



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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The Honourable Tony Whitford, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**Thursday, October 24, 2002****Members Present**

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

-- Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Tony Whitford): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Good afternoon, colleagues. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Minister responsible for Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Ootes.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS**Minister's Statement 80-14(5): NWT Principals' Conference**

HON. JAKE OOTES: Mr. Speaker, earlier today I had an opportunity to address a dedicated, focused and energetic group of educators, the principals of the schools of the Northwest Territories.

They will be here in Yellowknife over the next several days in order to advance their knowledge in effective leadership practices during our annual principals' conference. This is the only conference of its kind in Canada where all principals working in one province or territory travel to come together to learn, network and improve their skills. This year's conference theme is "Gaining Momentum: Increasing Student Success".

And increasing student success is just what these professionals do best. It is the principal who is the pivotal role in implementing new programs in schools. They have the responsibility to take the initiatives outlined by the department and educational boards and turn them into reality within the individual schools. The onus is on them to ensure that "it happens".

In the Northwest Territories principals are also educators and community leaders. They have multi-faceted roles: teacher, coach, counsellor, caregiver and career advisor to name a few. We know this can be a challenge. Our educators play a pivotal role in the formation of our youth. In many cases these are the people who will work with our students and their families as they make the critical choices to prepare their child for a productive future.

Now more than ever, the future holds tremendous promise for our young people here in the Northwest Territories. Our educators are working now with the future leaders of tomorrow.

Please join me as I welcome these committed leaders to Yellowknife. By attending this conference they are demonstrating their commitment to lifelong learning. We look forward to the new ideas and knowledge that they will bring back to share in their home communities. Through building knowledge we will build a better tomorrow for our NWT students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. McLeod.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**Member's Statement on Access to Information in NWT Communities**

MR. MCLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise the issue of access to information. We are now in an age where information and access to information is a key to success in education, work place, business and politics. I am very concerned that in our smaller communities we are without relevant access to timely information, which could be the difference between life and death, the difference between acquiring or missing a business opportunity, the difference in being adequately prepared for post-secondary education or not.

Mr. Speaker, at one time this government had a field service clerk program which through a small office in the communities was a conduit with which all types of information was passed and retrieved. The amount of information that passes through this government in itself is enormous, which is why we require staff to digest it and condense it into a form that is meaningful to us. Put yourself in the place of an individual in the community that has limited access to information and when they do receive the information from this government, or anyone else for that matter, what does it mean to them?

It has only been in the last few years that telephone service has been readily available in the smaller communities. The cost of developing such infrastructure is great, thereby eliminating access to the Internet unless people are willing to pay a higher cost than their neighbours in a community such as Yellowknife and Hay River. Residents in my constituency are aware of the business and economic opportunities knocking on their door. However, to capture these and prepare for these opportunities, access to information is vital.

I would encourage this government to assess the information requirements of the smaller communities such as those in my riding to determine what it is that would make access to information easier. A start would be to identify and hire a person in the communities who is proactive, who can work with the seniors and the youth, who knows the communities and knows how to access government departments and move as a conduit for those seeking information.

Mr. Speaker, this may seem trivial to some of the Members sitting here today and may seem trivial to those persons who now enjoy timely access to information, but for those people with limited or no access it is important for their future and for the future of their children that this is something this government should reflect on and take action on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

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

Member's Statement on NWT Mining Heritage Society

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I will be talking about a new society that was formed recently, the NWT Mining Heritage Society. Mr. Speaker, Yellowknife was built on mining. Many people came here, lived here and raised families here because of what lies within our rocky landscape. The great gold mines, Giant and Con, are evidence of that.

Today, especially with the diamond mines, this industry is still an engine that drives our city and the Territories' economy, which is why I am so pleased that on September 25th a formal board of directors was voted in at the first annual general meeting of the NWT Mining Heritage Society. Mr. Speaker, the group had been operating on an ad hoc basis for the last two years and came about partly when Giant Mine was being shut down. At that time a group of interested citizens got together to go to the mine and salvage mining equipment there before it was destroyed. They have stuck with it and from that effort a society has been formed.

The membership of the board includes Walt Humphries, who is the president; Mike Vaydik, vice president; Wayne Bryant, secretary-treasurer; Chuck Arnold, Diane Baldwin, Mike Beauregard, Mike Byrne, Dennis Olmstead and Yana Preston are the directors.

Mr. Speaker, I believe they have taken on a very important job. The society's mandate is to preserve mining heritage in the NWT and promote the development of facilities, sites and exhibits that will further the understanding and appreciation of mining, mineral exploration and geology industries in the NWT, all the while contributing to the tourism and economic potential of the NWT.

Mr. Speaker, although some of them are very well known, they all have diverse backgrounds and share an interest in seeing northern history preserved. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the society's major plan is to develop a mining museum in Yellowknife, an idea that I believe is long overdue. I understand that many tourists come up here and they are disappointed to find that there is no mining or geological museum or a heritage centre.

I want the people of the NWT to know that the society is up and running and they have a web page www.nwtminingheritage.com. I encourage NWT residents to log on to the web site if they have a chance and see what the society is up to. I will be doing it, and I wish them success in all their efforts and look forward to seeing...

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Lee. your time for Member's statement has ended. Ms. Lee.

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement please.

MR. SPEAKER: You certainly may. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to continue with her Member's statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Ms. Lee, you may continue.

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to simply conclude that I want to wish them well and I want to do all I can to help with the society and enjoy their success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Lafferty.

Member's Statement on Firearms Registration Assistance

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on Monday my colleague, Mr. McLeod, pointed out that unless Northerners register their firearms by January 1, 2003, they will be breaking a federal law. He also pointed out that there are no longer any places to register firearms in the Territories. The offices in Hay River and Yellowknife have closed. People interested in registering their firearms must call elsewhere, no one knows where, or register through the Internet, again at an unknown site.

There is a huge gap between the law and the support needed to comply with the act.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame.

MR. LAFFERTY: During question period on Monday the Premier stated his opposition to the law and this government's position that no money or any other resources would be spent to assist the federal government in getting people to comply with the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, whether we like it or not, this gun control legislation has become law. As the Government of the Northwest Territories we have a responsibility to the people of the North to provide services where no other services are available. Many gun owners are trappers and aboriginals that depend on firearms for their livelihood. If we do not help them to register their guns, they will be breaking the law and could have their guns seized. I will have questions on this issue later, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

-- Applause

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

Member's Statement on Town Council Elections in Inuvik

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I rose to make mention of the elections in Inuvik and mentioned those who were successful in the elections for Inuvik Town Council as well as the Inuvik District Education Authority. However, I did not mention the fact that the mayor, Mr. Peter Clarkson, was acclaimed to the position of mayor and will be serving his second term as mayor. It is rare in a community that has a lot of political interest that you would see someone get acclaimed to a position, so I think that speaks highly of Mayor Clarkson and his abilities and wish him much success in leading our community honourably. Thank you.

-- Applause

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

Member's Statement on North Slave Correctional Facility

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak about the \$50 million country club that is being built where you can go for real top of the line of services with regard to programs and services, compared to what the rest of the Northwest Territories residents receive.

Mr. Speaker, what I am really talking about is the \$50 million fiasco that we find ourselves in with regard to the North Slave correction facility. Where this facility was projected to cost \$35 million, as of December last year the estimate was \$40 million and now we find in August, after cancellation of the BIP process, that a tender was received in which this government, on August 6th, approved a \$8.4 million budget increase, taking this mega-project to \$50 million.

Mr. Speaker, I find it hard to stand here and tell my constituents, sorry we do not have any money, we cannot deliver programs and services and we cannot help you with regard to the social problems we face in our communities. Yet, Mr. Speaker, knowing the financial restraints we are under as a government, we can find room to approve \$8.4 million knowing that we have a major deficit that we have to face and deal with.

Mr. Speaker, I for one feel that we should either submit that the Auditor General to do a thorough review of how this project has been handled and exactly are these expenditures for dollar for value based on the amount that has been spent and the size of this facility and the programs and services that can be accessed elsewhere? At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the Minister of Justice questions on this matter.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Nitah.

Member's Statement on Number of Children in Care Increasing

MR. NITAH: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my statement today deals with the social policy of this government. It is closely related to what Mr. Krutko is saying, where we put our commitment to resources as a government, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when we first got elected, we came up with a document called "Towards a Better Tomorrow", which speaks to improving the social well being of people of the Northwest Territories right across the board.

One of the areas that we talk about is a strong, family unit, and strong, healthy and educated children. I would like to speak to the fact, Mr. Speaker, that since we have been elected in 1999, our numbers of children in custody have gone up by 30, 35 percent by 250, Mr. Speaker. That does not speak too much to our policy of healthy communities, healthy families, healthy children. In fact, it is going the other way, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, since we as a government have committed to building the North Slave Correctional Centre, our programs and areas of alcohol treatment centres, the youth justice systems, et cetera, and bush camp justice systems, have gone right now. It seems like we tied all of our healing into one facility,

and the government's message to the people of the Northwest Territories is wait until you become a criminal; only then will we deal with your social issues.

I am going to be asking the Minister of Health and Social Services why there is such an increase in child custody within the government programs and services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nitah. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

Member's Statement on State of Highway No. 2 in Hay River

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise the issue of Highway No. 2 in Hay River. Mr. Speaker, just to refresh everyone's memory, Highway No. 2 is a stretch of highway from the bridge in Hay River all the way north to West Channel in my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I have continued to raise the issue of the condition of Highway No. 2 in this Assembly basically since I got elected. I am sure I have become the nemesis of the department and the Minister of Transportation, but here I go again.

I have continued to raise the issue of Highway No. 2 in this House, Mr. Speaker, because I have not seen any form of progress with it, as it is badly in need of repair. It has been as long as I can remember.

