



# The Yukon Legislative Assembly

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Number 23

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25th Legislature

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## **HANSARD**

**Monday, October 17, 1983 — 1:30 p.m.**

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

# Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Donald Taylor, MLA, Watson Lake

DEPUTY SPEAKER — Bill Brewster, MLA, Kluane

## CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
Hon. Chris Pearson	Whitehorse Riverdale North	Government House Leader — responsible for Executive Council Office (including Land Claims Secretariat and Intergovernmental Relations); Public Service Commission; and, Finance.
Hon. Dan Lang	Whitehorse Porter Creek East	Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs; and, Economic Development.
Hon. Howard Tracey	Tatchun	Minister responsible for Renewable Resources; Highways and Transportation; and, Consumer and Corporate Affairs
Hon. Bea Firth	Whitehorse Riverdale South	Minister responsible for Education; Tourism, Heritage and Cultural Resources
Hon. Clarke Ashley	Klondike	Minister responsible for Justice; Yukon Liquor Corporation; Yukon Housing Corporation; and, Workers' Compensation Board
Hon. Andy Philipsen	Whitehorse Porter Creek West	Minister responsible for Health and Human Resources; and, Government Services

## GOVERNMENT MEMBERS

### (Progressive Conservative)

Al Falle	Hootalinqua
Bill Brewster	Kluane
Kathie Nukon	Old Crow

## OPPOSITION MEMBERS

### (New Democratic Party)

Tony Penikett	Whitehorse West Leader of the Official Opposition
Maurice Byblow	Faro
Margaret Joe	Whitehorse North Centre
Roger Kimmerly	Whitehorse South Centre
Piers McDonald	Mayo
Dave Porter	Campbell

### (Independent)

Don Taylor	Watson Lake
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Clerk of the Assembly  
Clerk Assistant (Legislative)  
Clerk Assistant (Administrative)  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
Deputy Serfeant-at-Arms  
Hansard Administrator

Patrick L. Michael  
Missy Follwell  
Jane Steele  
G.I. Cameron  
Frank Ursich  
Dave Robertson

Whitehorse, Yukon.  
Monday, October 17, 1983

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now call the House to order.  
We will proceed at this time with Prayers.

Prayers

## DAILY ROUTINE

### INTRODUCTION OF PAGES

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce to the House this afternoon, Stephen Schick and Derek Hurlburt, students from St. Elias Community School in Haines Junction, who will be serving as legislative pages this fall. I would invite the pages to attend the House at this time.

*Applause*

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding to the Order Paper, I have to inform the House that I have received correspondence from the hon. member for Porter Creek West, in which he has submitted his resignation as Deputy Speaker of the House. I am wondering if I might have, at this time, your direction in this matter.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I move that Mr. Bill Brewster, member for Kluane, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that Mr. Brewster, the hon. member for Kluane, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committee of the Whole.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** I declare the motion has carried and would welcome Mr. Brewster to the service of the House.

We will now proceed to the Order Paper.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any returns or documents for tabling?

### TABLING OF RETURNS OR DOCUMENTS

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I would like to table the answers to a question asked on April 28, 1983, by Mr. McDonald, relating to the *Second Appropriation Act, 1983-84*.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further documents for tabling?  
Reports of committees?  
Petitions?  
Introduction of bills?

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**Hon. Mrs. Firth:** I move that Bill Number 19, *Access to Information Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Education that a bill entitled *Access to Information Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Hon. Mr. Ashley:** I move that Bill Number 17, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Justice that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I move that an act entitled *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. member for Whitehorse South Centre that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I move that an act entitled *An Act to Amend the Summary Convictions Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. member for Whitehorse South Centre that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Summary Convictions Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I move that Bill Number 14, entitled *Financial Administration Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that a bill entitled *Financial Administration Act*, be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further bills for introduction?  
Are there any notices of motion for the production of papers?  
Notices of motion?

### NOTICES OF MOTION

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I have a number of notices of motion. I would give notice that I move that this House urges the Yukon Housing Corporation to change its present means test requirements for senior citizens to fully respect the privacy and dignity of Yukon senior citizens.

I also give notice that I move that this House urges the government to make eligibility requirements for social assistance universal for adult Yukon residents.

I give notice that I move that this House directs the Minister of Justice, pursuant to Section 4 of the Policing Agreement, to communicate to the Yukon RCMP that a police policy concerning domestic violence should be similar to a police policy for other assaults.

I give notice that I move that this House supports the inclusion in Yukon law the requirement that peace officers be given the power to demand a blood sample from suspected impaired drivers who are unable to take a breath test for medical reasons.

I give notice that I move that it is the opinion of this House that the support systems for Yukon senior citizens should continue to enjoy a very high priority and that to support a greater self-sufficiency and dignity of Yukon senior citizens the government should investigate and report to the House within one year on the expansion of support services for senior citizens residing in private accommodation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further notices of motion?  
Are there any statements by ministers?

### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

**Hon. Mr. Ashley:** I would like to discuss the philosophy and policies of this government on the matter of housing and senior citizens in the Yukon. As we are all aware, part of our overall program, namely the Yukon Housing Corporation, has been the focus of some concern over the past couple of weeks. I would like to clarify some apparent misconceptions and misunderstandings with regard to this corporation's policies and programs for senior citizens.

First, however, I would like to point out that this government takes pride in acknowledging the special place of seniors and elders in the Yukon community. The matters of seniors takes a high priority with this government and, over the past few years, a number of programs which reflect our interest in seniors have been introduced and are being implemented.

It was only a few years ago that most people of retirement age either left the Yukon for want of adequate facilities and services, or else stayed and were faced with a less than adequate quality of life. I am proud to say that this is no longer the situation. Today's seniors receive better health care, increasingly better opportunities to occupy themselves with their leisure time and discuss what other older Canadians are doing and now have a variety of housing and home care options, all initiated and brought in by this government.

As a result of this emphasis, I am happy to say that more and more people reaching retirement age are able to continue to live, if

not in their own homes, then in housing in their own communities near their friends and family.

The primary thrust of this government has been to assure that people of retirement age who want to continue to live in their own homes and maintain their individual independence, can do so without an undue economic burden. This thrust is reflected by programs such as the Pioneer Utility Grant and the Homeowners Grant. For those people who do not own their own home or feel they cannot continue to maintain their own home and who are unable to live in private rental accommodation, the government offers various types of public housing. The mechanism by which these are provided is through an autonomous Crown corporation.

<sup>13</sup> Under our new policy, which came into effect October 1st 1983, seniors in Yukon have two options open to them if they wish to live in housing provided by the Yukon Housing Corporation. In the first option, the public housing program is designed for the seniors who are able to afford market rents for housing. The monthly rent includes heat, a portion of lights and electrical bill, and fridge and stove and, at the tenant's option, a washer and dryer may also be rented. Rents on these units are set to reflect present market values. The effect of this initiative is that a senior may live in public housing without having to declare his or her income to the corporation.

In the second option, for those who require assistance in obtaining housing because they are unable to pay market rents for reasons of low income, there is a rent-geared-to-income program. Under this choice, it is the corporation's policy to charge a rent equal to 25 percent of household income, which includes the provision of heated accommodation. This level of subsidy is higher than average in the rest of the country. Because of the corporation's rent being geared to income, it is essential to know the household income of the renter. Thus, renters who seek the subsidy are asked to provide information on their income.

Although the Yukon Housing Corporation is an autonomous organization, it reflects the general philosophies and policies of this government — that of assisting seniors, encouraging individual responsibility and providing assistance for those in need.

During my recent tour of Yukon communities with my cabinet colleagues, I heard concerns from some seniors who were disturbed about being asked to sign agreements that allowed the Housing Corporation access to information about their bank accounts. I have, in turn, raised this concern with the chairman of the corporation and have asked him to review the procedures for verifying incomes of seniors, and have advised the Board that I would like them to consider this issue and to look at alternate methods for obtaining information on household income.

I am now waiting for the consideration and recommendations from the Yukon Housing Corporation Board of Directors on the issues I have raised with them. Thank you.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** At the outset, it is most welcome that the minister would raise this issue in a ministerial statement on the first day of the new session. Indeed, there are misconceptions and I hope that in the days to come those misconceptions will be completely cleared up. I note that this government claims that they initiated and brought in the pioneer utility grant, a statement that the present mayor of Whitehorse may have some comment about.

