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The Honourable Tony Whitford, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Friday, June 14, 2002

Members Present

Honourable Roger Allen, Honourable Jim Antoine, Mr. Braden, Mr. Delorey, Mr. Dent, Mrs. Groenewegen, Honourable Joe Handley, Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Krutko, Mr. Lafferty, Ms. Lee, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Nitah, Mr. Roland, Honourable Vince Steen, Honourable Tony Whitford.

ITEM 1: PRAYER

-- Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Tony Whitford): Thank you, Ms. Lee. Please be seated. Good morning, colleagues. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS**Minister's Statement 51-14(5): Minister Absent From the House**

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise Members that the Honourable Michael Miltenberger will be absent from the House today to attend to a personal matter in Hay River. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Antoine.

Minister's Statement 52-14(5): Promoting the NWT Diamond Industry

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the developments in the Northwest Territories diamond industry during the past decade have been tremendous. We already have three manufacturing plants supplied with rough diamonds from the Ekati Mine and our international reputation as a diamond producing and manufacturing centre is growing.

The Government of the Northwest Territories is currently in discussions with Diavik Diamond Mines and Aber Diamonds for a further supply of rough diamonds.

As the Northwest Territories cutting and polishing industry establishes itself and grows, we expect that the mining companies will continue to work with the Northwest Territories manufacturers to ensure the supply of rough diamonds is ongoing, reliable and suitable for manufacturing in the Northwest Territories.

Our GNWT certified diamonds, produced by our Northwest Territories factories, are gaining international attention. GNWT certified diamonds were recently highlighted at the JCK Jewellery show in Las Vegas. It is the biggest jewellery show in the United States with over 5,000 exhibitors and more than 12,000 retailers in attendance.

While at the show, I met with several wholesalers who are purchasing and promoting GNWT certified diamonds in the United States, Germany and Canada. While there is strong interest in the market place, there is also confusion caused by

the Canadian Competition Bureau. The Competition Bureau issued guidelines last year that defined a "Canadian" diamond as one mined in Canada regardless of where, or under what conditions, it is cut and polished.

Mr. Speaker, we disagreed with these guidelines when they were issued and we continue to take exception to the confusion and uncertainty the Competition Bureau is creating for the Canadian diamond industry. These guidelines are inconsistent and unenforceable. A polished diamond is created from a rough diamond through a manufacturing process undertaken by highly skilled workers. A polished diamond should be treated the same as other Canadian products. The manufacturing must be done in Canada.

To be truly Canadian, a polished diamond must be mined, cut and polished in Canada. We will continue to raise this issue with the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, I can assure members that there is strong interest within the industry in GNWT certified diamonds and in the proactive approach we have taken to training Northerners and to marketing our Canadian Arctic diamonds. Many diamond manufacturing companies are interested in investing in the Northwest Territories by opening diamond manufacturing plants.

Next week, I will be attending the World Diamond Congress in Vancouver. This international meeting will deal with diamond exploration, mining and marketing issues. I will take the opportunity to restate our position that the Northwest Territories is moving beyond being just a diamond producer benefiting solely from resource extraction to becoming a jurisdiction that expects, and adds, value to its natural resources for the benefit of our residents. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi, Mr. Antoine. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Minister's Statement 53-14(5): Strategic Infrastructure Fund Briefings

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to provide Members with a report on work that was done earlier this week in Ottawa in support of the GNWT's Strategic Infrastructure Fund proposal.

On June 12th an NWT delegation, including the Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Charles Dent; the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. David Krutko; Northwest Territories Chamber of Commerce president, Mr. Kelly Hayden; and myself briefed a number of federal Cabinet Ministers on "Corridors for Canada", the GNWT's Strategic Infrastructure Fund proposal.

Federal Ministers we briefed included: Deputy Prime Minister and Infrastructure Minister, the Honourable John Manley;

Intergovernmental Affairs Minister, the Honourable Stephane Dion; Environment Minister, the Honourable David Anderson; and Public Works Minister, the Honourable Ralph Goodale. I also had an opportunity to informally discuss our proposal with the Honourable Herb Dhaliwal, Minister of Natural Resources.

Mr. Speaker, since the start of the lobby in April to inform federal representatives of the Northwest Territories transportation needs and its proposal for federal investments under the Strategic Infrastructure program, the Prime Minister and 20 Cabinet Ministers, committee chairs and senior political officials have been briefed.

The reaction we received on June 12th was most encouraging.

Federal Ministers understand the linkage between Northwest Territories transportation infrastructure improvements and providing a more attractive investment and development climate for our gas and minerals.

We impressed upon Ministers the importance of transportation infrastructure to the quality of life for our residents, better access to services and opportunities, and controlled management of our environment.

We stressed that investments in our transportation infrastructure by Ottawa, industry and the GNWT will accelerate gas and mining developments, which in turn produce revenues for the federal government, jobs and business opportunities for NWT residents and all Canadians, and NWT aboriginal equity in NWT development projects.

Mr. Speaker, we were also encouraged that reports of a deal on project funding are premature and unfounded. The Honourable John Manley reported that the federal Cabinet has not yet made all of the necessary program mandate decisions and that federal officials have yet to begin work on assessing project submissions.

In closing, I want to thank Mr. Dent, Mr. Krutko and Mr. Hayden for their valuable support on this trip. As always, our Member of Parliament, the Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, was there to provide strategic advice and support through the week at the meetings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Steen.

Minister's Statement 54-14(5): Outstanding Volunteer Awards Ceremony

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, I believe it is important to recognize NWT volunteers. For more than ten years MACA has sponsored the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards to honour our volunteers. This year we formed a partnership with the NWT Power Corporation to promote the awards program more widely. Earlier this year, we asked residents to nominate volunteers for the 2002 NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards Program.

Mr. Speaker, we received over 70 nominations from all over the Territory. From those numbers, many were recognized as winners in their own regions, and six were chosen for territorial awards. I would like to take a moment to list the territorial award winners. These are:

- Janet Wong for the High Five Youth Award;
- Ed Jeske for the Respected Elder Award;
- Dusty Miller for the Board Member Award
- Dixie Penner for Outstanding Volunteer;
- Lori Uhlenberg for the Good Neighbour Award; and
- The Thrift Shop of Hay River for the Outstanding Community Organization Award.

A complete list of regional award winners and all nominated volunteers is available on the MACA website.

A ceremony to honour the six territorial winners will take place here in the Great Hall this afternoon at 2:30. I would like to invite all Members to meet these special people and help us recognize their contributions.

Mr. Speaker, volunteers are important to this government. We are committed to improving the quality of life in the Northwest Territories by providing meaningful activities and services. Volunteers play a large role in our ability to meet this objective. I am delighted to see them receiving this much attention, especially since they share so much of their own precious time with others.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to meeting these volunteers and shaking their hands. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Steen. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Handley.

Minister's Statement 55-14(5): Looking In/Giving Back -- A Guide for Volunteers

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Northerners have strong traditions of sharing and giving to others. These virtues are often expressed through volunteerism. Volunteering ranges from individual acts, like sharing food, to participating in community organizations and membership on volunteer boards. Active every day in our communities, volunteers not only help to build healthy and safe communities but promote personal well-being and enjoyment. The more people volunteer, the healthier NWT communities are likely to be.

Our many volunteer organizations make a major difference to the quality of life in the North, Mr. Speaker. By providing opportunities for volunteer service, they support northern people who are developing or enhancing their careers through volunteer activities. These activities are the perfect opportunity to develop the kinds of skills important to being contributing members of a community.

Mr. Speaker, the Departments of Education, Culture and Employment and Municipal and Community Affairs have worked together to produce two handbooks to assist and support volunteers, volunteer organizations and employers, which, through their work with volunteers, are supporting positive growth in Northwest Territories' communities. Looking

In/Reaching Out is a practical guide for people who choose to volunteer and are developing their careers while providing service to their community. The second handbook, Looking In/Giving Back, provides help to volunteer organizations and employers in the recruitment, selection and ongoing support of volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, many non-government and community organizations rely on volunteers to help them realize their goals. Enthusiasm and time are the only real prerequisites of volunteering. However, the quality of the volunteer experience will be enhanced by the information in these two documents. The positive feelings that volunteering evokes will be increased when volunteers have been properly oriented and trained. Looking In/Giving Back will help to guide community organizations and employers in a way that maximizes the benefits of volunteerism for everyone.

