Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Donald Taylor, MLA, Watson Lake
DEPUTY SPEAKER — Grafton Njootli, MLA, Old Crow

CABINET MINISTERS

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GOVERNMENT MEMBERS
(Progressive Conservative)

- Al Falle
- Robert Fleming
- Doug Graham
- Peter Hanson
- Donald Taylor

- Hootalinqua
- Campbell
- Whitehorse Porter Creek West
- Mayo
- Watson Lake

OPPOSITION MEMBERS
(New Democratic Party)

- Tony Penikett
- Maurice Byblow
- Roger Kimmerly

- Whitehorse West
- Faro
- Whitehorse South Centre

(Liberal)

- Ron Veale
- Alice P. McGuire

- Whitehorse Riverdale South
- Kluane

(Independent)

- Grafton Njootli

- Old Crow

Clerk of the Assembly
Clerk Assistant (Legislative)
Clerk Assistant (Administrative)
Sergeant-at-Arms
Hansard Administrator

ERRATUM

Hansard, Tuesday, April 6, 1982, page 121, left column, paragraphs 3 and 5 show The Hon. Meg. McCall speaking. The speaker should be recorded as The Hon. Howard Tracey.
WHITEHORSE, YUKON
Thursday, April 8, 1982

Mr. Speaker: I will now call the House to order.

We will proceed with Prayers.

Prayers

Hon. Mr. Pearson: It is with a considerable amount of regret that I have to advise you and other Honourable Members today that I have sought, and obtained, the resignation of the Member for Old Crow from the Progressive Conservative Caucus.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I rise on a Point of Privilege. I wish to advise the Members of this House of the loss yesterday of Allan White, former editor of the Whitehorse Star, and a much-respected journalist in this community. For those of us who knew him, Allan was a dedicated and principled journalist who brought integrity and fairness to the news-gathering profession in Yukon. On a personal level, he was a family man and an active and contributing member of the community. I would ask Mr. Speaker to convey the condolences of this House to his surviving wife and family.

DAILY ROUTINE

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Campbell, that Bill No. 22 An Act to Amend the Transport Public Utilities Act be now introduced and read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Justice, seconded by the Honourable Member for Campbell, that Bill No. 22, An Act to Amend the Transport Public Utilities Act be now introduced and read a first time.

Motion agreed to

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hootalinqua, that Bill No. 26, An Act to Amend the International Child Hague Convention Act be now introduced and read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Justice, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hootalinqua, that Bill No. 26, An Act to Amend the International Child Hague Convention Act be now introduced and read a first time.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Bills for introduction?

NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. Graham: I have a Motion respecting the appointment of Chairman of Committee of the Whole. Also, I have a Motion respecting appointment of Deputy Chairman.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Notices of Motion?

Mr. Veale: I would like to give Notice of a Motion moved by myself, seconded by the Member for Klunane, that this Assembly is of the opinion that the Northern preference for Northern contractors be increased as follows: for contracts up to $500,000, a 10 percent preference; for contracts greater than $500,000, a 5 percent preference.

Mr. Kimmery: I give Notice of a Motion moved by myself, seconded by the Member for Faro, that it is the opinion of this Assembly that the terms of reference of the Board of Directors of the Yukon Liquor Corporation established, pursuant to the Liquor Ordinance, should be amended to require that the Board, when considering the granting and regulation of liquor licences, shall consider: a) the recommendations contained in any duly passed resolution of a municipal council or local improvement board with respect to licences within the jurisdiction of such a council or board; and b) the social and health problems caused by alcohol abuse within a community.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Notices of Motion?

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Mrs. McCall: In the Assembly today is Pauline Craig, a grade 11 student at F.H. Collins, who I am pleased to announce has been selected by the Students’ Financial Assistance Committee to attend Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific in Victoria. She was not only achieved the highest academic average of all the candidates but is very much involved in skating, badminton, volleyball and music, and recently won five gold medals in snowshoeing at the Arctic Winter Games. Lester B. Pearson College is a co-educational, residential institution dedicated to bringing together, within an academic environment, students from many nations. The main objective of the College is to foster a better understanding of the steps necessary to reduce rivalries and conflicts which divide races and nations. At the same time, very challenging academic programs are provided leading to the two-year international baccalaureate. Successful completion of this program will allow students to enter second year university. This will be the seventh Yukon student this Government has sponsored with a grant of $7,500 in support of tuition, textbooks and accommodation fees. I would like, on behalf of this House, to offer our warmest congratulations to Pauline.

Applause

Mr. Penikett: We too, would like to join other Members in congratulating Ms Craig. We wish her well in her future endeavours and I am sure she will serve Yukon proud during her time at college.

Mr. Speaker: This then brings us to the Question Period.

QUESTION PERIOD

Question re: Municipal aid

Mr. Penikett: I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.

The City of Whitehorse had been promised a $1,247,350 Operating Grant from YTG and had set their tax rate accordingly. Last Friday the City was sent a letter stating that the Grant was reduced to $1,164,824. There is now a short fall of $82,560 in municipal aid as promised to the City of Whitehorse and I am sure she will serve Yukon proud during her time at college.

Hon. Mr. Lattin: Yes. The City of Whitehorse is receiving the same amount of money as it did in other years. It was the consensus of the Association of Yukon Communities in funding their projects that any money that was to be given to the municipalities would come off the top of the program.

The City of Whitehorse, along with all the others at the AYC, agreed to this. The difference is the amount of money that the City of Whitehorse is assessed, on a formula for their proportion of the operation and function of the AYC.

Mr. Penikett: Can the Minister confirm that in addition to the AYC Grant that, this year for the first time, the Territorial is deducting grants in lieu of taxes on Territorial buildings from the Operating Grant as well as the Transit Grant?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I am not aware of that. The way that I understand it, I do not think that that is true.

Mr. Penikett: We look forward to the Minister clarifying this policy. Since there appears to be a change of policy, is it the policy of this Government to increase the proportion of municipal funding raised by the property taxes and reduce the grants from this Government accordingly, and will this policy apply to other communities as well?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: When I am getting the answer to the second
Question re: Wildlife Ordinance

Mr. Veale: I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. In the new Wildlife Ordinance a provision for creating protected habitat areas was included. Because this involves interest in land similar to proposed agricultural uses, has the Minister made any arrangements to have transfers of any specific protected habitat areas to Yukon control?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Perhaps the Member opposite could re-phrase his question since it is so seldom he asks me anything?

Mr. Veale: If I may have my first question answered? I guess the Minister did not catch it. I guess he arose a little early this morning and is catching a little catnap.

Mr. Speaker: This is a supplementary question.

Mr. Veale: I cannot believe it.

My question is under the new Wildlife Ordinance. There is a special provision for protected habitat areas and because this involves an interest in land similar to proposed agricultural uses, has the Minister made any arrangements to have areas of special habitat transferred to Yukon jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I want to impress upon the Member that he was very accurate in his preamble that I did rise early this morning. In respect to the actual designation and transfer of habitat, no we have not made any formal application to the Government of Canada. It is a new section, as the Member has indicated, in our legislation. I would expect, over the coming years that areas will be identified and then the proper approaches should be made.

I am not sure, from a legal point of view, whether or not we would have to actually apply for a transfer or whether or not we could just designate the area. I would have to check legal authority.

Mr. Veale: I thank the Minister for his bright-eyed and bushy-tailed response.

Could the Minister also advise if the special habitat areas will prohibit mining activity?

Hon. Mr. Lang: As the Member knows, the section is new and that could quite conceivably be the outcome in respect to a designation. The whole principle is to protect the habitat that certain species need in respect to the propagation of their particular herds or packs, as the case may be. That is something that will be considered at that time and it would be given due consideration.

Question re: Lewes Village

Mr. Kimmerly: A question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

I have recently been informed that some rentals in Lewes Village were raised to $650 per month. Will the Minister include in the new legislation authority for the Rentals Officer to disallow unjust rent increases?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I do not know why the Member says unjust rent increases. I do not know if he has any evidence to justify that. No, it is not our intention to have the Rentals Officer disallow anything, in that matter anyway.

Mr. Kimmerly: Supplementary to the Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation.