As to the particular issues of the means test, I welcome the government's attention to this issue. Our position is absolutely clear and, I expect, will be debated Wednesday. It is an extremely important, and indeed a very emotional issue, for the individuals concerned who are now operating under new rules and this attention is welcome.

<sup>14</sup> **Hon. Mr. Tracey:** On October 7th, 1983, I and my colleague, the hon. Dan Lang, Minister of Economic Development, made a presentation to the Yukon North Slope Project Review group, outlining the position of the Government of Yukon on the need, establishment and location of harbour and shore facilities on the Yukon North Slope. In formulating its position, the Government of Yukon made particular reference to Gulf Canada's proposed development of a temporary hydro carbon exploration support base at Stokes Point, the Kiewit and ACZ Marine Contractors proposed development of a sandstone quarry, haul road and port in the

vicinity of King Point, and representations made by the communities in the area affected.

The first matter the Project Review Committee must address is the need for shore and harbour facilities along Yukon's north coast. The Government of Yukon recognized that there would be such a need when, in 1978, the Government of Canada withdrew the entire northern Yukon for the purposes of creating a national wilderness park without making provisions for the development potential of the Beaufort Sea. Subsequently, the Yukon government's position was outlined in our Northern Yukon Resource Management Model, prepared in October, 1980.

The resource model was conceived as the focal point for comprehensive land use management and planning on the North Slope, which recognized the premiere requirement for protection of the environment without the exclusion of development. The model was comprehensive yet flexible, recognized conservation and supported native priorities, but allowed development.

The Resource Management Model proposes northern Yukon be divided into three zones. The first zone, the northwest portion west of the Babbage River, is proposed as a national park. It should be noted that this zone includes the calving grounds of the Porcupine caribou herd and the prime purpose of the park must be to protect this habitat.

We believe the national park boundaries should be located to the west of the Babbage River and initially include the Firth River watershed, but that the specific location of the boundary be decided through a joint and cooperative land use planning process.

The second zone encompasses Herschel Island and the third zone includes the central and northeastern portions of Yukon's North Slope. For the third zone, the Yukon government proposed a special resource management regime that would have the flexibility to accommodate a variety of resource and land uses while simultaneously providing those measures required for the protection and conservation of the wildlife resources and environment. The two current development applications by Gulf Canada and Peter Kiewit and Sons Incorporated are both within this proposed multi-use zone.

It is the position of our government that one single permanent multi-use port be developed in accordance with the agreed principles and criteria established in the Land Claims negotiations relating to Yukon's North Slope and subject to appropriate environmental and socio-economic conditions.

On December 17th, 1982, the Yukon Legislative Assembly passed the following motion: THAT the Government of Yukon support in principle the development of a deep-water port along the northern coastline of Yukon, providing such development is socially and environmentally sound, and that the Government of Yukon request the federal government to declare its position with respect to this development as soon as possible.

Our support for one permanent port does not preclude our support for the development of temporary or exploratory facilities at other points along Yukon's North Coast, subject to similar environmental and socio-economic safeguards and provided that the life of these facilities be restricted to the period of their land use permits or exploration agreements.

<sup>15</sup> The Government of Yukon shares the concerns expressed by many others that the site-specific temporary developments, which in themselves may be environmentally acceptable, may not be so when their environmental impact is considered. Thus, the Government of Yukon recommends that the approval of any further development applications, other than the current applications, must await the completion of a comprehensive resource management plan for the entire North Slope.

In our view, the number of temporary facilities should be kept to a minimum. However, we recognize that such sites may be required by industry or government in the future. The existing Dew Line sites at Komakuk, Shingle Point and the abandoned site at Stokes Point serve as reminders of the need for some flexibility.

The second task assigned the Project Review Group is the establishment and location of shore and harbour facilities on Yukon's North Slope. Two sites have been applied for as preferred potential ports: Stokes Point and King Point. In determining which

site would be more appropriate for development of a permanent port, the Government of Yukon considered wildlife and habitat protection to be of paramount concern.

The Department of Renewable Resources assessed both sites. Based on these findings, the needs of the industry, and a review and analysis of socio and economic factors, it is the position of the Government of Yukon that King Point be designated as the location for the only permanent harbour facility on Yukon's North Slope and that the port facilities be jointly utilized by the various companies with development interests in the area.

I would now like to deal specifically with the two current development applications on Yukon's North Slope by Gulf Canada and Kiewit/ACZ. In consideration of the economic and environmental issues of the two current development proposals, the representations from the communities affected, the principles of land claims agreements, and all other factors, the Government of Yukon supports in principal both the application by Gulf Canada for a temporary hydro carbon support base at Stokes Point and the application by Kiewit/ACZ for a sandstone quarry, haul road and port facilities at King Point, subject to appropriate environmental and socio-economic terms and conditions.

Yukon's position with respect to both of these projects is predicated on the belief that the environmental impacts associated with them can be held to acceptable and manageable limits, limits that will ensure for ages to come the continued environmental integrity of our North Slope.

**Mr. Porter:** At the outset, prior to discussing in detail the statement read by the minister, I would simply like to point out a concern as to the timing in which the ministerial statements arrived at the offices of the opposition. It might be noted, for the record, that we received the ministerial statements only a half hour prior to coming into the House, and I suspect that this side of the House will be seeking changes in the procedures of the House to accommodate a better discussion and have the ministerial statements tabled prior to a sitting day in the House or brought before the members opposite on this side of the House. This could probably accommodate more expeditious discussion on matters that are contained in the statements.

I would like to, first of all, bring forward to the attention of the House, our statement with respect to the development of the North Slope and these are contained in discussions that we have held on the debate and the motion before the House.

What we on this side of the House have stated is that we would only look at the development of the North Slope provided that adequate social, environmental and economic studies are complete. As well, we call for an agreement between the various governments and the user groups concerning the protection and management of the Porcupine caribou herd and we ask that there be a formal agreement between these groups prior to any development taking place in order to protect the Porcupine caribou herd, which everyone recognizes as being vital to the interests of the people of Old Crow.

In addition, we call for the important question of aboriginal land-related rights that affect the North Slope of the Yukon to be included between the various aboriginal groups and the governments of Canada and the Yukon on the whole question of aboriginal rights.

We did not state that we had, at any point, taken a position of no development on the North Slope. What we had suggested is that development on the North Slope can only occur if these considerations are taken into account prior to decisions being made. I think that we should question ourselves as to why we see such a flurry of ministerial statements on the question of the North Slope today. I think the answer lies in the fact that the Minister of Indian Affairs has recently set up a project review group to look at this question, and to advise him as to what direction he should proceed on, and an eventual decision.

I suggest that, in all probability, the report is complete, is in the hands of the Minister, and they will be recommending that there be no development on the North Slope. I think that what probably would occur at that time is that the YTG representatives on the committee will be forced to put forward a minority report. Once

again, we will see this government at odds with current political thought in the territory.

To address the concerns of development on the North Slope, I think we have to look over the history of the questions, and there has been a long history with respect to the North Slope question, as to whether or not the Yukon's North Slope should be developed. We have had opinions and considerations tabled on this idea before. We have had reports from commissions and regulatory agencies such as the Berger Commission, as well as the National Energy Board.

Both of those two reports indicated that the environmental damage to the North Slope of the Yukon is of such great consequence that we could not, in their opinion, develop it with the question of an overland pipeline route.

On that very question of whether or not there will be pipelines, or whatever, from the Beaufort, that too, is a major issue. To this day we do not even know whether or not there is oil and gas of the proven magnitude to warrant a commercial pipeline or any other system. As a matter of fact, the question of pipelines has been temporarily ruled out and there are discussions proceeding that would see the oil and gas, if it is commercially viable, possibly being brought out by tanker. So, the whole economics of the Beaufort oil and gas play is still open to question.

The proponents of Dome Petroleum probably, more than anybody else, would know the answers to those kinds of questions, but they have not been forthcoming to the public as to what is contained in their drilling results on the North Slope. I suggest in their negotiations with the Federal government on the possible bail out of the company, the Federal government can get that kind of data from the company.