Looking In/Reaching Out aims to encourage people to consider volunteering as a way to develop skills for work and personal success. Working as a volunteer provides an avenue through which individuals can express their care, concern and willingness to help. The helpful hints contained in this publication will help to ensure that your volunteer efforts will leave you with a good feeling for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, volunteers provide services, solve problems, create new ways of doing things and start many activities that improve our lives. They deserve our support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Minister's Statement 56-14(5): Public Service Employment Programs

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week is Public Service Week. I would like to add my thanks to that expressed by Mr. Handley earlier this week to the many employees who work for the departments, boards and agencies of the Government of the Northwest Territories. It is their efforts that make a difference every day in our communities.

One of the priorities of this government has been to reduce our reliance in the public service on southern hiring and to increase the number of Northerners accessing northern jobs. I would like to talk about three programs that we hope will help us recruit and retain Northerners for careers in the public service.

The Student Summer Employment Program runs every year from April to August. The program allows students to register for summer employment. Any northern employer can access those applications and find students with the background needed for the job to be done. Internally, we also try to find work for about 300 northern post-secondary students. Approximately 250 of those positions have been filled to date. Some of those jobs are summer replacement work. As well, through our progressive experience program, about one third of the jobs provide students with experience that is directly relevant to the education they are pursuing in university or college. One of the goals of the program is to help students better understand the range and scope of GNWT jobs and to

encourage them to consider the GNWT as their employer of choice after graduation.

Mr. Speaker, the Northern Graduate Employment Program is in its second year. The purpose of the program is to encourage northern post-secondary graduates to take their first jobs in the North. The results to date have been very positive. Through the Internship and Graduate Transition programs, 52 graduates were placed in one-year internships in government, the private sector or non-profit organizations in 2001-2002. This year, 52 graduates have been offered internships to date, with an additional 50 graduates still registered and looking for opportunities. In the first year, 10 percent of the positions were located outside Yellowknife. This year, over 40 percent of the internships are regional placements. As well, 18 northern teacher graduates and four social work graduates have found jobs over the past two years. Interns from the first year of the program are now starting to complete their internships and almost all have found continuing northern employment.

One of our challenges has been finding effective ways of developing GNWT staff for leadership and management positions. As we look down the road ten years, it is apparent that two thirds of our present management group will be eligible for retirement. We need to have Northerners ready to assume these senior positions. Later this year, we hope to introduce a program to help people gain the skills they need if they want to advance into and within GNWT management.

This Succession Planning Program will be open to any interested staff. Those who apply will be put through an assessment process to determine what their current skill levels are and then a series of training and development opportunities will be put in place to help them improve and enhance their knowledge. As people move through the program, it will greatly increase the pool of individuals ready and able to assume management positions.

Mr. Speaker, each of these programs will strengthen our public service and our ability to effectively serve the people of the Northwest Territories. I look forward to reporting further on the results of these programs in the months ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement on Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Award Winner, Gayla Meredith

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I speak to you today about a remarkable achievement of a very special teacher at Range Lake North School, Ms. Gayla Meredith, affectionately known as Miss M, who has joined us in the gallery with her friends.

Mr. Speaker, those of us who know her and her work have known for a long time that she is a very special teacher. Now she has been recognized as such nationally by becoming a recipient of the 2001-2002 Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Award. Miss M was chosen among 208 nominees nationwide for her innovative teaching methods and, more

importantly, for her unflinching commitment and love for children.

Mr. Speaker, having job-shadowed her grade 3 class myself, I can attest to you that her classroom is a little learning paradise for children. One of her innovative methods being recognized by this award is the book publishing activity in her class. As an individual and as a group, her children are prolific in writing and illustrating stories into books. In this school year alone, her children have published 282 books on various topics and genres.

This is one of her many fantastic methods of encouraging children to read, write and learn and channel their creative energy flow into something very memorable, and at the same time, have so much fun doing it all the way through. The pride and sense of achievement visible on the bright faces of the children show us that this works tremendously well.

Miss M has been a teacher for nine years, all of them at Range Lake North School. She left her long and successful banking career to become a teacher because she wanted to make a difference in children's lives. This award makes it very clear that she has done just that and we are so very lucky that she has chosen this path up here in the North.

She is also a very active member of the NWT Teachers' Association, devoted to enhancing positive communication between home, school and community. Her achievement is a source of pride for her, her school and all of us in the Territories, and I invite you and my colleagues to join me in expressing our congratulations and sincere thanks for a job well done, and wishing her all our best this day forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

Member's Statement on Infrastructure Development in the Northwest Territories

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, before I start, I would like to thank the Premier for offering the opportunity to travel with him to Ottawa to meet the federal Ministers and talk about our infrastructure in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important that we leave a living legacy from the Northwest Territories, the activities that are taking place today in regard to the oil and gas, talk about a pipeline, the mining sector in regard to the diamond developments that are taking place, but most importantly, Mr. Speaker, I think, as Northerners, we want to leave something behind by way of our infrastructure, which will long outlive the developments of oil and gas and mineral developments well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, our infrastructure is key. We have the Mackenzie Valley pipeline. We have the winter road systems. We have bridges and the demand for reconstruction on our highway systems, which are currently under great pressure with all the developments that are happening. It is important, Mr. Speaker, that we do develop that infrastructure by way of resources that are expended in this area.

Mr. Speaker, at the present time, the options or outlooks that we are receiving is that the Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline could add as much as \$57 billion into the Canadian gross domestic product and earn the federal government up to \$24 billion in revenues and taxes and royalties. Mr. Speaker, all we are asking for from the federal government is to reinvest some of those dollars that will be flowing to the south from the north into infrastructure in the North.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we establish an economic program that gives us long-term stability in our economy so that we can ensure that the infrastructure for the residents of the North is not beaten up to a point where it is costing this government more to maintain and upgrade our systems so that we can improve the lives of Northerners, but also improve the infrastructure for the rest of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, it is key that the aboriginal participation...benefits linked to improving our infrastructure is there and improving the quality of lives of the residents for the long-term is crucial.

Also, ensuring our winter road systems are upgraded to the point where we eventually have year-round access to our isolated communities by roads of some sort or another.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Krutko, your time is up. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his Member's statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays, Mr. Krutko, you may conclude.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, again, it is important that we improve the quality of life of residents throughout the whole Northwest Territories, not just those in the oil and gas or diamond sectors, but the residents who live in our communities, ensuring that the winter road access we do have will eventually come to an all-weather road system that will connect all of our communities in the rest of the Northwest Territories, and ensuring that we protect our environment through the staging of development, such as bridges, and expanding our system to eventually have hard surface.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we protect our environment by way of what has happened through global warming and the problems we are seeing with our winter road systems.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I would like to thank the Premier again for this opportunity. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

Member's Statement on Highway Infrastructure Development Required

MR. BRADEN: Thank you and good morning, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to talk a bit about infrastructure, specifically to the highways in the South Slave area. I would like to focus on some of the discussion that has been going on of late,

particularly that started by my colleague for North Slave, Mr. Leon Lafferty. I congratulate Mr. Lafferty for fighting his corner on behalf of his constituents in his arguments and his very persuasive discussion to look at the road network extending into the North Slave region. He is fighting on behalf of his constituents and I respect and admire that.

Sometimes, though, the arguments have been made that those kinds of projects should be done perhaps at the exclusion of another piece of road that is pretty important around here, and that is the Ingraham Trail. This is an important piece of road not only for residents of the community who live there but it is also one of the busiest highways in the NWT for recreational purposes. Ten thousand tourists a year rely on that road to take them out to the Aurora Adventure. It is the supply lifeline for the diamond mines in the region, so it is an important piece of road.

As anyone who has driven it lately can attest, it too is in pretty rough shape. I would like to relate a bit of a story that happened to me a couple of weeks ago. My daughter and I were returning from our cottage on Prosperous Lake and we were tailed for a couple of miles by an RCMP cruiser. Finally the lights went on and he pulled me over. The officer was very professional and very polite. After going through the formalities, he said "Well, Mr. Braden, the reason we pulled you over was that we did not know whether you were drunk or whether you were just dodging all the potholes."

I wanted to offer that as an illustration of just what condition that road is in.

-- Interjection

-- Laughter

I assured the officer I was quite in control and quite sober. I wanted to just give you that story, Mr. Speaker, as an illustration of the kinds of conditions we are facing here too. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member's time is up but he is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You will not keep us in suspense any longer, Mr. Braden.