The owner of Lewes Village is obviously trying to freeze out renters and sell the units. Is the Minister planning now for the increase in demand in low rental housing?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I want to say that we have an agreement with the owner of that building and we are assured that we are going to get the 24 suites that we have under option from him to lease. I fail to see where he gets this information that the landlord is freezing them out. If he has that information I would be glad if he gave it to me.

My understanding at this particular moment is that we have those 24 suites under lease from the owner of that particular building.

Mr. Kimmerly: Supplementary to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

When is the Minister planning to introduce the promised legislation concerning mediation of landlord and tenant disputes?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: That will be decision of this side of the House when that is introduced.

Question re: Land Sale Policy

Mrs. McGuire: I have a question for the Minister responsible for Land.

On the Minister's most recent announcement on this Government's Land Sale Policy regarding terms of sale extending over a period of five years on lands designated for houses and mobile homes only. Will the Minister say if there will be a similar policy change regarding industrial?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: At this particular time, on the industrial lots, we are not contemplating any change.

Mrs. McGuire: People with minimal funds who wish to go into an independent business cannot do so because of the limitations set down — the high cost of lots, one year to pay, 18 months to construct to a minimum value of $10,000 in the Haines Junction area. I would ask the Minister if he would consider reviewing the regulations set down for purchase of industrial lots in Haines Junction and devise an easier access to purchase for the small, would-be business people?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: We are always reviewing all our land policies. We have not made any commitment that we are going to review that. I am sure, as is the case in all Government positions on policies, we are taking them constantly under review and if we feel that they should be changed, you can be assured that this Government will certainly change them.

Mrs. McGuire: I would ask the Minister if he could tell me how many industrial lots were sold on an option in Haines Junction to date? How many of these were bought and then had the option dropped?

Mr. Speaker: Order please. I think that would be more properly a written question, as I am quite sure the Minister would have a very difficult time in answering a question of such detail. However, if the Minister does have a reply we will receive it. I would perhaps suggest that the Honourable Member make that a written question.

Question re: Yukon River Basin Study

Mr. Byblow: I will direct my question to the Government Leader.

Recently a proposal for public participation in the Yukon River Basin Study was circulated for comments. I am seeking the position of the Government on this model. Specifically, does the Government support the public participation model as circulated, or perhaps is YTG calling for a reduction in the funds for public participation and thereby a reduction of opportunities for public participation?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I recognize that the Member opposite would appear, at some times, to be frightened to ask me direct questions. That is my responsibility. There was a proposal circulated. There is a Federal-Territorial management plan under the auspices of the Yukon River Basin Agreement. I think that there is no question that the concept of public participation will be revised somewhat. The initial recommendation indicated — and I am going on memory now — in the area of $150,000, if not more, for the initial proposal. From my perspective, and I believe the Government of Yukon’s perspective, that is a lot of money for public participation when that particular agreement is largely designed to be a method of getting information of a technical nature. I have no doubt that it will be revised and once it has been revised and the format agreed upon I will inform the Member opposite because he is obviously taking a personal interest in it.

Mr. Byblow: I thank the Minister for the rare opportunity of hearing a half decent answer.

I would like to pursue the matter with the Minister and make reference to the study, which calls for a special provision for Native participation in the Yukon River Basin Study. What is the position of Government on these special provisions for Native participation in this study?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I would not want the Member opposite to leave the connotation that I never give a decent answer. As the Member well knows, I try to inform him as much as I possibly can.

In respect to the actual terms of reference, as I indicated earlier — if the Member had been listening — they were going to be revised somewhat. I would suspect that the actual type of procedures, as far as the public participation aspect of that agreement is concerned, will be open, in most parts, to all Yukoners.

Mr. Byblow: Since the Minister renders himself an expert in the area, self-proclaimed that is, I would like to ask him, in light of the
funding for the study having been approved over a year and a half ago, what explanation he can afford, of why there has not been any significant public participation to date?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Just because one goes into an agreement does not mean that things happen the following day. There have been administrative difficulties at the Government of Canada's level moreso than any others — I am not saying this is a criticism — of trying to get organized in respect to putting this agreement into effect.

The hiring of the Director was done not too long ago and, subsequently, things are going forward. In the interim, a number of preliminary studies done under the Yukon River Basin Study, so it was not as if no work was done at all, as the Honourable Member would like to intimate in his preamble.

Question re: Annie Lake Road

Mr. Penikett: I have another question for the Minister of Highways and Public Works. Last month I wrote to the Minister, on behalf of a resident of the Annie Lake Road, who was concerned with the cutting of trees presently being done there by the Government. Could the Minister state if a definite policy to upgrade this road has been developed?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: We will be doing some work on the Annie Lake Road in the future. At this time we are having the trees cleared out so that when we are ready to go ahead with this particular work, we will be in a position to do so.

At this time we have not identified, as far as I am aware, any funds or provisions of when it will be done. There is a considerable number of people living in that area and in the foreseeable future we will have to look at that particular road and I am sure that it will have to be upgraded.

Mr. Penikett: I thank the Minister for his answer. What steps is this Government taking to ensure that no unnecessary cutting of trees is taking place?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: When we are clearing trees, I do not think that we go out of our way to cut unnecessary trees. In this case, I am not aware of any trees that are being cut down unnecessarily. If he has information on that, I would be glad to receive it and check into it.

Mr. Penikett: Last month I wrote two letters to the Minister on exactly that point. One of the residents was particularly concerned about the aesthetic and environmental values along the road and, particularly, as it affected the attractiveness and appearance of their property — and, including a number of old trees in front of their place. Has the Minister any policy or guidelines in respect to that in terms of road developments? Has he considered what the effects of road clearing and in similar projects on the appearance of the land and the properties around there?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: We do not unnecessarily cut trees. We have a problem here that, on one hand, we want to upgrade the road and, on the other hand, people do not want us to cut trees down. We tread a thin line. If these people want the road, and it has been indicated to me that they want this road upgraded, that is one of the costs that you have to pay. You cannot cut both ways. I think with a little consensus between the two, with well planned roads and cutting no more trees than necessary, we meet both needs to the satisfaction of all people concerned.

Question re: Lewes Village

Mr. Veale: I have a question for the Minister in charge of the Yukon Housing Corporation regarding Lewes Village. The Minister is well aware that the condominium project is proceeding at Lewes Village. Will the Minister be entering into a new agreement for the 24 units with the Condominium Corporation, as well as the individual owner of those 24 units?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: It is usually customary, as far as I am aware, that when you are renting space from somebody or you are buying something, you deal with the person who owns it. In this particular case, I would suggest that the people we will be dealing with will be the owner of Lewes Village.

Mr. Veale: I am sure the Minister is aware that it will become important to deal with the Condominium Corporation. Will the Minister ensure that the renters of those 24 units will have the same rights and obligations as the other owners in the Condominium Corporation?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I think the Member is asking me a question that I cannot answer. I have not seen the terms of the condominium organization and I think it would be inappropriate to answer.

Mr. Veale: As the Government has cut back the programming that led to the closure of the daycare centre, can the Minister advise the House when the daycare centre that he has announced and has been gratuitously donated will be reopened?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I thought I made it clear that the owner of the building had donated this space. If the people want to organize a daycare, they are free to do so at any time. We did not fund that daycare and we did not cut it back.

Question re: Women employment

Mr. Kimmerly: A question to the Minister of Education. The Federal Government has announced programs of support for employers who hire women in non-traditional jobs. Is the Yukon Government of this program, and if so, what is the Yukon Government doing to co-ordinate the Yukon Government program with the Federal program?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: As the Honourable Member knows, the Yukon Government has just made the Women's Bureau in the Government a high-profile branch. We have several plans that I could elaborate on at sometime or in writing for the Honourable Member.

Mr. Kimmerly: Will the Minister consider dovetailing Vocational School programs for women with Federal Government programs of support for women in non-traditional employment?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I expect that we are going to be working hand-in-hand with all other programs available in Yukon to help women in non-traditional roles.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is the Government considering similar programs of support for the private sector, that is, affirmative action programs for women in non-traditional jobs, either through financial incentives or through preferences in awarding Government contracts to firms with their own affirmative action program?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes. We cannot participate in the sense of actually taking a role with the Federal Government, but we will be working hand-in-hand with the concept of this sort of program. The Federal program, I believe, has not had much support, but nevertheless it may just be that women have not heard about it. That would be the more the role the Yukon Government will be taking with the Women's Bureau — showing women where they can find these sort of programs and being facilitators more than they have been.