I see that you are waving a watch at me, Mr. Speaker, so that must mean that I am running out of time. I suspect that more of the ministers will be presenting statements on this question and then other members of our caucus will raise it again.

In summation, we have not said "no development on the north coast". We simply say that, prior to making a decision, certain important facts have to be taken into consideration. Thank you.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I am a little surprised at the member across the floor. The position of his party was in the newspaper; that they would sooner see Herschel Island be developed.

If there is going to be environmental damage at some place like Stokes Point, where it has already been developed, I do not know how they could, in all conscience, recommend that we go over and destroy an historic site such as Colleen Cove on Herschel Island.

These agreements that we have reached with the native people have been signed by the native people and include land planning and caribou management, two of the most important agreements that the argument is about on the North Slope. The native people have agreed to it. The only party that has not signed the land planning agreement as of this time is the federal government and we are waiting for them to sign it.

Certainly, the native people in all of their agreements have agreed to economic development in this territory and I would suggest to you that the hundreds of millions of dollars that are going to be invested in the North Slope would be a very worthwhile benefit to this territory.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I would like to address the socio-economic implications of the development proposals on Yukon's North Slope.

In conjunction with the development of the Northern Yukon Resource Management Model, the Government of Yukon has delivered a series of clearly stated and comprehensive positions regarding Yukon's social and economic involvement in northern development projects, particularly those relating to the hydro carbon industry.

The Government of Yukon is firm in its support of balanced development when such development can be shown to involve social and economic benefits that outweigh the costs associated with the development. Thus, in reviewing the development proposals, the Government of Yukon considered the economic significance of both projects in relation to the costs and benefits to Yukoners, other northerners and Canadians in general.

If specific conditions are established, the economic opportunities

arising from the construction and operation of both facilities are clearly significant and will have a major effect upon Yukon's long-term economic health and stability. Consequently, when Yukon is unable to sell its minerals, it can ill afford to turn aside the opportunities presented by the Kiewit proposal, especially when it is an environmentally sound project.

The projects provide both economic diversification and increased economic strength, two key objectives of our government. Construction of both facilities would directly create five to six hundred jobs and a direct investment of over \$200,000,000. In addition, there would be millions of dollars in expenditures created throughout the territory.

Operation of both developments would result directly in over 350 jobs annually and tens of millions of dollars in investment in Yukon and northern businesses. Moreover, hundreds of new jobs and millions of dollars in income would be created indirectly throughout the northern economy. Idle trucks would begin moving, workers presently unemployed would have new opportunities, Yukon communities could be reborn and hard-pressed businesses could look forward to new prospects, not bankruptcy.

In fact, the total impact will rival the economic significance of Cyprus Anvil at full production.

The question basically is: should 2,500 Yukoners on unemployment insurance be given the chance at new jobs? Our answer is, emphatically, yes.

The benefits of these two projects will certainly not be limited to Yukoners and other northerners. Southern Canadians will enjoy a major share of the benefits as well. Workers in Ontario and Quebec will be making the heavy equipment and other equipment that is required for the development of these two projects in northern Yukon.

The Government of Canada, by approving these two projects, will be promoting the achievement of its goal for energy self-sufficiency and a consequence of the Kiewit proposal will be the gaining valuable foreign exchange. Thus, the approval of both projects is clearly in the economic interests of both Canada and Yukon.

In consideration of the economic benefits of the two current development proposals, the Government of Yukon supports in principle both the application by Gulf Canada for a temporary hydro carbon support base at Stokes Point and the application by Kiewit/ACZ for a sandstone quarry, haul road and port facilities at King Point, subject to the appropriate environmental and socio-economic terms and conditions.

Our support for Gulf Canada's application at Stokes Point is given on the basis that the facilities will be temporary and its life will be tied to the exploration agreements. In addition to the environmental terms and conditions that were outlined by my colleague, the Government of Yukon insists that socio-economic terms and conditions be designed to maximize Yukon and northern benefits from the proposed developments while minimizing any social impacts that may result, especially in relation to Old Crow.

We know Yukoners can fill the jobs which will become available, from supervisors, engineers, mechanics and truck drivers to heavy equipment operators, blasters, laborers, secretaries, radio operators and cooks. We expect that, wherever possible, Yukoners will be hired to fill these positions. The Government of Yukon is committed to working with Gulf Canada, Kiewit, local business interests, the Federal Government and affected communities to facilitate the development of business opportunities for local companies wishing to become involved in the project. We expect and demand a similar level of commitment from the companies.

With respect to employment and training, the Government of Yukon expects that Yukon residents will be recruited for jobs associated with both the construction and the operation phase of the two projects. The government also holds that the jobs made available to Yukoners should be stable and should have the potential to provide employees with opportunities for long-term employment. This is consistent with the government's goal to promote diversification and the orderly evolution of the Yukon's economy.

The Government of Yukon is satisfied that the commitments

made by Gulf Canada and Kiewit to our government will meet these goals and objectives. Still, we will be demanding that stringent socio-economic terms and conditions be developed to ensure that Yukoners and northerners do in fact benefit to the fullest from each of these projects. We look forward to cooperating with both companies in order to ensure that Yukoners gain as many jobs as possible during the lifetime of the two projects.

Yukon's position, with respect to these projects, is predicated on the belief that the environmental impacts associated with them can be held to acceptable and manageable limits. Our position is also based upon the fact that the economic benefits that will accrue from both projects will significantly improve the quality of life of all Yukoners and will ensure that Yukon becomes a strong and self-sufficient member of the Canadian Federation.

**Mr. McDonald:** I have listened with great interest to the Minister of Economic Development to promote two specific projects within the broader horizons of Beaufort development. Firstly, however, I would like to say that I, too, am not very happy with the nature in which all three — and I believe there will be another — of the ministerial statements have been presented. By showing the loyal opposition a copy of what I would consider to be major ministerial statements only minutes before presentation is, in my opinion, in contempt of this legislature.

I would have dearly liked, for example, to have had the opportunity to provide a more detailed reaction to this statement but I have been forced, by time, to keep my comments quite brief. I don't believe that four minutes is probably long enough. I think that I should make the reasonable point that a series of mini-briefs is not the proper way to debate Beaufort development. Perhaps a motion on the Order Paper would be. Therefore, I guess many points will be left unmade.

I would relish, for example, the opportunity to discuss and finally discover this government's definition of balanced development. It would also be interesting to discover the government's justification for the statement that the Kiewit proposal is environmentally sound. Certainly, I was unaware that Peter Kiewit and Sons had filed any environmental impact statements.

I think that, without question, the minister has played up the economic opportunities, while these same opportunities have not been entirely established. In fact, there have been conflicting reports from even the ministers as to what Yukon might expect in terms of job opportunities and business opportunities.

In particular, I think that one statement the minister made regarding the construction and operation of facilities may not be entirely accurate. We do not know what sort of business capability will be required to build these ports, to build these facilities. We do not know that Yukon businesses will be able to take advantage of them. We do not have any of these guarantees.

However, I would agree entirely with the minister that there is no doubt that southern interests will be adequately satisfied and I have no doubt, too, that the national energy program will be promoted with this statement; that is, if the oil is economically recoverable. But that is one of the major points to be made. We have to determine whether or not the oil is economically recoverable and, for example, determine whether or not these so-called beautiful business opportunities are in the best interests of Canada. Do we have to give Peter Kiewit and Sons \$110,000,000 to provide jobs for us? I think this is a very important question to ask.

There has not been any discussion from that side of the House on what efforts have been made in the past to discuss with the federal government mineral resource revenue sharing. We should get into that, perhaps, in debate.

What I believe the government is really attempting to do is to project the "lottery fever" on Yukoners. That is to say, that we invest our environment and maybe we will win and maybe we will not. The government is not unquestionably stressing the prize, but we have not seen or heard of any guarantees that we will reap any benefits.

Once again, I would like to stress that this side of the House is not anti-development at all. Nothing that I, or this side, have ever said would conflict with that. But, we must answer some of the big question marks first, and that is certainly regarding the possible

economic opportunities which the minister makes a big point of mentioning. What we say is "let us see some guarantees." If the project is so viable, then the operators in the Beaufort should not hesitate to provide such guarantees.