Mr. Speaker, I read with interest a document from the Department of Transportation entitled "Historical Highway Maintenance and Upgrading Expenditures for the Years 1999-2001." Upon reviewing this document, Mr. Speaker, I learned that Highway No. 2 has had the least amount of money spent on it in each year from 1998 to 2001. Highways No. 1, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8 have all had more money spent on them every year. This does not add up, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Highway No. 2 is a very busy highway, but it had the least amount of money spent by the Department of Transportation. That is very disturbing to me. As I stated in the House previously, Mr. Speaker, it appears to me that there are other road projects that were not even on the radar screen when I started bringing up Highway No. 2, and these other projects have had money allocated, and in some instances, had the work done already.

Mr. Speaker, in June of this year, the Minister of Transportation, when I questioned him about the lack of any work being done on Highway No. 2 stated in this House, and I quote: "I realize the condition it is in. I will certainly ask the department to have a look at what we may do in the short term for this summer, but there are major problems with that road and its tendency to settle."

Mr. Speaker, the Minister is in agreement with me that there are major problems with this highway, but here I am again asking for the Department of Transportation to start spending some serious money on it.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, ever since I have been making inquiries about Highway No. 2, I have been told by the Minister to wait until the Department of Transportation creates an engineering study on the highway.

Mr. Speaker, I received a commitment from the Minister in this House in June of this year that the engineering study on Highway No. 2 will be completed this fall.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Delorey, the time for your Member's statement is up. Mr. Delorey.

MR. DELOREY: 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, Mr. Delorey.

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, thank you, colleagues. As we can see, Mr. Speaker, fall is here. So I eagerly await the Minister's comments on the study when I get an opportunity during oral questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Bell.

Member's Statement on Need for a Dementia Facility for NWT Seniors

MR. BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I wanted to speak to seniors' needs across the entire Northwest Territories, Mr. Speaker. I think it is certainly an issue that we are aware of, but I think as a government, we tend to pay more lip service to seniors' programs and seniors' needs than initiating real action. We know that our population is aging, Mr. Speaker. We know that we don't have enough housing for seniors. There is one specific group in Yellowknife, the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors, who have recently been continually lobbying this government and making the case for a specific dementia facility here in Yellowknife. I think in discussing this with some of my other colleagues, there certainly seems to be a need right across the Northwest Territories to look at specific dementia facilities.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, currently Aven's Manor cannot meet the demands of seniors in our community and it has not been set up with the specialized, I guess, training and the specialized facilities required to safely house seniors with dementia. This is certainly something that they have been...the message that they have been driving home to the Department of Health continually. I know they have had a number of meetings with our government, and I think we have to make sure that this request and this urgency does not fall off the table as we seem to be overtaken by other events in the healthcare field. This is every bit, Mr. Speaker, as important. We certainly need to increase the number of beds for dementia care right across the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, I guess I am hoping that the Minister will give us some assurance and certainly do something, but give some assurance that this is not falling off the radar. He still intends to deal with this and try to meet the needs of seniors, because I think oftentimes, Mr. Speaker, this is a segment of our

population that we don't pay enough attention to and certainly don't do enough for. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

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

Member's Statement on Federal Report on Abandoned Mines and Other Contaminated Sites

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My statement today, as one of far-reaching and long-term effects about citizens in the Northwest Territories, it is about the environment. I would like to refer to the report released earlier this week, Mr. Speaker, by the federal commissioner of the environment and sustainable development. The 2002 report further confirms that a mere two kilometres from where we are meeting here in this Assembly sits one of Canada's worst mining legacies, and those are the underground vaults and the 237,000 tons of arsenic trioxide underneath the Giant Mine property.

Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General's report on the environment has some good advice for the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs about the ten abandoned mine sites that it claims are high priority contaminated sites in the Northwest Territories. The Auditor General warns that the current levels of care for water contamination and protection of human health are mere band-aids and do nothing to give long-term solutions. The report calls for stable funding and long-term plans, and I agree.

Let's talk about a couple of the sites that are close, including the Colomac site. This is an urgent problem, says the report, as a potential dam failure on the tailings area could be catastrophic. Giant Mine, as we know, is one of Canada's most infamous contaminated sites. In addition to the toxic underground situation, there is a lot of surface clean-up required, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the most significant conclusion of the report in relation to Giant, and I quote: "Regardless of the method used to store or move the underground arsenic, water that leaves the underground area will likely require treatment forever."

Mr. Speaker, in seeking to take something positive from the Northwest Territories in the recent Throne Speech in which the federal government was made to accelerate the clean up of federal contaminated sites in Canada. With Giant and Colomac we have two of the most toxic sites for which the federal government has responsibility.

I have recently written to the Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, our MP, and I look forward to hearing about real money, real money, Mr. Speaker, to address these critical environmental issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Ootes.

Member's Statement on Royal Bank Donation to the Junior SideDoor Program

HON. JAKE OOTES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to mention a happy event in my constituency which I had the pleasure of attending two weeks ago. The occasion was the presentation of \$25,000 from the Royal Bank to the Junior SideDoor Program. The presentation was made by Yellowknife Royal Bank manager, Doug Nelson.

Mr. Speaker, the Junior SideDoor Program at the SideDoor Youth Centre is an everyday school program that provides between 45 and 50 Yellowknife students ages 7 to 14 with a safe place to go after school where they can relax, use the computers, work on their homework and gain life skills.

The overall intent of the program is to keep children in school. The \$25,000 from the Royal Bank is a very important part of the funding which allows the SideDoor to provide this service to our young people. This is the third year that the Royal Bank has funded this Junior Side Door through its after school grants program.

In all, the bank has now provided the Junior SideDoor Program with over \$100,000. Al Reid is the coordinator of the Junior SideDoor and his assistant is Twilla Bulieau Bachon, a grade 10 student from Sir John Franklin High School. Al says the centre would like to provide more structured programs and provide more help with homework to the youth who come to the centre for two or three hours after school each day.

However, in order to do this, they need volunteers to help because they do not have a sufficient staff. In fact, the SideDoor needs volunteers in all parts of its programming, Mr. Speaker, and I urge anyone who has an interest in our young people to consider contacting the SideDoor to see how they could help out and to contact director Kevin Laframboise.

The Royal Bank's financial support to the Junior SideDoor Program is very much appreciated, Mr. Speaker, and the staff of the SideDoor are certainly to be commended for their great work. It is a great contribution that is being made by one of our businesses towards one of our very important social contribution areas in our community, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ootes. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, reports of standing and special committees. Item 5, returns to oral questions. Item 6, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

ITEM 6: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the new executive of the Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories. First of all, the new president, Gina Dolphus from Deline.

-- Applause

The new vice-president, Noeline Villebrun from Fort Resolution.

-- Applause

The new treasurer, Annie Goose from Holman.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Welcome to the Legislative Assembly and congratulations on your appointment. Item 6, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Ootes.

HON. JAKE OOTES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize someone who is in the education field and has worked for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment for many, many years. He retired recently and became the executive director of the Francophone school division here in Yellowknife for a period of time and he is a constituent of mine, Mr. Chuck Tolley.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 6, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Nunakput, Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too would like to recognize Annie Goose from Holman, the secretary-treasurer of the Native Women's Association. I welcome her to the gallery.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. item 6, recognition of visitors in the gallery. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Nitah.

MR. NITAH: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I also would like to recognize and congratulate the new executive for the Native Women's Association. I would just like to especially recognize Ms. Noeline Villebrun who is a constituent of mine. Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. item 6, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Mr. Roland.

ITEM 7: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 394-14(5): Recommended Medical Treatment Policies

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question will be directed to the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. It is in the area of patient care and trying to get information. I have been contacted about a situation that comes out of the Mackenzie Delta, so to speak, but has been brought to my attention by the grandmother of a child. The grandmother lives in Inuvik and has some concerns.

Her grandson was sent out for medical attention and the doctor suggested that the parents remain close to the facility. They were told to be within five minutes of a facility that could provide services for this child. The family then was not sure what was to happen and sat in limbo for quite some time.

I have been contacted and told that they have been told now that there are a lot of services that are not going to be provided by this government so the family has basically moved back to their home and is well beyond five minutes. It is a plane ride down to Yellowknife, that is the situation.

What happens in a situation when the doctor issues a recommended course, what kicks into place once that doctor issues prescribed treatment? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Roland. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Return to Question 394-14(5): Recommended Medical Treatment Policies

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is a question that does not have a clear answer as I think the Member's preamble indicated. I am not familiar with the circumstances that the Member discussed but I would be very interested to get the particulars from him and look at what can be done.

I can tell the Member that I have had occasion to deal with this issue on a number of other cases and it is one where each case must be reviewed on its own merit. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 394-14(5): Recommended Medical Treatment Policies

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister stated that each case would be looked at on its own merit, so if the Minister has the particulars of this situation brought to him, will he look at it with his department?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Roland. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 394-14(5): Recommended Medical Treatment Policies

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my previous answer I would be very interested in sitting down with the Member to get the particular so we can pay the proper attention to this issue and see what can be done in terms of the doctor's order and the circumstances that have fallen from that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Lafferty.

Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, the Honourable Jim Antoine. As I am sure the Minister is aware, Northerners have until January 1, 2003 to register their guns or else they would be breaking the law. I would like to ask the Minister if his department can assist trappers so that they can register their guns, getting into a contract with the federal government or whatever? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Antoine.

Return to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, perhaps I would like to start answering the question by going back a little bit. The position of this government has been that we were intervenors in a court case against this whole gun law. Since that time we have taken the position that it is a federal responsibility and that the federal government would be responsible for implementing and the whole issue of provisions to the legislation, which is a federal legislation. This is typical of the federal government, of introducing the legislation and backing away from it and leaving the jurisdictions, like the provinces and territories, to pick up that legislation.

