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Petition tabled by Mr. Dent on April 11, 1995

Response by the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi  
Minister of Justice

**Request to deal with RCMP Staffing Levels**

Currently, there are 225 members of the RCMP "G" Division which provide policing services under the Territorial Police Service Agreement to the whole of the Northwest Territories. Funding under this agreement allows for the delivery of basic policing services which result in limited staffing availabilities for additional projects or activities. The creation of a new Drug Related Crime Task Force would only erode the policing capacity elsewhere.

A policing study of the scarce resources and how to better utilize them is currently underway, and is expected to be completed by the Spring of 1996. Upon the completion of this study, further staffing actions may occur, however the allocations will be at the discretion of the RCMP.

**Planning for a secure and remand facility for Young Offenders**

Planning and development of Young Offender facilities is an in-depth and complex process. Many factors have to be taken into consideration when dealing with a project of this magnitude. The facilities that are currently in operation in the Northwest Territories are meeting the needs for Young Offender secure beds. Therefore, as Bed capacity is not a problem at this time, the development of additional secure facilities is not required.

