on the new rental structure for a very short period of time perhaps.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Deputy Commissioner Parker, perhaps we should go a bit further. If Mr. Pudluk could be given the cost of living allowance in each of the five regions then maybe we could go from there so we could understand a bit more how that rental system works.

Old And New Scales

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: In just a few minutes I will have the figures for the different regions. It is difficult to present this new rental scale without using an easel and writing the figures out, but if I could just use Rankin Inlet as an example, under the old rental scale, and here we are dealing with a family of five living in a three bedroom house for this example, under the old rental scale, if the occupant of the house earned \$500 a month he would have paid \$125 a month in rent. Under the new scale, using the same amount of income, \$500 a month, he would pay \$28 a month in rent. If, under the old scale the occupant of the house had a big salary, supposing he was earning \$2000 a month, he would have been paying \$500 a month in rent but under the new rental scale he would have been paying \$290 a month in rent.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I am beginning to find out now. In Frobisher, the housing association has been talking the other way around. They have been giving me the wrong information. I want the Baffin communities to be advised of that information you have just given me. Thank you.

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

MR. NICKERSON: My questions are very much on the same subject as Mr. Pudluk. In replies to questions by Mr. Pudluk it would appear that the chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation is saying that the government, or that corporation I am sorry, is now not pursuing at all the idea of charging economic rents; that is, if the cost of the housing unit, the true cost including amortization and operational cost is, say, \$500 a month, they are not trying to eventually get to a point where the economic rent is being charged, they have forgotten that. Previously the policy had been, apparently, or we had been told, to get toward that state of affairs eventually because that is the only real way we will ever get to true home ownership in the Northwest Territories and provide an incentive for people to buy and maintain their own houses. Now, I wonder if we can be told if they still have that goal in mind or if they have given it up completely as would appear from the answers given to Mr. Pudluk.

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

Percentage Is In National Housing Act

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I can not understand how Mr. Nickerson could draw those conclusions because we have taken no steps whatsoever away from seeking to collect an economic rent, but we are providing houses under the National Housing Act and it has been agreed across the country and is part of the act that if the government through its program provides housing, that the occupant of that housing should not have to spend more than 25 per cent of his income for the provision of shelter and therefore, that is what we are working towards. Now, that is the program we are following. If a person is earning the kind of salary, or has an income that permits him to pay an economic rent, then he will be paying the economic rent with just one proviso -- and I might as well explain that because I know the Member knows about it and will ask that as his next question -- and that is, during this past year we recognized that there was an anomaly in rents that caused us difficulty and the anomaly was this.

The territorial government has a considerable number of employees living in public housing in the communities and it seemed only proper that they as employees should not have to pay more than the rent that other public employees were paying. Therefore, we did put a ceiling on the rents tied to the public employee rents. Now, those rents, as Members know, are increasing gradually with the aim of the government being to reach an economic rent and this is what we are doing, we raised the rent somewhere in the neighborhood of ten to 15 per cent this year and that pattern is to continue.

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

#### Housing Which People Can Afford.

MR. NICKERSON: I, of course, recognize the difficulty the corporation finds itself in, but one way out of the problem, the problem being that in most communities in the Northwest Territories there is very limited opportunity for people to make the kind of income with which they could afford to buy their own houses or pay economic rent, one way out of this dilemma would be to build much smaller units of public housing. The houses we build at the present time are very generous, they are very large, they are 1400 square foot houses with individual bedrooms, this type of thing. Surely we should be building well-constructed buildings but smaller buildings, buildings that people can afford to live in without continual subsidy.

Is there any plan to reduce the square footage in these units of socialized housing, to bring them in line with what people can really afford? Why I say this is because you must remember some ten to 12 years ago when Mr. Jack Pickersgill, I think at that time, was conducting a royal commission into housing, he was one of the first royal commissioners who ever came to Yellowknife and I remember going to a meeting in the Con recreation hall. At that time everyone was presenting briefs saying that they wanted more and better housing, which is fair enough, everyone wants more and better housing, but Mr. Pickersgill's remarks, which I can always remember were "Yes, but you can not afford that kind of housing. You have to live in housing you can really afford." Now, since that date it would appear that the policy of the Government of Canada has changed right around and they insist that people in the Northwest Territories, who can not really afford to live in a 1400 square foot house with all the modern conveniences, have to be given that regardless of whether they want it or not. How can we start getting around to building the type of accommodation that people can really afford?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am pleased to advise that we have already started in that direction. It is true that the corporation went through a stage of providing some larger houses and that may well have been inappropriate, although I suspect that a number of people in the territories with very large families will not agree with the Member. However, the corporation has accepted the fact that we must move towards economic viability in housing or, to put it bluntly, we must move in the direction in which people will pay for what they get because that is real and that is honest. Therefore, we have not built any more five bedroom houses, nor do we intend to. In fact, we have a board policy against building any five bedroom houses.

#### Square Footage Reduced This Year.

We have reduced this year our design criteria for three bedroom houses from a previous high of 1400 square feet to 1100 square feet. This is the trend. We have a very compact, energy conscious design for two bedroom duplexes which will be built this year. These are approximately 1000 square feet each unit but contained within that 1000 square feet are a proper porch and a cold room. These are features that northern people have always wanted and we are finally getting around to recognizing those desires, but we definitely are reducing the size of the housing that is being offered. An interesting figure, at least it is interesting to me, is this one. In Rankin Inlet, for instance, 43 per cent of the occupants of public housing are paying the maximum rent.

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

MR. STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that it has been the policy of this government for a long time to encourage private ownership of housing. However, when we look at the situation as it is in most of the municipalities, by the time you have paid your utilities, taxes and insurance, the average cost of living in your own house is probably somewhere between \$500 and \$600, depending on the location. This is so much more than the maximum that you are charging under your present Housing Corporation rules and regulations, has any thought been given to encourage private ownership by subsidizing utilities for those who own their own homes?

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

Maximum Rent To Be Increased In Some Communities.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, first of all, in its board meeting held during the last two mornings, the board of directors made a decision to alter that maximum rental figure that has been applied in those communities where a significant housing market exists, that is, where people can have some little choice in their accommodation. In those areas, principally Hay River, Fort Smith, Yellowknife, perhaps Inuvik, we moved to immediately raise the rent on public housing, that is, the maximum rent, by 15 per cent effective June 1, in three months anyway, three months notice of occupants and March 1, for new people coming into those buildings. We are studying the subject and we are going to be increasing those maximums further in all likelihood, but that will be a board decision. We recognize that we have made an error in setting too low an upper limit in places where there is some chance of home ownership.

With regard to the subsidization of utilities, that subject goes right back to the original council task force on housing and that was the crux of the recommendations of the housing task force, that people pay for the utilities that they consume, at a subsidized rate. Therefore they would take more care to not waste those utilities. This is something that we are trying to move toward. It calls for a major shift in money. The Member will recall that when that task force report was tabled and studied and presented to the minister of the day it was not accepted, that recommendation dealing with the subsidization of utilities was not accepted. We were not permitted to do that, but we have taken the subject up again and we are going to take some new approaches to it. We are going to go at it one utility at a time. The first one will be electrical power and we hope and certainly expect during 1979, that the occupants of our houses will be paying for the electrical power they use at a subsidized rate but indeed paying for the power they use.

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

MR. STEWART: I appreciate the comments of the Deputy Commissioner. However, even in increasing the top figures by 15 per cent I am just trying to analyse the top rents, but certainly it would be below \$400 in most instances. Is that a fair assumption?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

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

Private Ownership Is Discouraged By Disparity

MR. STEWART: How in the world have we any hope of encouraging home ownership when the utility bill of those people is \$600? It is \$200 more than the top rent you are charging, so if you can not get a subsidy for utilities, how about paying the guy to live in his own house to try to equalize this, because it gets you out of your capital situation and gets people to put capital in, because the disparity here as between the person who has his own home and those in subsidized housing is just ridiculous? There are so few actually, who live in their own houses because they are either crown corporations or they are companies or government, federal or territorial or low cost housing or public housing. It seems to me that we have really neglected those few who have tried to be independent and tried to follow what the government wanted them to do, to encourage private ownership. Yet to be quite candid, anybody who owns his own house in the Northwest Territories today is a sucker because everybody else is getting help but him.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Speaking as the chairman of the Housing Corporation I must say the problem that has been outlined is a problem for the federal government and it is not one the Housing Corporation can solve on its own. Indeed the territorial government itself has pressed for some equalization in this area for years and it has remained beyond its ability to change that subject either. I would want to carry on the fight, in whatever hat I am wearing, to get that message across so that we can arrange our funding and our financing to achieve what the Member wants, that is, a move toward home ownership. Frankly I think it is -- I was going to say simple -- nothing is ever simple, but it is a matter of redistribution of means that are taken to pay for things. So far we have not been able to achieve that. It is not really and truly within the ability of the corporation to do that. We are, though, raising our maximum rents. You must bear in mind that we are talking about public housing and in the communities where there is any reasonable chance for people to own their own houses, we are going to have to make it more and more difficult for them to get public housing rather than easier.

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

Civil Servants' Subsidies

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, just a brief comment on what Mr. Stewart was saying. A civil servant who is hired in the South and employed in Yellowknife gets a housing subsidy, I believe as part of his salary, is that not right?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the total package of his salary and his rent constitutes his income, that is correct.

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

MR. FRASER: I would like to ask the Deputy Commissioner if a person had his own house, if he buys his own house if he is employed by the government, does he still get that subsidy?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, this is not a matter for the Housing Corporation but on the government side, yes, the government employee who owns his own home gets home owners assistance because in fact he is saving the government money by not having to draw a government house.

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

MR. FRASER: This boils down to what Mr. Stewart just said. Why should not anybody who is not a government employee get a subsidy, when you can subsidize somebody just because he is a government employee working for the government and subsidizing them owning their own home? Some people in the territories should also have a subsidy. Could the Housing Corporation not set up something like that so everybody could benefit from the subsidy instead of just the civil servants?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I think that is more of a comment than a question.

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

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, being on the board of directors of the Housing Corporation for the last two years, I want to express my feelings in relation to Mr. Stewart's problem. We have been knocking our heads against a brick wall when it comes to private ownership. We see a lot of public housing made available to residents of the North for almost nothing and it is hardly any problem to get a house. It seems to me that the government is slowly taking all the land in the communities, being the monopoly in housing and it is so difficult for anyone else, no matter how you look at it, for a private person to own his own house. It is just too attractive, the public housing is so attractive, it is so cheap, what is the use of trying to own your own house because it does not make sense.

