



The Yukon Legislative Assembly

Number 37

3rd Session

25th Legislature

HANSARD

Wednesday, November 9, 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 Phillipsen	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

Wednesday, November 9, 1983 — 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker: I will now call the House to order.
We will proceed with prayers.

Prayers

DAILY ROUTINE

Mr. Speaker: Are there any returns or documents for tabling?
Reports of committees?
Petitions?

PETITIONS

Mr. McDonald: I have for presentation to this House a petition from approximately 190 residents of the Elsa area, addressed to the Yukon Legislative Assembly, and dated October 24, 1983. It reads as follows: "This petition of the undersigned shows that because the Government of Yukon is neglecting its responsibility for the community of Elsa and because Elsa is a long-established community in Yukon, therefore, the undersigned ask the Yukon Legislative Assembly to request of the Yukon government that they ensure that the government's expenditures to communities be fairly distributed in accordance with the wishes of the residents and, specifically, that Elsa be given funding towards capital costs of upgrading recreational facilities in that community."

I believe that the sentiments of these residents are self-explanatory and are ones with which I share. It is a petition which calls on the government to fulfill its responsibilities to long-time residents and citizens of Yukon who happen to reside in the community called Elsa.

It, in no way, suggests that the residents nor the company for which many people work should shirk their own responsibility to the welfare of the community. However, it does draw to the attention of the legislature the fact that the government must bear its full share of responsibility which is not currently being met.

Speaker's ruling

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member ought to, in the presentation of his petition, confine himself to the number of signature and the nature of the petition. I do not believe that it is permitted for debate at this time.

Mr. McDonald: I am not attempting to debate the issue now. It is the substance of a motion this afternoon that will be debated and I will reserve further explanatory comments for that time.

Mr. Speaker: Just for the edification of members and petitions, I am sorry that the Chair was not alerted at this point in time. I draw your attention to Standing Order 65(3): "Every member offering a petition to the Assembly, shall confine himself to the statement of the parties from whom it comes, the number of signatures attached to it and the material allegations it contains. In no case shall such a member occupy more than five minutes in so doing, unless by permission of the Assembly upon question put." In the future, members could bear that in mind in presenting petitions to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further petitions?
Introduction of bills?

Notices of motion for the production of papers?

Notices of motion?

Statements by ministers?

Are there any questions?

QUESTION PERIOD**Question re: Squatter policy**

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

Prior to and during the spring sitting, the minister informed me that he hoped to report significant progress before the end of the

session on the formulation of a squatter policy and that he would be meeting with the mayor of Whitehorse to discuss the subject. Did the minister have those meetings with the mayor and does he expect to table squatter policy in this legislative session?

Hon. Mr. Lang: The task had quite a number more implications than what I initially thought were involved. We are looking at various options with respect to coming to some decision on the question of squatting in Yukon and what the position of this government should be.

I, perhaps, erred in saying that I was hoping to be able to table a paper on this particular subject. I just want to assure the member opposite that, with the staff we have, we are trying to deal with the problem and it is going to take more time than I thought. This time I am not going to give myself a deadline.

Mr. Penikett: I appreciate it is a complex question, but could I ask the minister if it is his intention to table a squatter policy prior to the land development sale that is currently planned or contemplated in what is known as the Squatters Row area?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I hope I can. I should point out that, the way I understand it — and I will doublecheck it — the area to which the member refers is actually some time off, as far as development is concerned. It is a number of years off, in fact, in view of the recommendation by the city council that we expand the Wolf Creek area.

Mr. Penikett: A number of long-term occupants of Crown land in my constituency have expressed interest in purchasing the property on which their homes sit and some of these the minister is aware of. Could I ask the minister, in advance of a policy statement, if his department has made any decision as to how it will deal with such applications?

Hon. Mr. Lang: No, not to my knowledge. Indications were made at the administrative level that perhaps some accommodation could be made. But we are going to have to look at the significance of what we are doing and we are presently looking at it internally in the department. And, as I indicated earlier, that is one of the elements that we are going to have to make a decision about as far as this total question is concerned.