MR. BRADEN: I was indeed quite sober on that occasion, Mr. Speaker. The point that I would like to make is that all of our transportation infrastructure is important and that we need to work together to do the best we can with the resources that are at hand to keep our infrastructure strong, and that is why presenting a united front, and the efforts of the Premier, Mr. Handley, and others who have gone to Ottawa to go to bat for this, are very important at this stage. So let us keep working together to do the best we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden, and to keep up with the theme, item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Lafferty.

Member's Statement on Congratulations to North Slave High School Graduates

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is very hard to top that. I would like to follow up on Mr. Handley's speech yesterday about graduation. I would like to acknowledge the achievements of several youth in my region. On June 1st, graduation ceremonies were held in Rae-Edzo for 18 students. Mr. Speaker, as a society, we place so much emphasis on going to school and getting a formal education. I know it is tedious to listen to a list of names, but I think it is important to individually recognize each student's accomplishments.

I would like to congratulate the following people for their dedication in achieving a diploma. The 12 graduates from Rae-Edzo are: Travis Base-Washie, Colinda Blondin, Dustin Chocolate-Simpson, Vivian Drybones, Shelley-Anne Lemon, Amanda Mantla, Leona Mantla, Judy Mantla, Martine Quitti, Rebecca Rabesca, Tiffany Smith, and Rita Zoe.

Mr. Speaker, as there is no high school in Gameti or Wekweti, six students had to leave home from their communities to complete their schooling in Rae. These graduates are: Berna Base, Joanna Chocolate, Calinda Football, Juanita Judas, Lisa Judas, and Roxanne Mantla.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate these students for their commitment to formal education and I wish them every success. As Mr. Handley stated yesterday, graduates demonstrate the incredible potential of the Northwest Territories and each of them will help us realize our full potential as a territory as they realize their own. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi, Mr. Lafferty. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Member's Statement on Access to Health and Social Services in Hay River

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have repeatedly heard from Minister Miltenberger that we are not going to see reductions in health and social services in Hay River, and the action plan is not a cost-cutting exercise. This is not consistent with what I am seeing and hearing in Hay River. The principle of fairness and universality of access is being sadly eroded for people outside of Yellowknife, in Hay River and I am sure in other communities as well.

Let me give you a few examples from my community's perspective. Referral and access to mammography services was being accommodated locally with a mobile program. Since this program can no longer be funded and staffed in Hay River, women are required to wait on long lists for referrals to Yellowknife. When they do get an appointment in Yellowknife, a comparatively high percentage of my constituents are required to pay a \$250 co-payment to come to Yellowknife. This co-payment is required to be paid each time, regardless of the number of follow-up visits required and, as an aside, sadly, some women have made the trip, paid the \$250, only to get here and find out the technician was out of town or unavailable.

This is unfair and unacceptable in the name of cost cutting and it is putting women's health at risk.

Hay River has been providing a highly utilized dental surgery service for many years to many parts of the North. The Hay River Dental Clinic uses the hospital facilities, bringing in dental anaesthetists on a regular schedule. This makes good use of the hospital in Hay River and provides a more economical alternative for government and non-government sponsored patients than a referral to the south.

However, just last week, the Hay River Dental Clinic was informed that due to budget cutting and staff reductions, no surgeries could be scheduled until the end of October. This means the cancellation of many required procedures for children and adults, some of whom have already been on a waiting list for some time. This can potentially lead to further dental and even medical complications when left unattended. This is a very serious matter.

I spoke at some length during the last session about the requirement for all Hay River maternity patients to leave the community to deliver their babies. The personal expense and inconvenience of this lack of service is also very significant. Again, it is particularly discriminatory for mothers who are not covered by any third party insurance or benefits. These issues of lack of service cannot be left unaddressed. If the funding, compensation packages or recruitment efforts for medical professionals to staff our hospitals are not resulting in solutions, there needs to be enhancements to ensure that we can compete with any other jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents deserve the same fair access to health care as any other Northerner and any other Canadian citizen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Mr. Roland.

Member's Statement on Recognition of the Contributions of Fathers

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, June 16th is an important day for some members of society -- Father's Day. It being Friday, I would like to take the opportunity to raise this issue.

Mr. Speaker, what does it take to be a father? It is not something you are born with and given automatically. It is something you are taught and nurtured in from your own father as time goes by. I know that because as a father myself, I use many examples that my father has given me when I speak to my children.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time today to recognize the efforts of my father, my dad, as I call him. The efforts he has put into my life have helped to bring me where I am today. He is a patient man who has guided me along. Sometimes his hands were soft and sometimes they were hard. Even though at that point, I might say when I was growing up, I did not like the discipline that would come my way, but I must thank him for that discipline, because with that discipline, he taught me. I would like to thank him for the many times he brought me out

and taught me about the land and how to treat and work on the land.

Something I must thank him for is what he instilled in me in how I raise my children, and the valuable lessons I learned under his guidance that I can pass on to my children as they grow. I would like to thank him for that. I continue to count on him for his guidance. As years go on, his wisdom continues to grow and he continues to share that with me, and I take that very seriously.

Something I would like to do as well as part of Father's Day is recognize my children, since I will not be home on the 16th and they cannot do their things for me at that point, I have a little wish list I would like to pass on to them. I could pull out many that I could think of as summer comes upon us. I would like to state to them that one thing I would like them to do while I am gone is:

- Please obey your mom;
- Do your homework and do it on time; and
- Please do your chores, as I just found out from my wife that some of the chores are going unattended as I have not been at home.

I would like to have them honour me in that way, by obeying their mother and doing their homework. With that, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Roland. I am sure they will be watching this program and they will take heed. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

Member's Statement on Tribute to Good Neighbour Award Winner, Lori Uhlenberg

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise this morning and recognize a wonderful person from Hay River, a constituent of mine, Lori Uhlenberg. Mr. Speaker, Lori is the recipient of the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Award in the category of good neighbour. I have the distinct pleasure of accepting this award on her behalf later this afternoon in the Great Hall of this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I personally have known Lori Uhlenberg for almost 30 years. You would have to look hard to find someone so unselfishly caring for her fellow community members. Lori has been a resident of Hay River since 1971 and she has always been an active member of the community. Over the years, Lori has given tirelessly of herself to various organizations. Mr. Speaker, she spends a lot of time assisting the Elks Club over the years, along with her late husband, Herb.

In addition, Lori has been a volunteer at our local thrift shop for over 15 years. She also tutored children in her home for over five years and always on a strictly volunteer basis.

In addition, Lori takes discarded dolls, cleans them up, washes and curls their hair, then hand knits entire wardrobes for them. Mr. Speaker, she then sells these dolls at craft sales and donates any money that she raises to Woodland Manor or to the extended health care unit at the H.H. Williams Memorial

Hospital, so that residents there can have birthday and Christmas gifts.

This remarkable lady, Mr. Speaker, has cooked meals and baked goods for weeks on end for deserving families in Hay River. Lori has spent countless hours at the hospital with a number of Hay River residents in their final days.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, Lori has nursed a number of sick children and pets in Hay River back to good health. She has been known to take other people's pets into her home and care for them when the owners were no longer able to do so.

Mr. Speaker, Lori's good deeds are far too numerous to mention here, but I wish I did have the time to mention more. Mr. Speaker, Hay River is truly blessed to have the volunteers that it has. They are the backbone of our community. I feel extremely honoured, Mr. Speaker, to have been able to call Lori Uhlenberg a friend for over the last 30 years. She is truly an extremely worthy recipient of the good neighbour award. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Nahendeh, Mr. Antoine.

Member's Statement on Peter Gzowski's Literacy Golf Event in Fort Simpson

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, our efforts to promote and enhance literacy in the Northwest Territories got a shot in the arm last week at a very successful Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournament, which took place at the Seven Spruce Golf Course in Fort Simpson on June 6th and the community event surrounding it.

The PGI, as it is known, is an opportunity to celebrate and support literacy while taking part in sometimes quirky, but always fun, golf -- northern style. The PGI is named for a man who fell in love with the North. From the time he began travelling to the North in 1971, Peter Gzowski tried hard to make southern Canada more aware of the beauty of the people and the land north of 60.

Through CBC's national radio program, Morningside, other Canadians came to know us just a little bit better. Peter spoke about us in a way that made us feel that he really knew us. He once said that one of the appealing things about life in the North was that it was different from life south of 60. This is something that all Northerners understand, Mr. Speaker.