#### Immunity To Property Tax

So, I have to express a sense of frustration because I have been pushing for home ownership for a long time. I own my own house myself but I must pay, I have to pay the full amount. People in public housing, they are subsidized to the point that there is no responsibility for them. I think perhaps one thing this government can do to help the home owner, the people who own their own houses, is to make them immune to property tax. The home owner is paying everything and these people who own their own homes should not have to pay property tax because everybody else is getting something for nothing and so why should the home owner pay a property tax. I think we should be helping these people in all kinds of ways. It is just a shame. You see people moving into public housing for almost nothing and then a home owner has to pay everything, his fuel, his lights, his upkeep, everything. Here the government taxes the poor bugger. I think we should make him immune to it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lya11): Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, under a new program being brought in by the Minister for Local Government, I think there is some relief in sight for the home owner, the property owner, and I do not know if that program has been gone into and it is not appropriate for me to do so here, but it does propose to change the taxation structure. I think I have to agree with what Mr. Steen says, that the home owner, being in such a minority position in the Northwest Territories is in a bad spot all right.

#### Percentage High In The North

You see, the real problem, I guess, is that in the Northwest Territories the protection of people who are receiving help from government in one form or another to provide housing is very, very high. In the rest of the country, the rest of Canada, I think the percentage of people who live in public housing is something between one and two per cent. So, that presents an altogether

different approach and an altogether different view of this subject. In the North it must constitute, if you consider government employees and people in public housing, it must run in the neighborhood of maybe 70 per cent. So, that is our problem.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. If I may, Deputy Commissioner Parker, I would like to ask a couple of questions myself.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I would just like to know first of all, what percentage of rents do they collect?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we collect 43 per cent of the rent that is assessed and billed. Previously, or just a year ago that percentage was only about 35. Our intention of course is to keep moving that up as quickly as we can. To a great extent it is related to the ability of the housing associations to carry out this job because the corporation can not do it by itself, it must rely upon the associations. The associations I would say are becoming much more proficient in their work and they are taking under our guidance a very much stronger position on the collecting of rents.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. The reason I asked is that most of us who are really trying for ourselves to live as best we can, we are sort of given a disincentive to do our own thing because the rent is so high and that 43 per cent of the rent you are collecting is coming from guys like myself who pay their rent every month.

#### Advantages Of Living On Welfare.

The rest of the guys who are not paying, they are most likely on welfare and I feel that the government should be working towards something that people who are willing to get out and work be given some incentive to go out and work. Myself right now if I was to go on welfare I would be better off. The thing I see and what makes a guy like myself so jealous of people is that the guy living next door to you has running water and sometimes he has some furniture which was provided by social assistance, and I have no running water with four children and all the furniture is my own, yet I am forced to pay the top rent.

I am now not only speaking for myself, there are a lot of guys like that I know and I have spoken like this before and I do not know what it is going to come to, but maybe instead of letting some people pay \$28 a month, some pay \$300 a month, if you put it across the board, you should say "Every one of you pay \$150 a month and if you do not pay in five months you will get a different house to live in". I know people who are put into new houses every year. I moved out of one house because it was no longer liveable. I think personally there should be an incentive given to the guys who are trying for themselves and you should also make it harder for those people on welfare to pay their rents so they will get out and start doing something about it. If they are willing to live in that type of house, they should be more or less told to go out and work for their rent if they have to. If they could put in ten hours a week of work or something like that, you are giving him welfare money for food and clothing anyway, then it would make more sense because you can see the fellow on welfare walking around with a nice parka on with wolverine on it and everything. There you are with a store bought coat because you can not afford that kind of thing because you must pay the top price in rent. This is the thing all over the Northwest Territories. I think it must be looked into very thoroughly and it must be fixed up before our own kids come back to the communities and see that kind of thing, that it is better to live on welfare than go to work. That is the only thing I wanted to say and I really do not have a question but anyway...



Better Homes For Those Who Pay

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I agree with you that there is a real problem in providing an incentive for the person who is willing to work and who is trying to earn a living and then the more money he earns the more money he pays in rent, at least up to a certain limit. One of the few incentives we have been able to apply and we can only do this in conjunction with the associations, is to try to guide them to put the people who have the best record of paying their rents and who are paying the higher levels of rent in the best houses. In other words, their reward should be, and we hope to an increasing extent it will be, that they be placed in the best houses.

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

MR. EVALUARJUK: This is not really a question, what I am about to say, but one of the Members mentioned to me, on paying rent and what I think the housing association -- I wonder if they have a full understanding or are informed about paying rent. Last year we got a letter and the housing associations in the communities were sent information about the new houses, the maximum rent of the housing. Myself, the amount I pay for rent is \$230. I would like to know if any other Members of the House have ever received a letter or not. One of the members of the Housing Corporation said why could we not own our own house when we can pay a cheaper rent on the houses that we rent and the public housing is hard to get. One of the Housing Corporation members made that statement.

Housing Associations Should Control Rent

Now, the housing association committees in the communities should be able to control the rents in the communities. They should be given the responsibility for deciding the rent and for the older houses especially it is hard to control the rent. In the new houses, we were informed that 25 per cent of your income had to go for rent and some incidents have happened where some people have been paying \$600 but that was better in a way. Now, we have heard the people who pay \$230 for rent, their rent may go up to \$290 a month, effective January 1, 1979. I want to know who is responsible for that increase, is it the Housing Corporation or the employees of the Housing Corporation? They say that the government houses, the rents of the government houses are going up and so should the public housing.

We are not too happy about this increase in the communities and we were not even informed about this in the communities but we hear now that our rent will have to go higher this month. They should inform the communities first instead of just sending a letter. If I am right the Housing Corporation, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Ottawa, are maybe trying to be too hard. If someone asks for a loan maybe they do not give the loan even if someone asks for it and maybe that is one of the reasons the rent is going up. Maybe the Housing Corporation board are not meeting with the CMHC in Ottawa. Maybe that is one of the problems we have. The people who live in newer houses -- their income has not increased but their rent is increased and I do not think that is right.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Deputy Commissioner Parker, would you like to comment?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We realized that the rents are going up in public housing, that is, the maximum rent and that is a policy of the board of directors of the Housing Corporation. We have tied the maximum rent to the rent that is paid by government employees for the same size of house. You see, before we did that some of the people were having to pay rents of \$400 and \$500 and nearly \$600 a month. That seemed unfair because these were the people who were working hard for a living and it was for that reason that we put a ceiling on. The ceiling that we put on the rent was to make them not any higher than government employees' rent. The government employees' rent went up

early this year and, therefore, the rent for public housing, that is, the top level went up. That will not affect everyone. That will just apply to those people who have higher incomes.

Close Communications With CMHC

As far as the corporation officers having discussions with CMHC in Ottawa, we maintain very close communications with Ottawa and in fact there is a major meeting next week. In fact, CMHC have not yet agreed with us putting a limit on the maximum rent and if it had not been for the board of directors of the Housing Corporation supported by the staff of the corporation the maximum rents would be higher than they are now. Eventually it will come down to the territorial government paying extra money to the corporation in order to have that maximum rent of \$290 rather than the rent going up closer to the real cost. The real cost in most of the Arctic communities is something more than \$700 a month.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair recognizes the hour and we will break for coffee for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair recognizes a quorum. Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might ask the witnesses -- the earlier Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation program that came out was based on a ten per cent charge against municipalities for overruns as far as operation and maintenance are concerned. Are these contracts under renegotiation at this time or are we stuck with this forever and forever amen?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: At its board meeting yesterday the board decided to listen to the applications of municipalities which are still paying the ten per cent deficit for the operation of certain projects like senior citizens homes and to review them and to make a recommendation. The board of directors will then make a recommendation to the Executive Committee of the government as to whether or not this procedure should be changed since it has been changed on all recent arrangements.

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

MR. STEWART: Well, if we can not make a strong enough case to get the government to change it, is it possible that the government might allow the municipalities to have more control relative to the running of these establishments to protect our interests? If we have to pay ten per cent of the deficit we want to make damn sure who we get in there and we collect our rents.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: We could probably accommodate you by letting you continue to pay the ten per cent and have a larger voice.

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

MR. STEWART: It is always the government's song and dance that "he who pays the piper calls the tune" and I wonder if that holds true further down the line. It generally does not hold true.

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

Pensioners Who Own Their Own Homes

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask a question. Part of this was talked about, the home owners who are not working with the government were talked about. I want to ask about the old age pensioners. There must be some people who get the old age pension and have a home of their own. Do these people get help too?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Did you get the question, Deputy Commissioner Parker? Do old age pensioners who own their own home get this too?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, old age pensioners who own their own home do not get help through the Housing Corporation, but they may well get assistance from the Department of Social Services or from the municipalities in which they live. Some municipalities offer a reduction in their taxes.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Others do not.

MR. KILABUK: Mr. Chairman, my dad gets the old age pension and he pays his own electrical bills and rent by himself without any help. I was wondering if he could get some help from the government?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: He would have to get help from the Department of Social Services I believe. There is no program that I know of in the Housing Corporation if he does not live in a Housing Corporation house.

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

Chairman Of The Housing Corporation

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, the question I had for Deputy Commissioner Parker is, appreciating as we do that Deputy Commissioner Parker will be taking the position of Commissioner on April 15, will he be continuing as chairman of the Housing Corporation thereafter? If not, what are his current thoughts with respect to who might occupy that position?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, as Commissioner I do not propose to continue to be chairman of the board of the Housing Corporation. It remains a very great interest of mine but I do not think it would be appropriate either from a workload standpoint or from a reporting relationship standpoint. The change-over to a new chairman may not take place immediately on April 15, but very soon thereafter. I will be discussing this with Members of the Executive Committee but I would propose that the chairmanship be taken by a senior person within the administration.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I wonder if the board of directors of the Housing Corporation have any thoughts on the subject that have been communicated to Deputy Commissioner Parker. In other words, have they made a recommendation?

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

Chairmanship Should Be Held By A Person From The Government

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the subject was discussed at our recently concluded board meeting and at that meeting there were no specific recommendations made, but I did outline my thinking as to the kind of a person that the chairman must be. I advised that for some time I had felt the chairmanship must continue to be held by a person from the government because the Housing Corporation is funded 100 per cent by the government; that is, the government at two levels and it is a creature of this Legislature. It is a territorial corporation and it must be operated very much in accordance with the wishes of the Legislature and with the wishes of the Executive Committee. I see the appointment of the chairman having been one of the prime ways in which the message of the Legislature and the Executive Committee may be communicated to the Housing Corporation.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Just to finish up that line of questioning if I may, Mr. Chairman, I concur with the reasons stated by Deputy Commissioner Parker, the requirement to interpret the wishes of the Legislature, but I guess I am not convinced that the chairman need necessarily be a public servant or civil servant, in other words, an employee of the administration. I think that such a person might come also from this House or you might find some outstanding person in the private sector who could just as easily interpret the wishes of government but bring the necessary skills of management and direction to bear. If it is the policy that this Housing Corporation act more like a corporation than an arm of government -- I guess that is a question I have. Is it the policy of this government that the Housing Corporation act like a corporation, or like an arm of government?