Question re: Training Programs

Mr. Byblow: I have a question for the Minister of Education. The minister said to me yesterday that her government was looking at some training programs for the hydro carbon industry to be put in place at Yukon College, but that at the current time nothing specifically was in place. Could I ask the minister what marine-related courses her government is planning to put in place?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: I believe the member asked me about marine-related courses and I said we had none in place now and we have no plans to put any in place immediately, unless I am not aware of something that the member for Faro is. I do not have a list of the proposed courses with me that we are looking at. All I want to indicate to the member for Faro is that we have not established any new courses in Yukon College that would be used for the Beaufort development mainly because, as I have said before, we could not get a commitment from the industries as to exactly what they would be looking for. However, in the event we did get that commitment, it is very easy for us as a government to purchase courses which are already established from other colleges and to establish them immediately here in Yukon.

Mr. Byblow: I will refrain from entering debate, but rather try to be specific. In light of what the minister has said, will her government consider putting into place those short training-type courses which would make people more eligible to land jobs in the Beaufort, such as marine rigging, marine emergency disaster, paramedics, courses of this nature, for which jobs are available?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: I only have to ask why would the member suggest such a thing? I have said to him we were prepared to look at courses upon a commitment from Dome, Esso, Gulf and Peter Kiewit as to what kind of training skills, what kind of trained personnel, they would need. From my understanding, they are not going to be needing the trained personnel so why would we establish these courses now?

Mr. Byblow: I think we already advised the minister that, in

fact, opportunities are being missed. I wanted to ask the minister about something she talked about previously and that is establishing inventories of job requirements and qualified personnel relating to the Beaufort activity. Has such an inventory been done and is it available?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: We have done inventory. I have been telling the member, for the past two or three weeks, that we have been in constant consultation with Dome, with Esso, with Gulf, with Kiewit, trying to find out what kind of skilled people they are going to need. I have also said to the member that they have managed to find within our labour force in Yukon 100 and some people with the necessary skills who they were looking for. They have hired those individuals. We have a list of their requirements; most of them are highly skilled technical people who require a lot of training. They have no jobs. Why would we train people when they have no jobs to go to? These people opposite are not in favour in development, yet they are asking me to train people when there is no development and no jobs.

Question re: Whitehorse arena

Mr. Kimmerly: To the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Yesterday, I asked about a \$2,000,000-plus allocation for a Whitehorse arena. I wonder if the minister is over his pout and is willing to now answer that question.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I want to assure the member opposite that I was not in a pout. I gave him a very direct answer: that I was going to be speaking with the City of Whitehorse and expected to have some official talks on that subject. That has not taken place.

Mr. Kimmerly: When is it going to take place?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I do not know.

Mr. Kimmerly: When is the minister going to know? This is an important issue for municipal politicians to know.

Hon. Mr. Lang: The member opposite knows that I have sat in this House every day until 5:30. I have various ministerial responsibilities during the day that he does not have and that I have to attend to so that I can address the issues that he has raised in this House. My timeframe is such that there are only 24 hours in a day; I am looking at a long holiday coming up here, a weekend, Remembrance Day, on Friday.

I would be the last to lock myself into a timeframe for the member opposite. I will deal with the matter, as with all other matters, as expeditiously as I possibly can.

Question re: Elk lottery

Mr. Porter: My question is directed to the minister responsible for renewable resources.

The minister's department has agreed to use departmental personnel to guide the successful recipients of the Fish and Game Association's elk lottery. In view of the fact that the minister has been asked the question earlier, can he now tell the House what the financial costs would be to the department to perform the guiding services?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: No, and as I stated earlier, whatever the cost is, it is going to be well worth it to us. We would have to go out and take a couple of those elk under any circumstances.

I would like to give a bouquet to the Yukon Fish and Game Association, as well, for offering their help and assistance, and for the money that they raised for the programs in the Yukon Territory; I think it is very beneficial. The small bit that we spent for this project is well worthwhile.

Mr. Porter: I believe the department is in the process of setting an historical precedent by its sanction of the elk lottery and by the provision of departmental personnel to function as big game guides. This raises the question of allowing other groups the same benefits. I would like to ask the minister: will he allow other groups to conduct a big game lottery in the future and would he provide guiding services, courtesy of his department?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Very unlikely. There are very special circumstances here, to deal with the herd of elk that have been in the territory for 30 years and have not increased to any significant extent. We want some biological information out of it and it is an opportunity for a group of people in this territory to raise money

that will come back to the taxpayers for further use in the department. It is very unlikely that we would look at the same situation in the future unless it was the same type of circumstances.