The current position is that we still say that it is a federal responsibility. Like the Premier said the other day, it is a very costly operation to do this and we don't have anything in our budgets to take up that slack.

If the honourable Member is asking if we are going to take this on, then we have to look at it because it is a huge cost. Certainly our citizens are affected with this, and we certainly would approach the federal government to see how and what they are going to do about this issue. If they are not going to do it, then we have to look at how we can do it ourselves, but we certainly have to get some sort of funding from the federal government to do this. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand where the government is coming from, but as we know, even yesterday, we see departments are very free with their special warrants. Now, I would like to ask the Minister if he can use one of those special warrants to help the aboriginal peoples in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Antoine.

Further Return to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a special warrant is approved by Cabinet as a whole. I have always tried many times on different issues to move things forward, but of course, this has to be approved by Cabinet. Certainly we will try it again. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like the Minister's answer and I hope we can get an answer pretty soon. So if the Minister can get back to Mr. McLeod and I with the decision from Cabinet with the special warrant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. This is the area of gun control, I suspect? Thank you. The honourable Minister responsible for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Antoine.

Further Return to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, how I would like to approach it is to ask the different officials in my department to examine what is going on with the federal government in terms of complying with the January 1st deadline for registering guns, and what the federal government is doing. If they are not doing anything, I would like to encourage them to do something about it. If that doesn't work, then we have to pursue how we can assist our citizens in trying to meet this deadline. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister if he can get a special warrant, maybe he can fatten the pot of the harvester fund so the aboriginal groups can get their own people out there to help them registering their firearms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Antoine.

Further Return to Question 395-14(5): Firearms Registration Assistance for Trappers

HON. JIM ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think this is an issue for myself and Members of Cabinet, as well as for people in the North. We certainly want to make sure that they comply with this federal law now to register guns. If the honourable Member is telling me to do something about it, we are looking into it and we will come back with how we are going to approach it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. McLeod.

Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

MR. MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my Member's statement, I indicated that most of the smaller communities have limited access to information and services. We heard Mr. Lafferty and I spoke to the same issue about registering guns. We have difficulty in our smaller communities. We do not have the court workers. We do not have a lot of the different functions that are mostly, in my case, located in Fort Simpson or in Hay River or in Ottawa or in Yellowknife.

If you want to register guns, just to get the application form is a difficulty. We do not have a phone or Internet service. The seniors have always indicated they have problems with their old-age security applications. There is nobody in the communities to help them, or to even access a court worker or a legal aid service. You have to try to find some way for them to place a call in a lot of cases. It is using our phones as MLAs to contact public trustees, or even in the case of me being

situated in Yellowknife during session, a lot of my constituents have a hard time faxing me because there are no fax machines readily available.

I would like to ask the Premier if he would consider assessing those communities with limited or costly access to information or services to determine what could be done to assist them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return to Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I understand the legislation, it creates quite a cumbersome process from what existed previously. You need to become quite knowledgeable with firearms and be able to fill out an extensive form, provide some very detailed information, take a test, before you can get a firearms license, and then also proceed to register every firearm that you have, and make sure that we have these available whenever and wherever you go with these.

The cost of implementing that is far beyond what the federal government had originally estimated, and so they have relinquished the field to no one. They simply have withdrawn and fled their responsibilities. The difficulty, as sympathetic as we are to the plight in the communities, is does this Legislature want us to expend money to take over a responsibility that is not our responsibility? If so, to what extent do you want that done? If there is a discussion that needs to be undertaken here, then we are prepared to have that. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

MR. MCLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what question the Premier is responding to. It may be a question I asked several days ago. My question was if he would assess the communities on how they could, especially the ones with limited or costly access to information services, how we could improve that. I was not asking a question specifically on the gun law. I was asking about how we could assist them with asking about how we could assist them in accessing court workers, trustees, legal aid, even their MLAs, and all these different positions would have a position or a mechanism. That was my question, not on gun control.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLeod, yes, I have no control over how the Minister answers, but could you just re-ask the question in a little more concise manner, of the Minister? Mr. McLeod.

MR. MCLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I cannot ask the question without repeating my preamble.

-- Laughter

To form the question, Mr. Speaker, in my Member's statement, I indicated smaller communities have limited access to information and services. We have difficulties accessing legal aid or court workers or medical assistance. I did mention firearms offices in the south.

My question was to the Premier, if he would be willing to assess those communities that have limited or no access, or costly access, to information and services and see what could be done to assist them.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your clarification. The honourable Premier, Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return to Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies for not hearing that question. The government is obliged to look at suggestions made by this Legislature. If there are communities out there, I certainly have them in my constituency as well, that have difficulty accessing information to know what is available in terms of programs and support for the many needs that they have, as well as just broad information about a range of services and programs available resources of this government, then yes, we will be prepared to look at how we can be organized to respond adequately to that need.

I recognize and it is a need specifically in small communities where there are very few government employees, limited resources and no central coordination at this time. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

MR. MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad to see and hear that the Premier has recognized that there is a problem there, as he very well knows as he represents the smaller communities also. I also would like to ask if he is willing to assess the communities? Would he be willing to look at the concept we had formerly where we had field service officers in each community? Would that be part of his consideration? Thank you.

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

Further Return to Question 396-14(5): Access to Information and Services in Small Communities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government, the previous Legislature had to undergo some massive reductions in services and make some drastic cuts in the organization and the employees that were available to serve people in the communities. One of the positions that was done away with is the executive field officers and regional directors.

We are prepared to look at how we can reintroduce these in some capacity. We have offered to do that with existing resources in the Beaufort Delta because of the pending self-government agreement that would compel us to provide some coordination function to see that initiative supported. We are prepared to do that in the Beaufort Delta, we are prepared to argue and try to advance those in the upcoming budget exercise and see how far we get with that.

It is currently something we have considered. There are limited resources, but we believe there would be a demand in the Deh

Cho, there would be a demand in the Sahtu, there would be a demand in the Tlicho area, the North Slave and we are prepared to give that serious consideration. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services and pursue the statement that I made yesterday about a long-term aboriginal northern nurse who had to turn down a permanent job after working casual for many, many years because she could not find affordable housing for her and her four kids and her husband in Yellowknife.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that I got a call from the Minister's office this morning asking for her phone number, so I am assuming that his staff has talked to them. What I do know is that she will not be offered anything close to housing that would make it possible for her to accept this employment.

Mr. Speaker, that is really the big issue. If the government cannot offer a housing policy we have to remunerate them enough so they can afford to live here. I would like to ask the Minister, what is he doing about making it possible for these people who are from here to take the jobs in Yellowknife so they can work at the hospital? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Return to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are in the process of finalizing the recruitment and retention options paper to take to Cabinet now that we have had a chance to review it with the committee and we have sat down with the union, and we are going to sit down with the nurses as well.

We have some options in there that we believe will help offset some of the costs, maybe not directly to the housing but will add some incentives in terms of remissibility, in terms of staff training, service agreements. It would help people to pay off their student loans and student debt.

I recognize the issue that my colleague has raised. We are also in a very preliminary stage of looking at some options specific to Yellowknife for housing that we hope will bear some fruit at least as they deal with new nurses on a short-term basis to find housing while they find more permanent housing.

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

Supplementary to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister give any better indication as to when we might expect to have this finalized and made public? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope to have it in to Cabinet staff and FMB staff for analysis and through Cabinet before the end of next week. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Mr. Speaker, can I get a clarification from the Minister that he understands that our benefits are not competitive and that he acknowledges that we have to do something more to retain and recruit health care professionals in Yellowknife? Is this paper based on that assumption? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very clearly across the North, including Yellowknife, there is a recognition that we need a competitive pay and benefits package. The reality is that we are having difficulty staffing critical positions like nurses and doctors. One of the issues involved with that is pay and benefits.

I am very clearly aware of that. I have spent the last year travelling across the North. That point has been reinforced to me in every community that I have been in so the answer is yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate a very clear answer from the Minister. Mr. Speaker, will the Minister then at the same time, because part of the problem is that when these people go to the recruitment and retention office to inquire about that benefits package that they might have, they are getting less than 100 percent service. Would the Minister advise his staff to be more cooperative and open-minded about some of the questions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 397-14(5): Attracting Health Care Professionals

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the concerns of the Member have been noted as

we speak and the issue of being very responsive to potential nurses and doctors and other allied health professionals is a critical one and it is a point well made and a point taken. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is about the country club that is being built here in Yellowknife, the correctional facility. Mr. Speaker, the facility will contain two classrooms, a library, a gymnasium, three group programs, a spiritual room, chapel, arts and crafts room, aboriginal skill room, medic area, administration discharge and on top of that, the units for beds and whatnot which people are in custody.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister regarding the cost of this building, knowing that the original cost was at \$35 million, which is now almost \$50 million. I would like to ask the Minister, when discussing with the Department of Public Works the design of this building to eliminate some of these program areas, why was the Department of Justice's position not to take out those program delivery areas such as rooms for classes, libraries, spiritual room, chapel? Why did the department take that position?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Return to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may put fact before figure, I would like to extend to the Member that this facility, if I may, was prefaced by a report which was tabled in this House in November of 1998 identifying a number of considerations based on the fire marshal's report, for instance, to close down the current facility and also look at some other important components to the overall facility in terms of how we look at restorative justice, as well as other cognitive skills, training and the need for modernization of programs.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult for ourselves other than to follow those recommendations and to begin consulting with Public Works and Services on the design and construction of the facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I find it pretty ironic that with regard to the Arctic College facility in Inuvik we were told that the expense with respect to cost overruns would not exceed 10 percent of the project, but in this case we are talking about \$15 million over and above the cost of this project. I would like to ask the Minister why is it that for some projects you cannot exceed the 10 percent, and on this project we are away beyond that to the tune of \$15 million?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not familiar with the contract regulation requirements of this project. Although we were consistently trying to find methods of reducing the costs and reducing the facility, we found through the analysis that it was not possible. Therefore, we remained consistent with the chronology of decisions that led up to the conclusion of this facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on December 5, 2001, Cabinet approved a \$5.6 million budget increase with regard to cost overruns. Then we find out with respect to August 6 that there was an \$8.4 million approval of the budget. On top of that, Mr. Speaker, the BIP process was waived with regard to this government, which is a policy of this government to allow for savings to the government.