In addition to his love for the North, Peter Gzowski had another great passion. That passion was literacy. In 1986, Mr. Speaker, Peter turned passion to action and founded the Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournament for Literacy. Each year, PGI golf tournaments are held across Canada. Since 1999, the location of the PGI was alternated between the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. The PGI has raised more than \$6 million nationally since 1986.

As in past years, the money raised at the PGI last week in Fort Simpson will be used to fund local programs that help people learn to read and write, Mr. Speaker. I must commend the NWT Literacy Council for staging such a fun and worthwhile event.

I was pleased to host the event in my constituency, Mr. Speaker. The community demonstrated its support by taking part in all the events planned for the tournament. The special guest we had was one of the stars of the TV program North of 60, Dakota House. There was an author, Sharee Fitch, who is a renowned writer of books for children, and our own Richard Van Camp from Fort Smith, who has written...

MR. SPEAKER: The time for your Member's statement is up, Mr. Antoine. Mr. Antoine.

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Mr. Antoine.

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was talking about our special guests who were at the event. There were four of them: Dakota House, who I mentioned; Sharee Fitch; our own Richard Van Camp, who has written a couple of books and says he is going to write more; and Alison Gzowski, daughter of the late Peter Gzowski, was our special guest. They were a very big hit, especially with the youth in Fort Simpson.

I was especially pleased to welcome Alison Gzowski to the tournament, to Fort Simpson and to the North. This was her first trip to the North and she was overwhelmed by the tributes paid to her father. Mr. Speaker, one of the tributes came from our own Premier, Stephen Kakfwi, who hosted a Premier's dinner in Fort Simpson that Thursday evening. Following the meal, the Premier spoke about Peter Gzowski. He spoke of his first encounter with him years ago when he was doing other things before getting into politics, and also of Peter Gzowski's contribution to life in the North and to literacy in the North. The Premier then did a fine job of playing the guitar and singing a northernized Bob Dylan song in tribute to Peter Gzowski. In talking to Alison, apparently Peter Gzowski also enjoyed Bob Dylan and occasionally sang a tune or two.

The performance by the Premier, Mr. Speaker, was a fitting end to an emotional, fun and successful two days in Fort Simpson, and it demonstrated once again Peter Gzowski's observation that Northerners truly are unique. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Weledeh, Mr. Handley.

Member's Statement on Features and Attractions of Weledeh

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Weledeh is thriving in diversity, excitement and history. It is home to our original people who live in Detah and N'dilo. Long before Europeans came, their ancestors camped and fished and hunted in that area. It is also the original Old Town, home to many of our early explorers and developers. A lot of the names, the Rochers, the Bromleys, the McAvoy's, the Weavers, the Laroques, and many, many more are common in that area.

It is home as well today to many of our leaders, including our Premier and the mayor of this fine city. It is home to people who have chosen alternative styles of life, including living year-round on houseboats and along the Ingraham Trail, or in the colourful old houses in the Woodyard or along Back Bay.

Weledeh is also a tourism mecca. Most of the aurora tourists, the Japanese tourists who come to the Northwest Territories, come to Weledeh. In total, about 60,000 person trips by Japanese tourists are made up and down the Ingraham Trail every year.

Not only do we welcome tourism in Weledeh but we are also daring tourists ourselves. In fact, as I speak today, Captain Todd Burlingame and his crew of Cal Brackman and Tim Coleman have either just arrived or are arriving in the Azures, having sailed a little ship, Sunblood, from Halifax across the Atlantic to the Azures on their way to Portugal. They are just arriving as we speak.

Mr. Speaker, it is also a place with a lot of great restaurants, including the Smoke House that Muriel Betsina just opened, which has its official opening next week; the Wildcat, the Waterfront, the Bistro, the Trappers Cabin, and Bullock's Fish Restaurant.

Mr. Speaker, I want to walk the talk when it comes to tourism, and this Saturday, to prove my support for tourism, I am the guest chef at the Wildcat Cafe. I invite any of you who want fine dining to come down there.

-- Laughter

I assure you I am well supervised and it will not become a health disaster. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Handley. Some of us just might take you up on that. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

Member's Statement on Suspension of the Business Incentive Policy

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the BIP, a topic that I know has been discussed a lot around this House in the past week. I have not gone on the record yet and I thought it was time that I did that.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, that I was very dismayed to hear Cabinet had waived BIP for the second phase of the correctional centre. I do not understand how Cabinet can arbitrarily decide to eliminate a policy for just one project. Either we have a policy or we do not.

The process causes me a considerable amount of consternation because there was absolutely no consultation. I found out about this change in the policy through the construction association bulletin and through media reports. There was no discussion or involvement among those outside of Cabinet. An important and longstanding policy was just waived with no consultation.

I have to ask, how does this waiving of a policy stand us in good stead? The public is already cynical about government and this just feeds their cynicism. When we do not follow our

own policies, it just leads to the public saying, "How can they be trusted?"

We are negotiating a new relationship with aboriginal governments. How can they trust us if we can just waive a policy with no consultation? How do they know that we are good for our word at the table if we cannot be trusted to stand up for what is already the policy of government?

How can we negotiate with business? We say we will do a certain thing in a policy and then, out of the blue, we get to ignore it. Will we accept from northern businesses, or businesses operating in the North, that they can start to purchase more from the south because northern prices are too high? I do not think so, but that is the excuse I seem to hear for waiving the policy on the BIP with the correctional centre.

Mr. Speaker, government sets the rules for business and for commerce. One of the key factors that business needs to be successful and prosper is to have a clear understanding of what the rules are and to be able to expect that the rules will be applied consistently.

Mr. Speaker, I call on the government to recognize their mistake and change their approach. Ensure that proposed changes in the BIP are discussed and advice from Northerners is taken into account before making any changes. If there is a problem with a policy, let's discuss how to improve it, but let's not just ignore it on a case-by-case basis. Let's return to consistency. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, June is a very busy month in our constituency offices. I have the pleasure of the assistance of a young woman originally from Tulita but going to school in Hay River and graduating from Diamond Jenness this month. Mr. Speaker, please remember the name Sharon Bernard, because I am sure we will be hearing great things about her in the future. Welcome.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize a former employee of this House, Candy Hardy, who was a former researcher with the Legislative Assembly, who worked closely with our side of the House and Members and the committees. I would like to welcome Candy back to the House. Welcome, Candy.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a few people I would like to recognize today in the gallery: Ms. Gayla Meredith, the recipient of the Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Award; Amanda Mallon, who nominated Ms. Meredith, and who is also the teacher induction and mentorship coordinator at ECE; to the left of Ms. Meredith is Ms. Chris Tricoteux, who is also a teacher at Range Lake School and YK No. 1 vice-president with the NWTTA; and to her far right is Mr. David Murphy, president of the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my colleague for Hay River South, in her attempt to recognize the young lady working for her formally from Tulita, I do not know if she forgot to mention it, but her constituency assistant, Wendy Morgan, is also here in the gallery.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Nahendeh, Mr. Antoine.

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was going to recognize Candy Hardy. She is now working for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs as a policy analyst. Beside her is Shawna Barber, a summer student with the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. I want to recognize them. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Weledeh, Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a constituent, a TV cameraman for CBC, Dave Kellett, and Lee Selleck, no fixed address. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Handley. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Mr. Lee Selleck, a CBC television personality and a constituent of Great Slave.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to your Legislative Assembly, and an extra congratulations to Ms. Meredith. To all the grandfathers that are out there today, in recognition of their presence, as they have spent so much time raising grandchildren.