Question re: Ambulance services

Mrs. McGuire: I have a question for the Minister responsible for Ambulance Service. Twice last fall I questioned the Minister on an investigation into the complaints of late ambulance service. It was in regard to a fatal accident on the North Alaska Highway near Burwash. At that time, however, the Minister said that he did not have any information on the supposed investigation. I want to ask the Minister if he can inform me now. Was a formal investigation held into the report of fatal accident of that ambulance of the North Alaska Highway accident?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: Yes, an investigation was conducted into that accident on August 27, 1981. There was apparently some confusion in the contact and the ambulance, and I emphasize it was contacting the ambulance. However, there was no delay by the ambulance personnel. As a result of that, we have considered alternate methods of communication to attempt to resolve any difficult that would arise in a case like this in the future.

Mrs. McGuire: Will the Minister be meeting with the Kluane Tribal Brotherhood Band members to discuss the outcome of the investigation as there still appears to be questions arising out of it that are unanswered?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I was not aware there were any other questions on it. If the Brotherhood in Kluane would want any further information or if I can be of assistance to them, I am ready to be at their call. My understanding was they have been informed. I think some of them were at the inquiry and I thought they had the results of our investigation.
Question re: School busing

Mr. Byblow: I have a question for the Minister of Education. It appears from my information that the Carcross-Tagish Indian Band, who have arranged their own busing of students, cannot meet the expenses for the use of the van used to transport students to Carcross from the money received from the transportation subsidy given to individual families. Would the Minister undertake a commitment to direct her department to investigate this situation further in order to determine what level of support is needed to provide and continue this service?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The subject of the bus at Carcross is becoming a little tiresome. I will have the department look at it once more and then I hope not to hear anything more about it.

Mr. Byblow: Would the Minister be prepared to give funds directly to the Band in order to operate that transportation service?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The department will do what is fair and necessary for Carcross.

Mr. Byblow: Could I then ask the Minister, what would her department do to ensure that the Tagish students can get to the school in the event that the Carcross-Tagish Indian Band stops providing that service?

Mr. Speaker: I would rule that question as out of order as being hypothetical.

Question re: Tourism industry

Mr. Penikett: I have a question for the Government Leader. One or two recent reports indicate a downturn in the tourist market for Yukon this summer. The Yukon Visitor's Association is saying that we will be lucky to see a decline of only five percent of numbers from last year. Will these projects, of a decline the tourism industry have any effects on this Government's revenue projects for the coming year?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: I think I should correct one statement. I do not believe that the Executive Director of the Association said that they would be lucky. He said, that they would be satisfied if it was a five percent downturn because, as he went on to point out, last year was such a big jump that it really would be something if the tourism industry for this year could equal what transpired last year.

Although we do receive a tremendous amount of revenue from the tourist industry, I am confident that our projections will be well within the means of this Government to collect during the course of the summer from the tourist industry.

Mr. Penikett: Just to pursue that matter a little bit more. Given that the mining industry is in a slump, and that there may be a reduction in the tourist industry as well, can the Government Leader continue to say with confidence that the Yukon Government's revenues will increase 18 percent this year?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: The one thing that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition has not done, is look at how our revenues have increased in other years. Yes, we are still saying with all the confidence in the world that our revenue projects for this year are well within the realm of possibility, probability and our means to collect.

Mr. Penikett: The Government Leader, on another occasion, has attributed some of the large consumption of alcohol in the Territory to the visiting tourists in the summer. If there is a reduction in the number of tourists this year can he anticipate some reduction in liquor revenues as well?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: That may well happen. If there is that big a reduction in the tourist industry, there may be a reduction in liquor profits. However, it was made clear in that announcement yesterday that the tourist industry does not expect a reduction this year.

Question re: Yukon Liquor Corporation

Mr. Veale: I have a question for the Minister responsible for the Yukon Liquor Corporation.

The policy in the past for the Liquor Corporation has been to review applications for new licences in a closed hearing setting. Will the Minister be requesting the Board to change that policy to conform with the rights of natural justice — in other words, have a hearing open to every member of the public?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: In regards to the hearings on licences, the procedure of the hearings is set up in regulations and I will be bringing through regulations that in the future these hearings will be open, except when they are talking about personnel assets and such of the individual. Those, we feel are of a confidential nature, but the rest of the hearings will be open at the discretion of the Board.

Mr. Veale: It was a wonderful answer except for the last phrase “at the discretion of the Board”. Would the Minister confirm that they will be open, period?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: The reason we do not, is a very valid reason. There is a need to have the ability to have a closed session because if we are talking about a person's financial matters we have to be able to close hearings. The policy is to have them open except for that portion.

Mr. Veale: I thank the Minister for that explanation. Will the Minister advise when the Commissioner's order will be going through to change that procedure?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: Yes, it will be fairly soon. There is no immediate rush for it because all the licences for this year have been issued but it will be within the next month.

Question re: Job-bridging program

Mr. Kimmerly: A question for the Minister responsible for the Women's Bureau. On December 16, 1981, the then Minister spoke of a job-bridging program for women in the Public Service. This program was being developed by the Public Service Commission in conjunction with the Women's Bureau. What is the present status of the program?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I have not had a progress report on that. When I have it, I can let the Honourable Member know the status on that.

Mr. Kimmerly: Will the Minister instruct her officials to ask throughout the Public Service if there is interest in such a program, perhaps by an advertisement in The Sluice Box?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The Women's Bureau is just that. It is a bureau that will be dedicated to looking after the interests of women in and out of Government.

Question re: Destruction Bay maintenance camp

Mr. McGuire: I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs and responsible for the Department of Highways.

Is it still this Government's intention to remove the Destruction Bay Department of Highways and its personnel on the appointed date this year, as set down last year?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I am not quite clear about what the Member is actually asking me. Would she clarify her question for me please.

Mrs. McGuire: My question is fairly simple. Did this Government announce last year that they would be removing the Government camp at Destruction Bay at a specified date this year? Is that still standing?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: The camp is at Destruction Bay now. We have no plans to remove that camp. We did some aligning. There are some people working in that camp who purchased homes in the new subdivision. At this time we have no thoughts of closing that camp down. I think that because of new road technology there will probably be not as big a camp as there was. At this time that camp is going to be left in Destruction Bay.

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed with Orders of the Day.

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

Mr. Clerk: Second reading, Bill No. 17, standing in the name of the Honourable Mr. Pearson.

Bill No. 17: Second Reading

Hon. Mr. Pearson: I move, seconded by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 17, entitled Executive Council Act, be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Government Leader, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Justice that Bill No. 17 be now read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: The Bill before us, at Second Reading, is
fairly straightforward in respect to principle. It does provide for the establishment of the Executive Council as per the instructions given to the Commissioner of Yukon by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It also sets forth, in legislation, the responsibilities of the Members of the Executive Council in that transition period, from the time that this House is dissolved until the next election has taken place.

It makes clear and again provides in legislation exactly how appointments to the Yukon Executive Council are made and exactly what happens in the event of vacancies. It provides for the designation of responsibilities in respect to Yukon legislation.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Clerk: Second reading. Bill No. 18, standing in the name of the Honourable Mr. Pearson.

Bill No. 18: Second Reading

Hon. Mr. Pearson: I move, seconded by the Minister of Renewable Resources that Bill No. 18, entitled An Act to Amend the Yukon Council Act be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Government Leader, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Renewable Resources that Bill No. 18 be now read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: This Bill is before us for one specific reason. That of course, is to give effect to the will of this House as expressed in the Motion the other day in respect to salaries for the current year. It also provides for the proper transmission of the Act.

The Motion the other day in respect to salaries for the current year. It was moved by the Honourable Mr. Pearson. Seconded by the Honourable Minister of Renewable Resources that Bill No. 18, entitled An Act to Amend the Yukon Council Act be now read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Second reading. Bill No. 29, standing in the name of the Honourable Mr. Pearson.

Bill No. 29: Second Reading

Hon. Mr. Pearson: I move, seconded by the Minister of Highways and Public Works that Bill No. 29, entitled An Act to Amend the Electoral District Boundaries Act be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Government Leader, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Highways and Public Works that Bill No. 29 be now read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: This Bill amends the boundaries of three electoral districts: Whitehorse Porter Creek East, Whitehorse West and Whitehorse Porter Creek West. The need for it was first recognized a short time ago when the Members for Whitehorse West and Whitehorse Porter Creek East attempted to determine which constituency the Northland Trailer Park fell into.