Of training and recruitment, the minister says that they expect that we will get benefits. Well, expecting benefits is not good enough. We want to see those benefits. He said, "the government holds that jobs will be stable and long-term", while stating that, of course, the port is temporary. He talks about commitments, so our obvious reaction is, let us see those commitments.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I must advise the hon. member that his time has expired. Would he kindly sum up at this point.

**Mr. McDonald:** I will wind up very briefly.

We want the socio-economic terms and conditions to be developed as the minister stated. The minister admits that we do not have them: we want to see them. We want economic self-sufficiency, but we do not want to feed the empty lottery fever in the Yukon.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I would like to begin by indicating to the members opposite that it is this side of the House that offers the courtesy of ministerial statements being provided to them, and we try to get them to them within half an hour or an hour prior to presentation. From this side of the House, we intend that practice to continue.

I should point out, with respect to the presentations that were made, that they were in essence the presentation that was made before the Project Review Committee. If the member opposite had done his homework he would have been prepared for the position that the Government of the Yukon Territory did put forth and is putting forth for the sake of the record in this House. We believe it to be a very important issue facing Yukon at the present time. I should point out that it is very interesting to hear the side opposite talk about the fact that they are not anti-development. I would seem to me from the position put forward that maybe I can concur with them that they are not anti-development, but perhaps their development in more on the lines of supporting consultants as opposed to making decisions.

It seems to me, in conclusion, that when one looks at the job opportunities for Yukoners and the various statements that were made in this House, that the members opposite should have no problem supporting the position that we have put forward. We believe it to be a balanced position. On many occasions, the various expertise that came forward to that committee, namely the caribou experts — if I can use that terminology — who know their business, indicated that development could go ahead with certain restrictions, which we intend to put into place.

With that in mind, I find the members opposite in very much of a quandry when they are sitting there saying no, they have to please COPE at the national level, because of the commitment of the president of the national party and, at the same time, here in the Yukon, they have to say yes, we are for development and look for jobs.

It would seem to me that perhaps the members opposite should get their acts together and any time they wish they can put a motion on the floor of the House and we could debate it at that time, as well.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Today is the day that the Yukon North Slope Project Review Group is to submit its recommendations regarding the need, establishment and location of harbor facilities on Yukon's northern coast to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and I want to emphasize this point particularly for the member for Campbell and to this government: it is a requirement.

The Government of Yukon is on record as supporting the development of one permanent multi-use port on Yukon's north coast and, as required, other temporary sites, provided only that stringent environmental and socio-economic safeguards are met. We are cognizant of the concerns of the people of Old Crow, as well as other user groups regarding development in northern Yukon. We are convinced, on the basis of the evidence of experts, that proper measures can be employed to protect the Porcupine caribou herd against negative impacts. We are equally certain that,

through close consultation and cooperation, measures can be put in place so that the current development proposals will not adversely affect the lifestyle of the people of Old Crow.

The Government of Yukon expects that the federal government, while recognizing the same concerns of the Yukon Indian people and other interest groups, will also support the two current development proposals, subject, of course, to appropriate environmental and socio-economic conditions and in accordance with agreed-to principles of criteria established in land claim negotiations relating to Yukon's North Slope.

<sup>11</sup> We have this expectation because, in a news release, on July 21st, 1983, the hon. Mr. Munro stated that he hoped to finalize a comprehensive package governing development of Yukon's North Slope by the fall and that the nature of this package would determine his response to the two development applications by Gulf Canada and the Kiewit company. In that release, Mr. Munro explained that the comprehensive package would consist of four related elements, in addition to settlement of land claims.

These included a consensus on the boundaries for a proposed national park and some additional progress on its establishment, the creation of a caribou management board comprised of both territorial governments and all three native user groups, the implementation of land use planning east of the Babbage River where the principle objectives will be the protection and management of the wildlife resource and a decision on where to focus industrial activities on the North Slope so as to contain environmental disturbance.

The Government of Yukon supports this initiative by the minister to settle these long outstanding northern Yukon issues. However, it is imperative that we be consulted and that our position on each issue within the comprehensive package is known and understood.

To this end, I sent a letter to Mr. Munro last Friday advising him of our concerns and indicating that it would be appropriate for our governments to jointly announce the comprehensive package. With reference to the planning, management and development of the Yukon North Slope, I pointed out that we strongly support the establishment of a mainland national park in the northern and western area of Yukon, but feel that, in light of other land use and development proposals, the eastern boundary of the park should be decided by the agreed-to land use planning process.

In order to facilitate the announcement of the comprehensive package, however, we are prepared to support the initial inclusion of the Firth River watershed, including a representative portion of the coastline in a proposed park.

In addition, the Government of Yukon recommends that the approval of any further development applications relating to Yukon's North Slope, other than the two current applications, be held in abeyance pending the completion of a land use plan for the North Slope area, and that the governments and the appropriate interest groups proceed with the development of such a plan as a matter of first priority.

It has always been the position of the Yukon government that there must be an effective wildlife management regime to ensure maximum protection of the Porcupine caribou herd and its range. We want to work with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development through the land planning process to ensure that the habitat of this herd is protected.

With respect to the Porcupine caribou herd, I emphasize that the Yukon and NWT governments have the jurisdiction, mandate and capability to manage wildlife in our respective territories and that it is incumbent on both territorial governments, in cooperation with user groups, to work towards the development of a cooperative management system.

I advised the minister that much progress has been made. A consensus has been reached with the CYI on various management principles respecting the Porcupine caribou herd in Yukon. Our agreement recognizes the need for inter-jurisdictional management between the two territorial governments and, in fact, facilitates it.  
<sup>12</sup> Once a consensus is reached between the Northwest Territories and Yukon, it will provide the basis for a position with respect to negotiations with Alaska. In addition to the four elements of the comprehensive package, I have also pointed out to the minister that

our governments have reached agreement on the process for the development of a comprehensive conservation policy for Yukon. The Government of Yukon is looking forward to the positive response of the minister, with both governments in apparent accord on such a comprehensive package for future planning, management and development of Yukon's North Slope. We are confident that the Minister of Indian Affairs will be able to approve the current development applications for the benefit of Yukoners, northerners and, indeed, all Canadians.

**Mr. Byblow:** In response, I would like to tell the Minister of Economic Development that he ought to withdraw his remarks respecting COPE and the NDP. If he should take the time to do his own homework and read the *Hansard* record of that debate, he will find that he did not advise the House accurately.

On the subject of ministerial addresses being given to us moments before entering the House, what we have today is essentially a debate on the North Slope and on Beaufort development, to which the government's side is privileged with a prepared text and a response, to which we have time for a response of four minutes.

The government leader, the minister before him and the minister before that stressed this government's emphatic support of the two development applications relating to Yukon's North Slope. It has been said that all others shall be held in abeyance until some comprehensive package on land use planning is prepared.

I think it is quite generally agreed that the entire North Slope development question has been hastily conceived and it has had a lack of adequate public input process; and this is respecting the Gulf and the Kiewit applications. I believe that any approval for development at this time will no doubt, and I am sure the government will agree, set an irrevocable pattern and precedent. There's no question about that.

Now, earlier, this government took a support position of the Stokes Point development. Then, the second application of Kiewit came along and they supported that. It seems to me that if a third application came today they would support it tomorrow. So, quite clearly, this makes a mockery of any necessary requirement that has to be in place for an adequate assessment of these very sensitive concerns, that the government leader himself identified, that any North Slope development would bring about.

Now, we have said in the past that any North Slope development must be preceded by a land claims settlement. We have said that the wishes of the Old Crow people must be met. We have said that an adequate assessment and protection of environmental concerns had to be addressed. And we stressed the consensual approach to land use planning. Now, the government leader has made it repeatedly clear that these concerns have not been met. Yet we have this firm position of go-ahead. In the absence of addressing these concerns, it seems to me that we may well be overlooking other options and, in fact, opportunities for even a greater and better resource management so critical to the Yukon's future.

<sup>13</sup> Oh yes, Herschel Island is an option. It is something that has not been looked at, until it is eliminated from being viable. Then, certainly we have to admit that we have not done our homework.