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

Closely Allied To The Government

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I guess the answer is both. The Housing Corporation is an arm of government. Its job is not simply the provision of housing. Its job is the provision of housing following certain very important rules and procedures, that is, the provision of housing built in such a fashion that it maximizes northern employment, it meets certain social needs and, therefore, it has a life of its own as a corporation. It is indeed a separate entity, but having said that, it is so very closely allied to government and it is not as if it were carrying out a rather simpler function, such as the function of transportation or the function of manufacturing something. Since it has such an impact on so many of the activities within the Northwest Territories it seems that it has to remain very closely related to government.

I suppose it is for that reason that I think that the Executive Committee has to have some means of assuring itself that it has its own person very closely connected with the operation. On the plus side, of course, if a person who is senior in the government is associated with it then it can be assured of the proper kind of attention.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Well, I guess that there is where Deputy Commissioner Parker and I have a deep philosophical difference. I guess that is the only comment I can make.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, some brief remarks regarding the question by Hon. David Searle. I appreciated those comments because I am of the same opinion, maybe it is about time the Housing Corporation got its chairmanship from the private sector. I may pursue that matter later, but at the present time with regard to the stick building program or whatever you call it, does that have anything to do -- in this development will the Housing Corporation be using locally produced materials such as logs, timber, lumber and so on?

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

The Use Of Northern Produced Materials

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: When we refer to stick building, it is simply a term we use to define a construction method where we start with a bundle of lumber and work our way up as against a system of panelization or prefabrication where we build the component parts in a factory and then assemble them on the site. Stick building is building up from the ground up on the site. Now, the Housing Corporation at all times seeks to use as much northern produced material as possible. We are not in the log house building business except for one program whereby we make a grant to a person who is prepared to build for himself and own a small house which he can look after and very often that is a log house. Other than that we do buy or attempt to influence the people who are building Housing Corporation houses to purchase the materials produced in the territories.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I understand Deputy Commissioner Parker to say that where possible they will purchase locally produced materials. For example, if a group of people were to build a house under this stick building program from, say, Fort Good Hope, would they go to the sawmill at Norman Wells and seek the materials there?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the Housing Corporation does not build buildings itself, it does not act as its own contractor except perhaps on very rare occasions, and therefore we would seek to influence the contractor, whether the contractor is a regular construction company or a co-operative or local group of some description. We would hope to make it possible for them to use locally cut materials.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: In this case then, Mr. Chairman, would the administration tell me if for example again the Fort Good Hope people, or Fort Norman, or at Norman Wells, or Fort Simpson, a group of people or the housing association which are in these communities, if they decided that they should use local material to build houses and they put in such an application, could the administration tell me if this is allowed?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we would examine any proposals of that nature and try and take the most positive view possible if the buildings could be built within a reasonable budget. In fact, we are working with the Mackenzie Valley Housing Association very closely on a project at the present time.

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

#### Costs To The Private Owner

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, before we lose the discussion on private owners I would stress that it is important, I find it important that we have to assist private owners of the North. I really do not like the way the government is slowly taking over every lot in town through the Housing Corporation, through the corporations. It is becoming apparent that the government is owning all the land in the settlements and very little belongs to the people who live in the North. I feel that because of the attractive housing policies of the Housing Corporation that no one wants to own his own home. It is cheaper to live in public housing. There are a few people who have the pride and the guts to own their own home, but to do that they are penalized, if I may use that word, they have to do it at a cost and it costs the private owner a tremendous amount of money.

When you live in public housing it is not your house, it can be inspected at any time by the owner of the house and if you own your own home you do not have to tolerate anybody inspecting your own house. However, at the same time we have to pay the price for privacy, it seems. It costs so much in fuel, lights and the rest and if the government is going to give so much to these people who are living in public housing and nothing to the private owner, absolutely nothing, then I think perhaps we should be doing something about it. What I have here is a motion if you would care to entertain it, it goes like this.

#### Motion To Encourage Home Ownership By Tax Payments

I move that it be recommended to the administration that in order to encourage private ownership, property taxes payable by private home owners to local authorities in the Northwest Territories be borne by the government. Mr. Chairman, there is one way that we can help the private home owners of the North. They have never had any other help and we should be giving them this much.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): To the motion. I have Mr. Nickerson next on the list. Do I get new names for speaking on the motion? Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, the motion says that these taxes are to be paid for by the government. I presume that the intent is by the territorial government because certainly the municipal governments could not afford to do it. I just wanted to be sure that you defined what government you were referring to before I am prepared to discuss this motion. I would like clarification from the mover on which government he is talking about.

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

Motion Reworded

MR. STEEN: I should say the Government of the Northwest Territories. So, if you could add "Northwest Territories" to the motion, it will define what I mean.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Will we start amending like we did yesterday with that one motion which took about four hours? To the motion. The motion reads: I move that it be recommended to the administration that in order to encourage private home ownership, property taxes payable by private home owners to local authorities in the Northwest Territories be borne by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

MR. NICKERSON: It is unfortunate that we do not have the motion written down and circulated so we can see it in print. It appears that the motion seems to be asking the Government of the Northwest Territories to pay our local taxes, that is those of us who are property owners within municipalities within the Northwest Territories. I do not think, Mr. Chairman, I could support such a motion. I am a strong believer in strong local government and if we are to have strong local government then the municipal governments have to take it upon themselves the responsibility of taxing their citizens and practically the only avenue available to them at the present time is through property taxation. I think it is essential that local municipal residents should have to pay taxes to the municipality, otherwise the municipal government is not a real government at all because it does not have a system of checks and balances whereby for every dollar they spend in services, they have to raise a substantial amount from their own citizens which they would not find themselves able to do. They would end up as certain hamlet councils where they would be asking for more and more and more from senior governments. There has to be that system of checks and balances if a government is to be a real government. That would be the reason behind the fact that I could not support such a motion, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, just speaking to the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Speak up.

Summary Of Sources Of Income

MR. FRASER: Speaking to the motion, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if possibly the Deputy Commissioner could tell us, from page (iii) in the budget when we come to revenues, how much of this money is collected from taxes. Perhaps we should know that before we can put a motion across or otherwise we would be voting more money.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, is the Member speaking of page (iii) in the little blue book, or whose page three are you on? Oh, that one, just a minute. Do you mean page 1.07?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, in the summary page on income on page (iii) of the 1979-80 estimates under revenues.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Which part are you asking about?

MR. FRASER: I am asking about the taxes. The motion reads that the government subsidize taxes, land taxes. Where does it fit into that source of revenue?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, land taxes are paid either to the territorial government if the settlement is not a municipality or if it is a hamlet, or the taxes are paid directly to villages, towns and the city. The taxes that are collected from taxation areas payable to the territorial government, that is, land taxes amount to \$350,000 in our 1979-80 forecast of revenues.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Deputy Commissioner Parker. Mr. Stewart to the motion.

#### Resident Taxes Only

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, the remarks of Mr. Nickerson were very interesting and indeed partially true but I underline "partially" inasmuch as I understand this motion, it would be only the taxes on your residence and other properties that were held for commercial properties or other things would be taxed in the normal way. It would be just the residence that the home owner lives in, so his statement is partly true. I think there could be enough countercheck left, so I think we could still keep in balance in the municipalities. It is important that we do this but I do not think this particular motion would necessarily negate that balance.

I am not sure that this is the best way of approaching the subject of some assistance to the individual home owners, but inasmuch as it is the first thing that has come by way of motion in front of the House I am prepared to support it and if this is not the right avenue, then possibly the administration would be able to come back with some other ideas on how we might accomplish what we are really trying to do and that is to give some assistance to the individual home owners in the Northwest Territories. On that basis, I am prepared to support the motion and hope that if this is not the right way -- we do not know how much money we are talking about and it is kind of a blind alley we are going into. We have not got a clue but it will at least indicate to the administration that we are serious about doing something for the private home owners. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. STEEN: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Steen, just one minute. Mr. Fraser. You will be winding up the debate, Mr. Steen.

#### Settlements Paying Taxes

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to support the motion 100 per cent because I believe only a few of the settlements in the Northwest Territories, including the Arctic and the Mackenzie Valley, pay taxes. I think most of them are supported or subsidized by the government in some way or other or supported by the government. I would like to know how many of these settlements are paying taxes and how many of them are not. Maybe that would be a good figure to work on and see actually how many settlements. I forget how many there are in the whole of the Northwest Territories, but there are probably more that are not paying taxes than the ones that are. I wonder maybe if we could get a figure on that, Mr. Chairman?



DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, there is a little problem having this debate with us as witnesses because the subject does not really have a bearing on the Housing Corporation. In other words, we can not do this. The motion of course is addressed to government.

MR. STEWART: That is the problem, Deputy Commissioner Parker, wearing two hats at the same time at the same table.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: No, no!

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

Various Ways And Means Of Assisting Home Owners.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would support a motion that recommends the examination of ways and means of providing assistance to home owners which examination may result in suggestions such as the specific one put forward in the motion by Mr. Steen. The difficulty I have with this motion is, I am not exactly sure of the implications. We do not know, for instance, how much money would be involved here with the territorial government rebating, in effect, such sums to taxpayers. We are certainly uncertain whether or not the territorial government which gets most of its money from the federal government could obtain money for such purposes and indeed I am doubtful that it could. As I understand it the thrust has been continually in the opposite direction, to require citizens who want more and more authority over this government and the municipal level of government to raise more and more taxes. At the same time, however, I do appreciate personally, I may say, what it is like to have to pay a \$120 a month for power and \$200 a month for heat and I know what it is like to pay \$100 a month for taxes, etc. I appreciate very much what a burden it is on someone who does own his own home in this territory.

So I guess my problem is that I would have wished that Mr. Steen would have put forward a motion in more general terms that would ask to look at the various ways and means of assisting the home owners rather than a specific one which could be entirely impractical, though it could be practical. Though I think I share Mr. Stewart's feelings that the objective is a good one, I do not share Mr. Stewart's support of this particular motion, in that I would have sooner seen it, as I said, a little more general in nature.