-- Applause

Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Public Works and Services. I know there has been some discussion in the media about a meeting that was held yesterday among Cabinet Members and the Construction Association, and some suggestion that the issue of whether or not the tenders that were currently out for the second phase of the correctional centre might be withdrawn and the process redone. Could the Minister advise whether or not this is something Cabinet is now prepared to consider doing?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Return to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we did have a meeting with the Construction Association yesterday. There were a number of us there as Ministers. At this point in time, we have not decided anything any different than what we have been proceeding with, and that is the tenders stay as they are. I plan to have another meeting next week to review where we are going with this and what possible options are left, if any. However, at this present time, there are no changes to the process Public Works and Services is using. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in spite of the advice that the Minister and the other Cabinet Ministers received yesterday, they have chosen not to react. The meeting that Minister Steen just referred to, will that meeting also be with the members of the Construction Association to further discuss this? What is the meeting he mentioned for the next week? What is the purpose of that meeting and who is it with?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the meeting with the Construction Association took place yesterday. It was chaired by the Deputy Premier. It consisted of four Ministers. The meeting next week is a follow-up to the meeting that we had yesterday but it does not include anyone from the Construction Association. It is just an internal meeting between the departments that are involved in this project. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, why has the government chosen to ignore the advice they have received from Members of this House and members of the Construction Association and not stop the tender?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the decision to suspend BIP on this particular project of Public Works and Services is a decision of Cabinet. It might be more appropriate to direct the question to the Premier on this matter. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Steen. Final supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it seems like a bit of a sideways shuffle. Somebody had to prepare a paper and bring it to Cabinet for this to take place. Can the Minister tell me, was it Public Works and Services who first proposed waiving the BIP on the second phase of the North Slave Correctional Centre?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 257-14(5): North Slave Correctional Project Tendering Process

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe it was about three or four days ago when the question first came up on this particular subject. At that time, I responded that Public Works reviewed all of the options. We had our meetings with the client department. We had meetings with the manager and the contractor. We do not have any options left as to how we can possibly reduce costs of this project and stay within budget.

Public Works has recommended to Cabinet that we suspend BIP in an effort to try and meet the budget. We believe that by opening or broadening the field for bidders, we may get better bids than we had been receiving in the past. That would help us to meet the budget.

Public Works recommended to Cabinet that we consider suspending the BIP for this particular project only. We did not expect it to be applied to any other project. We did it with the thought that in the past, Public Works has always been directed to try all options to stay within budget before we come forward with any suggestions for supplementary appropriations on projects. We were responding to directions from the committees and from the Assembly in that we have to try all options in reducing costs before we can be expected to come forward with supplementary appropriations. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too have a question for the Minister of Public Works regarding the BIP process and the precedent that this government is trying to set for negotiated contracts, policies and procedures that we have in place.

Mr. Speaker, one thing I would like to know from the Minister is how this precedent can be read and how it could be a bad precedent for this government.

Presently under the land claims agreements, the Inuvialuit, through participation agreements and also through the Gwich'in Economic Measures Agreement, the agreements say the government shall consult with those organizations when any development, modification through preferential contracts, policies or procedures are being conducted.

I would like to ask the Minister, have you consulted with these organizations, knowing that this precedent undermines the BIP process, the negotiated contract process and the sole-sourced contracting process?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Return to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Public Works did not consult with those particular organizations. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, does the Minister state by that comment that the Department of Public Works is undermining land claims agreements, which are constitutionally protected agreements which this government has signed with First Nations organizations, when it comes to policies and procedures in this House? Have you looked at the implications of that decision in land claims agreements?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Public Works took a recommendation to Cabinet. It is not a decision of Public Works alone. It is a Cabinet decision to suspend BIP on this particular project. The need to consult before changing some policies is something that is beyond

Public Works. All we did was make the recommendation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have policies and procedures for a particular reason, especially when it comes to contracting procedures, the BIP process. The whole idea is to ensure that we entice the industry in the Northwest Territories.

I would like to ask the Minister, have you looked at the pros and cons of this decision, knowing that this could set a bad precedent when it comes to other policies and procedures in this government, such as negotiated contracts?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe that was one of the concerns that was taken into consideration of Cabinet. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister, has he received a legal opinion on the decision he brought forward to government relating to the implications of land claims agreements on that decision? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 258-14(5): Procurement Policy Consultation With Land Claimants

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not know if Cabinet received a legal opinion or not. There is something we need clarified here, and that is Public Works is not responsible for the BIP policy. That responsibility lies with the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.

Public Works recommended to Cabinet that the policy be suspended. It was just a recommendation. It was accepted. The questions the Member has may be better directed to the Minister responsible for the BIP policy. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

Question 259-14(5): Student Financial Assistance Program

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question this morning is for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. It concerns what I believe is a small anomaly in the Student Financial Assistance Program that we have.

There is a difficulty, I believe, with a definition of what a semester is. I am hearing from a constituent about a difficulty where they have not attended a university program within the past 12 months. They want to go to a spring session of college but they find they are ineligible for student financial assistance. It seems to be because our definition of semester is that it has to be a 12-week program. Spring and summer sessions are often less than that, eight to ten weeks.

My question is, would the Minister undertake to review this anomaly and the definition of semester and hopefully enable people to qualify for financial assistance, even though they may not be taking in a full 12-week program? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Handley.

Return to Question 259-14(5): Student Financial Assistance Program

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Member's understanding of the definition of a semester is right, it is 12 weeks. I will look into this situation and see if there is a way of working it out for summer students. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Braden.

Supplementary to Question 259-14(5): Student Financial Assistance Program

MR. BRADEN: Thank you very much, I appreciate the commitment. If this is something that can be expedited sooner than later, I think it would potentially make a difference for a few students who may be on the edge of making a decision about taking some spring or summer courses. I would ask if the Minister would be able to undertake that by the end of the month. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 259-14(5): Student Financial Assistance Program

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of student financial assistance is to assist people in furthering their education, so I will speak with the Member and find out the particular circumstances of the individual and see what we can work out so the person can continue with their education. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Lafferty.

Question 260-14(5): Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, the Premier of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, I would like to follow up on the Premier's statement on his recent trip to Ottawa to access funds for the Strategic Investment Fund.

I would like to ask the Minister, will there be a regional allocation to these funds? For example, is the federal government stating that money will be allocated to the east coast, the west coast and the North? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not clear to us at this time what the parameters and guidelines for allocating these dollars will be, since Cabinet is still considering what those terms of reference and guidelines will be. The indications are it will not be allocated on a regional basis. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From reading the media reports, I understand that the Premier expects to have a response from the federal government within the next few months as to how much, if any, money the Northwest Territories can access. I would like to ask the Premier, was the idea of a road through the Dogrib region brought to the table? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we presented a proposal to the federal government that shows two corridors where we would propose to allocate monies, if the federal government chose to fund our proposal. One is along the Mackenzie Valley and the other one is along the Slave Geological Province. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier did not answer my question. My question is was a road through the Dogrib region put on the table? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, the proposal the Member is speaking about was not presented in Ottawa to the federal government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Final supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Corridors to Canada document, which is the basis for the Premier's infrastructure lobby, excluded certain regions and was created without Members' input. I would like to ask the Minister, if and when this money is accessed, will Members have input on how this money is spent? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 260-14(5) Allocation of Federal Infrastructure Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have indicated to Members in committee that the first objective is to convince Canada, the federal Ministers, that the Northwest Territories is among the most strategic places to invest federal dollars at this time. As we speak, the federal government is starting to access revenues from the diamond mines and there is great opportunity for the federal government and the people of Canada and the Northwest Territories to see substantial and significant benefits flow out of the federal government's investing in bridges and roads, both along the Mackenzie Valley and Mackenzie Highway and into the Slave Geological Province.

Specific to the Member's question, if we do get dollars from the federal government, we will see what the sharing arrangement will be. We have told Members and the federal government that it is our view that we will make the final decisions on the allocations, should we get any money, with the Members of the Legislature. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions are again for the Minister of Public Works and Services. Mr. Speaker, the Minister confirmed that his department brought forward the decision paper to Cabinet, which outlined as one option the waiving of the BIP for the second phase of the North Slave Correctional Centre. I expect that if they have done that kind of recommendation, they have an assessment of what the potential savings would be. Could the Minister tell us what the expected savings were by waiving the BIP on this project?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Return to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the overall expected savings that we needed was in the range of \$4 million to \$5 million. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, is the Minister saying that on a projected \$20 million contract, we could save \$4 million to \$5 million by eliminating the BIP? Is that what we are saying here?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not saying that. I am saying that is what we needed. That is the amount of money we feel that the project is going to be over. We are shooting to find \$4 million to \$5 million, either through reducing the scope of the work, suspension of BIP, or a combination of all our options. We are hoping to achieve a reduction of \$4 million to \$5 million.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my first question had been, how much were they expecting to save through the waiving of BIP? I take it from the Minister's answer that there has been no economic evaluation done of what the waiving of BIP might save.