The Yukon North Slope Project Review Group may very well be bringing down its recommendations today. Clearly, however, enough work has not been done to make such a final and long-lasting decision on such an important development issue for Yukon.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I had no intention of replying but there are a few things that I cannot leave unsaid. We have done our homework. I have seen Herschel Island. My colleagues have seen Herschel Island. There is no one who has seen Herschel Island who is going to suggest that Herschel Island is a more viable place for development than Stokes Point or King Point. There is just absolutely no one who can say that. It defies logic. I respectfully submit to you that that is all the member from Faro is doing; he is defying logic. He does not know whereof he speaks.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further statements by ministers? This then brings us to question period.

## QUESTION PERIOD

### Question re: Deputy Minister's memorandum

**Mr. Byblow:** I have a question I will direct to the government leader concerning the recently publicized memo from the Deputy Minister of Economic Development. Can the government leader say whether that memorandum in any way is an accurate assessment of this government's policy options on the issue of development on the North Slope?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am very disappointed that this had to be the first topic of questions, or even a topic of questions. Once again, I am aware that a member of the NDP in Ottawa took this memorandum out of context, used it in the House and implied that this government was in some way racist, implied that I was racist and implied that the deputy minister who wrote the letter was racist.

I am appalled that a member of this legislature who knows the members on this side, who knows me and who knows the deputy minister who is the author of it, would create such a question in this House. That deputy minister was doing his job and was doing it properly. There is nothing in that letter that can be denied about the facts as he put them. It is a fact that, given a certain set of circumstances, certain things are going to happen. It is his responsibility to bring those issues to our attention and that is what he was doing. It was a memo from a deputy minister of this government to his minister, and that is all it was.

<sup>14</sup> **Mr. Byblow:** Given that the government leader has not answered whether or not any policy matters emanated from that, could I then ask him if he replied to that memorandum and, if so, did he find the main substance of the memo agreeable?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am confident that the member has read the answer to that question in the paper, because I have told the media that I did not reply to it.

**Mr. Byblow:** Does the government leader agree with the major substance of the memorandum?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I wonder if I could ask the member opposite when he quit beating his wife?

### Speaker's ruling:

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the question is out of order in that it is asking an opinion of the minister.

### Question re: Land planning agreements

**Mr. Kimmerly:** On the point of the memo, but also on the point of the procedures that are used, the memo gives a fascinating insight into the manner in which decisions are to be taken. The Minister of Renewable Resources talked about the land planning agreements with Yukon's native people. In arriving at the policy statements made today, were the procedures contemplated in the land planning agreements followed?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am sure, if the member takes the time to read those three statements, it will be pointed out to him time after time again that we are asking the Government of Canada to (1) recognize the land planning procedures that the Council for Yukon Indians and this government have agreed to; and, (2) proceed upon those lines.

It has to be emphasized that the Government of Yukon and the Council for Yukon Indians have agreed to a land planning process. It is the Government of Canada that has not agreed to it.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Again, the memo outlines a suggested procedure to come to a decision.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No, I am sorry, I take umbrage at this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Unless the hon. members are rising on a point of privilege or a point of order, perhaps we could allow both sides to speak.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** The project review for the North Slope is reporting today. How is it that prior to the report, the government's position can be so definitely stated?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Because we have done an awful lot of research as a government. We have attended all of the hearings that were held by the minister's group.

<sup>15</sup> We made presentations to that group. Our opinions on this have been fairly well-founded and we heard nothing with respect to the submissions that were made to that group that would indicate that we should change our mind in any way, shape or form.



**Mr. Kimmerly:** I would ask the government leader to clarify that particular answer. Is it the position of the government, in light of the three last policy statements, that the policy will not change despite anything the project review group may say?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** The project review group is set up and responsible to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, to make recommendations to him and to his government. We asked the minister if we could be privy to those recommendations because we are interested in what those recommendations might be.

As I said, we were available and we were at all of the hearings that were held. We heard everything that the group heard and, at this point in time, we have not seen anything that will change our mind.

**Question re: Deputy minister's memorandum**

**Mr. Porter:** My question, as well, is directed to the government leader.

The memorandum from the deputy minister asserts a number of facts with regard to the positions of various federal government departments on environmental matters. Has the government leader made any effort to ascertain if the statements made in this memorandum on these federal agencies' positions are, in fact, correct?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** It has been a long time since I have read the memorandum. In fact, I only read it once. However, I am quite confident that it is my recollection that I did not have any problem of arguing with any of the statements of fact made by the deputy minister with respect to departments of the federal government and their desires and aspirations. We have not made any secret of any of these, I am sure. I am quite confident that we have spoken of each of these departments and what we perceive to be their aspirations, particularly with respect to north Yukon, a number of times in this legislature.

**Mr. Porter:** To refresh the minister's mind, there is a position made in the memorandum of the Department of Environment and it states that the Department of Environment has raised a series of environmental concerns but concluded that mitigative measures could reduce any adverse impacts to tolerable levels.

Has the government leader confirmed from other sources that it is an accurate statement of the Department of Environment's view on this question?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I do not know, and I do not think that it is put forward that it is the Department of Environment's view that we can mitigate these factors to tolerable levels. I believe that it was an opinion of the deputy minister that we could mitigate these environmental impacts to tolerable levels. It is also my opinion. I happen to agree with him.

**Mr. Porter:** What cooperative evidence does the government leader have that it is the opinion of the federal Department of Environment that mitigative measures could reduce the adverse impacts on the Porcupine caribou herd and whale migration to tolerable levels?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No, I do not have the answer.

**Question re: Deputy Minister's memorandum**

**Mrs. Joe:** I have a question for the government leader.

The Stokes Point marine base memorandum, on June 9th, says, "If we are unable to encourage and support new growth we will see a massive out-migration from Yukon from some rather drastic consequences for demographics." It goes on to say, "...with our native population comprising the majority of the population."

Could the government leader tell this House why his government apparently views the possibility of a native majority as a drastic consequence for the territory?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am surprised. The member is doing the same thing as her colleague in Ottawa did. She is reading the letter out of context.

There is absolutely no doubt about it. Nobody can deny the fact that, given a certain set of circumstances, as outlined in that letter, there would be a drastic out-migration of people from this territory. It just about happened last winter. We are trying very hard to make

sure that it does not happen this winter.

I respectfully suggest to you that if the circumstances that were raised in that letter came to pass, there would be a drastic out-migration of people from this territory and we would end up in a situation very much as is delineated in the letter.

**Mrs. Joe:** Could the government leader tell this House why his government apparently views the possibility of a native majority as a drastic consequence?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Once again, it must be emphasized that this memorandum is an internal document from a deputy minister of this government to his minister. It has absolutely nothing whatever to do with government policy, what this government thinks or what this government feels.

The only things, I respectfully suggest to you, that the opposition should be questioning at this time are the questions of fact. I believe that the member for Campbell's question was very, very valid. I cannot help it if I do not have the answer, but they cannot read into that memorandum government policy. It just does not happen, not the way this government operates. It may happen the way an NDP government operates.

I want to emphasize it is the elected people, it is this Cabinet, that makes government policy. It is not the bureaucrats and it is not the deputy ministers, no matter how much we might like them and no matter how much we might think of them. They advise us and we make the decisions.

**Mrs. Joe:** Could the government leader tell this House why it is that a senior official of his government, who has in the past reflected the policy of the government of the day, feels a need to link development on the north coast with the need to maintain a white majority in the territory?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No. Once again, I resent very much the implications. I am surprised that the member for Whitehorse North Centre would ask such a question. It might be that she does not know this deputy minister. I am surprised that she is raising the question of this deputy minister in particular, because the implications of the question are tremendous and I am not going to bother answering.

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**Question re: Deputy Minister's memorandum**

**Mr. McDonald:** The memorandum from the deputy minister suggests that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development would be in a better position to justify approval of a land use application if the Stokes Point marine base is described as temporary. Are these sentiments shared by the Government of Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** The Gulf application, with respect to Stokes Point, has always been a temporary application. Stokes Point, for the edification of those members who have not been there, is, in fact, a shallow water port. It is not feasible to consider that Stokes Point will become a permanent port on Yukon's North Slope. It is my considered opinion that the proper place, if there is a requirement for a permanent deep water port on Yukon's North Slope, is King Point. There are a number of reasons that Gulf has applied for a temporary port facility at Stokes Point. The area has already suffered environmental impact. It is an abandoned Dew Line site. There is infrastructure there, in buildings, an airstrip, and so on. It is a shallow port, and that is all they need, and it is protected from iceflow by Herschel Island. Those are the three primary criteria that Gulf have used. They are not interested in a deep water port. It would cost Gulf an awful lot more money to develop King Point; number one, because of the ice, and number two, because it is deep water.