The Clerk of the Assembly investigated the matter and found that the boundary line between the two constituencies actually runs through the middle of Northland Trailer Park and in fact, through the middle of certain trailers in that park. At the same time, the Clerk discovered that: 1) a development of approximately 13 lots has extended from the electoral district of Whitehorse Porter Creek East into the electoral district of Whitehorse West and 2) a small part of the dividing line between the two Porter Creek electoral districts is not as accurately stated as it should be.

The second effect of this Bill is to place the thirteen lots I mentioned in the electoral district of Whitehorse Porter Creek East. This is logical, as these lots are in the continuation of a Porter Creek street and any people living there would be more prone to feel a community of interest with the residents of Porter Creek.

The last change involves no real change as it is really just a more accurate description of a short part of the boundary between the two Porter Creek electoral districts. Rather than use the prolongation of Grove Street, which may cause the boundary to go through some lots, we are now using the pipeline right-of-way.

At any time that a legislature is within one year of a general election, it must be obvious that all Members are reluctant to amend, or even mention amending, the boundaries of their ridings. There is always the suspicion of jerrymandering of Members adjusting boundaries to their own advantage, etc. etc.

That is why it is important to note in this case that the two Members, the Leader of the official Opposition and the Minister of Tourism and Economic Development, who often stand on radically opposed sides of many issues, have reached an agreement on the proper kind of proposal which should be forwarded to this House. It is clear to me, and I hope clear to all Members, that these changes are proposed for the good of the electors involved and I commend the two Members for putting aside partisan differences to reach this very satisfactory conclusion.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker: May I have your further pleasure?

Mr. Graham: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Campbell, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House dissolve into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse Porter Creek West, seconded by the Honourable Member for Campbell, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker leaves the Chair and Mr. Fleming takes the Chair as Deputy Chairman

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Deputy Chairman: After a short recess, we will be continuing on Bill No. 5.

Recess

Mr. Deputy Chairman: I will call Committee of the Whole back to order. We will begin with Training.

On Training

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Administration was by itself. Training on the Job and Training were put together. Assessments was on its own, so we are now at Prosthetic Services and Restorative Services, which are also combined. Shall I go on from there?

On Prosthetic Services and Restorative Services

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Prosthetic Services, $16,000.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: This provides for funds for prosthetic aids as well as travel and accommodation as required for fittings. It provides funds for restorative services, as well as travel and accommodation. The basic difference between Prosthetic Services and Restorative Services is that Prosthetic Services are aids fitted on the person. Restorative Services are appliances used by the person.

Prosthetic Services in the amount of $16,000 agreed to

Rehabilitation Services in the amount of $900,000 agreed to

On Grants

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Grants, general discussion.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Grants include the Pioneer Utility Grant,
Daycare Program, Yukon Family Services, Child Development Centre, Alcohol and Drug Services — which is Crossroads — Income Supplement Program for Seniors and the Yukon Women’s Transition Home, Kaushee’s Place.

The Pioneer Grant provides Yukon Senior Citizens with a subsidy for high utility costs. The Grant is to eligible Seniors and has been increased by 33 percent from $360 to $480. This is the second increase in this Grant since its implementation in 1978. The increase introduced during 1982-83 will assist Seniors in offsetting utility costs which have continued to rise rapidly. The program has proven very popular and very successful. The number of Seniors applying for the Pioneer Grant has continued to increase.

The Yukon Daycare Subside came into effect on July 1st, 1981. The Government’s intention is to provide low-income, single and married, working parents with a subsidization of necessary daycare costs. The program provides partial or a total subsidization of those costs by eligible users for daycare services provided in either family day homes or daycare centres, as licensed under the Yukon Daycare Ordinance. An active advertising program has assisted in the continuing increase in the number of eligible applicants. I am pleased to say that the establishment of this program has encouraged an interest in the development of licensed daycare facilities. The number of such programs has increased noticeably since last July, thus contributing to the availability of daycare and meeting legislative standards of care and service. We feel that it has helped a number of people either stay away from welfare or, in some cases, come right off welfare.

In Yukon Family Services, the Government of Yukon provides the financial contribution to the ongoing operation of Yukon Family Services. It is a private non-profit organization operated by a voluntary board of community members. The organization provides a wide range of individual, family and marital counselling services as well as actively being involved in community projects which are preventative and educational. The services offered form a valuable part of the array of personal social services which are available to Yukoners.

In 1982-83 contribution to Yukon Family Services is $62,000, or an overall increase of 11 percent over last year’s contribution. For the first time, during 1982-83, a Contribution Agreement will be signed with Yukon Family Services in order to formalize the mutual expectations with respect to programs, service delivery and financial arrangements.

In the Child Development Centre, this represents a grant to the centre. The centre is a non-profit volunteer society established to develop and implement programs for children from birth to six years who are mentally handicapped. The overall goal of this centre is to provide a readiness program for special needs in children in the Yukon, preparing them for regular entry into the school system. Programs may be offered either in the centre or in the family home. The staff of the centre works closely with the child’s family in a co-operative effort to assist in an improved level of skills and functioning.

In Alcohol and Drug Services, this activity includes funding for the Crossroads Treatment Centre for Alcoholism, together with funding under the Community Grants Program, which is available to individual community organizations for initiatives and projects directed towards dealing with their individual and often unique alcohol and drug related problems. Funding to the Crossroads Centre has been increased substantially for the 1982-83 fiscal year, essentially to a level which will fund the necessary operational costs for the centre.

This was undertaken following an extensive review of the facility and programs with the board. The department will continue to work closely with them to improve services to a level which will meet the full needs of Yukoners who are required to avail themselves of this service. The Kearn’s Report was another thing that was done, which I am sure the Members are all aware of. This was an excellent report and it was useful from the Crossroads Board’s point of view as well as from the Government’s point of view. It cleared up misunderstandings and pointed the way for the future.

The Community Grants Program, for which $70,000 has been allocated, is a new program just recently implemented late in the 1981-82 fiscal year. While the program is very early in its developmental stages, funding has already been provided to four community groups for projects directly related to alcohol and drug services and specifically tailored by the group to meet their particular needs.

The Income Supplement Program for seniors, the Yukon Income Supplement for Senior Citizens Act has been introduced during the spring of 1982 legislative session.

The program will provide low-income senior citizens, who are in receipt of the guaranteed income supplement or spouse’s allowance, with a maximum supplementary income payment of up to $100 a month on a sliding scale in order to establish a minimum Yukon guaranteed level of income above the Federal level of guarantee. This program will therefore guarantee basic income adequacy to all eligible senior citizens reflective of local costs and needs in Yukon. It is projected that the program will cost $300,000 and will deliver income supplement benefits for 378 senior citizens in Yukon each month. The administrative dimensions of the program have been kept simple, utilizing existing person-years both within Health and Human Resources and Finance in order to ensure that maximum benefits are delivered to the beneficiaries. Each eligible senior citizen will receive a monthly cheque from the Government of Yukon and will be automatically registered for this benefit once their eligibility for guaranteed income supplement or spouse’s allowance has been established.

Finally, the Yukon Women’s Transition Home, Kaushee’s Place, is a program providing a place of safety and support for women in need and their children. It serves all women throughout Yukon. This has been a very valuable service. This was something Yukon was sorely in need of and it has proved over and over again that it was a marvelous thing. This came in during this Government’s tenure. The grant will partially cover operating costs of the Home during the last four months of this fiscal year. A development grant from National Health and Welfare is currently covering these costs and will continue to do so until November 30, 1982, when Yukon Territorial Government will take over that responsibility.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I think I described the relationship that the Government expects to have with the groups that will receive grants. This is a new arrangement that we are going to have and it will be a contribution agreement where we will put forth, quite specifically, the expectations that the Government has. This is another reason that we are going to begin this program of training for board members. We are going to have the relationship between Government and whatever arms-length body clearly spelled out.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am extremely interested in this expectation agreement and I am not asking for the specific details of any one of them, but I would ask if any of these agreements have been entered into to date? If so, are there conditions about a member of the civil service sitting on the board in any of them?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: We have not entered into any of them as yet, because we are waiting for this Budget to be passed. Normally, what the Government would like is that civil servants would be ex officio members on the board for liaison purposes only. Something that has caused a breakdown in relationships with Government and boards and commissions has been a lack of liaison. That would be the only specification that I can think of that would involve the civil service.