Mr. Porter: Earlier, I also raised a question with respect to the minister on the question of the health of the elk herd. Can the minister be more specific: is the herd a healthy one and, if not, what are the problems with the particular elk herd?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I guess I am going to have to get the man a colouring book. The reason that we want the two elk is to find out what is the matter with the herd. Obviously, we do not know. If we did know, we would have it overcome already.

Question re: Court appeal procedure

Mrs. Joe: I have a question for the Minister of Justice. On February 2, 1982, a person was convicted on a criminal charge and a notice of appeal was given. Eighteen months later an appeal could not be heard because appeal books were still not available. Could I ask the minister if he is aware of this problem and other appeals that might be affected by it?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: No, I am not aware of the circumstances involved. I am sure there are extenuating circumstances that are involved in it.

Mrs. Joe: The Supreme Court judge presiding at the time of the hearing, on June 28, dealing with that appeal, had put the blame on the court reporters for their delay in producing the appeal books. Could the minister confirm that there is a staff shortage problem in that department?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: No, I will not confirm that. However, I will look into it for the member opposite.

Question re: Farm income taxation

Mr. McDonald: I have a question for the minister for agriculture. A Canadian Press story has reported that a farmers group in Prince George is protesting a Revenue Canada decision to reclassify part-time farmers, denying them the right to work off their farm to earn the capital necessary to develop the land. Has the minister been apprised of the situation and has he assessed its impact on Yukon's farming population?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I would like to thank the member for the information.

Mr. McDonald: I see only one of us is going to talk agriculture this session.

As the minister is aware, since 1948 farmers have been permitted to claim \$5,000 in losses annually against other income. Has the government been in contact with the federal government to request that this limit be increased in order to reflect the higher costs of farming in 1983?

Hon. Mr. Lang: It is an area that we are presently reviewing.

Mr. McDonald: This issue, of course, brings to mind the local Yukon issue regarding attempts to distinguish between *bona fide* farmers and hobby farmers. Is the government any closer to establishing a policy which distinguishes one from the other?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Would he get his researcher to rephrase the question so it made sense?

Question re: Land exchange

Mr. Penikett: Great minds think alike — I understood it!

I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, to which I have given him notice. A couple with land in my constituency has negotiated a lot exchange with the Land Branch and the Land Branch has established a value for the difference in development costs for the exchanged lands at \$2900, \$2400 of which being estimated survey costs, leaving \$500 as the estimated value of the undeveloped .2 hectares of land. Can the minister tell me if this is a normal procedure for establishing land values in the case of such exchanges, or is this specific to this case?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I think one could describe it as a normal procedure. We really went out of our way for those people in view of their situation, keeping in mind the development costs on an average in respect of the land in close proximity to the area. I think we have done everything we possibly can to make the land available and to be reasonable as far as cost is concerned. In fact, that

particular issue came to my office's attention and I interceded and we did manage to revise the initial cost when it appeared it was going to cost this particular couple in question. Subsequently we arrived at the formula that we did. I think we are being fair to the people in question and, if the member opposite has any recommendations, I would like to hear them.

Mr. Penikett: I would like to give them, but I am afraid Mr. Speaker would not allow it.

I appreciate the minister's efforts with respect to the lot exchange, but I would like to ask the minister: since the owners were able to have the survey completed at a cost of \$1600, \$800 less than the Land Branch estimate, they have now been told that they must pay \$1300 rather than \$1500. In other words they must pay the money that they saved from the survey. Could I ask the minister to explain the decision or the policy there, since it appears to penalize someone who saved money with the survey?

Hon. Mr. Lang: No, it does not. That was strictly an estimate. The principle was that the cost of the survey would be taken out of the actual dollars that would be given to this government as an overall sum for that particular piece of land exchange. I think we have been more than fair, and I do not know what more I can do.

Mr. Penikett: As a matter of policy, could the minister explain how the department estimates survey costs?