Let me ask another question. Has the government, the Department of Public Works and Services, ever done an assessment of what the extra costs are for the BIP? For the Business Incentive Policy, what is the difference between the actual lowest bid and the bid that is accepted because of the Business Incentive Policy? How much is it costing this government each year?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there seems to be three questions here. Has the department ever done an assessment? Yes, we have done our assessment. Have we ever reached a comparable figure? Yes, we have. In the cases where we have received bids from the south that did not qualify for any BIP, we would then compare that to what we received from a northern bidder, so we do have

some situations where we have comparisons. What is it costing annually? I do not know, Mr. Speaker, but I have been told it is in the nature of \$33 million. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would hope that the Minister would know exactly what that number is and be prepared to tell all of us in the public why we should support a policy that costs an extra \$33 million. Will the Minister undertake to do just that?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 261-14(5): Cost Savings Resulting From BIP Suspension

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I understand the question to be whether Public Works will review what we are saving in regard to the BIP on this particular project. Public Works will be reviewing the bids when we receive them because we are going with no BIP on this, so we will know what the potential savings would have been.

In any case, as I have said before in this House, it is hard to compare the two, unless you have both. We have not been receiving both in the past on this project. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today goes to the Minister responsible for the public service, the Honourable Joe Handley. My question has to do with the concerns of health care workers in the North who have been expressing their frustration with the lack of packages, or competitiveness in their packages, which is causing a shortage of employees. They are having to work in an environment where they have to work hundreds of hours of overtime because there is just not enough staff in their working environment to fill their position.

Mr. Speaker, I talked to someone at the hospital yesterday who said that there has been overtime in her paycheque since December. She has had to work overtime in every single pay period. There is a massive critical shortage. What is the Minister prepared to do about addressing this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board, Mr. Handley.

Return to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, there is a tentative agreement between the government and the UNW that is just in the process of being ratified. Now, where various groups

may have concerns about the provisions for their particular occupation or their group, that is not a matter I can really comment on. I should not be saying anything until this is ratified with the UNW because they are part of the UNW. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Ms. Lee.

Supplementary to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the ratification process going on, except that we only have about three more question periods for us to ask these questions, so I feel it is imperative on behalf of my constituents that I address these issues.

Mr. Speaker, I respect the ratification process. I want to focus the questions on the reality of the shortage of health care workers within our government. They are government employees. A lot of them will tell you that it is not really about money. It is about working conditions and other factors. What has he done as the Minister for the public service to address this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, our government is very much aware of the critical shortage of all occupations in the health field, right from doctors to nurses to health support workers. We have been very actively trying to recruit people. In some situations, we have paid allowances to get people here. Through the Maximizing Northern Employment Strategy, we have increased the amount of training that is being done through education.

Our approach has been to not just focus on trying to get people from the south, but training people ourselves from the North who can take up the occupations. It is not going to be a quick, short turn-around on this, Mr. Speaker. I do sympathize with the situation the health care workers face. I am sure the hospitals are doing everything they can to fill those positions, but the reality is there is a shortage right across the country.

However, as quickly as we can, we want to move toward having more home-grown people in our health fields. In the meantime, we will recruit as actively as we can and train people as quickly as we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Ms. Lee.

Supplementary to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe any of the programs that he has mentioned, such as Maximizing Northern Employment, really address the critical shortage of health care workers. I do not think that is the same thing. I do not want to rain on the parade of some of the good work that the government has done, but I am still interested in hearing from the Minister what has he done and what is he prepared to do to address the critical shortage of health care

workers, other than just saying that it is happening everywhere in the world and we just have to live with it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not know there is a lot that we can do that would give a quick response to this. Recruitment certainly is the key, and through the Department of Health and Social Services, our government is doing everything it can to recruit and fill those positions. That is the key.

I think Ms. Lee is right. The problem is shortage of people and too many workers having to do overtime that they would prefer not to do. In some cases, they do overtime and then go right into a regular shift. That is not a good situation. We recognize that. Recruitment has to be the short term, but we are competing with other provinces.

In the longer term, as I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, we are doing a number of initiatives and trying to attract Northerners into the health professions. If any of the Members have good ideas of things we can do that would make us even more attractive, then we will do it, but there are limitations on this and there is a lot of competition for people in this area. We recognize that it is a serious situation. I have no other ideas as to how we might be able to alleviate the situation in the short term. It is very difficult. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Ms. Lee.

Supplementary to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that the health care workers who are listening to us are not going to appreciate that was the second Minister in this government who has said there is not a lot we can do, that we just have to keep it at status quo. We just have to do more, Mr. Speaker. If he is looking for creative ideas, I do believe that health care workers have presented to him a petition, which is one way of dealing with it. What is his response to that petition? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 262-14(5): Competitive Compensation for Health Care Professionals

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, yes, last week I did meet with a number of the health care workers, five people, to be exact. The main proposal they put forward to me was that they wanted to have their own bargaining unit. They saw this as a way of being able to have different benefits and salary packages and so on. I pointed out to them that I do not think that will work, because under the Canadian Human Rights Act, we would still be the employer and we cannot use creation of bargaining units as a way of paying one group of people more money than another one. I told them I would consider that and I am considering it, but I do not think the proposal they gave me

would resolve this in the short term. We just could not do any more through that particular alternative. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

Question 263-14(5): North Slave Correctional Centre Project

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to address my questions to, it could be the Premier, but I will allow him to decide who it will be addressed to. It has to do with the North Slave Correctional Centre. While trying to grapple with this situation of why the costs are driving up so high on this project and what we can do to bring it around in line with projected costs, what were the main reasons, Mr. Speaker, for building this facility in Yellowknife?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. I believe the question was directed to the honourable Premier, who can designate any other Minister he wishes. Mr. Premier.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Public Works and Services will take the question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have to apologize. I was reading my notes here so I did not hear the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Steen. Perhaps you could repeat the question, Mr. Delorey?

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was, what were the main reasons for having this facility built in Yellowknife? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what facility are we talking about here? This one?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey, the more specific question.

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Obviously he was wrapped up in his notes, and I do not want to take up too much time, but it has to do with the North Slave Correctional Centre. What were the main reasons for building that facility in Yellowknife?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. We will direct that question to the Premier. Mr. Premier.

Return to Question 263-14(5): North Slave Correctional Centre Project

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe it may have been the previous Cabinet that made the decision on the budget allocation. It was done by a former Minister of Justice. I believe we can revisit the question, but it will take

some time. I will take the question as notice and get back to the Member on it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. The question has been taken as notice. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Mr. Roland.

Question 264-14(5): Utilization of the Aurora Research Institute

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question at this time would be directed to the Minister responsible for Education, Culture and Employment. It has to do with the Aurora Research Institute that is located in Inuvik.

On many occasions in this government, we hear of different departments undertaking research and hiring consultants to look at different things in this government. I would like to know from the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, the Acting Minister, the Honourable Joe Handley, as to what has been done to have other departments use existing resources like the research institute to do some of the work that is out there, work in forming some of these strategies and items like that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Roland. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Handley.

Return to Question 264-14(5): Utilization of the Aurora Research Institute

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Aurora Research Institute is affiliated with the Arctic College system and through that, hopefully we have some of the results from the research that has been done there being linked into the various departments.

Very broadly speaking, there is probably a lot more that could be done to have departments become aware of the research being undertaken. In some areas, specifically, for example, on energy, I know that when the advisor on energy was putting together the Energy Strategy, he was talking to the people at the research institute on using some of their work in the preparation of his strategy. I am sure there are a lot of other areas of research that can also be considered by departments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Roland.

Supplementary to Question 264-14(5): Utilization of the Aurora Research Institute

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that response. Would the Minister then look at informing his Cabinet colleagues that there is an existing facility with resources here in the Northwest Territories that can take on some of their work when it comes to gathering information and putting things together? The Minister is very correct, they are very involved and my discussions with directors of the past and present indicate that they can do a lot more. I think they would like to be utilized to a larger degree.

Can the Minister work with his Cabinet colleagues to ensure that before we hire outside consultants, they will use our own resources here in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Roland. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 264-14(5): Utilization of the Aurora Research Institute

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that is an excellent suggestion. I will ask the research institute to supply me and other departments with information on their capacity and what they are capable of doing, and also a plan of what their scope of work is over the next few years. I will begin a dialogue with the other departments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Handley. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for the Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Public Works in regard to the cost overruns at the correctional facility. Mr. Speaker, this project was supposed to come in around \$33 million. It sounds like we are well into the \$40 million range.