From day one, it was always intended with Gulf that the Stokes Point application was dealing with a temporary site, not a permanent site at all.

**Mr. McDonald:** I believe we will obviously have to thrash out the definition of temporary. Is it, in fact, the position of the government that, by describing the Stokes Point base as temporary rather than permanent, it is an effective tactic to avoid having the issue going through the environmental assessment review process? Further to that, is it the government's position that in fact the land use application process is the more acceptable route for approving

the Stokes Point application?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Surely, if the member is truly concerned about what temporary means, he would have found out, because there have been a number of times when the very term of such a port facility at Stokes Point has been clearly delineated by Gulf. It is for them to complete the exploration project that they are now in. There has never been any doubt about that.

**Mr. McDonald:** I cannot waste my final supplementary re-asking the question that did not get answered, so I will ask the final supplementary anyway.

Does the government have any information that would cause it to conclude that, if the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs approves Stokes Point by way of a land use application, rather than going through the environmental assessment review process, in fact the whole question could land in the courts?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I do not know. It might. I would respectfully suggest that I am sure that that is a consideration that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is making.

#### Question re: Hunting and trapping rights on North Slope

**Mr. Byblow:** To the government leader on the Stokes Point memorandum: a statement in the memorandum said that DIAND officials say that it is unlikely COPE would get anything other than hunting and trapping rights on the North Slope of Yukon. Can the government leader say whether that is an accurate statement?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am not going to answer for anything the DIAND officials say; not ever. And I did not hear that statement stated, so I do not know whether it is accurate or not.

**Mr. Byblow:** The same memorandum also states that negotiations are going on between Gulf and COPE towards upgrading contracts for housekeeping services and so on, at Stokes Point. What assurances has Gulf Canada given to this government with respect to similar kinds of opportunities for employment on these services?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I do not think Gulf would deny that they have had a number of meetings with COPE about how they would be involved, given a successful answer to their land use application. We, too, as a government, have had a number of meetings with Gulf with respect to what would be transpiring with Yukon employees or people from the territory being used and also local businesses here in Yukon being used to supply such a facility. It is our opinion that it would be very beneficial for Yukon if the minister made a favourable decision.

**Mr. Byblow:** Is it the view of this government that the negotiations going on between Gulf and COPE regarding Stokes Point require this government to reassess its position on the COPE claim in order to find itself not excluded from the action on the Beaufort? In other words, is it an accurate statement that, if COPE is awarded operations contracts and the Government of Yukon cannot establish an informal relationship with them, they will be giving very little consideration towards Yukoners for employment opportunities?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I think that is a very accurate statement. I think that is what would happen. Gulf is going to do business with whoever they can talk to. But, I have to re-emphasize, we are talking to them.

#### Question re: Park boundaries on north slope

**Mr. Kimmerly:** The June 9 memo talks fairly extensively about the Babbage River and the boundaries of a possible park. The Minister of Renewable Resources also talked about land planning agreements with Yukon's native people. Will the government leader make a statement of policy that it is this government's policy that the process involving defining a park on the North Slope will follow the land planning agreements already reached?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I am devastated. It is obvious that the member for Whitehorse South Centre was not listening when I gave my ministerial statement. I made that very statement and that very point in the ministerial statement not a half hour ago.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Similarly, will the government leader state that the report of the project review group will be considered seriously

in determining the government policy as to the boundaries of the park or is the policy already made?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I think the member for Whitehorse South Centre is under some sort of a misconception. It is not this government that is going to decide what the boundaries of a national park are going to be. That is strictly within the province of the Government of Canada. It is not we who are going to decide whether we can use our land use planning policy. It is the Government of Canada that we have to talk into using it. It is not this government that is going to make the decision as a result of the recommendations of the project review committee. It is the Government of Canada in the personage of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Nobody else can grant that land use permit.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Before finally determining the government's policy as to the boundaries of a park on the North Slope, will they bring that question to this legislature.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Once again, the mandate and the scope of the enquiry of the project review group was quite explicit and it certainly has absolutely nothing to do with the establishment of the park. I am quite confident that no one in the federal government wants any recommendations from this government or any of the user groups as to where the boundaries of that park should be. They are not asking that. That will not be one of the recommendations of the committee under any circumstances.

#### Question re: Marine base within park boundaries

**Mr. Porter:** The memorandum says the marine base was approved for Stokes Point within the park. It would seem that this would set a precedent for temporary industrial land use within the park. Does the government leader agree with this statement?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Which memorandum?

#### Speaker's ruling

**Mr. Speaker:** Order please. There have been some questions raised here asking opinions of ministers and that is clearly out of order by the guidelines that we have set down for ourselves in reference to the conduct of the question period. So that all members may understand the latitudes in which questions may be asked, it is clearly stated that a question asking for a specific statement of government policy is quite in order, but a question which seeks an opinion about government policy is out of order. This series of questions asking if something is accurate or not accurate would not appear to fall within the allowable guidelines of the question period. I draw this to the attention of members.

**Mr. Porter:** I will pose a question to the government leader that is directed at policy.

In her appearance before the Yukon North Slope Project Review Group, the member for Old Crow stated that it is her position that a land claim should precede development on the North Slope of the Yukon. I would like to ask the government leader if he supports the position taken by the member for Old Crow.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I would like to see a land claims settlement tomorrow. I would even be prepared to look at it today. I do not think there are very many people in this territory who want a land claims settlement, and who have demonstrated the want of a land claim settlement, more than I have.

When the member for Old Crow said that it was her opinion that there should be a land claims settlement before there is any development on the north coast, I am sure she was very sincere and I sympathize with her. You must recognize that we have been negotiating a land claims settlement in excess of ten years. The criteria was set down a long time ago that development in this territory could not be held up any longer waiting for a land claims settlement.

We know that the Gulf and Kiewit developments that are proposed would not interfere in any way, shape or form with Old Crow's land claims settlement. We know that, the member for Old Crow knows that, and I am confident that the member for Campbell knows that. The land claims question is not a valid one at this point in time because it will not affect the land claims settlement in any

way.

**Question re: Women's Bureau**

**Mrs. Joe:** I have a question for the minister responsible for the Women's Bureau.

Since the National Action Committee on the Status of Women's Council has once again declared October 16 as "Community Day for Battered Women" across Canada joining with US womens groups in acknowledging the universal problem of wife battering, could the minister tell this House if his government supports this declaration?

**Hon. Mr. Ashley:** Certainly we support the concept of looking after women who have been battered. The representative for the Women's Bureau is in Ottawa right now discussing the committee we have set up, throughout all of Canada. We have also supported Kaushee's Place and fully intend to continue supporting it because we do not agree with wife battering.

**Mrs. Joe:** Since much research has been done on battered women in Yukon by the Yukon Status of Women's Council, could the minister tell us who will be receiving a \$10,000 grant for research on battered women?

**Hon. Mr. Ashley:** I will get back to the member on that.

**Question re: Deputy Minister's memorandum**

**Mr. McDonald:** I have a question for the government leader, back to the memo of June 9th from the Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Relations and Economic Development to the government leader. That memo also suggested that the Government of Yukon could obtain all the in-house expertise it requires in the area of aquatic or marine environment by employing one marine biologist. Is that in fact the position of the Government of Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Once again. Surely I do not have to go into this long tirade again and explain that this is a memorandum from a deputy minister to his minister, that it was not answered, it does not relate to government policy and it does not imply government policy. The answer is no.

**Mr. McDonald:** I asked the question of whether it did or did not represent government policy and you have finally answered it. Thank you.

Does the government leader plan to employ a marine biologist and does he seriously believe that by employing one marine biologist this would give his government sufficient expertise of the complex marine environment questions for Yukon's north coast?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Given the fact that we do not have any ocean — that is the NWT's jurisdiction — it would be very difficult for this government to justify taking a marine biologist on staff.