Mr. Kimmerly: Many of these organizations, the Transition Home and Crossroads, as examples, also receive funds on a per diem
basis with respect to specific clients. Will the agreements also cover the amounts of the per diem as well?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: Yes, it would include per diem costs where there is such a charge.

Mr. Kimmerly: Will the agreements also cover the timing of the transmission of the grants? To be specific, I would ask about Crossroads. Is the grant going to be paid all at once, quarterly, monthly? What is the plan about that?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: It will depend on the individual group but normally it would be quarterly. Yes, the financial arrangements will be clearly spelled out.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is it the plan of the Government, in its proposed program of training for board members of voluntary agencies, to spell out the policies of the Government and the requirements of the Government with respect to the levels of service and auditing procedures and the deadlines for budget submissions and like matters?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: We are still gathering information from other jurisdictions to see what things will really be useful for this training for this purpose. We would like nothing better than to have them do that. We have been doing the training and it has not always been very good. It has been going well. It will start in the fall, so we are not ready to go with this. We know that it is going to be a very good thing.

Mr. Kimmerly: My next line of questioning is around the budgeting of the amount of money for grants. The proposal has been put to me that it would be a good idea for voluntary agencies to get together and decide among themselves what the priorities are in a specific year, much like the Association of Yukon Communities now does, and makes recommendations to the Government. That procedure has not been followed in Yukon and it would probably be controversial. I do not know if all of the agencies would ever agree. I expect that there might be some difficulty. Is the procedure to identify various needs — for example Crossroads and the Transition Home and the Child Development Centre — and to make a decision, either approving or disapproving of the various projects, and then adding it up at the end and going to the Minister for Finance for approval? Or, is the procedure to determine the amount of money available for grants to voluntary agencies and then to divide up the total monies available according to the priorities of the Government, or some sort of a priority policy?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: Voluntary agencies taking the leadership for priorities and planning is exactly what we would like. In the best sense of the word this is what voluntary agencies should do. They are not there just to take direction from Government. If they are successful agencies, we would like nothing better than to have them do that. We waste a lot of time, and it takes a lot of time, sitting down with the boards. It takes a lot of Government time trying to help them learn how to do that. We have been doing the training and it has not always been understood that they need the training. This new training that we are proposing in the fall for board members will be very useful.

As far as which boards get what, this is something examined individually with individual boards. Government makes those decisions.

On Pioneer Utility Grant

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Pioneer Utility Grant, $127,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: There is an increase of 49 percent and I believe the Minister made a comment about the number of recipients increasing 33 percent. If I look at the information on Page 81, it does not appear to be 33 percent. I wonder if I am confused about that?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: It increased 33 percent from $360 to $480 for individuals not the overall number of people who are applying for it. That number is the number you see here, 49 percent. More people have applied.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in the procedure or the way the estimate of the number of recipients is arrived at. What is the procedure of estimating anticipated number of seniors in the next year?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: The number of senior citizens qualifying for Pioneer Grant is projected to increase to 264 from 240 during 1982-83. We have indications of this from Federal statistics as to whom is receiving old age pensions.

Mr. Veale: I had an inquiry from a senior citizen who was turned down in his application for a Pioneer Utility Grant. I saw the rejection notice from the department. My understanding is that he owns a home, he is 65 years old, but he received some form of assistance — he has a very severe disability and he received a disability pension from Canada Pension and his normal Canada Pension — and he has been turned down because he has received some form of social assistance at a particular stage during the past year. Can the Minister confirm if that is the policy?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: It would depend on the form of assistance that this senior is receiving already. Perhaps this citizen has a rent subsidy or something like that. I gather it was a disability pension that you thought it might be. It would seem that it would be some assistance with utility and rent already. In that case, that would be taken into consideration. This senior citizen can appeal that or bring it to the department and we can look into it and make sure there has been no mistake made.

Mr. Veale: Is there a specific policy laid out to indicate what disentitles a person from receiving that Grant?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: It is in the legislation. Pioneer Utility Grant in the amount of $127,000 agreed to

On Daycare Program

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Daycare Program, $140,000.

Mr. Penikett: I understand that recently the Minister may have received representations from some operators or parents regarding the kind of funding that is now being provided for Daycare. Could the Minister indicate if there has been any request to change the methods or the formulas now being used? Has it been brought to her attention the need for some different form of capital funding, different than what is now available because of some costs that cannot be borne by some of the centres in respect to their fee schedule?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: No. I have had no representation from parents or from daycare operators on that subject. I have not heard from anyone at all and neither has the department.

Mr. Penikett: I did not want to hold up the estimate on this score. Would the Minister ascertain if the board may have received such representations, because I have received two personally recently? In both cases, I think the people informatively indicated to me that they had made some kind of approach to the Government, although I cannot sit on what occasion or by what form they may have made these petitions.

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: It may have been done on an informal basis or something like that to the board. We have received no notification of it. We do not know of anyone bringing it up at all.

Mr. Penikett: Let me put the question formally to the Minister. Has she found any cause to review the present form and type of funding? If she has done some kind of review, could she tell us what the indications or the results of such a review were, formal or informal?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: No, we have had really no indications of any dissatisfaction with the program as it is. It has been going well. There are more applicants and we have had no cause to make any sort of review at all. It seems to be entirely successful, as far as we know.

Mr. Veale: Does the daycare funding for the options for single parents’ course over at the Vocational School come from this funding or is that a separate arrangement that is Federally funded, perhaps?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: Yes, that funding comes under the Department of Education. It does not come from this.

Mr. Veale: Is that daycare centre available for all students of the Vocational School?

Hon. Mrs. McCa|l: Informally, I would say yes. I cannot say exactly. I should think that if there is a daycare centre there that it would be used by almost anyone. It was set up for that particular course. I could imagine that it would be used.

Mr. Veale: I would hope the Minister would communicate that to the Vocational School because I am aware of a number of single parents who have their children elsewhere in the community and find it a tremendous burden while they are trying to get back into the main stream and take upgrading.

Daycare Program in the amount of $140,000 agreed to

On Yukon Family Services

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Yukon Family Services, $62,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: I would like to ask a question about the policy of the Government with regard to funding. Yukon Family Services has...
now. I believe, a counselling service in which there is a charge to the recipients of the counselling service. I am asking a question about if this factor is taken into account in assessing the grant available? Is the Government aware of the particular tests — be they means tests or whatever — that the Family Services Association is applying to their clients? Are the tests acceptable tests to the Government?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, there is a fee for counselling services. It recovers about $30,000 for Yukon Family Services. We take that into consideration with the operating grant.

Mr. Veale: I am pleased that this funding is being given. Certainly, from my experience, it is used by a very wide cross-section of the community. Without being critical, people prefer to go to Family Services, than go to the Government for specific kinds of marital counselling. I think it is working very well. There was a discussion of having a program that would be available to members of the public service, on some sort of contract basis — perhaps I am anticipating the public service budget — is it going to be proceeding?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes. My understanding is that it is, and it will come up under the public service estimates.

Mr. Kimmerly: In a follow-up of the fee for service system. Has the Government looked at the various tests used by the Association and is the Government satisfied that they are in accordance with generally accepted practice in this area?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: They established that fee themselves by looking at other jurisdictions. We have reviewed it and we feel quite satisfied that it is fair.

Mr. Kimmerly: My next question is around the apparent effectiveness training programs. I had asked a question in the fall Session, during Question Period, about the funding of these programs and the Minister answered that the Association was proceeding with the program on a voluntary basis, or the Association was using entirely voluntary labour. However, if it got into trouble, the Government would look at it. Does the Budget anticipate that program and, if so, in what way?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: No. We have not had Family Services approach us for that. We know the program is going well and there does not seem to be a problem there. They have not approached us for funding.