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the minister to be brief. That question would appear to be rather broad.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am making the assumption that they were going on existing costs that we had experienced in the past year with respect to surveying a lot of that size. Obviously, in this particular case, that particular estimate was out.

Question re: Beaufort employment

Mr. Byblow: I have a question for the Minister of Education again. By way of prefacing my question, I want to say to the minister that it is my information that four radio operators currently employed by Beaudrill just off Pauline Cove were hired from outside Yukon because we did not have the qualified personnel to fill those positions. I would ask the minister: do we have a radio operators' course at Yukon College?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: No, we do not.

Mr. Byblow: It is also my information that a relatively short marine riggers course would permit more Yukoners to be eligible for work in the Beaufort. Do we have any plans for a marine riggers course at Yukon College?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: Not that I am aware of, however, the department may. I have said I do not have a list with me of all the courses that we are planning on putting on at Yukon College in the future. If that is what the member wants, why does he not just ask me instead of this niddely-piddely course at a time? If he wants a list of the courses, I will bring a whole list.

Mr. Byblow: It is also my information that relatively short upgrading courses to currently qualified welders, mechanics and electricians would make those tradespeople more eligible for Beaufort jobs in the marine field. When the minister provides her information to me, would she advise me whether this government has plans for upgrading these trades areas for marine-related activity?

Question re: Greenwood Place

Mr. Kimmerly: To the minister responsible for Yukon Housing: Greenwood Place was recently retro-fitted. What are the plans for its use?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: It seems obvious that the member opposite has not gone and taken a tour of Greenwood Place for him to ask that question.

Mr. Kimmerly: Will the minister answer the question?

Question re: Albert Creek flooding

Mr. Porter: I have a question for the minister responsible for municipal affairs, a question that I have given his office notice of.

Every spring, the Albert Creek adjacent to the community of Upper Liard has a history of flooding. The Liard Band would like to construct houses near the creek, but requires assistance from the

department to construct a dyke system. Is the minister and his department prepared to assist the band in the construction of a dyke?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I just received notice on this question this morning. I would have a great deal of difficulty approving the principle of building new homes in a flood plane. I think what we should be doing is, perhaps, looking at an alternate location so we are not putting the occupants of those homes in a situation that has been experienced quite a few times in Dawson City and the Mayo area, which are built on a flood plane.

I am prepared to discuss the issue with the member opposite — I would suggest it would be more appropriate in my office — and try and come up with a constructive alternative, because I do not think it would be to their benefit to build a home and then have it float down the river.

Question re: First Choice pay TV

Mrs. Joe: I have another question for the minister responsible for the Women's Bureau. In view of the fact that First Choice Pay TV will be available this fall in Yukon, could the minister tell us if his department is aware that First Choice Pay TV, in the rest of the country, broadcasts programs which are pornographic and which clearly depict the sexual exploitation of women?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: I am sure my department is aware of what is going on in the rest of the country.

Mrs. Joe: Since First Choice Pay TV in the rest of the country shows movies depicting rape and excessive violence towards men and women at all hours of the day, could I ask the minister if he is aware of any territorial policy which could restrict the hours that these movies are shown?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: No.

Mrs. Joe: Could I ask the minister if his government has considered any policy concerning the regulation of pornography?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: No.

Question re: Peter Kiewit and Sons proposal

Mr. Brewster: I would like to direct my question to the acting minister. I hear conflicting reports on the Peter Kiewit situation. Is that finished, or is there still a chance that that could go ahead?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Yesterday, the government leader and I, as well as the Minister of Education, attended a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce. The representative for Peter Kiewit and Sons said to the gathering that the project would not be going ahead in view of the decision made by the minister. We have since been in contact with Peter Kiewit, because the government leader made the commitment that we would do everything to see what we could do to try to salvage a very difficult situation. We have been informed that the proponent is prepared to make one last-ditch effort to change the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's mind. Further to that, I would just like to inform the House that representatives of that particular company will be coming to Whitehorse, within a day or two, and they will be meeting with the Government of the Yukon Territory to see what steps could be taken to have a very viable project go ahead that would be very beneficial to the people of the Yukon Territory.

Question re: Labour standards legislation

Mr. McDonald: I have a very brief question pertaining to House business for the minister responsible for labour services.