I would like to ask the Minister, could you tell us here today how much money did we save by going through that process?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With all due respect, I do not have those figures as that is not really in our purview as a department. We have to rely on the figures submitted to us by another department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister tell us exactly how many beds will this new facility hold considering that there have been cuts in the different areas? My understanding is that the existing facility holds 151 beds and we were told in committee that there had been cuts in that area where the new facility will hold something like 138 beds. Could the Minister tell us how many beds will be in this new facility.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 398-14(5): Cost Overruns at the North Slave Correctional Centre

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for corrective purposes it will hold 154 beds for the adults and 25 beds for the

young offenders, for a total of 179 beds. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Nitah.

Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

MR. NITAH: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's statement child apprehension and child custody is a thriving business in the Northwest Territories. Since 1998 to 2001-2002, approximately a little over 200 children were put into child custody in the Northwest Territories. It went from 632 to 876 according to the numbers I received here, an increase of 35 percent, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to see if the Minister could confirm these numbers for me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nitah. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Return to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not have the document that the Member is referring to, but I am assuming those numbers came to his hands from our department. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

MR. NITAH: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at the same time you have a range of titles that the department uses for the types of custody they have. They have permanent custody which went up by 29 percent; temporary custody went up by 49 percent; apprehensions went up by 75 percent; supervision orders by 41 percent.

Right across the board the numbers are increasing dramatically, Mr. Speaker. In the 1960s, 70s and 80s there was a title for that. It was called the "child scoop". Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell me how much money is being spent on child custody by this government in the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nitah. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we spend millions of dollars on a yearly basis, both in the North and in southern placements, for children in care in dealing with children and family services issues. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

MR. NITAH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the number I have is \$5 million, \$5.5 million or so. It went from \$4.1 million to \$5.5 million since 1999 to 2001. That is a significant increase, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister where are these children coming from? We have the regional health boards that have numbers, but I would like to ask the demographics of the majority of the children in care. Are they non-aboriginal Northerners, aboriginal Northerners, are they a mixture? Who are the predominant people whose children are in our child custody? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nitah, I guess we could narrow that down as to where they come from, generally speaking. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I understand the question, the Member would like to know the breakdown of children in care by ethnicity. The majority of children in care are aboriginal. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

MR. NITAH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when we first got elected we came up with a document called Towards a Better Tomorrow in which we talked about strong family units and strong, healthy and educated children. Obviously, Mr. Speaker, by these numbers we are not doing a very good job in that area.

Mr. Speaker, what are the department and the Minister doing to reverse this trend? What is the department doing to reverse the trend?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nitah. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 399-14(5): NWT Child Apprehension Statistics

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I could just provide a very quick historical snapshot. While we have children in care right now in higher numbers than we would want or wish, we do have a focus on families and communities. All the programs we are delivering and designing are going to try to have that focus.

Mr. Speaker, just very quickly from the early 60s when I went away to residential school there were nearly 10 or so residential schools in operation -- Fort Smith, Yellowknife, Fort Simpson and Inuvik. Mr. Speaker, I can remember my early days in social services when we had receiving homes filled with young babies and group homes filled with young children,

many of them permanent wards. We have moved away from that. We have changed our legislation to involve plan of care committees in the communities to involve families and to involve the children, when they are old enough, in their care and custody issues.

Mr. Speaker, we have also put 20 new social workers into the field to try to deal with some of the issues, but the sad reality is that we still consume alcohol five times the national average and many of the issues as they relate to jails and people incarcerated are tied to alcohol. Family violence shelters are fully subscribed to. They are always tied in with alcohol issues, and when those things happen children are affected.

Mr. Speaker, it is an ongoing issue. We recognize that there is a need to deal with families and keep children as close to home as possible, and that is what we are attempting to do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 6, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Bell.

Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

MR. BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is also for the Minister of Health. Further to my Member's statement about our facilities for dementia care in the Northwest Territories and specifically in Yellowknife, I would like to ask the Minister where seniors are currently housed who do require specific dementia in Yellowknife. Where do we house these people? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bell. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Aven Centre currently provides that service. We also have some supported home living arrangements, but not for the particular care requirement that my colleague mentioned. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

MR. BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know that these folks need specialized and specific level of care. I would like to ask the Minister if Aven's is appropriately rated in order to provide that level of care. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bell. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the long-term care facilities across the North are all in the situation where they were not designed to deal with

cognitively impaired dementia and Alzheimer patients, which is why we have put money in our business plan and in the continuing care strategy to try to deal with that issue.

As well, we have given the folks who are working with the Aven Centre \$50,000 to help pull together a planning document in terms of furthering their suggestion that we have a fully focused and dedicated dementia facility in Yellowknife. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

MR. BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure YACCs appreciates the funding in order to help them put together that business case for such a facility. Can the Minister give me some indication for time frame? When is he expecting to be able to deal with this and have his officials look at the possibility of a dementia facility in Yellowknife? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bell. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 400-14(5): Dementia Care Facility for Seniors

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we, through the continuing care strategy, are going to be dealing with some of the immediate issues with the long-term care facilities across the North, including Yellowknife. YACCs has to, in fact, complete their document, and that will be some months from now when that is done. Then we will be sitting down with them to review it and see what is possible and how it fits into the overall systems issues that we are dealing with with this issue. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a housing question, but if you will indulge me, I would like to direct it to my colleague, Mr. Ootes, in his capacity as the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.

A couple of weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, at a Yellowknife constituency meeting, we heard some startling information about the growth and demand for transitional housing. Currently, I believe it is through ECE, the GNWT provides five housing units for the administration of the YWCA for transitional purposes.

We were told, Mr. Speaker, that there are some 61 families, as of a couple of weeks ago, looking for this kind of service. Mr. Ootes, at that meeting, committed to follow up and I would like to see what he could report to us today for more transitional housing for Yellowknife. Thank you.

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

Further Return to Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

HON. JAKE OOTES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the issue of housing is very critical. It is one that we hear questions on in the House on a constant basis these days. Yellowknife is certainly no exception, neither are communities exceptions in terms of need for housing. It is a very critical issue and I did hear the issue being raised at our constituency meeting, where there are 65 families, apparently, as the Member has said.

We provide support, Mr. Speaker, to several agencies in town. One is the YWCA and the other is the Salvation Army, and some support to the Women's Centre for beds. We pay a per-night usage for beds for homeless and transitional housing. But we are not the major supplier of housing, Mr. Speaker. That is the responsibility, of course, of the Housing Corporation.

Some time ago, Mr. Speaker, in this Legislature, it was recommended that we address the issue of homelessness. I suppose we cannot necessarily classify people as being homeless as much as in need of housing, but if we take the point of view, Mr. Speaker, of addressing across the Territory, homelessness and the need for transitional housing for those people, then we can say how are we going to address that?

Mr. Allen was named as the Minister with the homeless portfolio after a recommendation from this House. Following that, ECE became part of a project by the Housing Corporation that also included Health and Social Services and Justice on an interdepartmental working group on homelessness. That particular group is looking at the whole issue of how to address homelessness but also the whole issue of housing, Mr. Speaker, with regard to people in transitional housing and so forth. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is good to hear that the issue is on the radar screen and has captured some attention. I guess I'll be more direct in the question. Is the territorial government able to assist organizations like the YWCA in providing more transitional housing right away for the, as I said, the startling increase in demand? Thank you.

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

Further Return to Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

HON. JAKE OOTES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is a two-fold problem here. One is, of course, should we be in a position to support is the first question. The second question, of course, is where is the housing, because that is a critical problem, Mr. Speaker, in Inuvik and in our community here in Yellowknife. So it is not a simple answer, Mr. Speaker, to be able to overnight say well, we can provide support. There is no housing out there to be able to provide support.

Mr. Speaker, I can help out from my department for a number of people that if they have their own financial means, naturally they should take care of themselves, which we all understand, but those people who do not have the financial means, we can provide support through income support, Mr. Speaker. A number of these people may be in that position, but it still leaves the whole question of where to find the physical rooms, where to find the physical place to live, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, that highlights another area that we heard about, and this is where for people to become eligible for income support, they almost have to make themselves destitute. Even people in transitional housing would have to get almost thrown out on the street in order to qualify to get up on the priority list, say, for units from the Yellowknife Housing Authority.

What is going on between our departments, between housing, between your departments and others to, I will use the word harmonize, the services to the homeless and the people in need? Thank you.

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

Further Return to Question 401-14(5): Demand for Transitional Housing

HON. JAKE OOTES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned, we have the interdepartmental working group on homelessness. That, I guess, is the vehicle that is at the present time at the working level being utilized to identify some of the problems, to look at a strategy for action in this whole area, Mr. Speaker. The strategy being, you know, can we look at a decrease in homelessness? Can we provide more support services? How do we provide and where do we find the housing needs? We need to build a foundation for implementing a housing strategy for homelessness. I think that is what the working group really is all about. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River North, Mr. Delorey.

Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, further to my Member's statement regarding the state of Highway No. 2 in Hay River, I brought this issue up in the Assembly in June. At that time I questioned the Minister of Transportation as to where his department was in his engineering study of Highway No. 2. At that time the Minister committed to having the study completed this fall.