> Yukon Family Services in the amount of $52,000 agreed to

On Other

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: With the Child Development Centre, the 1982-83 estimate reflects the increased amount of personnel costs within the centre. These additional costs were required in the recent staffing of the centre during 1981 in order to secure the skills required to provide necessary assessment and programming capabilities for the centre to provide this specialized service. The staff hired during the past year does possess those requisite levels of training and skills. Other in the amount of $65,000 agreed to

On Alcohol and Drug Services

Mr. Veale: There is a recent Federal announcement about quite a lot of funding, some of which is coming to the Yukon. I know the Minister has worked hard to get this funding from the Federal Government as well. Could she explain the relationship between the two funds that are going to be coming in and whether or not there has been that kind of ongoing negotiations with CYI and the Yukon Government, to be assured that there is not going to be duplication and in fact, all the money would be put to the best use?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: The Yukon Government has no word on that funding. That is something that is for the Native Alcohol Abuse Program organization and it will be quite separate from this money. We are very glad that it was announced. We do not have any idea how much will be coming to the Yukon. Next week we will receive word. We expect that it is going to provide more money for necessary programs. It is going to be a good thing. The Government already has a member on the NAAP Board and we assumed, somehow or other, that we are all going to work in together somehow. There should be some very good programs coming out of all of this.

Mr. Kimmerly: I would advise the Minister that, some time ago, I received a representation, or a lobbying attempt, by an infamous member of the NAAP Board, well-known to the Minister and the Deputy Minister. I do not wish to follow it up completely, but I do wish to ask some general policy questions about the funding, especially of the $70,000 identified as community grants.

> Mr. Kimmerly: I have a series of questions. Is there any consideration being given for YTG funding to the Native Alcohol Abuse Program?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: No.

Mr. Kimmerly: As I understand it, the NAAP organization is primarily interested in Status Indian people and is Federally funded. What co-ordination is occurring for the community grants, the community alcohol workers, as they are still called in the NAAP program? This is a very, very serious question in that in the communities there appears to be a YTG worker and a NAAP worker and the bands are putting together proposals for NAAP, and there is a significant degree of confusion — I think that is an uncontroversial statement. What plans were made for 1982-83 to fit into the community network in this area?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: The Honourable Member is really saying what sort of a co-operation will there be. I suppose as a result of the Alcohol Conference in particular — as I said before, we do not have those resolutions yet, but we have been notified that we will have them two weeks from now — we intend to meet with the CYI and some of the alcohol people and then work out these things. There should be terrific co-ordination. I absolutely believe there should be. I expect that they will be able to go ahead with plans on their own and we will make sure that all these workers and the programs must work well.

Mr. Kimmerly: So that I understand the process. NAAP has a significant amount of money. Recent announcements by Mr. Munro proved fruitful for the Yukon. There is going to be a significant amount of Federal money in the alcohol area. YTG is projecting $70,000 in the community grants. Are the community grants screened in such a way that they would affect non-Native or Metis people primarily, or are they screened in such a way to solely be of maximum benefit to a community?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes. I would think that great care should be taken so that there is not any overlapping. Whatever programs NAAP is planning for this new money, I think we will take great care to see that we were not duplicating services. Where there are gaps in the system that we have, then I imagine that is where CYI will feel that they should put money. I just imagine that we are going to work together to see that the programs are effective together.

Mr. Kimmerly: I know the Minister's very laudable motives in this area. I have detected a less than perfect co-operation in some circles. Does the Minister now know approximately where the community grants are going to go, to which communities and for which projects?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: That money has not been finalized yet. We have some communities that we know are going to receive money because they have made representation for it. Nothing is finalized so I really cannot say very much yet.

It is true, I cannot deny it, that there are difficulties with some of the politicking that goes on, and so on, so the most laudable motives in the world do not always enable things to run smoothly. Surely at this point it must be realized by everyone that the problems of alcoholism transcend any sort of politicking. I would like to examine everyone's motives on this score.

Mr. Kimmerly: As we are talking about motives, and it is relevant to the Budget and the efficient expenditure under this line, I would specifically say that my particular motive is to illicit as much information as possible about this line in the Budget, and I am sure it will get to the various relevant agencies through Hansard. That may be an instructive process.

Will it be the policy of the Government on the expenditure of this $70,000 in Community Grants to assess the expenditures under NAAP programs and to, afterwards, expend the YTG funds in order to fill in gaps if they are perceived to exist. Is that the policy of the Government or part of the policy?

> Is that the policy of the Government?

> Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes. The Honourable Member must keep in mind there is a member of the Government staff on the NAAP Board so
On Yukon Indian Women’s Transition Home

Mr. Veale: Yukon Indian Women’s Transition Home, $34,000.

Mr. Veale: I am pleased to see that the Territorial Government is stepping in to assure that this Home continues. Does the $34,000 meet with the complete request from the Transition Home? Would the Minister anticipate that there is going to be some cutback in service as a result?

Hon. Mrs. McGuire: No, there will be no cutback in services at all. That was the amount requested and starting in November that is the result?

Mr. Veale: I wish to put it firmly on record that I congratulate the Minister for this initiative. It has our Party’s wholehearted support.

Mr. Veale: Does the Minister’s department have a member on the board in the same fashion as with other volunteer organizations?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes.

Mrs. McGuire: Do you know the total amount of grants required by the transition home per year from all governments?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I want to thank whoever sent the nice daffodils. It has confused me for a minute. The answer is yes.

Mr. Veale: As a point of information, the NDP sent the flowers by the way.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Thank you for the flowers by the way.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in an explanation of the kind of service that is presently budgeted for. I understand the explanation the Minister has already given about the reorganization in an administrative sense, in that the person-years have gone to Administration except for Detox Centre.

The Minister has made comment about the increased service in the area of Alcohol and Drug Services. Are the same number of people going to be involved in out-patient services, that is the services that used to be carried out and I believe, now are being carried out of the Crossroads’ building under the old ADS Department? I would ask the Minister to elaborate on the projected case loads for the people who are going to be administering those services in 1982-83 and to comment on the budgetary vote for those services. If there is a plan that the other social workers who were not before Alcohol and Drug counsellors are going to get into the alcohol and drug area to a greater extent than before? What training or orientation is occurring?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I think that it would be easier for all of us if the Honourable Member would ask questions one at a time. We will try and deal with them. Otherwise, we get confused with exactly which answer he wants to what.

Thank you for the flowers by the way.

I might just give you a little preamble and perhaps that will clear-up some of these questions.

The Alcohol and Drug Services Program includes all direct program delivery costs relative to the provision of alcohol and drug services to residents of Yukon. During 1981-82, all person-years and salary allocations for professional staff were reorganized into the Administrative Program, Field Region. All person-years and salary allocation for the Detox Centre were reorganized under the Residential Facilities Program. This activity is reflective of the Department’s reorganization of Alcohol and Drug Services delivery, which was undertaken to enhance and integrate service delivery to Yukon residents rather than provide delivery through two separate streams as was previously the case.

During the year, considerable activity has been undertaken in enhancing program delivery. The department has been working closely with the Crossroads’ Treatment Centre for Alcoholism for the purpose of improving service provided by the facility and will be providing increased funding to assist the centre during 1982-83.

A new program of Community Grants was developed which will provide funding to individual community groups for projects related to alcohol and drug services and, as well, an expansion of the Community Alcohol Worker Program was undertaken to expand services to those communities not previously covered as well as to expand the level of service provided to the individual communities.

Perhaps we can go on from there with each question.

Mr. Kimmerly: When the transfer occurs — or has already occurred — is the total number of people involved in the delivery of alcohol and drug counselling in Whitehorse going to change in any way?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: No. It will be same number of people with more back-up than they had before because of this new organization.

Mr. Kimmerly: Are the social workers who did not before traditionally do alcohol and drug counselling going to be more involved in the future in the alcohol and drug area, or is there any change for the other social workers in the department?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, in the Field Region. They will be much more involved. We believe, and I am perfectly certain that it is the case, so many of the problems that social workers are dealing with are alcohol-related. It is natural for them to work together. One problem is closely related to another. This seems only sensible, especially given the distribution of the population of the Yukon and the problems in small communities. We just believe that it is going to be much more effective in the long run.

Mr. Veale: Just a question of explanation which the Minister may have given before, to clarify my thinking, what does the Alcohol and Drug Services line item on Page 80 for $442,000 deal with as opposed to what we are talking about now for $298,000 on Page 82? Is there any connection or are they completely separate? Could you explain what each one is doing so that it will be clear in my mind?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: On Page 80, Alcohol and Drug Services is
child neglect? What is family situation, and so on. Social workers

Mr. Kimmerly: In answer to my last question, the Minister made reference to more back-up for the alcohol and drug counsellors. Could the Minister elaborate on that question? Where is the back-up going to come from and where is more back-up identified in the Budget?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: We have two additional staff in that field and also from the social workers, who will be trained more in dealing with alcohol problems. To answer Mr. Veale’s question of what are the other functions of Alcohol and Drug Services, I can read them out to you if you would like to hear them.