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I had a couple of questions on it. I am not sure the mover mentioned all municipalities or all communities in the territories because in taxation areas outside of municipalities, those areas that are being taxed, there is a school levy. In municipalities there is a municipal maintenance tax, if you like, and a school levy. I would be concerned about how within local government at the municipal level or outside municipalities pay their way. I am concerned as well that there is Tabled Document 20-67 that has been in the Members' possession that deals with responsibility and local revenue. I think that this particular motion would be more appropriate to the direction of the tabled document, the Department of Local Government's Direction for the 1980's in agenda Item 11, for consideration in committee of the whole. There is Tabled Document 10-67 dealing with the proposed ordinance respecting hamlets. There are a number of particular items that we have yet to address ourselves to that deal with this.

I think the government, the administration has taken the kinds of comments and concerns that have been raised here and I indicated that when I was dealing with Local Government, that we had these particular papers ready to discuss. I agree with the Deputy Commissioner that we are talking about two different things. We are talking about the Housing Corporation. I had indicated when we were dealing with the Department of Local Government that we were putting a proposal in that would go to some degree to accommodate what is being

discussed here and to make the shift of emphasis of taxation away from the property owner, towards a property users' tax. I thought that this committee was going to discuss this in committee of the whole in relation to the total direction of the government and specifically that of local government in the area of responsibility and local revenue for municipalities, for all areas of the territories.

#### Local Governments Should Take On More Responsibility

I would think, Mr. Chairman, with all due respect that the motion is out of order, that it should be in terms of discussion at a time when we are dealing with these papers. Otherwise, upon your direction, that is the committee, I might as well take the papers we are discussing or we were going to discuss and file them in file 13 or wherever it is, the wastepaper basket because the work you asked us to do you have not looked at, obviously.

There is not much sense in discussing it because that is the basis of it, the emphasis of shifting responsibility or of local government, regardless of the area, regardless of its size or stature and the people in those local governments should begin to take on more responsibility in paying their way. This, although it deals with a specific smaller group of only home residence, that it would have implications toward the total picture of Local Government's Direction for the 1980's, that I tabled and the accompanying documents that I tabled which I indicated or made a motion we would move into the committee of the whole to discuss. I am prepared, the administration is prepared, to lay a proposed policy to get your recommendations on it, but we were going to go into the whole aspect of this particular topic on its own and not in relation to the Housing Corporation.

#### A Policy Of The Housing Corporation

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Really on the first page of the budget summary, the following sentence in the first paragraph says: "The corporation provides support to local housing associations and encourages home ownership in the Northwest Territories." That probably keeps this motion in order as that is one of their policies and this deals with a way possibly to encourage that policy. However, your point is well taken. It may well be better debated under the other paper, but Mr. Steen, it is up to you I think to decide whether you want to withdraw it and bring it back at that time or proceed with it now.

MR. STEEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, the reason I guess I introduced it at this time is because the subject of home ownership came up and I am prepared to withdraw it providing I get the Members' vote at the time.

---Laughter

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The Chair can not guarantee you will get the vote of the committee, I am sorry.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, I really believe that Hon. David Searle has a point to consider but we have been examining home ownership for a long time under the Housing Corporation at the board of directors, and it comes up at every meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I asked you a question. You are not the speaker and if you are going to speak now you close debate. Do you wish to withdraw your motion or proceed with it; yes or no?

MR. STEEN: I would rather proceed with it at this time because I think I have most of the Members on my side.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): That is a very dangerous thing to say, Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Yes, I know.

Cost Of Living In A Three Bedroom Home

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): To the motion. I have as the next speaker, Mr. Lyall.

MR. LYALL: Mr. Chairman, although I agree with the concept of the motion, if it happens that there is a split vote and I must vote for it while I am in the chair, I will have to vote against it because of the fact that although lots of us in the Central Arctic might like to own our own homes I did a study on a three bedroom house in 1978, whether it was feasible for me to own a house at the time or not. In 1978, although the prices were a lot lower for fuel, water, sewage and electricity at that time when I did my study on this one particular house I found that to be able to afford to live in that house your utilities and mortgage would be \$600 and more likely in this day and age where prices are so high that you can not even see over the top of them, it is more likely that that same house today would cost you in the neighbourhood of \$950 for utilities and mortgage. So, I would just like to put this on the record that when I get back in the chair, that if the vote is tied I will be voting against the motion.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Arnold McCallum has told the committee of the interrelationship between this motion...

Motion To Encourage Home Ownership By Tax Payments, Withdrawn

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Excuse me but the mover has indicated that he wishes to withdraw the motion at this time. The motion is withdrawn.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Comments of a general nature. I had a list but it has been thrown out by the last chairman.

---Laughter

Could I have comments of a general nature? Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I have a question of the administration with regard to the Honourable Member from the Western Arctic to get some kind of assistance for the private home owner. I would like to ask the administration if they are accepting the resolutions, or some of the resolutions that were passed at the Hay River Housing Association on December 4, 1978 where it was said that fuel oil and power and water costs be subsidized or that that expense be borne by the Housing Corporation. Are they by any chance adopting this resolution?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I felt that I dealt with that subject earlier when we were talking about the subsidization of utilities.

This was the recommendation of the conference that was held in Hay River and it is a recommendation that we are taking very seriously. Our first action will be to try and implement a scheme for charging for electricity that I outlined earlier and once we have done that then I am sure we will be looking at the same sort of approach for water service and heating oil.

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

Incentive To Home Ownership

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I guess I was out and did not hear this but I appreciate the administration looking at this matter seriously because that resolution dealt specifically with the Housing Corporation. If I am not correct, I would like to be corrected, but I felt this was the right and proper move to take, whereby home ownership can be encouraged. For that reason I felt that I should follow Mr. Nickerson's suggestion very closely when the debate took place on it regarding the motion. Now, perhaps we could make a strong recommendation to the administration that this one particular resolution be adopted by the administration simply because that is an incentive to home ownership. I am not introducing a motion here or anything but I wonder if that particular resolution can be tabled in the House some time during the life of this session.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, all I wanted to ask is since the Housing Corporation put out a competition for a district person within this area at one point in time and I am of the understanding that they withdrew it but again they are thinking of putting it back out and that this district would include Rae Lakes, Lac la Martre, Snare Lake, Snowdrift and Yellowknife. One thing I do hope that the Housing Corporation take into consideration is that because of the problems we have had with tuberculosis, housing conditions, these kinds of things, that the Housing Corporation really look at that position in terms of trying to get someone who would be able to understand that particular area so that those people can be better served.

The other question I do have is of the housing training program which is to the tune of \$300,000. I am quite concerned that the training seems to be going on and on and on and when will someone become qualified? I guess my second question with regard to that, surely after a number of years on a training program you eventually get someone to be the person for that particular job.

The third question that I have, Mr. Chairman, is simply about the senior citizens where we have in our budget \$150,000 for furnishings. I think that a lot of times these people are overlooked and people just tend to believe that these people are just as happy with a bed and perhaps a chair and maybe perhaps a table and I would hope that the administration is looking into that to make sure that these people would have a bit more than that.

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

Needs Of The Elderly Will Be Attended To

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we are still recruiting for the position for this region and I can assure the Member that the person we recruit will be properly experienced and undoubtedly a northerner. I do not think that the second question was a question, more of a comment. The third one, had regard to furniture. The Housing Corporation supplies or has a very minimal budget for furnishings but between the Housing Corporation and Social Services we would certainly look after the needs of elderly people.

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): On a point of order, Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: On a point of order. The two Members who last spoke were quite concerned and we have been talking in caucus and talking all week that we are trying to get this budget, the work we have to do, get it finished. Deputy Commissioner Parker, in his opening comments, answered all these questions and if these guys were not here to listen to it then they should make it a point to stay here and listen so we do not have to go through the same thing over and over.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. WHITFORD: The question I was asking on the training program was a question.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we have an active training program and a person who is in the training program if he becomes trained and qualified, then obviously that person takes over a continuing job.

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

Motion To Have Housing Corporation Chairman From The Private Sector

MR. NICKERSON: I want to put a motion to the committee, Mr. Chairman, and the motion is this: I move that this committee recommends that the next chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation not be a person in the employ of the public service of either the Northwest Territories or of Canada.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Nickerson, could I have your motion, please? I noticed the slow-down sign was up when this was being read so I will read it over again. I move that this committee recommends that the next chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation not be a person in the employ of the public service of either the Northwest Territories or of Canada. Is the motion understood? Speaking to the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question being called. Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if I have a right to speak to this or not but I do have one comment that I would like to make but I would have to ask for your indulgence.

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

---Agreed

A Non-profit Organization

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Thank you very much. My comment to this motion is further to the comments Hon. David Searle made and I wish that I had found a chance to make them while he was still here, when the motion had not yet been put forward. Very nice -- Hon. David Searle has appeared. My comment is this, I do not think there is a big philosophical difference between the two of us in our approach to the Housing Corporation. I think that we are both very much thinking along the same lines. One of the major reasons that I have given for not proposing at this time to have a non-government person chair the board is that the Housing Corporation is not a corporation which can ever expect to make a profit and it is very difficult to measure the operation of the Housing Corporation as you would ordinarily measure corporations.

It is a corporation which is providing social housing under the direction of the Executive Committee and this House. You can not, therefore, require the chairman to show that the corporation is breaking even or reaching an objective of showing a profit. It can not be separated off from the government. It is indeed an integral part of the government. We might be fortunate in finding a private person who could as chairman bring together the elements of operation of the corporation so that it would meet the objectives but I am not sure that that private person, at least certainly not initially, would have the understanding necessary as to what had to be achieved.

My other point is that the corporation can not exist on its own because of the intertwining with government. I do not think that this House wants to see any more duplication in the public service than is absolutely necessary, certainly I do not want to see it. It is therefore necessary for the corporation to work very, very closely with the Departments of Local Government, Social Services, Health and Public Works in particular. I simply feel that for the next few years this can be best achieved by having a chairman who is part of that structure.

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

#### The Need For A Private Individual As Chairman

MR. NICKERSON: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, that I would beg to differ with the reasoning propounded by the present chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation who has told us he will be giving up his position shortly to go on to bigger and better things. I have heard the same arguments advanced on numerous occasions with respect to other organizations in the Northwest Territories. We have been told that within the private citizenry of the Northwest Territories we do just not have the understanding or the ability or the competency to undertake these tasks. That has been shown to be a false supposition, Mr. Chairman. For instance, the Northwest Territories Water Board seems to be working exceptionally well with a private person as chairman. In my estimation it is working much better now than it ever did when we had government people chairing the board.