I would like to ask the Minister, did the Department of Public Works and Services underestimate the economic reality of what is going on in the North, where the cost of development is going up? By underestimating that, this cost is now being a burden on the policies of this government.

I would like to ask the Minister, does his department know at this time what the actual cost of this project will be at its conclusion?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Return to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the short answer to this is that Public Works, at this point in time, does not know the final price on this project.

With reference to how we arrived at the initial budget, Public Works and Services did go to consultants down south to try and arrive on a price that we could give to the client department for this facility. The consultants could not find a comparable facility down south so they came forward with the suggestion of roughly \$35 million for a project like this.

However, that was in 1999 dollars. Unfortunately, there was no estimation taken into consideration at that time, so \$35 million in 1999 dollars is what we are working with and that is what was put into the Department of Justice's budget.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

MR. KRUTKO: Mr. Speaker, knowing that the cost seem to be exorbitantly out of control here, I would like to ask the Minister

of Public Works, has he looked at phasing back or cutting back certain aspects of this project to save money, instead of having to cut back on the contracting aspect of it? Rather, look at phasing down this project so it is more economically viable and it is something that we can afford.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Public Works did work with the client department. We worked with the designers and some of the scope of the work was cut back. There was a reduction in beds. You can possibly get that exact information as to how much the scope of the work was reduced from Justice. We did reduce the scope of the work quite a bit.

The first phase of the project was supposed to come in at \$17 million. That was estimated to be \$3.8 million over. Using those figures, we are estimating that phase two may have the same problem. There have been some reductions on the scope of the work.

The other thing we took into consideration was whether or not we could delay the project. As I said in the House earlier this week, that is not an option because we have to get off of the land that the twin pad arena is planned to be built on because that is where the existing facility is. The plan is to move those people into the new facility, allowing access to the twin pad arena. We are very limited as to where we can go with this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, knowing the financial situation we are in as a government, these cost overruns are eventually going to affect us through our social programs. I have a real problem with the way this project is being handled.

I would like to ask the Minister, when will he have the actual figures? Will he have the figures in hand before the adjournment of this House so we can see what the real cost of this project is going to be? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I have to respond no. We will not have it before the House adjourns because the tenders do not close until the end of the month.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

MR. KRUTKO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he has suggested to his colleagues that they may have to extend this program or delay the construction of the project within the time frame that is set, knowing that these cost overruns will be a burden on other areas of this government? I would like to ask the Minister, have you put forth a recommendation to your Cabinet colleagues to ask for the extension of this construction, phasing it out over a longer period of time instead of trying to do it all at once?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works and Services, Mr. Steen.

Further Return to Question 265-14(5): Correctional Facility Cost Overruns

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that Public Works would probably take about one to two weeks to analyze the bids. We would then know what the costs are going to be. We would then go back to the client department and we will consider options, such as what the Member suggested. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier, and it reflects on the days that he spent last week in Dawson City, I believe, with other western and northern Premiers. Deputy Premier Antoine delivered a statement reflecting on this, in which he noted that the NWT continues to work with our neighbouring territories, and that:

We managed to get agreement from all Premiers that the federal government should begin discussions with all three territories to determine how current and future federal funding can best meet the economic and diversification needs of northern people.

I would like to ask the Premier, what steps will this initiative involve? What is the plan as far as getting the federal government to act in a coordinated manner for economic development across the North? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The territories, Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, have been without an economic development agreement for a number of years now. We have been consistently, on an annual basis, soliciting support from one another, as well as from other Premiers, to pressure the federal government into providing an economic development program for the northern territories. We have not been successful to date, but the Minister for Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

and his officials have been working in coordination with my own officials to continue conveying that message to the federal government. We will continue to do that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Supplementary, Mr. Braden.

Supplementary to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is well known that other regions of Canada have long-standing agreements with the federal government. I believe there is the Western Economic Diversification Fund for the Prairie Provinces, the Atlantic region has ACOA. I understand that this is something that has been a persistent request on the part of the Territories to the federal government. Can the Minister give us any kind of explanation or perhaps his views on why the federal government is resisting a plea from the North to put together a similar agency? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could not possibly speculate on the reasons why the federal government has failed to recognize that the Northwest Territories, Nunavut in particular, and as well, the Yukon Territory, represent the most remote, high cost areas in Canada. We represent over a third of the geographic area of Canada, and some of the greatest mineral and oil and gas potential, yet we lack infrastructure and basic elements necessary for development to proceed in our areas.

It has been difficult going to Ottawa and convincing the federal government that there should be some resources made available to us. We have been lobbying and advocating that for a number of years, but the fact is, most of the Members of Parliament come from southern cities, from the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The Northwest Territories has one Member of Parliament as does Nunavut and the Yukon Territory. That probably says a lot about why there is very little action from the federal government for the northern part of Canada. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Supplementary, Mr. Braden.

Supplementary to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

MR. BRADEN: Those are very good observations. I am wondering if it is time for us to reflect on what the current Minister of DIAND has to say. I am quoting from an April 5th edition of the Yellowknifer, in which the honourable Minister, Robert Nault said: "The department is mainly for aboriginal groups."

This seems to be essentially a rejection on the part of DIAND's mandate that it has anything to do with fostering economic development in northern Canada. I am wondering whether or not Mr. Nault has communicated this view to the rest of the federal government, and thus cleared the way for us to really

approach the federal Cabinet and say look, it is time to put together something that is...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Braden, may we have a question, please? We are running out of time. A question, please.

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is it time for us to renew our approach to the federal government given that the present Minister of DIAND seems to have abandoned us? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I understand the Minister to have said that he actually gets specific dollars from Cabinet for aboriginal people and that sometimes includes aboriginal people in the Northwest Territories. He does not receive dollars specifically for the Territories. The territorial government, the Yukon Government and Nunavut all have to, as provincial governments do, go to the respective federal Ministers in departments in trying to access required dollars for the programs and services that we are mandated to carry out.

Has he abandoned us? I would say definitely not. He continues to advocate for such things as the Intergovernmental Forum, for oil and gas development, for development of diamond mines, for the clean-up of the contaminated environmental areas in the Northwest Territories, and continues supporting us on issues like climate change and Kyoto, but many of those are actually responsibilities that are with other federal Ministers and not with Minister Nault. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Final supplementary, Mr. Braden.

Supplementary to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Without some kind of protocol or framework that the North can use in a consistent manner with Ottawa, I think we are going to be consistently challenged when it comes to work such as our infrastructure scheme. We have had to find it appropriate to go on several different trips to appeal to different Ministers one-on-one. Is it not time that we, as the three territories, renewed this call for a sustained protocol that we can rely on as our avenue to get Canada's attention and investment in the North? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 266-14(5): Federal Economic Development Funding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that is a suggestion that the Member wants to develop and articulate a little further, we would be pleased to consider it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Lafferty.

Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable Joe Handley, Minister for Transportation for all of the Northwest Territories. My question is about the Corridors for Canada. A road through the Dogrib region was excluded as one of the six projects from this document, which was taken to Ottawa. I would like to ask the Minister whose decision it was. Was it his decision? Was it the department's decision? Or was it the six Members of Cabinet's decision? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Handley.

Return to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when we became aware of the opportunity to put in a proposal for the Strategic Infrastructure Fund, I then asked my department and other departments for information on what proposals we could put forward. I had been designated as the Minister responsible for this infrastructure opportunity.

The proposals we considered before our first visit to Ottawa were in the area of municipal infrastructure and transportation infrastructure. After hearing the federal ministers, the Premier and I then recommended back to Cabinet that we would put forward proposals on transportation infrastructure. So it was my recommendation and it was certainly agreed to by Cabinet. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to clarify with the Minister, if I understood correctly, that it was the decision of two Cabinet Ministers who decided that a road through the Dogrib region would be excluded? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The proposal was put forward to Cabinet. We said, "This is the proposal we are taking forward to Ottawa." There was agreement by Cabinet, by all of Cabinet, that this was the proposal. Mr. Speaker, just for clarification, there is no exclusion in the document to the potential of a road through the Dogrib region. That is very much a potential.

In fact, I think there was agreement by the previous Minister of Transportation to have a steering committee set up, which the Member was going to co-chair along with one of the Dogrib chiefs. We would like to work with that process and develop

that alternative through the Dogrib region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Whenever we take anything to Ottawa, we do specific projects and we are only funded for those projects. The Minister is trying to say that we will maybe look at it at a later date, but I do not see that. I would like to ask the Minister, would he and the Cabinet look at a Dogrib route to the mines at this time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Handley.