Administration, Prevention and Education — which is funding for preventative and educational awareness programs — community programs, contract community alcohol workers, workers in the communities who are located in Whitehorse, Carcross, Teslin, Upper Liard, Watson Lake, Haines Junction, Beaver Creek, Burwash Landing, Carmacks, Ross River, Faro, Mayo, Dawson City and Old Crow. In Detoxification, the change reflects movement of this activity from the Alcohol and Drug Program to Residential Facilities. The money in Employee Assistance has been moved into the Field Region.

Mr. Veale: Is there any delineation in terms of Page 82 being client oriented or general public information oriented or is it a mixture of both?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: It is a mixture of both.

Mr. Kimmerly: I would ask a question about the general area of the inter-relationship with alcohol and drug problems and, for example, child welfare problems and social assistance problems. Obviously the department identified a very close relationship and has moved all of the person-years into the same program. Is it estimated that the number of cases on the alcohol and drug workers caseload is going to decrease because of the reorganization?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: That is a difficult question. Of course we live and hope for this sort of thing. If the counselling is more effective, I should think that this is the result that we are hoping for by changing things around. We did this in order to have more effective counselling and more all-round counselling, more counselling of the whole family, more counselling with regard to the situation that individuals find themselves in, in communities. I would certainly hope that it would have an effect.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is it anticipated or estimated that the number of social assistance cases on the social assistance caseload is going to be affected by the alcohol and drug input into the department?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: That is another area in which you cannot definitely state that this will happen. With more effective counselling, with counselling of the whole family, one expects to see some success with keeping people sober and, in that case, keeping their jobs and, in that case, not having to apply for welfare. It is all inter-related. You cannot separate them. I should expect to see a positive effect throughout the system.

Mr. Kimmerly: In answer to my questions the Minister has made reference repeatedly to more counselling and more effective counselling with regard to alcohol and drug problems related to other areas of the department, for example, Social Assistance and Child Welfare. I wish to say that I agree completely that the inter-relationship will involve more counselling, probably more effective counselling, but I wish to emphasize more counselling. That was a phrase that was used extensively.

The case loads of the alcohol and drug workers in the old department were monumental. They were overextended in the extreme, in my view, and the Minister is now talking about more counselling. I would recommend a serious look at more service in this area as it is my view the effort has been excellent, it is the service that falls short of the need.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I do not know whether that was a comment or a question. On the question of more counselling, yes, if there are more people trained to look at the whole picture rather than just one area. For instance, if children are being neglected and they are at school and a social worker with alcohol counselling skills is called to consult, the whole picture is going to be looked at more. What is the reason for this child neglect? What is family situation, and so on. Social workers would look at it anyway but I think they will have a chance of being more effective in looking for solutions, and so on.

The other thing that I would like to say on this subject of more counselling is that the department is definitely doing the best that it can do, and doing a very effective job. The problem of alcoholism, as the Honourable Member well knows, is due to deeper ills than counselling can solve. I must say that this department binds up the wounds after the fact. There must be other solutions than this department can offer. This department cannot have the cares of the world on its shoulders entirely. There are other solutions and there are other ways.

Mr. Kimmerly: That raises exactly the last line of questioning I have in General Debate. It is about this topic. The Minister stated very clearly that all the counselling in the world is not going to completely solve the problem. There are deeper ills, or the causes of the problem are more extensive. Is there money allocated in any of the lines under this department for research? Is there a program or money allocated to identify the social cost of alcohol abuse in the social assistance area?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I do not know whether we have any data to tie alcoholism in with social assistance except that it is a very large factor and we know that. As far as research is concerned, I think that the Yukon does not have the capability of doing the kind of research into alcoholism that large foundations and other organizations do elsewhere. We have the capability of doing research pertinent to Yukon itself. We have a position in the department for research and training. There is money within the grants that could be used for research.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is there any program to identify the social costs of alcohol abuse in the Child Welfare area?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: We have not had the capability of doing that kind of research. I would be interested in seeing figures on these problems and the effects they have. That would be a very large research project that I think would have to be funded outside of the department. It would be a worthwhile exercise, not only in Child Welfare but Corrections and all the rest of it. As we know, one bears on the other.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is there any program to identify the estimated costs to the social welfare system of the problem of fetal alcohol syndrome and for fetal alcohol individuals?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I would like to tell the Honourable Member that our fetal alcoholism kit that was developed by the department has been sent all over North America and is tremendously effective. Other Ministers of Health in Canada have asked me for it and it has been, or is being, sent to them. I think that what the department is doing along those lines is very effective. I can only say that we are doing as much as we can. I really do not know what the Honourable Member is getting at with this line of questioning.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is the department studying a projection of the cost to the taxpayer of a single fetal alcohol child and, secondarily, is there an estimation of the number of fetal alcohol children in the Yukon?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The Department of Education has some figures on the number of children diagnosed, which is not necessarily the figure. It is a horrifying figure. The sort of project that the Honourable Member is speaking of is an enormous research project. The department is just not rich enough to make a special study so we cope with segments of these problems as they are found. A total study would probably be a worthwhile thing, at some time, but it is not something that could be undertaken lightly. There would be great financial implications.

Mrs. McGuire: In Haines Junction they have set up a committee that they call the Community Inter-Agency Committee which is made up of social workers from the Band, from YTSC, the NAAP worker, the YTG alcohol worker and they trade ideas and plan programs. It is working very well. They, in fact, are people who are helping themselves, in a sense, to help others. Does the Minister know of any other agencies that are set up in communities that are similar to this? Did this idea come from her department and what is done to encourage this sort of thing?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I am very glad to have that question asked of me. It is a terrific organization within the communities. I am glad to hear that it is successful in Haines Junction. It is also very successful in
Mr. Deputy Chairman: The Committee will take a brief recess.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: I will now call the Committee back to order.

I think general discussion is now over on Alcohol and Drug Services. We will go to line items now.

On Administration

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Administration, there are no monies under Administration and therefore no discussion.

On Prevention and Education

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Prevention and Education. $100,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: I wonder if the Minister is going to make a statement about the anticipated expenditures next year. It may save a number of my questions.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I will give the Honourable Member a rundown of the sums involved and I think that will answer his question. Under Prevention and Education there is $100,000 consisting of travel, advertising, management consultants to provide training workshops and seminars and photocopy rental. Under Community Programs, $196,600, there is a travel co-ordinator as well as the costs for 14 community workers to attend training sessions — $15,000 there — VHF radios, advertising, contract services, community workers and vehicle costs.

Mr. Kimmerly: What is the advertising for and for what amount?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I believe it is for community awareness or consciousness raising as to the problems.

Mr. Kimmerly: What amount of money is allocated for that?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: $1,700.

Community Program in the amount of $196,000 agreed to

On Detoxification

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Detoxification. no vote.

On Employee Assistance

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Employee Assistance. no vote.

Mr. Kimmerly: This is an extremely important and vital program in my view. I understand it is being transferred to the Administrative Department. What is the new budget in Administration?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I agree. It has been an extremely important part of the department's plans. I must explain to the Honourable Member that this sort of job is the sort of thing that the Government spearheads. It follows that if it is successful, it is taken over by personnel departments eventually. This is what is happening. The fact that the individual who was running the program has been super successful is the fact that more and more the personnel departments of various companies or agencies find that it is something they can take on. That is how it is supposed to go, that is the measure of its success.

I might add that the person-year in salary, which is in the Administration Program Field Region now, while program funds have been deleted, the function of the Employee Assistance will continue with the individual carrying more of a generalized case load and programming function overall.

The program of Employee Assistance has made excellent inroads with the majority of major employers, now having in place operational Employee Assistant Programs. The function is now one of working with employers in general maintenance of their programs with some work directed towards the small employers in Yukon. It has been a tremendously successful program and it is not that the Government has abandoned this program, the individual will go on to further work along the same lines but in a different way.