Private individuals are not obliged to follow necessarily the policies laid down by the Minister in Ottawa. They are in a position whereby if they disagree with such policies they can speak out against them. They might not be able to change them, but they do not have to be tied down by that type of thing. I am sure that we have people, ordinary citizens of the Northwest Territories, those people not involved with government who have the competency, who have the interest and who have the expertise to carry on this type of job. We have a very competent general manager of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation now and he has at his disposal equally competent and experienced staff. So the chairman no longer has to assume these administrative and managerial technical types of duties. His reason for being is now much different than that because we have this competent staff. I am very pleased to see we have that because now it is no longer necessary to have a public servant chairing the organization.

#### Profit Motive Not Always Necessary

This argument is always advanced, that ordinary people in the territories are not capable of doing these things and experience has shown that this is not true at all. We have only to look at the person who will in the very near future be assuming the duties of Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. This is a gentleman who was taken out of private life. I am sure at that time there were lots of people then in Ottawa who said; "There is no way this gentleman is going to work out. He is from the Northwest Territories and is not part of government. He does not understand." Experience has shown that he does understand and I have every confidence in his abilities and I am sure he will make a good Commissioner. I am equally sure people taken out of private life in the Northwest Territories would make an equally good chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

I think that anybody who has ever looked into the Housing Corporation, it does not take them very long to understand what the reason for it is. Experience on other boards has shown you can take people out of private industry where the prime operative factor is the profit motive and put them into an organization where that is not the case and it only takes a very short period of time to realize that fact and to change their modus operandi accordingly. I do not think that is really a valid reason for not going along with this motion.

I do not think that any of us here have any difficulty understanding what the role of the corporation is. It is quite plain to see in fact. This idea of the intertwining, as it was put, between various government departments and agencies, it has some benefits. The idea of interlocking directorships is very well known and well established as a Canadian way of doing things and it has certain advantages. But I would like to see an intertwining not merely between various governmental departments, whether they be territorial or federal or crown corporations or other crown agencies, but I would like to see an intertwining between both the government and private citizens. I think that this can be accomplished with the hiring or with the appointment of an independent person as the chairman of the Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### A Strong Board Of Directors

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member had a motion on the floor, a straightforward motion. I can not see anything wrong with the motion. I will vote for the motion. If there is any way possible that the chairman of the Housing Corporation can see of putting a private member in there I think he would go along with it. I think he was appointed to the position as chairman, but you have a pretty strong board and I think the motion is straightforward. Why do we not just call the question and vote on it and see what happens? If it does not go through, fine. If it goes through, it is up to the Housing Corporation to look for a chairman who is not attached to the territorial government.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, I will certainly support that motion. I have been listening very carefully to the arguments of the mover of the motion and the chairman of the board and referring back to what the chairman said, it is a non-profit organization. We all realize that it can not make any money. One of the things that shows right here in the estimates before us is the wages or salaries which have increased, manpower has increased. When I look at these figures that have almost doubled in the year and I ask myself what is growing? Is it the staff that is growing or the housing that is growing? It seems, Mr. Chairman, that the Housing Corporation of the Northwest Territories is more like the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. It keeps growing in staff and these people are asking for more and more money and in the end it is the taxpayer...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): To the motion, Mr. Lafferty, please. You are going away from the motion.

MR. LAFFERTY: I am addressing myself to the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): You may be addressing yourself to it, but you are not talking about it.

MR. LAFFERTY: I indicated I support the motion wholeheartedly, 100 per cent and the principal thing I was talking about was in relation to the motion. I am not out of order, I think that is what the Rule says. Mr. Chairman, we have a doubling budget and that has nothing to do with the chairmanship, but I think we should have a private person, a citizen from the public at large in the Northwest Territories who knows something about northern businesses. That does not mean to say they could not work in the best interest of the government. I think they will do that. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Nickerson, would you like to wind up? Hon. Tom Butters.

Present Members Of The Board Are From The Private Sector.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the honourable mover of the motion directed his support of the motion to two areas. He had a lot to say about the competence of the chairman of the board and suggested that there were people within the private sector who were competent too. I do not think that is the argument. I think we recognize there are competent people within government and there are competent people in the private sector. This argument with regard to competency I think obscures the main argument and the position being put by the Deputy Commissioner. The board, at the current time I believe, is almost totally composed of private individuals, private people from the private sector. It includes two Members from this House who are private business people. Mr. Forrest, as I understand it, is not an employee of the government, he is an employee of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. He owes no loyalty to the government.

So, at the present time, the one factor that joins the private sector to the government in providing social housing, not private housing, but social housing, subsidized housing in the Northwest Territories is the chairman. As the chairman pointed out there are three major program departments of this government who are keenly involved in the provision of such housing, Local Government, Social Services and the service department, the Department of Public Works. So, I think that the Members will be making a very grave mistake if they support this motion without thinking it out clearly and understanding the consequences of divorcing the government dimension from the Housing Corporation at this time. You will recollect the chairman was not saying that some time down the road this would occur but possibly just not now. I suggest that Members consider very carefully what they do before they vote.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The motion reads as follows: I move that this committee recommend that the next chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation not be a person in the employ of the public services of either the Northwest Territories or of Canada. Mr. Stewart.

Government Influence Needed For Another Year.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, I find myself in a very difficult position because I believe basically in the intent of the mover of this motion to divorce the government as much as possible from the business aspect. However, having said that my personal feeling is that the Housing Corporation is still in the cradle stage, it has not developed, it is in the embryo stage, they have not got their full act together yet by quite a long way. They have a long way to go yet.

Now, the intertwining Deputy Commissioner Parker indicated I think is a very real thing. If this House wants the Housing Corporation to do its bidding on employing local people, on purchasing local material, then I think we are going to have to have very strong direction taken into that body by the chairman acting on our behalf to see that this is done. If you get a private person in there, a private



businessman, his job is to deliver as cheaply as possible as many houses as possible and I am afraid that you would defeat a great amount of what you are trying to accomplish in your Housing Corporation. If it goes completely private then their job is to get the most houses for the least money and if you do that you are cutting out everything you are trying to put on stream. That is why the government influence has to remain in there for a while until we get this thing down the line far enough to be able to prove that for one, we can build houses in the Northwest Territories and number two, we can use local material.

At this stage we have not proven either and unless we have a chairman who is dedicated to seeing that this is done then we are going to lose a great deal. I am afraid that you can not necessarily count on a private entrepreneur being put in that position because he is running a corporation and his job is to get the most for the least if he is doing his job and he can not undertake to do the things you want done, at least I do not think he can and that is why you need that government influence therefore, for at least another year.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

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

A Recommendation To The Administration

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would say from listening to the motion, it is a recommendation and I wonder to whom, if it is a recommendation to the administration to press that particular point, I have no hesitation in taking that recommendation to the administration. I am sure that other Members of the administration would not either, would not be adverse to that as well. I think that in terms of what the Member from Hay River, as well as other Members have indicated, that these are valid points. I would want to personally take the recommendations, as I do from any other motion which comes from the committee to the administration when we do sit as an Executive and press those particular points. Whether this is the time to make that particular change, when we are attempting -- we will get into a new situation within the advent of a new total Legislature, hopefully very soon, and this would be a point that I would be prepared to move and it simply follows in taking the Executive responsibility by Executive Members for many different departments. I would hope that we would be able to press that particular issue and then move on into other aspects of government concern.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Seeing that the Commissioner makes the appointment I think that your concern, Hon. Arnold McCallum, is that "I move that this committee recommend to the Commissioner." Would that be it? Mr. Nickerson, are you satisfied with that?

Motion Reworded

MR. NICKERSON: I would be amenable to amending the motion that way that it be a recommendation to the Executive Committee. That would appear to be self-apparent, Mr. Chairman, but if that is not the case, I would be quite amenable to that amendment.

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

MR. NICKERSON: I would like to wind up and if there are any other speakers, I will defer.

MR. STEWART: The clock.

Not Just A Recommendation For The Future

MR. NICKERSON: In speaking briefly in the process of winding up, Mr. Chairman, I would take a certain amount of exception to Hon. Tom Butters' remarks that I want people to vote on this motion or any other motion put before the committee or the House without thinking about it. Obviously that is why you put a motion to the committee so that people do have the opportunity to think about it. I also fail to understand how Hon. Tom Butters can say that on the face of it that it would appear to be a good recommendation for the future, we can not obviously do it now but it might make sense some time to come. This is precisely what I am trying to put across to the Executive Committee. It is a recommendation to them, it is something that they should keep in mind and if they have good and valid reason why they can not accept the recommendation of this committee at the present time then it is up to them. It is a matter of their conscience and a matter of their wisdom to set aside the recommendation but certainly that is not a reason why this House should not make the recommendation at the present time. I think that the Hon. Arnold McCallum is correct in the things he says. He has recognized this motion for what it is, an indication from this committee that we wish the Executive to proceed in this direction, that is precisely what it says.

Now, I know at one time there was some thought given to the appointment of a Member of this House to the chairmanship of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. I think that the way that this might have gone about would be for a Member of this House to be appointed to the Executive Committee and one of his responsibilities would be as chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. I think that this suggestion makes a lot of sense. This is the type of thing that I would like to see. Were this to take place the Member so appointed would not be a public servant in the employ of either the territorial or federal government, he would be an elected person and responsible to this House, directly so, not responsible to the Minister as is the case with the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner. I think he would be in a much better position to relay to the Housing Corporation the wishes of the Legislature, if anyone is wise enough to be able to figure out what they are, because I am sure that after having listened to the debate this afternoon I do not really know what direction this House would like the corporation to go in, but that is the type of set-up, the type of solution that I would like to see attempted. Now, all of this is encompassed in the motion and I for the life of me can not see any valid objection to this type of approach and this recommendation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

Motion To Have Housing Corporation Chairman From The Private Sector, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question being called. All in favour of the motion? Six. Oh God! Against? Three. The motion is carried.

---Carried

We recognize the clock and will break for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The Chair recognizes a quorum and calls this committee back to order. Thank you very much, Hon. David Searle. Mr. Stewart.

A Dry Kiln Plant Needed In The N.W.T.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, just one point I would like to make relative to the question that was asked or the witnesses relative to the use of local materials in the Northwest Territories. The problem as I see it with using the local lumber industry in the territories is that they do not have a quality product and the main reason they do not have a quality product of course is because the lumber is green and there are no drying facilities within the territories. I think we must recognize this when we are talking about the use of local materials. At the present time in most cases the lumber does not meet the standards and if we are indeed to pay further than lip service to the use of local materials, we have to look at two possibilities. One is the location of a dry kiln plant somewhere in a central location or we have to look at purchasing the lumber in the rough form and dry piling it from one year and then planing it out in the next spring and then this lumber would be of a quality to meet the requirements.