I would like to ask the Minister to inform this House if that study has been completed and if so if I will be getting a copy of that study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, the report that I referred to will be completed this fall. I in fact just signed a letter to the Member today giving him a copy of the preliminary report with the final report to be delivered by mid-November. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad we are getting closer to this lucid report, or engineering study. Would the Minister inform this House as to whether there will be a course of action attached to that engineering report? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Member's concerns. I can assure the Member that there will be some options presented in both the preliminary report and the final report. The preliminary report will lay out three options but will not have the full cost assessment of each of those. It will be detailed. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the last session in June, I spoke about the need for some public safety issues regarding Highway No. 2. In the last session, in June, I spoke about the need for some public safety regarding Highway No. 2. This highway is used extensively by my constituents that ride their bikes and walk along this stretch of highway and there are no sidewalks or paths for pedestrians.

Would the Minister please state what his department has done to improve public safety along this stretch of highway? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker, he is correct, a lot of it does not have a sidewalk along it. A lot of our roads unfortunately do not. Even within municipal boundaries we do not always have a sidewalk on the edges of the road.

In referring to the piece, particularly from the airport toward the Old Town area, that is the most dangerous piece. The speed limits are lowered and we will continue to keep safety in mind as we develop each of the options. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

MR. DELOREY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in April of this year the Town of Hay River put forward a proposal to the Department of Transportation requesting funding under the department's local community access road program in order to construct some bike paths along that stretch of highway.

Would the Minister please indicate to the House what his department has provided to Hay River in the line of funding for this project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return to Question 402-14(5): Engineering Report on Highway No. 2

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Transportation has not provided any funding to the community of Hay River under the community access program since the proposal that was put forward does not fit under the community access road criteria.

This would seem to me to be a matter that my colleague and I in MACA would want to look at more carefully to see if there is a way of doing it through municipal funding. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Health and Social Services with respect to medical travel. Now yesterday I had the opportunity to stand up and give accolades to the Minister of Education for noticing a glitch in a program. I am wondering if the Minister of Health and Social Services would consider the supplemental health benefits when it comes to medical travel and tell me why it is that a patient travelling out would be required to pay the travel co-payment, meals, accommodation and transportation to and from the medical services when they get there, but if you were a medical escort or just an escort that there would be no travel co-payment and you would get reimbursed for taxis, meals and nightly accommodation in a commercial facility. Does that not seem a little unusual to the Minister? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Return to Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, just the way the Member laid it out in her relatively quick way it does seem somewhat problematic. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary to Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will try to lay it out more slowly for the Minister. Under the current medical travel policy, a patient is not entitled to a ride to Edmonton, taxis to and from the medical services, accommodations or meals. But, if you were the escort of that patient, medical or otherwise, all of those things would be covered. What about the patient, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that is a very good question that the Member has asked. Based on the way she has laid it out, slowly and clearly for me, the light bulb has gone on above my head saying we have to check on this.

As part of our process we will do that and I appreciate the Member taking the time to do it with her own trenchant wit that she is noted for. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, now, let's stick to answering the questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary to Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, while the Minister is checking that out could he also, because this is related in terms of accommodation, can he also check who is eligible to stay in the Vital Abel Boarding Home, for example, and the Larga House in Edmonton?

I believe also that medical escorts of any description are allowed to stay there, but again patients have to go and seek outside commercial accommodation. Could he also see if that may be another anomaly in this medical policy? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Miltenberger.

Further Return to Question 403-14(5): Medical Travel Co-Payment Inequity

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, another potential inconsistency that yes, we will check out. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice in regard to the beds that are available in this new facility. Knowing that one of the fundamental concerns that we had with the old facility was the overcrowding that was in place with regard to the number of clients we have in that facility, yet Mr. Speaker, we are talking about taking on more clients from the federal system. That is the federal jails in the south.

We are also talking about Nunavut inmates. I would like to ask the Minister, knowing there has been this major increase, are the beds that are presently in the new facility adequate considering we have a major increase in other areas? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Return to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they have been clearly defined as being adequate based on the numbers that are being conceptualized here. If there is an overflow on the minimum security side they will be transferred to the Hay River facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in regard to criminal record statistics, it states that in 2001 the criminal rate, criminal code offences will increase by 6.9 percent. I am wondering, knowing that there are major increases in this area, have we looked at a forecast to see exactly, can we really accommodate inmates from outside, rather than just trying to maintain the facility to accommodate the inmates from the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are under constant pressure to evaluate the various program components of the corrections program. We also want to look at perhaps accessing other facilities for those who may be at minimum risk to the community, perhaps putting them into other extension programs such as wilderness programs, wilderness camps and those types of facilities. Thank you.

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

Supplementary to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the major cost overruns of this facility, I for one feel that we do have to look at the major requirement, which is need by way of beds. I would like to ask the Minister with regard to the facility that is there now, will we be looking at -- when we go through phase 2 -- ensuring that we do have the ability to expand in the future where we are looking at the possibility of taking up to 60 inmates a year from the federal system, whereas right now we are taking 20? Have you built that into your calculations for this facility knowing that all these increases are out there?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hear the question and yes from a revenue stream side we are looking at bringing in up to 60 as we have in the letter of agreement with Corrections Canada, up to 60 inmates from the south. We also will continue to work, and I have received a letter from my colleague in Nunavut that they will continue to honour the MOU until the year 2007 where we will house Nunavut inmates. So certainly from a revenue stream it looks very positive that this new correctional facility will be self-sustainable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that the community of Fort McPherson has been working on with regard to corrections and having inmates returned to our communities is to find a system where we can sort of formulate a program maybe out in the different camps that the inmates will take before they return to our communities. I would like to ask the Minister, exactly how open are you to different proposals from communities to look at the possibility of accommodating inmates prior to being released into our communities, that they formulate community-based programs either on the land, bush camps or whatnot?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Mr. Allen.

Further Return to Question 404-14(5): North Slave Correctional Facility Capacity

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are very interested in discussing these program components with the various communities that may look at two specific areas. One is the living skills program and the other is the land program. We feel that with some community consultation we can then address some of the various persons who want to voluntarily participate in that level of program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 7, oral questions. Oral questions. Item 8, written questions. Written

questions. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Braden.

ITEM 8: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 10-14(5): Bathurst Caribou Advisory Board

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of a constituent I would like to pass on a written question to the honourable Mr. Antoine, Minister responsible for RWED, regarding the Bathurst Caribou Advisory Board.

Please advise the status of the Bathurst Caribou Advisory Board, its mandate, membership, records of consultation with the Minister and RWED. Also, please advise on the progress and status of the Bathurst caribou management plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Braden. Item 8, written questions. Item 9, returns to written questions. Returns to written questions. Item 10, replies to the Opening Address. Item 11, petitions. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled Document 67-14(5): Hon. Justice J.Z. Vertes Reasons for Judgment re: Roberts vs. Commissioner of the NWT et al, 2002

MS. LEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a document, which is the judgment from Justice Vertes on the case of Carol Roberts versus the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, et al. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Lee. Item 13, tabling of documents. Any further tabling of documents? Item 14, notices of motion. 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. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 26, Bill 1 and Committee Report 10-14(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 the 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 the committee continue consideration of Bill 26, and subsequent to that that we then move to consider Bill 1 and Committee Report 10-14(5) at the same time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Dent. The chair is going to call a short break and then we will come back and continue. Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): The chair will call a short break and then come back and continue with Bill 26.

-- Break

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): I will call the committee back to order. We are here to deal with Bill 26. Does the Minister wish to bring in any witnesses? Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Does the committee agree? Sergeant-at-Arms, escort the witnesses in please. Mr. Minister, please introduce your witness for the record.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, with me is Lew Voytilla, secretary to the Financial Management Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. We are on Bill 26, Municipal and Community Affairs, operations expenditures, regional operations on page 11. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister of Finance tell us in the House how often has a supplementary appropriation been used in any communities in the Northwest Territories to improve their road infrastructure?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not know how often we have done it over the history, but it is not done often. I do not recall having done it in any other situation in the life of this government. It may have been done before. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Can the Minister agree that this practice is not the normal practice of government to use a supplementary appropriation to improve the road infrastructure in our communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, special warrants and supps are used to respond to situations that are in the public interest, emergencies and so on. In this case we are dealing with an emergency. Emergencies come in many different forms. In this case it is the case of a road being in danger of completely collapsing and people being cut off from the solid waste and sewage facilities. That would definitely be an impossible situation. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: I would like to ask the Minister, were the residents of the community of Tuktoyaktuk restricted from using this road to access the sewage lagoon?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that they were not restricted from using the sewage and solid waste facilities, but if we had not made repairs this year to the road, given the condition to which it had deteriorated, there would possibly have been. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, for \$1.3 million for six kilometres of road, it sounds to me that is a major overhaul or replacement of infrastructure that should not cost more than \$300,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, when a piece of road deteriorates right down to the matting it is in serious condition of collapsing completely. For detail on this I will refer to the Minister for MACA. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, probably the major cost factor here is that there is a 60 mile haul involved for the majority of the material.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: The Minister stated that this, in regard to a special warrant, was an emergency but it seems like it is coming in different phases. Could the community have lived with just phase 1 of this project which has been completed where they brought their road up to a certain standard? A lot of this work, could it not have been done through the business planning process, put it into the business plans and conclude it next year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think we supplied the information yesterday that showed that the winter haul would have to take place by April 1st. Everything would have to be in place, if not already completed.

The plan was to tender the contracts in December for the winter haul. The winter haul would either take place in March or in April. Because the business planning process and the budget process would only have allowed approval by April 1st, there is no way that the municipality would have even had the opportunity to tender contracts with money they did not have.

It would have been a really touch and go issue whether or not they had the time available in April to do a haul of that size. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear what the Minister is saying, but I would just like to state, to be fair to everyone else if we use the capital planning process for accessing capital dollars that we should allow for phase 2 and 3 to be concluded through the business planning process which will allow the community of Tuktoyaktuk to finish off this road in 2003-2004.