He mentioned, in the House, that employment standards legislation would be coming forward this session. Can he tell the House when we might see this legislation; tomorrow or next week?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: If the member across the floor heard me say that the employment standards was coming ahead this session, he also heard me say that it is very complicated. We are working on it and I am hopeful to have it ready for this session. I did not say what day it would be here. I said that we were trying to get it ready to bring in here.

Question re: Greenwood Place

Mr. Kimmerly: Again, about Greenwood Place; I asked about it a little earlier. I have seen the building. I have been in it. Will the

minister say, in the House, what is the present and planned use of that space?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: The planned uses of the building are going to be multi-use. There is not going to be just one plan for it.

Mr. Kimmerly: Multi-use for what?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: The main use will be recreation for the senior citizens.

Mr. Kimmerly: I wish to thank the minister.

Mr. Speaker: There being no further questions, we will proceed to the Order Paper, under orders of the day, motions for the production of papers.

MOTIONS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PAPERS

Mr. Clerk: Item No. 1, standing in the name of Mr. Penikett.

Mr. Penikett: Next sitting day.

Mr. Speaker: So ordered.

We will now proceed to motions other than government motions.

MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

Motion No. 40

Mr. Clerk: Item No. 1, standing in the name of Mr. McDonald.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member prepared to deal with Item 1?

Mr. McDonald: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. member for Mayo that this House urges the Yukon government to alter its policy regarding single company towns such as Elsa and to ensure that all communities receive fair treatment.

Mr. McDonald: I can tell you, from my experience, that residents of Elsa have waited a long time for this debate. Just a quick perusal of *Hansard* over the past few years leads me to believe that the only time Elsa impacts on the consciousness of the government is when there is an obstruction in the flow of revenue accruing from that community to territorial coffers. That, as you may appreciate, has led to a great deal of resentment.

The Cabinet toured my riding recently, ostensibly to hold public meetings and to talk with the people. In Mayo, of course, there was such a meeting. The Cabinet was visible and they made themselves available for public questioning and, in fact, a public meeting at which I was in attendance was quite a lively affair. Ministers and the public accurately attempted to size each other up. However, there was no such public meeting in the long-established community of Elsa, 30 miles up the highway. The Cabinet did drop in for lunch on the way back from a fruitful visit to the Keno Mining Museum but, according to local lore, disparaged the town and left.

I am the first to admit that the community has a well-worn look.

The neo-tarpaper shack style of architecture may not be aesthetically pleasing to someone from Riverdale; nevertheless, the community is home to a lot of Yukoners. These people are community-minded taxpayers who desire to speak to their government at a convenient time. It is not too much to ask, as it is a courtesy which is extended to practically every other community of equal size in the territory. The Cabinet may have been tired of hearing the same old complaints and suggestions from the Elsa populace, and may not have felt the necessity of going through the exercise once again. It is impossible to say.

The issues that would have been aired at a public meeting remain issues of contention. The difference today, as demonstrated with the presenting of a petition, is that if the Cabinet will not speak to the community the community still intends to speak to the Cabinet.

The petition, as an expression of the desires of the community, requests fair treatment for Elsa. It is a simple and just proposition. It calls on the government to fulfill its responsibilities to the people of Elsa who have already fulfilled their responsibilities to the community of Yukon. There have been years of relative prosperity in Elsa which have been shared with other Yukoners. The average payroll prior to the layoffs was in the neighbourhood of \$10,000,000, and over \$5,000,000 after the layoffs. The average personal income tax paid to government over the years 1981 and

1982 was about \$1,700,000 per year. The company has paid approximately \$360,000 in property taxes over the last five years, even though the government does not deliver municipal services. Power bills to NCPC approximate \$10,000 a month. Fuel tax to Yukon alone over the last three years has been in the neighbourhood of \$46,000, which includes one year shutdown and one year partial layoff.