Further Return to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, as soon as the Member and whichever chief is a co-chair of the steering committee want to get together, then I would be happy to attend the meeting and look at what the options are, what the obstacles are that we would have to overcome and begin this task right away. There is no intention on my part to delay any consideration of the potential of a road through the Dogrib region. I would like to work with the Member and make that happen, if that is what the people want and if that is what the industry that uses the road in the Slave Geological Province want. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Mr. Lafferty.

Supplementary to Question 267-14(5): Highway Through North Slave Communities

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As it was the decision of two Cabinet Ministers to bring it forward to Cabinet to exclude the Dogrib region, I would like to ask the Minister, if there was a trade between the Ingraham Trail and a route through the Dogrib region, which one would the two Ministers pick? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Perhaps you could rephrase that, Mr. Lafferty. That appears to be a very hypothetical question. Rephrase it, Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is pretty straightforward. They do make the decisions. I am asking what kind of decision they would make if they had a choice between two routes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to rule that one out of order. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

Question 268-14(5): North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, continuing my line of questioning, trying to bring out some factors of what is driving the cost of this North Slave Correctional

Centre up, I heard Minister Steen say that when they went south for proposals for cost effectiveness, or whatever it costs to build this facility, you mentioned that there were no facilities down south like it to compare the prices to.

I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, what was the difference between this project and any projects down south that they could not come up with a price to establish what it would cost to build this facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. Your question is directed to the Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return to Question 268-14(5): North Slave Correctional Centre

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I will take that question as notice. Thank you

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question has been taken as notice. Item 6, oral questions. Item 7, written questions. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

ITEM 7: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 3-14(5): Application of the Business Incentive Policy to Tendered Contracts

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my written question is addressed to the Minister of Public Works and Services.

1. In fiscal year 2001-2002, what was the total difference between the lowest price offered through tender calls and the awards that resulted from the application of the Business Incentive Policy?
2. Again in 2001-2002, in those tender awards where the BIP affected the award of a contract, what percentage over the lowest tender did this amount represent?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dent. Item 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Mr. Allen.

ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled Document 44-14(5): Victims Assistance Committee of the Northwest Territories 13th Annual Report, April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document entitled Victims Assistance Committee of the Northwest Territories 13th Annual Report, April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Allen. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motion. Item 15, notices of motion for the first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Weledeh, Mr. Handley.

ITEM 15: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR THE FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have four notices of motion for the first reading of bills.

Bill 18: Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2002-2003

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 17, 2002, I will move that Bill 18, Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2002-2003, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Bill 19: Write-off of Debts Act, 2002-2003

Mr. Speaker, as well, I give notice that on Monday, June 17, 2002, I will move that Bill 19, Write-off of Debts Act, 2002-2003, be read for the first time. Thank you.

Bill 21: Health Statutes Amendment Act

Mr. Speaker, as well, I give notice on behalf of Mr. Miltenberger that on Monday, June 17, 2002, I will move that Bill 21, Health Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Bill 22: An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act

Mr. Speaker, I give notice on behalf of Mr. Miltenberger that on June 17, 2002, Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act, will be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 15, notices of motion for the first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Mr. Allen.

Bill 20: Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 17, 2002, I will move that Bill 20, Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 15, notices of motion for the first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Mr. Allen.

ITEM 18: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Bill 16: Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker,

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Weledeh, that Bill 16, Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is based on model legislation developed by a committee of federal, provincial and territorial government officials to provide uniform and simplified processes for obtaining, varying and recognizing support orders in cases in which one party resides in the Northwest Territories and one party resides in another jurisdiction in Canada or elsewhere that has been designated as a reciprocating jurisdiction.

The bill would replace the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act and make consequential amendments to the

Maintenance Orders Enforcement Act and the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We have a motion. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. The Chair does not recognize a quorum. Would you please sound the bells?

-- Ringing of the Bells

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We have a motion. The motion is in order. Is the House ready for the vote? Question has been called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Bill 16 has had second reading. Accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Minister's Statement 46-14(5), Minister's Statement 47-14(5), Tabled Document 35-14(5), Committee Report 7-14(5) and Committee Report 8-14(5), with Mr. Delorey in the chair.

ITEM 19: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): I would like to call committee of the whole to order. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recommend that we consider Committee Report 7-14(5), followed by Committee Report 8-14(5).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Dent. The Chair will call a short break.

-- Break

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): I will call committee of the whole back to order. We are going to review Committee Report 7-14(5). I will open the floor to general comments. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just going to say that there are a couple of recommendations in the committee report that I would like to make as committee motions in committee of the whole, if I could, about this report. I think we spent some time reading the report into the record yesterday, so just to get things started,

Committee Motion 24-14(5): Comprehensive Strategy for the Training and Certification of Aboriginal Interpreters and Translators (Carried)

I MOVE that this committee recommends the government establish a comprehensive strategy for the training and certification of aboriginal language interpreters and translators by 2004.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman,

Committee Motion 25-14(5): Staff Workshops on the Official Languages Act to be Included in GNWT Employee Orientations (Carried)

I MOVE that this committee recommends the government provides staff workshops on the Official Languages Act and the act be included in the orientation of new Government of the Northwest Territories employees.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Continuing on with Committee Report 7-14(5), general comments. Does the committee agree that Committee Report 7-14(5) is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Committee Report 7-14(5) is concluded. We will go on to Committee Report 8-14(5). General comments. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we read the report into the House yesterday, I think it was pretty straightforward. I have a couple of committee motions to make regarding the report, if it would be possible to proceed at this point.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Go ahead with your motion, Mr. Roland.

Committee Motion 26-14(5): Establishment of Legislation to Address Private Sector Privacy and Access Jurisdiction (Carried)

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories establish legislation in order to avoid federal jurisdiction in the area of privacy and access laws that pertain to the regulation, collection, storage and use of personal information in the private sector here in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Mr. Roland.

Committee Motion 27-14(5): Establishment of New Legislation to Address the Disclosure of Personal Information by Private Health Care Companies (Carried)

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have another committee motion.

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the government investigate the possibility of either expanding the current Northwest Territories Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act or establishing new legislation to protect Northwest Territories citizens from the disclosure of personal information by private health care companies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All

those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Moving on with Committee Report 8-14(5). Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: Mr. Chairman, I move we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is defeated. Continuing on with Committee Report 8-14(5). General comments. Does the committee agree that Committee Report 8-14(5) is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Committee Report 8-14(5) is concluded. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: I would like to move that we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion on the floor. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. The Chair will rise and report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will come back to order. Item 20, report of the committee of the whole. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

ITEM 20: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Committee Report 7-14(5) and Committee Report 8-14(5) and would like to report progress with four motions being adopted. Committee Report 7-14(5) and Committee Report 8-14(5) are concluded. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Do we have a seconder for the motion? The honourable Member for Hay River South seconds the motion. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Item 21, third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Weledeh.

ITEM 21: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 12: An Act to Amend the Elections Act

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker,

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Elections Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We have a motion on the floor. The motion is not debatable. Question has been called. All those in favour, please signify. Thank you. All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Bill 12 has had third reading. Item 21, third reading of bills. Mr. Clerk, may we have the orders of the day?

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A meeting of the Standing Committee on Social Programs at 2:00 p.m. this afternoon; on Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight and Cabinet House Strategy; also again at 10:00 a.m. of the Standing Committee on Accountability and

Oversight; at 10:30 a.m. of the Special Joint Committee on Non-Tax-Based Community Affairs and at 12:00 p.m. of the Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development.

Orders of the day for Monday, June 17, 2002:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion
15. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 17, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 2002-03
 - Bill 18, Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2002-03
 - Bill 19, Write-off of Debts Act, 2002-03
 - Bill 20, Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act
 - Bill 21, Health Statutes Amendment Act
 - Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act
18. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Real Estate Agents Licensing Act
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Minister's Statement 46-14(5), Social Agenda Working Group Report
 - Minister's Statement 47-14(5), GNWT Response to the Social Agenda Report

- Tabled Document 35-14(5), Social Agenda: A Draft for People of the NWT

- Committee Report 614(5), Special Committee on the Implementation of Self-Government and the Sunset Clause: Report on Sunset Clause

- Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Adoption Act and Family Law Act

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until Monday, June 17, 2002, at 1:30 p.m.

-- ADJOURNMENT

The House adjourned at 12:55 p.m.