Is that a possibility of having these resources used through the capital planning process? Mr. Steen.

HON. VINCE STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we indicated yesterday that we already contributed

to the municipalities \$900,000 of this funding as a contribution agreement which allowed them to either tender the whole gravel haul at once or to break it down into sections.

Nevertheless, the plan was that no later than December they would call for public tenders on the contracts. So, there is no option to actually put this into the business plans and into the budgets for next April because it would not allow them to have the ability to tender and haul before the road goes out. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I do not think my question is being answered. Why is it that phase 2 and the conclusion of this project cannot be completed through the business planning process? You already stated that they have resurfaced that particular road or basically put the materials down to protect it against the so-called emergency because of the erosion down to the matting, so that is taken care of.

I would like to ask the Minister, will the Department of Finance consider looking at implementing those dollars remaining in this budget item to be expended through the capital planning process?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, to do this through the capital planning process would mean having to delay any work until April 1st. There are a couple of problems. One is if we do not put the topping on the road then we may lose the benefit and the efficiency of what we have done already on that road. In fact, we may see it start to deteriorate in the same way again.

Second is that if we have to wait until April to have approval of the money then it is likely that we are not going to be able to do the gravel haul that is necessary. That would mean the Department of Transportation would be without gravel for its needs at the airport.

So Mr. Chairman, the Department of Finance has looked at this and determined that the road had to be repaired, there was an emergency and that it was in the best interest of all of us and the public and the way to resolve the emergency was by doing it all this year. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance, I agree that this might be an emergency, but my view is that we have a process in place to ensure communities have fair opportunity to access capital dollars in this government. As we all know, the deficit situation of this government is out there. I do not see any other communities being able to access a similar program, knowing that we have just as bad roads in most of our communities, and also that we have seen the effects of development in our communities, but yet, this government for some reason shortcuts the capital planning process when it comes to Ministers' ridings.

I would like to ask the Minister of Finance exactly why is it that a major expenditure, the \$1.3 million, has been put in place,

knowingly that we requested from the small communities to consider a program to improve our road infrastructure in our communities. You clearly stated through a letter to the Minister, the chairman of the government's committee, that you were going to have that program available to the Members by the end of September. We have not seen it, but yet you are making major expenditures for the benefit of improving infrastructure in one community.

Again, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance exactly why is it that there is a process in place to look at all infrastructure in the Northwest Territories to ensure that we have the resources to take it on, because we can all find reasons to improve our infrastructure in our communities. In some cases, the roads are just as bad elsewhere.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, all communities have equal access to money in the case of emergencies. As we said earlier, emergencies come in many different forms, but as the Member says, he agrees that this was an emergency, so we will deal with it as an emergency and provide whatever is essential to overcome that difficulty, but all communities with emergencies can have the same access to supplementary or special warrant funding. If there are situations out there, then I hope Members bring it to the attention of myself or the appropriate Minister.

In terms of the infrastructure program for community roads, that is under consideration right now. Certainly we want to look at how we can, through the capital planning process, provide the best capital plan and delivery of programs to each community. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Municipal and Community Affairs, operations expense, regional operations, special warrants, \$1,467,000. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I like what I am hearing from the Minister. It seems like we have another initiative out there. We are looking at which roads need prioritizing, and through the planning process, so I would like to ask the Minister, would it not be more appropriate to complete that study to see exactly where the needs were before you went out with this major expenditure by way of supplementary?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, this is an emergency. It had to be dealt with in a very tight time frame, so we dealt with it as an emergency. In the meantime, other plans on how we deliver our programs are under review. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to move a motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): You have a motion, Mr. Krutko?

Committee Motion 34-14(5): To Defer Consideration of Regional Operations, MACA Special Warrant in Bill 26, Ruled Out of Order

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I MOVE that this committee defer further consideration in special warrant in the amount of \$1,300,000 under regional operations, Municipal and Community Affairs, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 2002-2003, at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Krutko, the Chair will have to rule your motion out of order. That motion has already been introduced and defeated in this House. Under the rules, a motion cannot be reintroduced in the same session under the same item. We are on page 11, Municipal and Community Affairs, regional operations, special warrant, \$1,467,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister of Finance, knowing the financial situation that we are in, do you see any expenditures expended in the area of upgrading roads in the communities, knowing that we, the small communities, will not have this opportunity knowing that we have over a \$100 million deficit and this was a way to ensure a community can build their infrastructure without allowing the same process to be given to all the communities in the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, in developing our budget, we will give roads in small communities full consideration. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance, do you think it is appropriate that Members have to go to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to request similar funding, yet in his case, this is a major expenditure in his riding, in which he unilaterally brought this forth to Cabinet to get their approval? What kind of justification can you give me that this process is fair? As Ordinary Members, we find it awfully difficult to get any infrastructure in our communities, but yet in this case, it was a Minister who brought this forth who is responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, community roads are the responsibility of Municipal and Community Affairs. Any issues with regard to these roads would have to be brought to the department or the Minister. There is not any other alternative. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in regard to the cost of this road, can the Minister tell us exactly what is the cost per kilometre to construct similar roads of this distance in other communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, road construction, reconstruction costs vary hugely, depending on the condition of the existing road, the repairs that are necessary and so on. It is not unusual to have roads that require us to spend up to a million dollars a kilometre. In some cases, it can be done for considerably less. You cannot really compare one road to another one. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: I know I asked the question yesterday with regard to the Department of Transportation's involvement in this, and I asked the question of how much extra funds have been expended and exactly how much of those funds have been expended within the Department of Transportation. It is clear from the briefing document that there has been money expended for time with regard to accommodation, travel and whatnot. That tells me that the Department of Transportation has been involved in this project, and I would like to know exactly is that the practice of Transportation that they do get involved with community infrastructure? If so, why have a Department of Municipal and Community Affairs?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, it is not unusual for the Department of Transportation to work cooperatively with another department within our government, particularly in an area where they have expertise that may not exist in that department. We do not want to duplicate the engineering expertise, for example, in Transportation in every department. That would be costly.

There was a budget of \$28,000 for DOT travel and accommodation costs, and that is what that is meant to cover. I do not expect in these cases that DOT would ask that the salary and time for the individuals would be assigned to this project. We are all one government. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Municipal and Community Affairs, operations expense. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move a motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Do you have a motion, Mr. Krutko?

Committee Motion 35-14(5): To Delete \$800,000 from Special Warrant, Regional Operations, MACA in Bill 26, Ruled Out of Order

MR. KRUTKO: Yes I do. I move that the committee considers deleting consideration of the special warrant in the amount of \$800,000 under regional operations in Municipal and Community Affairs, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 2002-2003, at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko, did the chair hear right, your motion of \$800,000 -- where is that figure? There is no \$800,000 figure in here. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am moving a motion to delete \$800,000 from the expenditure of \$1.3 million from regional operations, Municipal and Community Affairs, with regard to the special supplementary appropriation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. We will have to take a break and get a motion drafted, and see if the motion is in order. The chair will call a break.

-- Break

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): I will call the committee back to order. Mr. Krutko, the Chair will have to rule your motion out of order. The House does not have the authority to delete a special warrant or any portion thereof.

We are in Municipal and Community Affairs, operations expense, regional operations, special warrant, \$1,467,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): We will go back to page 13. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Just for clarification, do we have to deal with the total department with regard to ensuring that, since we discussed it, under special warrants, \$1,651,000?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. We were on page 13, and you had requested to go back to this one item on page 11. Are you requesting that we go back and totally redo the department? Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I assumed that, going through this department, you had to go through the whole department and, for the record, read in each of the amounts in order to move on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Krutko, the committee has gone through the whole department, each item in the department and agreement was reached. The request was made to go back to one particular item. When we are done with that one, we will go back to where we had left off, unless it is the wish of the committee to go through the whole department again. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in regards to the \$1,651,000 of the special warrant, \$1,300,000 of that was for this particular project. I think that it is important that you realize how much of the expenditure was in this particular area compared to the whole department. I think it is important, of how special warrants have been used by this department, and especially where those dollars have gone.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko, we did have committee agreement on that whole department. Are you requesting that the committee go back to the whole department? Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Nay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): I am hearing nays. Could we have a show of hands for going back to the department? All those in favour? All those opposed? The vote is in favour to go on...(inaudible)...the whole department. The Chair will recognize the vote and go on to where we had left off. We are on page 13, Health and Social Services, operations expenditures, ministry and corporate services, special warrants, \$151,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$611,650.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Program delivery and support, special warrants, \$565,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move a motion to go back to Municipal and Community Affairs, operations expense.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko, the Chair has just dealt with that particular question to go back. It was defeated in the House, the vote. If you are looking at putting it into a formal motion, we would have to get a motion drafted. Is it your wish to introduce a motion, Mr. Krutko?

Mr. Krutko, the Chair is going to bring your attention to Rule 59. Your motion is defeated in committee of the whole and may only be introduced again by a formal motion at that same session.

So Mr. Krutko, there was a question put to the House, a vote on this issue going back, it was defeated. The Chair is going to go on and proceed to where we left off. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the reason that I would like to go back to that department is to deal with the total department in regard to the use of the special warrant for \$1,651,000. That is a different matter.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko, that particular question that you have posed, as the Chair stated before, we have dealt with that total department and the committee was asked if they were willing to go back to that. The motion was defeated. The Chair is going to go on. Page 13, Ministry of Health and Social Services, operations expenditures, ministry of corporate services, special warrants, \$151,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$611,650. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there was a request given in earlier discussions of these breakdowns of each of these expenditures to see if they were for people's salaries and whatnot. I would like to ask the Minister responsible, do you have that breakdown at this time?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will refer that to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I handed out four pages of documentation yesterday. I would be happy to provide it to the Clerk again if there are copies needed. It breaks out expenditures, what the money is spent on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko, did you want a copy of the breakdown?