**Mr. McDonald:** I see that the government leader has ceded jurisdiction of the coastal waters to the NWT. Does the government plan to address the concerns for protecting the marine environment within the land use planning process, and will the government promote Stokes development, in particular, prior to these concerns being addressed?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I will have to give the member opposite a little lesson in law. He should read, some day, the *Yukon Act* and then maybe he should take a look at the appropriate section of the NWT Act. I have not ceded anything at all to the Northwest Territories. In fact, we have been fighting with the Government of Canada for a number of years now to try and get changes made so that that portion of the Beaufort that should be under our jurisdiction actually does come under our jurisdiction. The fact of the matter is that, at the present time, we do not have any jurisdiction whatsoever over any of those waters or anything in them.

**Mr. Speaker:** This brings us to the end of question period.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I would just like to report to the House with respect to the order of business for this week. There were a number of bills tabled today and it would be our intention to give second reading tomorrow to the *Access to Information Act* and the *Workers' Compensation Act*. It is also our intention to deal with motion number 17 tomorrow, as far as the Order Paper is concerned.

**Mr. Penikett:** I would just raise a point of order, which you

may wish to assist us in deciding, since there appears to be another bill on the same subject as Bill Number 19 on the Order Paper. I wonder if that might cause us some problem that we would want to resolve?

**Mr. Speaker:** I will have to take that matter under advisement.

**GOVERNMENT MOTIONS**

**Motion No. 17**

**Mr. Clerk:** Item Number 1, standing in the name of the honourable Mr. Pearson.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the hon. minister prepared to deal with item one?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Yes.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that this House approves in general the operations of the government since the adjournment of the spring sitting.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker and fellow members, I wish to say that I am most pleased to open the debate on this motion and to welcome you to the reconvening of the Third Session of the Twenty-Fifth Legislative Assembly.

In the coming weeks, much will be asked of you. The Capital Budget and an extensive legislative package have been prepared for your consideration. On behalf of your constituents, you will be required to make some very important decisions. Employment, economic stability, resource development, land claims and related issues have required a dedication of all of government's time, energy and resources and continue to occupy the minds of all Yukoners.

My government is acutely aware of the hardships endured by Yukoners over the past year. Last winter, the collapse of the mining industry, an unemployment rate of 16 percent, a ten percent drop in average weekly earnings, a 20 percent decline in retail trade and a 400 percent increase in bankruptcies had a devastating impact upon the lives of our people. There is still considerable uncertainty regarding the future of our economy, given the condition of world metal markets and the constraints subsequently imposed upon Yukon's mining, transportation, construction and retail businesses. Such uncertainty presents major obstacles in the planning of Yukon's economic future.

However, there is room for optimism. Information suggests that Yukon's economy is stabilizing. The partial re-opening of the Cypress Anvil and United Keno Hill mines, exploration of the Beaufort Sea, expansion of the tourism industry programs, development of employment stimulation programs and the establishment of an extensive capital works program will assist Yukoners in meeting the financial challenges of the coming winter and beyond 1984. Given Yukon's long-term resource development potential, the short-term employment stimulation programs and long-term planning activities underway, Yukon faces 1984 in a more confident position than it greeted 1983.

Today, I wish to inform you of the economic initiatives we, as a government, have taken over recent months to prepare Yukoners for the coming year. Our goal has been, and continues to be, keeping Yukoners employed by providing immediate jobs and manpower training and promoting such sectors of the economy as tourism and resource development, which will provide jobs both now and far into the future. This government will continue to exert every effort to keep Yukoners working, a commitment reflected in our employment initiatives.

During the summer months, approximately \$340,000 was spent to provide special employment assistance for Yukon students, thus enabling them to continue their education during the 1983-84 winter season. Under the new employment expansion and development program, the government has spent approximately \$200,000 to assist those who have exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits or those who are receiving social assistance. Through an extension to the Community Recovery Program, we have dedicated approximately \$192,000 to provide jobs of community benefit to skilled, unemployed workers. This program, initiated in 1982, provided 2,117 person-weeks of work from December, 1982 through June, 1983.

The Incremental Job Creation Program, initiated by this government with a budget of approximately \$504,000, has provided 763 work weeks for Yukoners in government operation and maintenance and private sector projects. Our primary goal in this undertaking is to maintain a strong private sector.

The Job Retention Program for Small Businesses, initiated, developed and funded with approximately \$132,000 by this government, is designed to avoid the layoffs of those employed in small businesses.

One particular concern over the past year has been the future of the community of Faro. Together, the governments of Yukon and Canada examined various options which would permit the mine to remain in operation and the community intact. The results are impressive. Two million dollars has been allocated by the Yukon government to the two-year Cypress Anvil aid package. Additionally, as you are aware, the Government of Canada, as well as the Cypress Anvil Mining Corporation, have agreed to invest \$50,000,000 in a two-year mining development program. This agreement has resulted in the employment of 210 Yukoners at the mine site. In addition, the three parties are providing 11 apprentices with the opportunity to complete their training through employment at the mine.

Our government is taking major steps to ensure that Yukoners possess the skills required to pursue future employment opportunities through the promotion of a number of training programs. Under the National Training Program, the federal government is providing, through the Skills Growth Fund, money to upgrade and expand training facilities in designated occupations across the country. Yukon has been granted \$725,000 from this fund. Some of this money will be injected into the economy through the purchase from local suppliers and contractors of their services for the purpose of upgrading training facilities at Yukon College.

Further, this government recognized the necessity of providing training opportunities for Yukoners and has initiated the Apprenticeship Training Program. Through this program, up to 20 apprentices will be trained at any one time throughout the government. To further the employment opportunities of our citizens, we are introducing an extensive number of new projects approved for 1983-84.

As a result of sound financial management practices, negotiations with the federal government, and increased revenue, our government has been able to initiate projects which will provide employment for the coming winter. It must be stressed that we have accomplished this task without any increase in taxes to the citizens of Yukon. In fact, my government went further and reduced school tax rates for commercial properties from .34 percent to .21 percent. Unfortunately, this progressive step was negated within the City of Whitehorse by an exactly offsetting increase in commercial property tax rates. I am concerned that the Whitehorse City Council does not share our firm belief that small business is critical to the continuing economic development of Yukon.

I wish to emphasize that, while these programs are short-term in the sense of providing immediate employment, they are an integral part of this government's long-term economic planning. We realize that we need long-term economic planning if we want Yukon to flourish and prosper, but long-term planning becomes somewhat meaningless if we do not have the workforce to meet the economic objectives. We need to stabilize our workforce and keep workers in Yukon.

We need to stabilize our fluctuating economy. Only in this way will we ensure that we will have workers in Yukon to actively participate in future economic growth and diversification of our economy.

A total of \$10,000,000 has been allocated for 220 projects in the territory. An estimated 16,306 work weeks of employment representing 1,300 jobs will be made possible through these programs. These major commitments by the governments of Yukon and Canada, of which I am personally very proud, will provide meaningful employment for many of our people. Details of these projects have already been made public by my colleagues in recent weeks.

Given our improved financial position, we are pleased to be able to increase transfer payments to municipalities and local improvement districts in 1984 by 11.9 percent. This represents an increase in excess of \$200,000 and is as prescribed in the *Municipal Finance Act*. We have made this decision, at this time, because it is necessary for communities to have the information, for they must prepare their 1984 budgets by the end of November of this year.

To further assist Yukoners in achieving employment and to develop all of Yukon's resources to their fullest, this government has taken initiatives in four very important sectors. These are tourism, highways and public works, renewable resources and economic development. These areas are the keys to Yukon's economic future and much of government's energy has been devoted to their development.

Tourism continues to make a very valuable contribution to Yukon's economy. One in five Yukoners is employed by this sector. Last year, 365,000 visitors spent \$51,000,000 in Yukon, or more than \$2,000 for each resident. Preliminary indications suggest that the numbers for 1983 are approximately the same as last year.

Of the numerous activities undertaken to promote and expand this very vital industry, the following are particularly noteworthy. Grants totalling \$215,000 to Yukon museums, the Old Territorial Administration Building, the Yukon Sawmill and S.S. Tutshi will create up to 250 weeks of employment. In part, tourist attractions and heritage sites will also be enhanced through this action.