Mr. Kimmerly: So I understand, and I think I do, is the Minister saying that the program funds have been cut, however the person-year is maintained and there is a person continuing to administer the Employee Assistance Plan but there are no actual funds voted in support of that. Is that what the Minister is saying?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, that individual will continue. The person-year is still there. The actual individual is still there and the
job is still there. The function is changing to assume other responsibilities as well.

Mr. Penikett: I have been interested in this program as well. The Minister has described it as very successful. I wonder if she could, by way of illustration, describe some of the ways in which it has been successful. Perhaps she might, without obviously identifying the individuals, give some kind of human examples in which the way this program has been successful.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I would be happy to do that. There are many, many examples of people who have problems with alcohol and who have been seen to be heading in a very serious direction. They have been assisted by this program and have been able to stay on the job and be counselled, encouraged, sustained and supported to a certain amount, as they go along. It has been tremendously successful in that way. There are many people working today who would, if it were not for this program, probably would not be functioning members of the work force.

Mr. Penikett: I understand that from the point of view of simple civil liberties and human rights that you would need voluntary compliance in these kinds of cases. Could the Minister, again by way of illustration, describe to me an example of the way in which the intervention works? Presumably there might be an employee, perhaps in this building, who is demonstrating some problem in terms of absenteeism, or whatever. What happens? Does their immediate supervisor talk to them? Does their immediate supervisor go to the Minister's official first? Perhaps you could just run through the steps because she will understand, as I do, that that is a very sensitive matter.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The department has put out a pamphlet on how to recognize a worker with potential alcohol problems. There is a matter of absenteeism, excuses and all sorts of things. There is a pamphlet with the signs that a supervisor or boss might look for. When these signs are thought to be definitely pointing in that direction, then the person who is responsible and who is worried about the problem takes it upon himself to tackle the problem with the employee. Every case that I can think of has been very successful. Often the employee has known, in his heart, that he have a problem and was very glad to have it come out and be addressed with a practical solution offered.

Mr. Penikett: Who goes to the department? Is it the supervisor, or must the employee make some kind of voluntary initiative himself?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I think that the onus is on the individual. It is a free country. You do not have to be cured or helped if you do not want to be. The employee is encouraged to do something about the problem, but there is no one saying, you do it, or else. I hope not.

Mr. Penikett: As I understand it, the employee's supervisor would, in fact, go to the employee and try to persuade the employee to take some initiative in the problem. How does the program work in those areas where an employee might be, for example, in the Highways Department, operating equipment and, therefore, potentially dangerous to other employees? Presumably the supervisor has a different responsibility in such a case?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes. The supervisor would see his duty there if it involved any danger to others or any danger to the person himself. That would be a different course of action.

Mr. Penikett: Could the Minister describe briefly what the Minister's employee then does when the worker with the problem approaches the department? Is that employee in charge of the program, or the one who does the counselling? What happens at that point?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The employee would then be referred to whichever agency or service that was thought to be able to help him best. I am wondering if the Honourable Member has an individual case that he is worried about, or is it just the general policy?

Mr. Penikett: I am interested in general policy. When I get to the end of my question, the Minister will see my concern. It seems to me that it is conceivable that you can get employees with an alcohol problem, who may be drinking too much, late for work or may be starting to do bad work but who are not, by any commonly acceptable definition, alcoholics. In other words, they would not be candidates for Crossroads or some other kind of treatment but maybe people who are going through a troubled period in their lives or may have gone through a marital breakdown or any number of problems might have beset them — they might have gone through a session of the Legislature — any number of situations that might have precipitated a personal crisis.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: If I assume that such people are dealt with on a case-by-case basis, I am interested more in the milder case, not someone who is a serious problem but who is beginning to have problems?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I am not a counsellor myself, but I would think that this individual, in the circumstances the Honourable Member describes, would be a candidate for a session with the supervisor who was worried about the individual, and then, I would think, a candidate for counselling. There is not a judgmental attitude with all this. The person is genuinely concerned about the person's future. I think it would be handled very delicately. People are not ready to admit they have a problem, although other people may think that they do. Does that answer your question?

Mr. Penikett: It does answer my question in part. It is on the question of judgment and delicacy that I want to now turn. Let me use an example of someone who is demonstrating some problems at work. Their productivity is slipping. They are not proving as reliable as they might have been in the past in terms of the supervisor. The supervisor may have no special ability other than those normally expected of a manager in terms of handling the problem. They go to a person in the department who the Minister has not made clear as to whether they are also the counsellor as well as the person who directs them to help. What record of this intervention is entered on that employee's personnel file? Does the supervisor make some note of this intervention? Is there some report issued by the official of the department which goes on the personnel record?

Presumably, there might be arguments on both sides. There might be arguments saying that in the interests of the public service, some note might be taken from a health's point of view of the employee's problems. There might be an argument of the other side from a civil libertarian's point of view that it is totally unfair to note on an employee's record this illness when you might not at all make any mention of another kind of illness.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I would think that if it was a problem that had not reached a certain proportion, the supervisor would mention it to the employee. If the employee said, "yes, I think I have a problem", right away and volunteered to go to professional counselling, I do not think it would be entered on the record. If it became a problem for the department and the employee had to be persuaded to go, I would think that could possibly be entered on the record. It is an individual case.

Mr. Penikett: When the Minister described the program as a success and indicated the kind of change that was taking place, is she able to describe the success in terms of numbers of persons, say, in the employ of this organization, who have availed themselves of the opportunity for this kind of assistance?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: We do not have those figures with us but we could get them.

Mr. Penikett: I do not want an exact number. I have no interest in knowing that, but is it two, or is it 20 or 200? What kind of order of magnitude is it.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: My Deputy Minister says that it is neither two nor 200. We will leave it to the Honourable Member.

Mr. Kimmerly: What portion of the time, approximately, is the employee taken up with matters arising in the public service and what portion of the time in private industry?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Would the Honourable Member repeat that question?

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in the employee who administers the employee assistance plan. What portion of the time is taken up with the public service and what portion of the time with the private sector?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: I guess the Honourable Member is speaking of the individual employee and where the time is spent. I am afraid that I cannot give that answer. The requirements of that position will be changing. Obviously the job structure is changing so that individual, as more employers take over these functions and have staff in place to take them over, will experience changing requirements for that job.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Employee Assistance no vote.

*On Out-patient Treatment*
Mr. Deputy Chairman: Out-patient Treatment, $2,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: What is the $2,000 for?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Half and half for travel and advertising.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in the inter-relationship with the Corrections Branch and the Alcohol and Drug Services Branch. Are there out-patient services administered by this Branch to the Corrections Branch?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, we offer a consulting function to the corrections people and we are prepared to see individuals on an individual basis.

Mr. Kimmerly: In the discussions with the Corrections Branch, is the resolution of that that the alcohol and drug treatment or counselling is going to be done exclusively by this Branch or partially by this Branch?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, perhaps that question would be better put to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Kimmerly: I trust the Minister will take note of the question. I will be asking it in the Justice estimates.

Mr. Penikett: Just a quick question on this subject. Has the Minister received any indication of any reluctance on the behalf of those people providing this service to continue to provide it?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: No.

Out-Patient Treatment in the amount of $2,000 agreed to
Alcohol and Drug Services in the amount of $298,000 agreed to

Mr. Hanson: I move that Committee report progress on Bill Number 5 and beg leave to sit again.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: It has been moved by Mr. Hanson that the Committee report progress on Bill Number 5 and beg leave to sit again. Are you agreed?

Agreed

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I move that Mr. Speaker do now resume the Chair.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: It has been moved by The Honourable Mr. Tracey that Mr. Speaker do now resume the Chair. Are you agreed?

Agreed

Mr. Speaker resumes the Chair

Mr. Speaker: I will now call the House to order.

May we have a report from the Deputy Chairman of Committees?

Mr. Fleming: The Committee has considered Bill Number 5, Second Appropriation Act, 1982-83 and directed to me to report progress on same and beg leave to sit again.

Mr. Speaker: You have heard the report of the Deputy-Chairman of Committees. Are you agreed?

Agreed

Mr. Speaker: Leave is so granted. May I have your further pleasure?

Mr. Hanson: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre that we do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Mayo, seconded by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre that we do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker: At this time I would like to wish everyone a good Easter and I will adjourn the House until 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13.

The House adjourned at 5:20 p.m.