I think we have really got to, coupled with housing projects and everything, realize that we would be well advised to see which one of these two programs are the best from an economic standpoint and put one of them as a matter of policy so we can really use local products from our timber industry rather than say we are going to try because in so many instances you can not put a green two-by-four into the wall of a prefab house and expect it to stand up. It will not do it. So you do one of two things, you either must import your lumber, get dried lumber or you use green lumber and construct a poor grade home and certainly we do not want to be responsible for constructing a poor grade home so we must do something about getting this lumber dried, either by the kiln method or by dry piling it for a year. Thank you.

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

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I realize what the Member is trying to say but he probably knows just as well as I do that in Yellowknife, a lot of the houses in Yellowknife and Fort Resolution were built from lumber that was cut right on the mouth of the Slave River. At one point there were five sawmills operating at the mouth of the Slave River and they did not have any drying facilities at that time but they put out pretty good lumber and most of that lumber came to Yellowknife and was used here in Yellowknife. I do not know if the manufacturers have changed their style of building but I think that the lumber could still be put out without the drying facilities and maybe I am wrong and I do not know what I am talking about but how could it be good 35 or 40 years ago and no good now. I can not understand the Members' thinking of it drying out, that process.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. I guess there was no booze in the territories at that time so everything got dry.

MR. STEWART: In those days they had five mills and they were dry piling the lumber for a year and it was seasoned but we do not have that situation any more and we have logs going bang straight into two-by-fours and we do not have that any more.

N.W.T. Housing Corporation, Total O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Page 1.07, total O and M, \$16,704,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Mr. Nickerson, please.

MR. NICKERSON: On a number of occasions we have talked about a building code for the Northwest Territories, it could differ somewhat from the building codes that we have in effect at the present time. I understand that the Housing Corporation has looked into this matter and that they have thoughts on the subject. I wonder if the managing director who is an expert in the field of housing construction techniques and building codes, whether he has any recommendations in this regard.

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

MR. FORREST: Mr. Chairman, in response to the Member's question we are actively as a corporation meeting with CMHC who is a partner in any revisions to the national building code and we are developing in principle with them a concept of a building code for the Northwest Territories and only for the Northwest Territories. Not in the form of an amendment but in the form of a residential building code for the Northwest Territories.

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

MR. NICKERSON: What would be the major areas in which a code specifically designed for the Northwest Territories would differ from the national building code?

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

MR. FORREST: Number one, the spatial requirements in the living and active areas and secondly in the sleeping areas. From a technical point of view, insulation, we are currently constructing our 1979 building program with about 40 per cent above requirement in the field of insulation. More particularly the health standards as required in the physical form by the national building code are inadequate for the Northwest Territories, so while we are overdesigning in this area, it is in an effort for the economy of the house in the long run, number one, and also to upgrade the health standard of the house.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Forrest. \$16,704,000. Mr. Nickerson.

The Global Funding System

MR. NICKERSON: Just one last question, Mr. Chairman. We dealt very, very briefly at the last session with a motion put forward by Mr. Whitford who was then a Member of the Housing Corporation's board asking the Government of Canada to ameliorate funding proposals. I do not think that any of the Members really have had time to study in detail what we were requesting at that time. Now we have learned that CMHC has proposed a system of what they call global funding and that would have given rise to some difficulties as far as the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation was concerned with their finances. I wonder if we could briefly be advised as to what the global funding system was all about and how the difficulties that might have arisen have been brought around in the Northwest Territories.

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

MR. FORREST: Mr. Chairman, the board of directors of the Housing Corporation has instructed the administration to pursue the motion made in this House in the October sitting and as a result of that motion put forward a letter addressed to the Commissioner, dated November and signed by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs and stated that our funding would not be in jeopardy for the year 1979 for our construction program through CMHC funding, but gave us little encouragement as to what was going to happen in 1980. Further to our board's instructions we are meeting with the president of CMHC and the minister responsible, a week from Monday to put forward to the president of CMHC a recommendation that a new methodology of financing housing in the Northwest Territories be brought about.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Mr. Forrest. Any other questions?

N.W.T. Housing Corporation, Total Capital, Agreed

Total capital, \$6,077,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

N.W.T. Housing Corporation, Total Expenditures, Agreed

Total expenditures, \$22,781,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

That completes the Housing Corporation. What is the wish of the administration?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that in fact completes...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): I am sorry, but I would like to thank the witnesses. Thank you very much, Mr. Forrest.

---Applause

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think that completes Bill 7-67, the Appropriation Ordinance. Before we leave it and you report it ready for third reading, there are two changes in the Schedule on page two of the bill, Mr. Chairman, the appropriation under item seven, Public Works should now read \$50,031,000, so that the total operation and maintenance should read \$237,027,000. On page three the total appropriations should now read \$294,114,000. Is that copacetic?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Shall we go clause by clause then?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: One piece of unfinished business. There was a request from Mr. Nickerson which has not been fulfilled yet and that is the statement of the Tuktoyaktuk fur garment shop. I think I could probably bring it in when we discuss the supplementary estimates on the revolving fund, which would be pertinent. There are two other questions. One, I can find no written commitment to Rae to open a canvas shop there and two, I will advise the Member from the Western Arctic regarding the purpose to which the Fort Franklin community will be putting the sawmill but I do not have that yet. Therefore there is only one thing to bring back and that is the Tuktoyaktuk balance sheet.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Thank you, Hon. Tom Butters. Shall we go clause by clause?

---Agreed

Clause 2, amount granted for 1979-80. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: We should make that change then, Mr. Chairman. It should then read \$294,114,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The amount is \$294,114,000. Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Could we have the revised figure for the total revenue, please, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I am trying to find it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Mr. Nickerson, could you give a direction as to what page that is on please?

Changes In Total Income.

MR. NICKERSON: Roman numeral (vi), total income, not necessarily revenue. Obviously revenues will be affected but the total income is the figure I am trying to get. We were advised, Mr. Chairman, when we first had a discussion on this bill by the Assistant Commissioner that there might be some changes in this figure. Negotiations were still being conducted with the Government of Canada regarding the total amounts of money that might be forthcoming from them with the result that by the time we got to the end of our debate on the budget what apparently is a deficit budget would now be a budget with a balance and I am just hoping that is now the case.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, I understand what Mr. Nickerson is getting at. What I believe was said by the Assistant Commissioner was that although we were presenting a deficit budget, we were going to have to trim from the operating budget close to three million dollars which we may find later in the year can be restored if we get the approval which we anticipate receiving to transfer from our capital account to our operating account. The review of those figures is still being conducted and I can not advise you of a different figure at this time. There is, though, a correction in the income figure. In saying that I have to remind Members that the figures we bring forward under sources of income are only estimates. They can not be firm. They can only be projections of our income and we have already indicated that the totals should go up by \$300,000 which is an extra transfer from the federal government under our deficit grant in highways. In addition, a more recent estimate on our transfer under income tax I believe is \$21,600,000 rather than \$20,406,000.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: It is almost academic whether we draw up a new total at this stage for our total income figure because of it being an estimate or projection but the two changes I have outlined are two that are firm at this stage, that is, the additional \$300,000 and the change in income tax from \$20,406,000 to \$21,600,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Clause 2, as amended on page one. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Taking that into consideration now the anticipated revenue would be \$292,757,000, is that correct, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we have a projection on page (vi) of \$290,957,000 and if you add \$300,000 you would get \$291,257,000 and add \$1,200,000 to the revenue from income tax and I make that \$292,457,000. Does that jibe with the Member?

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

Motion To Amend Clause 2 Of Bill 7-67.

MR. NICKERSON: That being the case, Mr. Chairman, I move in clause 2, that the figure of \$294,114,000 be struck out and replace it by the number \$292,457,000.

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

MR. NICKERSON: The intent of this motion very simply is so that we are not engaging in a deficit budget. The reduction is of the order of \$1.5 million. We have been told by the Deputy Commissioner that in all probability they will have to shave some three million dollars off the budget we have just been through. So, we would not be interfering in any way with the administration of the government and if they are fortunate enough to be able to scrape up this additional money they will of course be able to come to this House again with supplementary estimates. Very simply, Mr. Chairman, I am not prepared at the present point in time for this House to approve a deficit budget. I doubt very much whether we have the constitutional authority to do so, Mr. Chairman.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I am afraid that the point that is being missed here is that we work with a total fiscal framework and within our total fiscal framework we have the resources to make the expenditures that are outlined to you in this budget. The manner in which we conclude any one fiscal year varies each year according to the ability to spend and the forecasts of revenue and these can not be that finely tuned. I submit to you that we are not being irresponsible, we are being responsible, your Executive Committee has reviewed the spending pattern and concludes that it is a necessary spending pattern and taking into consideration the money which we had on hand at the start of the year and the money at hand which we will have at the end of the year, we have the necessary funds to support this budget. I had hoped that that concept would be one that would be understood and accepted. Therefore, I do not see that it serves a useful purpose for this House to restrict the spending, to restrict the manoeuvrability of the Executive Committee by filling in an arbitrary figure.

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

An Arbitrary Figure

MR. NICKERSON: That is an unfair comment. That is not an arbitrary figure, it is the figure we have been given as the projected revenues to the Government of the Northwest Territories. It is not arbitrary at all, it is the figure that you yourselves have given us and if there is money left over from last year, Mr. Chairman, money that the Government of Canada has authorized the Government of the Northwest Territories to spend then it should be so shown in these accounts and we will know it is there and we ourselves can vote on the expenditure of those public funds.

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

MR. STEWART: I think we get into a rather peculiar technical problem on this if we were to approve the motion, inasmuch as we have spent considerable time going through this thing page by page and approving all of the totals and then we come to the total and that is what the total is \$294,114,000 and how can you approve one section of the budget and then arbitrarily change this figure in this section because that does not really make much sense. That is what this figure is, what we have approved and we have been working on this thing for ten days, and we have approved page by page every summary and the total amounts of every summary and that is what they add up to. How can you arbitrarily take money out of that final figure without going right back through the budget and deciding where you are going to remove three million dollars. That makes no sense to me whatsoever.

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

HON. DAVID SEARLE: At the risk of being struck down by my friend on my left here, because I am within striking distance of him, I think that I wanted to make some of the comments that Mr. Stewart did, that it seems to me that to accept the motion would imply that we would then go back and take out from the budget how many dollars that is reduced. I must say that I have no difficulty accepting that we show here a revenue on the one hand which is slightly less, and I have no difficulty accepting that we have money left over from last year and if you add the two together they make up what we have authorized to spend. I think that the detailed budget which we have approved is our authorization in terms of that expenditure, of the total sum. So, I have no difficulty with that and therefore with respect I am going to have to disagree with my friend.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

The Danger Of A Deficit Budget.