These figures demonstrate that Elsa is a productive component of Yukon society. I am not suggesting that the fact that Elsa, as a primary producer and generator of revenue, accords the community any special rights. I am merely pointing out that Elsa exists and participates in Yukon life. The community also goes a long way towards looking after itself. As I said, municipal services are delivered internally. A doctor and nurse are brought in at some expense to serve the needs of Elsa people and any other residents of the entire district, including Keno, Mayo and Stewart Crossing. It is a fact, as well, that the hospital in Mayo was constructed by the company in Elsa. Recreation O&M costs are borne internally to the tune of \$100,000 per year plus the wages for a recreation director and the cost of janitorial services. Television services were upgraded recently at a cost of \$50,000.

When the community suffered serious layoffs, the company provided school bus service for its own residents and others in the entire district at a cost of \$18,000 after they had received the parents' contributions. They have further offered to pay the cost of banking services for themselves and for all the people who would use that service, including the residents of Keno, Mayo, Stewart Crossing and many from Pelly Crossing. That could conceivably amount to \$50,000 per year.

This evidence and much more suggests that the community is fulfilling its end of the social contract with Yukon and with its government. The government, for its part, provides a basic service to the community in the way of education which is much appreciated by the local residents. The community also receives some minimal recreation funding, as do other communities in the territory, and Elsa residents realize that they must pay their fair share of the central territorial administration. The costs of territorial administration including education and justice, et cetera, must all be borne by territorial residents and people in Elsa pay their share without complaint.

But there is every reason to expect Elsa residents should want to receive a fair share of benefits from their participation in the territorial society. They do not want to be redressed for past injustices and they do not want to be given extra benefit because they are an integral part of the Yukon economy. They merely want fair treatment.

When it comes to the expenditure of funds for capital projects, they want to be given the same consideration as any other community in the territory. Even though they would like to be consulted about the expenditure of funds in their community, it is clear from the petition presented this afternoon that upgrading of recreational facilities is a high priority. Now, the government has attempted to make various arguments in order to sluff off its responsibilities to these Yukoners, these people of Elsa.

Underlying all these arguments is the implication that the residents of Elsa are factors of production, they are pawns of a business; they are a business, and, therefore, not entitled to fair government attention. The implications of that argument are quite awesome and upsetting to Elsa people, who have lived and grown old in the community, worked, got married and had children who have, in essence, been living full lives in the town. They have participated fully in territorial politics, as territorial citizens, and in federal politics, as Canadian citizens.

They are not factors of production, they are territorial citizens who happen to live in a hillside community between Keno and Mayo. It is a community which has been in existence for better than 54 years.

The issue is the responsibility of government to its people. It is not the corporate entity United Keno Hill Mines Ltd. which is asking for fair play from this government, though it would be happy to see it materialize. It is the residents of the community who are asking for fair play.

One minister has suggested that because the company has the ability to pay, it should do so. The fact that the silver price, of course, is low could possibly challenge the veracity of that particular statement. Nevertheless, the company's ability to pay has nothing to do with this government's responsibility to its citizens. The company's record of living up to its responsibility for the town may not be the best, but it is simply light-years ahead of this government's record of living up to its own responsibility for its citizens in that village.

The same minister has suggested that Elsa is a company town and a private business which would negate the possibility of the government spending capital funds in the community. I will reiterate that it is not for the company that the funds will be spent but, rather, for the residents. The fact that Elsa is on a property leased by the company is easily rectified in that the company would cheerfully turn over land for recreational facilities to, for example, the community-based recreation association.

Finally, one minister has suggested that the company is in business to make money and that is all there is to the situation. Well, I will not dispute for one second that the company is attempting to make a profit in silver mining, but I do insist that the people, who are separate from the corporate entity, are there to live and make a living. They are citizens of the territory and are not citizens of some so-called "mini country". They have a vibrant community with great spirit. They do not want to be seen as mechanical revenue producers; they want to be seen as part of Yukon society and receive the same benefits as other communities and, I would submit, it is a simple and just proposition.

The government cannot continue to pick the fruit without nurturing the roots. I am hoping that members of the House will recognize the inherent justice of this motion and will vote for it.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I move that debate be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs that debate be adjourned.

Motion to adjourn debate agreed to

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 2, standing in the name of Mr. Penikett.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member prepared to deal with Item 2?

Mr. Penikett: Next sitting day, please.

Mr. Speaker: So ordered.

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 3, standing in the name of Mr. Kimmerly.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member prepared to deal with Item 3?