MR. KRUTKO: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Miltenberger, could you make a copy available to committee members? Mr. Krutko, did you have anything further?

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in regard to the Northwest Territories' Health and Social Services System Action Plan, there were other initiatives in place. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the department what other initiatives is the Minister going to be bringing forward that would either through another supplementary or in the budget process?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we have an options paper on recruitment and retention that is currently being finalized for review by Cabinet. We have an integrated service delivery model paper which is currently with the Social Programs Committee which speaks to suggesting how we are going to move ahead on dealing with some of the alcohol and drug issues, mental health and family violence as well as the continuing care issues.

Those are in addition to the work that is being done right now on just the general business plan. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, can the Minister tell us how soon he will be bringing these initiatives forward and will it be coming forward through a supplementary appropriation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we are down to, I would hope, a number of weeks. The recruitment and retention document, as indicated in the House earlier today, is being finalized for bringing forward to Cabinet. We are waiting for feedback and a chance to brief the Social Programs Committee on the integrated service delivery model and the plan would be to try to include those once the final approval is received and Cabinet has a

chance to review it. We hope to include that in the business planning process.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Health and Social Services, operations expenditures, ministry and corporate services, not previously authorized, \$611,650. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister about the actions to improve support to trustees. Can he let the rest of the Members know what all this involves?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the intent is to do two main things. We want to come up with a standard training package for all trustees that outlines the approach that trustees will take and the requirements that they should have as a new trustee.

We want to as well, we are currently defining through the accountability framework the approach and the role that boards should play within our health and social services system. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, has he come up with any solutions as to how he is going to deal with future boards where they will be all elected or all appointed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Chairman, that, to the best of my knowledge at this point, the approach is going to be one that has to recognize that not every authority will have the same approach to how they select board members. The Member and I have had discussions on this in the past. The Dogrib Community Service Board is a unique arrangement but then again so is Hay River, so is Fort Smith.

We are trying to come up with some broad standards but recognizing that there are going to be regional differences. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Lafferty.

MR. LAFFERTY: Thank you. The Minister says broad standards. I am hoping that the system that we have now in place, which has not been working very well, is not what he is saying that he is going to continue with. Is he talking about continuing with the same system or not?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there has been some significant changes made since January in terms of how boards are structured and how we do business together and that process will continue to evolve.

We also have to recognize that as we set up the health and social services authorities there is an interest, for example, in some corners of looking at community service boards or regional services boards similar to the approach taken by the people in the Dogrib region.

We have to recognize as well that there are self-government agreements which are being negotiated which we are going to have to be able to respond to. So we have a system that is going to continue to evolve. We have made some improvements but it is not a finished product. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Health and Social Services, operations expenditures, ministry and corporate services, not previously authorized, \$611,650. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: I would like to ask the Minister, regarding the \$100,000 for the communications plan or the action plan, will that be going out through a contract?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in fact, I have the latest update here in draft form that we are trying to get finalized. We are going to try to do the vast majority of it in-house, and whatever contracts will be done will be very small and short-term. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the communication plan, there is going to be money needed in regard to the communications side of it. I would like to ask the Minister exactly how much will it cost us to promote the action plan, and are we going to be spending money in regard to the promotion of it by way of buying radio time or television time or newspaper or whatever? There is a clause associated with the communication plan, so are we going to be going out for contracts from different parties to be able to establish a communications system?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the intent is not to necessarily promote the action plan, but it is part of the process of accountability and trying to make sure that everybody across the Northwest Territories has access to the information on what is being done to put out updates that lay out very clearly in relation to the 45 action items, what has been accomplished, the dates that have been hit, the dates that have been missed, and accomplishments to date. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, looking at it through the budget, there is \$45,000 in regard to the launching of the communication plan, so I would like to ask the Minister exactly how are we intending to launch the communication plan?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, some of that was already done in the work when the action plan was initially laid out in January of 2002. There was information sent to all of the communities. There were posters and a fairly extensive amount of work was done at the front end to lay that out. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Can the Minister tell me, when was that done?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: It was done subsequent to January 16th, when we had the formal -- I think the 16th was the date, if my memory serves me correctly -- where we had the official launch of the action plan where we had a press conference here with all of the board chairs and we laid out the action plan for the public for the first time. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Well, I would like to ask the Minister, why was this not part of the business plan for the department, since the budget came forth for April 1st until the next fiscal year. Instead, this is coming forth through a not previously authorized. So if it has already been authorized, why is it in the budget?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year, we caught the process part-way through. There was a commitment made to the Social Programs Committee that the other major issues would be coming through the business plan, like the Continuing Care Strategy and the Alcohol and Drug Strategy, and the other ones that are in the works. There are some things that we picked up late and we had to move on. We were too late to put it into the business plan for last year, or this current year. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister tell me if there have been other expenditures over and above the amount that is presently in the budget right now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure if the Member means in relation to any particular item, but we are living within the supplementary appropriations and existing budgets, and we have tried to absorb as much as we could from within existing budgets. Some we have had to come back to, and some figures you will notice, if you look at their information, were cut back as well, trying to be more efficient. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Minister stated in January 16th that is when they launched the communication plan in regard to an action plan. Yet if it was implemented back in January of last year, and now we are coming forth for another \$100,000, how much money has been expended in this area to date?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Chairman, I do not have that particular number. I can get the information if the Member wishes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. We are on Health and Social Services, operations expenditures, ministry and corporate services, not previously authorized, \$611,650.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Program delivery and support, special warrant, \$565,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko. Program delivery and support, special warrant, \$565,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$434,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Health service programs, special warrants, \$2,067,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the area of ministry and corporate services and program delivery and support, the two initiatives seem to be pretty similar. So I would like to ask the Minister, is it possible to do these initiatives within one portfolio rather than having to have similar initiatives in each one of these two portfolios?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I suppose it is possible. Some of the work was done, was required to be done at the ministry and corporate services level. The work related to these other areas at the program level is done in the area where the programs and by the people who do the program work, like the work on the Continuing Care Strategy and these other ones. So this is more of a...it is a way to account for the money, but there are roles played by different parts of the organization. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Program support...Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Just a clarification in regard to the program delivery support. It has not previously authorized, \$464,000, yet in regard to a line item dealing with the Health and Social Services System Action Plan, there are \$660,000, so I would like to ask the Minister exactly why is there a difference in regard to those amounts?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, the difference is the negative \$226,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just wondering, because on the top item, the \$611,000 was in regard to the area of not previously authorized, but with the not previously authorized under that portfolio, because of the \$226,000, it does not really reflect the \$660,000 that really was expended in that line item.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley, you are referring the question to Mr. Voytilla.

MR. VOYTILLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we put the supplementary appropriation together, we do it by activity. The totals in the shaded area of the document are the totals for that activity. Under program delivery and support, there are three items; one for \$565,00, which is a special warrant and it shows under special warrants at the top of that activity. Then there are two items, one of a negative \$226,000 and one of a positive \$660,000 that when you combine them, equal the net for that activity of \$434,000. That is what shows at the top of the activity box.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Voytilla. Mr. Krutko. Not previously authorized, \$434,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Health services programs, special warrants, \$2,067,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$2,038,350.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Page 14, special warrant, community health programs, \$434,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$1,289,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Total department, special warrants, \$3,217,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$4,373,000. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: I would like to ask the Minister if he could give me a breakdown of that \$650,000 for the Inuvik Regional Health Board and where those expenditures were expended, in which communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have that level of detail but I can get the information from the Inuvik Regional Health Authority and I will provide it to the Clerk.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that is a large amount of money that is being expended in the foster care program. I would like to ask the Minister, exactly what are we doing to ensure that we try to find a system to reunite families and try to keep children in their homes by offering programs and services to their parents instead of strictly taking their children away and not offering any family support by way of counselling and whatnot.

I would like to ask the Minister, we are spending \$650,000 in foster care in our different communities, what are we doing to deal with the real core issue which is ensure that the family stays together and that we deal with problems with their parents?

In most cases in our aboriginal communities the biggest problem we have is dealing with the social problems related to unemployment, alcoholism, low income. People, for who they are, regardless of aboriginal or not, are dealt with differently because they are at the bottom of our social wage scale. We are looking at them as just another problem to the government and the easy way out is to take their children away.

I think that as a government we should learn from previous experience. We have paid millions of dollars in regard to compensation because of court cases and I for one am totally against the idea of pouring millions of dollars into the foster care programs when we should be doing more to encourage family programs such as family counselling, healing programs in our communities and in the regions. Instead we are in the process of making major expenditures in taking children out of their homes and putting them elsewhere. I for one feel that this is just another form of assimilation of aboriginal children.

In the past they took the children out of their communities and put them into hostels for many years before they went back home again. I think that earlier today we heard comments from Mr. Nitah and I have to agree with him that we are not doing anything to deal with the core problem which is the social problems we have in our communities.

We do not have major economic opportunities by way of tourism or infrastructure, facilities, diamond polishing facilities or looking at the different... the biggest problem we have in our communities is that the social dependency in our communities is there. One of the biggest areas is dealing with the social uncertainties of people being unemployed, people being at the

low end of making very poor wages and also that those opportunities are not there.

As a government I would like to ask the Minister, what are we doing to curb this major expenditure in this area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we have done a number of things. A few years ago we revamped almost entirely the legislation as it deals with children in care and child welfare issues. We have put 20 new social workers into the communities to deal with families and children. We are in the process of trying to revamp the alcohol and drug programs and to enhance the community focus to work at the community level with families and individuals at the community level.

We, as well, are trying to improve on the way we deal with family violence issues. Across the board we have put in grade extensions in the communities, we have tried to improve housing. As well, on the economic side, we recognize as we will see in the next few days with the response to the Social Agenda, it is very clear that there is an impact of major resource development that we have to recognize in communities and work with the communities to try to deal with those issues as well.