MR. NICKERSON: If you want to vote against the motion, then of course you have to do so according to your conscience but there is no logic in the argument that because we have approved a maximum expenditure within each department, and within each activity thereof, which is slightly in excess of the amount we are prepared to vote at the present time, although, of course, if the administration does get the additional funds or can show that the Government of Canada has authorized the expenditure of the funds on hand left over from last year, they could of course come in with supplementary estimates but there is no logic to the argument why you can not put a ceiling on the expenditures which are greater than the sum of the authorized parts.

I think it would be very presumptuous of me to say go through the budget and then tell the administration where they have to cut this one million dollars from. That is something that only the administration can say. They obviously know where this can be done and where it could not be done. I do not, however, think it makes a lot of sense as careful watchdogs of the public purse, the people who are concerned with the finances of the territories, people who are concerned with the constitutionality of the way in which we operate, that we should not engage in a deficit budget or what appears on the face of it to be a deficit budget and no one could give us substantiated figures to prove otherwise. That just goes against the grain.

Now, the deficit might be less than the difference you might expect from a projected revenue or one that will be probably realized, we can not estimate that accurately anyway but it is the important principle that is the important thing here. If we engage in a deficit this year of a minimum amount and next year we can maybe go up to ten million dollars and the year after that \$20 million and then after that \$50 million and we will find ourselves in exactly the same mess the Government of Canada has got into with their continued huge deficit. It is the principle of the thing which is important, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The question.

Motion To Amend Clause 2 Of Bill 7-67, Defeated

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): The question on the motion. All in favour of the motion? One. Opposed? Seven. The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

Clause 2, amount granted for 1979-80, as amended. Agreed?

---Agreed



Clause 3, purpose and effect of each item. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 4, lapsing of appropriations. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 5, transfer of moneys and accountable advances. Agreed?

---Agreed

Schedule, total O and M of \$237,027,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total appropriations, \$294,114,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Shall I report the bill ready for third reading?

MR. STEWART: Short title.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Lyall): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

---Agreed

The bill as a whole. Agreed?

---Agreed

Shall I report the bill ready for third reading?

---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 there was one motion carried:

I move that this committee recommends to the Executive Committee that the next chairman of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation not be a person in the employ of the public service of either the Northwest Territories or of Canada. Your committee would now like to report this bill ready for third reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum, what would you like to have a go at now?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, Bill 8-67, the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there anything else we could conveniently put in to committee of the whole at the same time such as, say, Bill 9-67, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is correct, we could do Bill 8-67 and Bill 9-67 at the same time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any objection to that?

---Agreed

This House will resolve into committee of the whole to consider Bill 8-67, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79, and Bill 9-67, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Bill 8-67, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79 and Bill 9-67, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979, with Mr. Stewart in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 8-67, SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, NO. 3, 1978-79 AND BILL 9-67, FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ORDINANCE, 1979

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order concerning Bill 8-67, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Current Financial Year. Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, these of course, are supplementary appropriations for 1978-79. It is the third such appropriation. It grants the authority to vote additional moneys for the operation of the government. There is O and M as well as capital and, of course, there are authorizations for revolving funds. I think Members have a report of the standing committee on finance that was circulated by the chairman, the Honourable Member Mr. Lafferty with the final recommendation that in fact supplementary appropriations for the fiscal year 1978-79, be approved. Other than that, Mr. Chairman, I do not have any additional comments to make. As I indicated, the supplementary appropriations are for a number of departments and the operation and maintenance thereof, with three departments for capital appropriations and to increase certain of the revolving funds.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Mr. Lafferty, would you care at this time to make a report from the financial committee?

Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. LAFFERTY: Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on finance met on February 1, 1979, to consider the proposed Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79. The meeting was attended by the following Members: myself, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Steen and Mr. Stewart. Deputy Commissioner Parker, Assistant Commissioner Mullins and senior officials of the Department of Finance were in attendance.

During the discussion of the proposed supplementary estimates, the committee requested that the administration look into the problems being experienced with the POL, petroleum, oil and lubricants invoicing system. While it is hoped that the new policy being prepared will solve the problems in the long run, the committee feels that they simply would like to be advised of the administration's plans for short-term solutions.

With reference to the supply services activity under the Department of Finance, the committee also requested information on why and how the administration got involved in funding, through POL accounts receivable, an amount of \$104,000 for fuel used by Slave River sawmill. It was contended that such products should have been supplied to the company by private distributors and not through the government supply system.

The committee notes with concern that there has been an increase of approximately 14 per cent in the number of persons requiring social assistance. This percentage increase does not represent an increase in rates, but rather a unit increase, that is in the number of people multiplied by the number of days in respect of which they received assistance. Subject to the information requested by the committee being supplied to the House during discussion in committee of the whole, the standing committee on finance recommends that Bill 8-67, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79, be approved.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Hon. Arnold McCallum, do you wish to call any witnesses?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, no.

Executive, O And M - N.W.T. Housing Corporation, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Comments of a general nature on the supplementary estimates. I direct your attention to page 1, Executive, operation and maintenance, supplementary estimates. My copy is not complete. I can not read the figures.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Executive, \$1,089,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Executive, \$1,089,000, agreed?

MR. PUDLUK: I do not have a copy.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee stands recessed waiting for the document. The Honourable Member does not have his copy.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Borrow Mr. Pearson's copy.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come back to order. Executive, O and M, \$1,089,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Planning And Program Evaluation, O And M - Directorate, Agreed

Page 2, directorate, operation and maintenance, \$49,500. Agreed?

---Agreed

Personnel, O And M - Directorate, Agreed

Page 3. This is in three sections, directorate, \$48,900. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Employee Relations, Agreed

Employee relations, \$34,300. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Removal And Travel, Agreed

Removal and travel, \$317,000. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Mr. Chairman, that seems like an awful lot of money and as it does relate to removal and travel and it has an explanatory note indicating there is an increase in the volume of personnel moves in and out. Does this mean, Mr. Chairman, that we are experiencing a higher rate of turnover in the public service now than we have in the past?

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

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, yes. We think it is a temporary thing but we have experienced a slightly higher turnover.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: Is there any reason, any cause you can attribute this to?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: One of the causes is the fact that the areas that we are closest to in our hiring, that is, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are all very favourable areas for employment right now and we are suffering the loss of quite a few people, particularly to Alberta where the salaries are very high and in many instances we have not remained competitive.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Removal and travel, \$317,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Public Services, O And M - Directorate, Agreed

Page 4, Public Services, operation and maintenance, directorate, \$162,300. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Police Services Agreement, Agreed

Police Services Agreement, \$265,800. Hon. David Searle.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: I wonder if we could have a little better explanation than that given "to provide additional funding for payments as a result of increased cost of the Police Services Agreement." In what areas did we experience that kind of cost overrun?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the Police Services Agreement costs are assessed to us one year late. In other words, this money is for the year previous. Their billings are that late. This is something that has always happened, apparently, and it gives full time for the figures to be reviewed and settled on. My understanding is that the police costs increased for a number of reasons, which reasons were properly accounted for, that is, within the agreement. There is nothing which breaks the agreement. The federal government agreed through its collective bargaining to some increases in pay and this represents that in part and it also represents, I believe, two vacation travel periods a year for most federal employees in the northernmost locations, not all locations, but in many locations. This was something that they had to live with and they had not budgeted for within the estimate that they put forward for the agreement.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Police Services Agreement, \$265,800. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance, O And M - Supply Services

Page 5, Finance, operation and maintenance, supply services, \$104,000. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Can we assume now, Mr. Chairman, that we are completely out of the Slave River sawmill business and that this will be the last expenditure of public funds by the Government of the Northwest Territories? Do we fully realize the federal government will have to keep subsidizing it in order to keep it going but that we have severed our relationship with it so to speak?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, it is certainly our intention. If in the future a case is put to the government here and the Executive Committee believes that it has merit, I can not bind the actions of future committee members. However, I guess it is fair to say that our earnest desire is to see that operation either run on its own or receive its support from the federal funding sources that have recently been identified.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Another question, Mr. Chairman, which I must apologize for not taking up when the main estimates of the Department of Finance were being debated. The question is that I understand that last fall a study of financial administration, and I believe particularly the way in which computers were to be used in the system was being undertaken by the Department of Finance. I wonder if we could have an enlargement as to what that study was about and what its cost was. I have a figure written down here of \$60,000. I do not know if that is correct or not.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we undertook a review of our financial information systems, particularly as the systems in place relate to today's computer technology. The work was carried out jointly by our own officers and a financial consultant. We have just recently received their report, reviewed their report and agreed that we must proceed to implement the recommendations of that report which will result in a different sort of use of our computer facilities, different to the extent of the deployment of facilities in line with the current level of the technology. We expect that the financial information system that would be put in place will result in a system that will last us for many years and which will accommodate the current budget and whatever escalations may occur in the future. That is a chancy thing to say, of course, when you are designing a system, but we know now that the system that we have in place is not adequate for the job at hand and once we have the new system in place then we feel that we will have the kind of information that we really need to manage our money in the most effective fashion. If Members wanted to go into details on the financial information system I would have to call witnesses because I certainly could not go into more detail effectively.

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

POL Account Write-off

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, I think when we went over these estimates, the supplementary estimates in the committee we were assured that they were going to do some housecleaning in the accounts payable on this POL account write-off, and I wonder if the Deputy Commissioner could inform us as to when we could get some more information as to these bills being cleared up.

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, we have taken a substantial amount of action to clear up the old accounts and we have promised to stop harassing some of the people who had already turned to burning wood instead of fuel oil. It will take us though upwards of 12 months to put ourselves in the position of having a real good billing system for our oil accounts. It is an ongoing problem and we must simply commit ourselves to clearing it up in that space of time.

Finance, O And M - Supply Services, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 5, supply services, \$104,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Public Works, O And M - Highways, Agreed

Page 6, Public Works, operation and maintenance, highways, \$279,400. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Buildings And Works, Agreed

Building and works, a \$2200 deduction, transfer of funds I presume. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Utilities, Agreed

Utilities, a reduction of \$7600. Agreed?

---Agreed

Natural And Cultural Affairs, O And M - Fish And Wildlife Services, Agreed

I direct your attention to page 7, Natural and Cultural Affairs, operation and maintenance, fish and wildlife services, \$319,200. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like some breakdown information on the trappers incentive program under which hunters and trappers get paid, what is this money?