Mr. Kimmerly: Next sitting day.

Mr. Speaker: So ordered.

Motion No. 44

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 4, standing in the name of Mr. Kimmerly.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member prepared to deal with Item 4?

Mr. Kimmerly: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. member for Whitehorse South Centre, that this House urges the government to introduce as soon as possible a new Mental Health Act containing necessary protection for involuntary mental patients; and

that the House is of the opinion that the public participation process concerning such legislation should commence forthwith.

Mr. Kimmerly: This is an important motion. It will, if accepted and if it speeds up the existing process or promotes the existing process, affect in a very, very important way a significant minority of Yukoners or, unfortunately, former Yukoners, because involuntary mental patients are characteristically sent outside — not always, but certainly for the most part.

¹² In the first session of this assembly in 1971, the *Mental Health Ordinance*, as it was then known, was passed. It is a very simple act of four pages and it provides very, very generally for a procedure to manage mental patients. I use the word "manage" advisedly because the intent and the principle of the act is clearly to look after problems as opposed to protect the rights and the dignity of the unfortunate individuals involved.

Recent statistics about the frequency of, or the incidence of, a temporary mental instability, or mental illness, in Canada and Yukon are alarming. I am not going to recite numbers but I am sure that rural members know of individuals who have had mental problems in every single community in Yukon and probably also for the urban members. I am sure that, within the family or circle of acquaintanceship of absolutely everyone in this Chamber, they know of the unfortunate impact of mental illness.

All over Canada, indeed over the developed world, there is a movement to protect some rights of involuntary patients. The most fundamental and basic one is the question of imprisonment or containment. I suggest that it is now accepted and uncontroversial that for all persons involuntarily detained for mental illness that there be a periodic review of their particular position, or station, or condition. It is interesting that studies have shown that, in jurisdictions that impose a periodic review — for example a yearly review of a mental patient who is involuntarily contained — that all of a sudden a number of those people are allowed out. And, there is no repercussion or danger to the public.

What happens, especially in large institutions if people are there for some time, is that they are essentially forgotten about. They become part of the way of life in the institution and they simply go on from day to day and no one thinks of them anymore, or hardly ever.

¹³ It may be that, over time, the particular problem or danger that did exist no longer exists and it would be far more just and it would involve no danger to society if the involuntary committal were terminated and the citizens take up where they left off, if possible.

Also, there is a substantial movement in developed countries to partial institutional care, or group homes, or day programs; that is, people who are committed to an institution may very well be able to function in a smaller group home in a more normal and personal atmosphere.

It is also a very sad part of our history that some native peoples in the past, who were not proficient in English or urban customs, have been presumed mentally ill and judged mentally ill, in some cases, and have never, ever been effectively treated because of language and cultural barriers.

What is needed is a procedure in a new and overhauled *Mental Health Act* to periodically examine every mental patient involuntarily committed. What is also needed is a procedure whereby some control can be gained over mentally ill persons without the drastic step of involuntary committal or imprisonment.

Another troubling feature of this act is the nature of the court process, whereby the involuntary committal is made. In the present act, the legal jurisdiction is given to JPs or territorial court judges and, in fact, it may surprise many members, characteristically the jurisdiction is exercised by JPs. I venture to say that, on all of the currently involuntary committed people, it was a JP who signed on the dotted line and that no formal court procedure actually has taken place.

Another factor, or relevant practice, is the training of JPs for this kind of work. I know in detail about that because I am the person who did the training in my former occupation and also as a volunteer on the last conferences involving JPs.

¹⁴ Although the JPs act as responsibly and as informed as they are able, none of them will claim to be trained enough to exercise the very important task which is their duty under the present act.

The safeguards in a legal sense must be looked at and revamped and revised in a major way. In the last year, I have acted for two individuals who have found themselves in difficulties with this act. In one case, a person was involuntarily committed for 72 hours. That is a temporary committal essentially for emergency and observation procedures. And back to back, or at the end of the first 72-hour period, there was another 72-hour period established without further examination by a doctor, and it is clear that in that case insufficient attention was paid to the liberties as a citizen of that particular person.