Under the Canada/Yukon Tourism Agreement, several significant attractions, including the Dawson City, Watson Lake and Carcross visitor reception centres, were completed and officially opened this summer. A total of \$2,200,000 has been made available by the governments of Canada and Yukon for the establishment and improvement of tourist attractions and small businesses. A wide variety of activities, including hotel renovations, will be undertaken and immediate and long-term job opportunities will be created with the injection of this money into the economy which, when combined with private sector contributions, will represent a total commitment of approximately \$4,000,000.

In addition, Yukon government and private sector initiatives have created a \$150,000 investment through the Tourism Facility Program. This recently-announced incentive program has enabled local tourism-associated businesses to improve or expand their present operations. A number of future-oriented programs are now underway.

To ensure the fullest possible development of Yukon's tourism potential, various planning exercises have been undertaken. The first draft of the Kluane Region Tourism Plan has recently been completed. In this plan, Kluane area citizens, as well as Yukon and Canada government officials, identified several goals and recommendations. Chief amongst these was that providing wilderness adventure activities should be the key to tourism development within the Kluane region, while also promoting the historical, cultural attractions and related services that this most attractive area has to offer visitors and residents alike.

A plan for the development of the Carcross-Southern Lakes area is also being worked on. Our history has given us an identity. Yukon's heritage is one of its most important non-renewable resources. In recognition of that fact, a Heritage Resources Paper detailing policy recommendations for the protection and management of our heritage resources has recently been released by the minister and widely circulated.

The recommendations are designed to assist both the public and government in the development of sound policies and legislation which will ensure that the legacies of the past are protected and developed for the benefit of future generations. A series of public meetings to discuss the paper is planned and public announcements to this effect will be made.

This government's commitment to long-term economic development is evident in its dedication to providing a comprehensive infrastructure in Yukon. Planning and developing Yukon's highways and roads will continue to be a very significant component of government operations for several reasons. The upgrading and developing of roads and other facilities will provide short and long term jobs, afford industry easier access to resources, open up additional tourism and economic development possibilities and

make our highways safer.

The number of projects planned represent a solid commitment to Yukon's economic future. Of all of the activities in this area, the following are particularly important. As a result of this government's long standing commitment to providing a highway system and our proven capability to develop and maintain that infrastructure, the Yukon government has undertaken, on behalf of the federal government, to complete the reconstruction of the Carcross Road in 1985. There has been \$7,000,999 budgeted by Canada for this project. Again, on behalf of the federal government, Yukon will upgrade the Dempster Highway. Canada has contributed \$24,000,000 to this activity.

Other programs include the ongoing commitment to improve those roads for which we are directly responsible. In order to further encourage the economic development sector of Yukon, approximately \$350,000 has been spent in the past year for the provision of access to mining roads. This activity and others will assist the placer mining and exploration industries in developing the resources which are the very basis of our economy.

The \$11,000,000 Shakwak Project was the subject of much discussion at the recent meeting when the heads of the Government of B.C., Yukon and Alaska met to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern. This important undertaking represents a significant commitment by the Government of Alaska to provide a modern paved roadway from the Alaska border to Yukon. Benefits to the tourism, construction and service industries, in particular, will be extensive as a result of upgrading this highway. This long-term project will serve Yukon well for years to come and my government is pleased to be a part of it.

In our economic development and renewable resources department, this government has undertaken an extensive number of short and long term activities directed at planning, developing and promoting the resource component of Yukon's economy.

<sup>25</sup> To date, our energies have focussed primarily on the areas of placer mining, Beaufort Sea development, presentations to numerous committees, energy conservation, and land use planning. A considerable amount of time has been devoted to making representations to, and participating in, the various federal and federal-territorial committees which have visited Yukon in recent months, as well as entering into discussions with the companies involved in the resource development.

In mid-summer, my ministers of economic development and renewable resources toured the placer mining fields to hear first-hand the concerns of individual miners. These concerns formed the basis for our government's position on placer mining presented to the federal commission investigating proposed industry guidelines. We remained strongly committed to supporting the placer mining industry which makes, and we hope will continue to make, so vital a contribution to our economy. Guidelines must be developed which are acceptable to both placer miners and all non-industry people and which will serve the long-term interests of Yukon. All Yukoners eagerly await the committee's report on this most important matter.

Another inquiry established by the federal government, whose recommendations will have long-term consequences for Yukon's economy, is the Yukon North Slope Project Review Group. The Yukon government, by participation in this and other such committees as the federal-territorial senior policy committee on northern development and through the Beaufort environmental review process, is investigating the exploration and development options which the Beaufort Sea presents.

In addition to these committees, this government has made presentations to the Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada. This commission is charged with examining the Canadian Federation and the role of Yukon within that context, with the emphasis upon economic development. We will be making a further presentation to the enquiry summarizing our position and providing recommendations for action on the issue in question.

Resource development is essential for the future socio-economic wellbeing of all Yukoners. Our position, as we have emphasized to committees, commissions and Yukoners alike, is that of balanced

development, not one of development at any cost. Our commitment to sound resource management is reflected in the Northern Yukon Resource Management Model and the proposed land use planning process. These mechanisms provide for the wise management of resources. That means development and conservation.

It cannot be stated too often, nor too emphatically; we believe that Yukon's economic future lies in resource development and that Yukoners are quite capable of making resource management decisions which will both promote development and protect and conserve the environment. How can this position possibly be characterized as extreme? We believe that all Yukoners should, if they so desire, have access to the resources which will enable them to take advantage of the economic opportunities that Yukon presents.

To date, at least fifty Yukoners are employed in exploration activities in the Beaufort Sea. Should Stokes Point and the Kiewit quarry proposal be developed, this number could range as high as 400. Business opportunities in oil and gas have already resulted in approximately \$4,000,000 in income to Yukon companies. Our manpower training programs are designed with their future labour market requirements in demand. Through discussions with industry, our business community is in an improved position to compete for the contracts that northern exploration and development companies are offering. We believe that all Yukoners will benefit through employment and business opportunities from the northern Yukon projects under review. The potential economic benefits will improve the quality of life in Yukon and ensure that we are a strong and self-sufficient member of the Canadian Federation.

<sup>27</sup> This government has taken many other measures to strengthen Yukon's economy. In the area of energy conservation, we are continuing to promote methods by which energy may be conserved and our reliance upon imported fuels reduced. Those programs we have introduced to assist homeowners and businesses include residential and commercial retrofitting.

Ever mindful of the constraints that transportation places upon Yukon business, the Yukon government has requested that the Canadian Transport Commission investigate surface transportation in all its aspects in Yukon. We are expecting that the inquiries report will be made available to us this winter.

Finally and most importantly, this government, as all Yukoners are aware, has undertaken a commitment to participate in the negotiations of a fair and equitable settlement of Yukon Indian land claims. Barring unforeseen difficulties, my government is optimistic that an overall agreement-in-principle will be signed relatively soon. This will open the way to a ratification process and legislation. I am certain that all parties to the agreement welcome the resolution of this matter which, for the past decade, has required a tremendous dedication of time, energy and resources.

As you will have determined by now, this government has been extremely active in planning, promoting and initiating the development and expansion of Yukon's economy. We have recognized a requirement for immediate job opportunities and have met that need. We have seen that future labour markets will require a different emphasis in training and education and have responded with appropriate programs. We have realized the importance of diversifying our economy and have worked very closely with private enterprise and the federal government in developing the tourism industry. Most importantly, in conjunction with the private sector and other governments, we have developed, and are continuing to develop, long-term plans for those most significant areas to our economy, natural resources and tourism, as well as those sectors which will support them, education and training and highways and public works.

As you can see, we do have a game plan and we can get the job done in the best interests of all Yukoners. Thank you.

*Applause*

**Mr. Byblow:** I move that debate on the motion be now adjourned.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. member for Faro that debate on the motion be now adjourned.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** May I have your further pleasure?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I would move that we do now adjourn.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs that the House do now adjourn.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** This House now stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. tomorrow.

*The House adjourned at 3:27 p.m.*

**The following Sessional Paper was tabled October 17, 1983:**

**83-3-16**

**Deputy Speaker — Letter of resignation of Andy Philipsen (Speaker)**

**The following Legislative Return was tabled October 17, 1983:**

**83-3-29**

**Re: Second Appropriation Act, 1983-84 (Pearson)**  
*(Hansard p. 331, April 28, 1983)*