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

HON. PETER ERNERK: I do not have the breakdown of the cost of this program but as I understand it the program runs something like -- what we do in the department is we pay to trappers of the Northwest Territories something like 70 per cent of the estimated cost before we bring furs down to the fur auction houses in southern Canada. So, once the auction houses have sold the goods then we take them back, or we get the money and we pay them over to the trappers, that is to say, the difference, but I do not have a breakdown at this point, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. PUDLUK: I am satisfied.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Page 7, \$319,200. Agreed?

---Agreed

Local Government, O And M - Directorate, Agreed

Page 8, Local Government, operation and maintenance, directorate, \$221,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

O And M - Municipal Affairs, Agreed

Municipal affairs, \$221,400. Agreed?

---Agreed

Social Services, O And M - Child Welfare, Agreed

Page 9, Social Services, operation and maintenance, child welfare, \$256,500. Agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Medical Social Services And Special Care, Agreed

Medical social services and special care, \$135,900. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Social Assistance, Agreed

Social assistance, \$445,500. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: A question, Mr. Chairman, or rather a comment. This is a sizeable increase, 14 per cent more people on welfare and I hope that Justice Thomas Berger is satisfied with his handiwork.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I wish that was a motion and I would second it.

---Laughter

Social assistance, \$445,500. Agreed?

---Agreed

0 And M - Supplementary Benefits To The Elderly, Agreed

Supplementary benefits to the elderly, \$134,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Education, 0 And M - Directorate, Agreed

Page 10, Education, operation and maintenance, directorate, \$376,300. Agreed?

---Agreed

Information, Capital - Public Relations, Agreed

Page 11, Information, capital, public relations, \$78,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance, Capital - Systems And Computer Services, Agreed

Page 12, Finance, capital, systems and computer services, \$381,200. Agreed?

---Agreed

Public Works, Capital - Accommodation Services, Agreed

Page 13, Public Works, capital, accommodation services, \$180,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

Finance, Public Stores Revolving Fund, Agreed

Page 14, Finance, public stores revolving fund. This is an authorization, a submission to the Legislature. Is this section agreed?

---Agreed

Economic Development And Tourism, Grocery Stores Revolving Fund, Agreed

Page 15, Economic Development and Tourism, grocery stores revolving fund, again a submission, two paragraphs. Is it agreed? Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: Mr. Chairman, could I ask why they are decreasing the revolving fund by \$25,000?

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

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Which one is this, Mr. Steen?

MR. STEEN: This is page 15, Nahanni Butte.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: This is the experience we have had in operating these stores. They run on a break even basis or in fact show a little profit, and they found that the level of business was higher at one and lower at another so one needed to be increased and the other decreased.

MR. STEEN: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 15, are the two paragraphs agreed?

---Agreed

Finance, POL Revolving Fund, Agreed

Page 16, Finance, POL revolving fund, the revolving fund by eight million dollars to a total of \$20 million, an increase of \$12 million in the revolving fund. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: I understand from the report of the chairman of the standing committee on finance that they had looked into this matter of the POL revolving fund in some detail and had some recommendations or at least questions to make with respect to it. I wonder if they are now satisfied that that matter has been put to rights by the administration.

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

MR. LAFFERTY: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I quoted that page wrong, it is an increase of eight million dollars to a total of \$20 million. I stand corrected. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Natural And Cultural Affairs, Fur Auction Revolving Fund, Agreed

Page 17, to increase the fur auction revolving fund by \$200,000 to a total of \$500,000. Is it agreed?

---Agreed

Economic Development And Tourism, Tuktoyaktuk/Aklavik Raw Fur Revolving Fund

Page 18, to increase the spending authority of the Tuktoyaktuk/Aklavik raw fur revolving fund by \$600,000 to a total of \$600,000. Hon. Tom Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, a few moments ago I suggested that the outstanding item from Bill 7-67, the audit report required for the Tuktoyaktuk fur garment shop that Mr. Nickerson wanted to see, would come in under this supplementary estimate. I have since found out and I regret to inform the Member through yourself, sir, that the only audit available is a territorial audit, the audit produced by the territorial auditor and it is not a public document. I regret this and would be happy some day to see such balance sheets available to the House but this is not available. It is an internal document.

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



MR. NICKERSON: That is interesting to note that they are the guardians of the taxpayers' money and not prepared to let those taxpayers know how their moneys are being spent. However, that being the case, I would ask -- and I presume that Hon. Tom Butters himself has seen this audit report -- was there anything in that report that in his opinion required corrective action?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I have seen the audit report, yes. I have not studied it in the detail that I could respond in terms of improvements that could be made but yes, there are corrections suggested there and the administration or the department will seek to implement the suggestions that were made in the auditor's report.

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

MR. NICKERSON: Mr. Chairman, what was the nature of the recommendations made by the auditors? What was the nature of the corrective action that is being taken?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I can not respond to the question. I do not have the audit report before me and if you wish to leave this item open I will get the report and perhaps I can respond at that time, but I can not do it from memory.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Page 18. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN: I am pleased to see a sum of money that size being made available for I believe, buying furs and selling, but I would in no way think that it should be used as an excuse to turn over the fur shops, or turn over the management of the fur shops to the co-ops at this time because they are not capable. I just want to make that point, Mr. Chairman.

Economic Development And Tourism, Tuktoyaktuk/Aklavik Raw Fur Revolving Fund, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Page 18, \$600,000. Agreed?

---Agreed

I direct your attention back to page 1 at the front of the book, Bill 8-67, clause 2, interpretation. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 3, amount granted. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 4, purpose and effect of each item. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 5, lapsing of appropriations. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 6, transfer of money and accountable advances. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 7, coming into force. Agreed?

---Agreed

The schedule in the amount of \$4,450,200. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

---Agreed

The bill as a whole.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is not the total picture. The total appropriations on page 3 should be \$5,089,400.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: You just called the 0 and M.

Total Capital, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Capital, \$639,200. Agreed?

---Agreed

Total supplementary appropriations, \$5,089,400. Agreed?

MR. NICKERSON: I have a question on clause 7, Mr. Chairman. Would you like to fill in the blank there, if there is indeed a blank that needs filling in?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: It must be April 1, 1978.

HON. DAVID SEARLE: The interpretation clause says here it means the 1st of April, 1978.

Total Supplementary Appropriations, No. 3, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): I assume clause 7 is all right without any addition, is that correct? Total supplementary appropriations, No. 3, \$5,089,400. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

---Agreed

The bill as a whole. Agreed?

---Agreed

Shall I report Bill 8-67 ready for third reading?

---Agreed

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, do not leave the chair. We have Bill 9-67.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you, Hon. Arnold McCallum. Bill 9-67, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada. Comments of a general nature on Bill 9-67. Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: Could we be given the correct figures, Mr. Chairman?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Just give us a moment, please.

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

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): The committee will come to order, please.  
Deputy Commissioner Parker.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the figure in paragraph 3(a) should be \$148,176,000. That is an increase of \$300,000 and that is the change that came after the budget was printed with regard to highways. The other figures are all correct.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Thank you. Comments of a general nature?  
Ready for clause by clause?

---Agreed

Clause 2, interpretation. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 3, Commissioner may execute agreement. Clause 3, as corrected. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 4, additional provisions of agreement. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 5, variation and amendment. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 6, ratification. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 7, Commissioner may implement agreement. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 8, no borrowing after March 31st, 1980. Agreed?

---Agreed

Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

---Agreed

The bill as a whole. Agreed?

---Agreed

Shall I report Bill 9-67 ready for third reading?

---Agreed

This then concludes Bill 8-67 and Bill 9-67. Shall I report progress?

MR. LYALL: Report the bills ready for third reading, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stewart): Report ready for third reading, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Stewart.

Report Of The Committee Of The Whole Of Bill 8-67, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 3, 1978-79 and Bill 9-67, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been studying Bill 8-67 and wishes to report this bill ready for third reading. We have also been studying Bill 9-67 and wish to report this ready for third reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Arnold McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to go back to Item 10, first reading of bills and I would like to have unanimous consent to move to two notices of motion to introduce bills.

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed.

REVERT TO ITEM NO. 10: FIRST READING OF BILLS.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, when I gave first reading of the bill for the Municipal Ordinance I think I made a mistake and called it Bill 4-67. It should be Bill 14-67, so I would correct that to first reading.

First Reading Of Bill 14-67.

I move first reading of Bill 14-67, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal Ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: You are moving first reading, are you?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there a seconder? Mr. Lyall. Question. Question being called. All in favour?

---Carried

NOTICES OF MOTION TO INTRODUCE BILLS.

Bill 15-67: Certified General Accountants' Association Ordinance.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice that on Friday, June 16 I shall move that bill -- I am sorry, February 16. I lost four months. It has been a rough day. It is going to be tomorrow. Bill 15-67, An Ordinance Respecting the Certified General Accountants' Association of the Northwest Territories.

Bill 16-67: Interpretation Ordinance.

Bill 16-67, An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation and Certain Other Ordinances.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson.

MR. NICKERSON: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, a bill I introduced some time ago was given the number Bill 14-67 by the staff of the Legislature. It would appear now that this number has been assigned to another bill. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I could have the assurance of the House that it would not be necessary for me to again give first and second reading of that particular bill because of the mistake made in the numbering thereof.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nickerson, no, you will not have to give first or second reading to your bill. It has been redesignated as Bill PM 1-67, private Member, not Prime Minister. Are there any announcements for tomorrow, gentlemen?

Standing committee on indemnities, allowances and Members' services to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, February 15, in Katimavik A. The Members are Mr. Lafferty, Hon. Peter Ernerk, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Lyall and Mr. Stewart.

Before we adjourn for this evening may I on your behalf welcome back Major MacKendrick and on your behalf thank him very sincerely for standing in today for Major Sproule?

---Applause

Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM NO. 12: ORDERS OF THE DAY.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): Orders of the day, February 15, 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: Bills 16-67 and 15-67
11. Second Reading of Bills: Bills 4-67, 14-67, 15-67 and 16-67
12. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislature and Other Matters: Bills 1-67, 5-67, 4-67, 14-67, 16-67, 13-67, PM 1-67, 12-67, 15-67 and 6-67, Proposed Amendments to the Federal Indian Act, Tabled Document 10-67, Information Item 5-67, Tabled Document 13-67, Information Item 4-67, Tabled Document 11-67, Recommendation to the Legislature 1-67 and Tabled Document 20-67
13. Third Reading of Bills
14. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure we will do all that before coffee. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 15, 1979, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT

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