We are spending a considerable amount of resources trying to deal with communities. A lot of the issues we deal with unfortunately start with personal choice so we have to be there, provide resources and work with the communities and individuals. Those are some of the areas we are trying to do it in. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, can the Minister pinpoint exactly where the core problem is, where you see a major expenditure in one region, the Inuvik region, for \$650,000 yet you look at the Yellowknife Health and Social Services Board it is \$375,000. Population-wise, the Inuvik region has less of a population but it seems like they are almost doubling the expenditure compared to Yellowknife.

I would like to ask the Minister, what is the problem with the Child Apprehension Program and why is there a major increase in that expenditure?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I will get that level of detail but I would like to point out that there is a wide range of foster care rates and there is also recognition that for foster care rates, the costs are higher the further north you go. That would be one of the factors that would be laid out, but I will get that information for the Member. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: The Minister also mentioned in regard to increasing the number of children who are receiving service but

there also have been major price increases in the different areas. I would like to ask the Minister, do you have a breakdown of the price increases to see why there has been such a drastic increase in the amount of forced growth in this area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At present the foster care rates range anywhere from \$20 a day up to \$120 with extra costs such as tuition and other special needs items over and above that. As I indicated, Mr. Chairman, we will get the full breakdown of information for the member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think this is something that we have to look at because it seems like we have developed an economic opportunity by way of paying people to take care of other people's children. I would like to ask the Minister if we can get a breakdown in regard to those amounts and also exactly...what is the highest cost associated with foster care, and what are the amounts being paid to different foster parents? How much is being paid out over a year for someone to take care of a child who may be with them for several years?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will provide that information, as well as a list of some of the special needs issues that may be there as well just to give the Member a clear sense that while there is a wide range of foster payments there is often a wide range of needs of the children requiring the services. We will get the information the Member requested for him. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, has he done a thorough review or some sort of an internal review to see why these major expenditures are happening in these different areas, and what can we do as a government to prevent major increases by using a different means than presently just pouring money into this?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is an ongoing issue that we monitor and we are trying to take the steps necessary to keep children in their communities with their families or extended families as a first choice. It is an ongoing struggle and it is something that we are working at. The Member's point is taken, and it is something that I am watching with some concern as well. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Health and Social Services, total expenditures, total department, not previously authorized, \$4,373,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Page 15, Justice, operations expenditures, service to government, special warrants, \$209,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$59,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Law enforcement, not previously authorized, \$203,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Public legal services, special warrants, \$30,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Registries and court services, special warrants, \$156,000. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under registries and court services we have here a couple of figures that reflect on forced growth -- expenditures for territorial court judges pensions, \$335,000. Can we get some detail on that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, the \$335,000 is made up of their pension plan. There was a shortfall in the fund. That is \$90,122, and a supplemental plan of \$245,498.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister stated that there was a shortfall in the supplemental plan. Does this cover all judges in the Northwest Territories? How many judges does it cover and why would they be in a shortfall position?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, it covers the three territorial court judges. The reason there was a shortfall would be that the actuarial values of the fund changed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, along with this there was \$163,000 to provide funding for forced growth expenditures for territorial court judges' salaries, which represents 1997-1998 to 2002-2003 that the department had not previously funded for. Why would it come forward in such a manner? It is 1997-1998 to this fiscal year? Why did it not come back in previous supplementaries for previous years like we have just done for I believe it was Bill 25, dealing with previous years' expenditures?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will refer that to Mr. Voytilla.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Voytilla,

MR. VOYTILLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The simple answer is that in the previous years the department was able to find funding for the increases from within its existing appropriation. This year they are tighter in their funding and were not able to find it internally.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Voytilla. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the document we have it says that the forced growth represents increases from 1997-1998 to the present basically. Are we, in fact, paying for -- Mr. Voytilla has just stated that the department was able to fund it from within for the previous years but this year cannot, so why are we not just addressing this fiscal year? Why are we addressing previous years as well?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Voytilla.

MR. VOYTILLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In previous years the department did not seek or receive a base adjustment to their funding level, so this under-funding accumulated over a number of years. We are dealing with this in next year's budget so that they will have the ongoing base funding required. But for this year, because it is not in their Main Estimates, they need the full adjustment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Voytilla. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So the amount represented here, \$163,000, is an increase that represents this fiscal year for those three judges?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Voytilla.

MR. VOYTILLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, this is the accumulated increase for the three judges since 1997-1998, and it represents the cumulative change in their salary since then, which is about a 44 percent increase.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Voytilla. Mr. Roland.

MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that 44 percent increase since 1997-1998? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Roland. Mr. Voytilla.

MR. VOYTILLA: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Voytilla. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, with regard to the maintenance support officers positions in Yellowknife for \$193,000, it states that these positions were previously funded from the department's existing appropriations. I would like to ask the Minister why were they not into the business plan for 2002-2003, instead of bringing it

forth by way of not previously authorized? If the expenditure was already made by the department, why was this not carried through the planning process?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, in previous years they were funded internally by Justice from various pots and sources within the department. This year, for the reasons Mr. Voytilla just said with regard to their budget, they just simply cannot do it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I find that kind of odd. Maintenance enforcement is an essential service with regard to the public to deal with maintenance issues, yet this government has not taken the time to establish it as one of their full-time portfolios within the Department of Justice. Knowing that the previous money was expended in this area, why were these three positions not brought through the business plan back in March?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, as I said the department funded these internally in previous years, and as well they had the support from the child support guidelines fund, a federal program, that has since ended in March 2002. For this year, they simply do not have the money to do it. In previous years, between the federal grant and internal funds, they were able to do it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as a department, as a government, do you not think it makes sense that we develop these positions through the business planning process and make them permanent fixtures of a department?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Member. That is normally the way it should be done. Our intention is to do that for next year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the next item in regard to the officers for sheriff's office positions, they have one in Inuvik, one in Hay River, and two in Yellowknife. I would like to ask exactly, what was the requirement for having two officers in Yellowknife?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, this is based on the volume of court work in each of the communities. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister exactly, in regard to the service officers, how do they serve, say, small communities if they are at the regional level?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will refer that to the Minister of Justice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Allen.

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Member to repeat the question, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Allen. Mr. Krutko, could you repeat your question, please?

MR. KRUTKO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was that we have these officers, or sheriff officers in the different regional centres, but what is the process for them to serve the smaller communities? Is there such a process or an agreement in place for them to serve the different communities that are within the regions?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Allen.

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have the particular detail with me, but I am under some knowledge of the fact that we do have central court systems, or a courthouse in Inuvik, Hay River, and Yellowknife, so that would be where the sheriffs would be most needed.

I am also not clear whether the sheriffs do travel with the court parties, but I can get back to the Member on that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Allen. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: The reason I ask the question is, using the argument by the Minister that they have to have two officers in Yellowknife, but say you are one officer in the Inuvik region, you may have to serve the Inuvik region, the Mackenzie Delta, Inuvik and also the Sahtu. Also, in regard to Hay River, you are serving the south, the Fort Smith region, the Deh Cho. Who serves those other regions and exactly how big an area do these officers have to serve in regard to their area of responsibility and geographics? How big of an area do they cover and exactly how many communities do each one of these people cover?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Allen.

HON. ROGER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not certain again as to the logistics of the court party, so I will have to get back to the Member with the particular details. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Allen. Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: The reason I asked the question is because the Minister of Finance stated they need two officers because of the amount of work in Yellowknife. I think that comes back to the concerns that we have in the small communities. It seems

like all of the emphasis on government developing an increase in the bureaucracy seem to be at the regional level, with no priority given to allow for improved services at the regional or community level, and strictly in Yellowknife, Hay River, and Inuvik.

I would like to ask the Minister of Finance, from the statement that you made, it seems like it is a question of numbers than really a question of service.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Mr. Handley.

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, as I said before, this is based on workload. In Yellowknife, there are two territorial judges who sit during the day. During the evenings, there are justices of the peace who sit. The requirement is for two officers. It is simply based on workload by the courts. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Thank you, Mr. Handley. Mr. Krutko. Registries and court services, special warrants, \$156,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$915,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): We are on page 16, registries and court services, continued, special warrants. Community justice and corrections, special warrants, \$831,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$150,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Total department, special warrants, \$1,226,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Not previously authorized, \$1,327,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): Mr. Krutko.

MR. KRUTKO: I would like to move we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Delorey): There is a motion to report progress. The motion is 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. The Chair would like to thank the Minister and his witness for appearing.

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 THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. DELOREY: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 26, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 2002-2003, and would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker, I move the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Delorey. Do we have a seconder for the motion? The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Mr. Dent, seconds the motion. We have a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour, please signify. Thank you. All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Item 21, third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Weledeh, Mr. Handley.

ITEM 21: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 25: Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 2001-2002

HON. JOE HANDLEY: Mr. Speaker,

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha, that Bill 25, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 2001-2002, be read for the third time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We have a motion on the floor. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Bill 25 has had third reading. Item 21, third reading of bills. Item 22, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, meeting of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight at adjournment tonight and also again at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Orders of the day for Friday, October 25, 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
 - Motion 14-14(5), Review of the Operation and Accountabilities of the Committee Structure and System
17. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 20, Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act
 - Bill 28, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, No. 2
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Tabled Document 35-14(5), Social Agenda: A Draft for People of the Northwest Territories
 - Bill 1, Human Rights Act
 - Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act
 - Bill 26, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 2002-2003
 - Committee Report 10-14(5), Report of the Standing Committee on Social Programs on Bill 1, Human Rights 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, the House stands adjourned until Friday, October 25, at 10:00 a.m.

-- ADJOURNMENT

The House adjourned at 4:53 p.m.