In another case, I was called as a lawyer by a patient in the hospital under a 72-hour order. I saw him and I put a note on the medical records requiring notice of any further application under this act and stating I was the legal representative of this person. I

received no notice of a further application save and except the patient himself calling me at 12 o'clock on a Sunday saying the JP was there and the court started. I arrived a few minutes later and obtained an adjournment into a courtroom.

I raise that question as an example of the extremely sloppy procedures and protections which now exist and which in fact are permitted by the absence of proper law in this area.

I am aware that the sole resident psychiatrist in Yukon, Dr. Cohen, was a contractual party with the government to look at the present law and to report on the needs for a new law. I am aware that that is complete and the report has been received by the government and I am extremely interested in the response that the government may have.

¹⁵ I am also extremely interested in the plans the government has for a public consultation with community groups and individuals who are interested in this area.

There is a clear and important need for a new act providing for basic and essential protections for mentally ill people. I understand the government is doing something about preparing a new act, and I am extremely interested to learn their plans in this area and to possibly respond to them.

Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: As a beginning, I would like to respond, in part, to some of the statements made by the member for Whitehorse South Centre. One of the statements that was made was that there are people who are committed by JPs. This is an erroneous statement. I think maybe it might be in the interest of all members of this House to understand what the process is.

The first thing is a warrant from a court after hearing testimony from a person without making application for committal. The other, in the committal process, is an arrest without a warrant by the RCMP with the police turning the person over to the custody of the hospital. At that point, regardless of the route, they must ensure that they have two doctors' signatures, on examining the patient, on a medical form known as "Form D".

The initiation of this certificate authorizes the hospital to hold the patient for 72 hours for examination and observation. Prior to the 72 hours elapsing, the hospital must either discharge the person or complete the Form D, giving evidence that the person is disordered and in need of care and treatment. At this time, should the patient be held, a JP must be called to hear evidence to either decide to commit or release the person. Following this, if committal is the route that is to be followed, the JP's form must be routed to justice to ensure that: the public administrator is notified of any trustee action, and a legal advisor can ascertain if the forms are properly completed and the process was in accordance with the law. Justice is then responsible to brief the commissioner and seek from him a decision regarding the placement of the committed person.

This, I hope, brings a little better into perspective what the member opposite has alluded to: that people are committed on the strength of just the JP's signature.

The government recognizes the current deficiencies of the *Mental Health Act* and has been working towards a new act for the past year. To date, officials have discussed possible contents of legislation with other Canadian provincial jurisdictions and a review of all other Canadian practices and legislation has recently been completed by a psychiatric consultant. Work is now beginning on the draft provisions for the mental health bill and that draft will take the form of a discussion paper and a complete public participation process will be carried out prior to the final drafting of the bill to introduce to this House.

¹⁶ This area is both very complex and highly contentious. The government does not anticipate that a bill will be ready for introduction prior to the autumn of the 1984 session. I am sure that all members of this House would agree that any area that bears so strongly on individual rights and liberties ought not to be forced into an unreasonably short timetable.

Amendment proposed

I would therefore like to amend Mr. Kimmerly's motion as follows: that Motion No. 44 be amended by deleting the word following the phrase "should commence" and by substituting the

words "as soon as practicable".

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Health and Human Resources that Motion No. 44 be amended by deleting the word following the phrase "should commence" and by substituting the words "as soon as practicable".

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: I find that motion No. 44 to be slightly contradictory. The member opposite is demanding early introduction on one hand and calling for public process on the other hand. The government recognizes that a public process is essential in the development of a paper or proper bill, and further recognizes that if the process is to be meaningful, it will consume a considerable amount of time. It is my opinion that the new *Mental Health Act* is an act that needs public and professional — and by professional I include physicians, lawyers, justice officials, and certainly this would involve patient advocacy groups such as the Canadian Mental Health Association — and there is no possible way that this act can be pushed through.

On the matter of public process to date, an immense amount of research had to be done. As the member for Whitehorse South Centre has mentioned, we have contracted a consulting psychiatrist who has just barely tabled his report, which includes a review of all legislation, the committal procedures, the judicial procedures, the clinical dimensions of mental health process in all provinces; he has also looked at patient rights as they are handled by some American states. From that, we have his recommendations on policy and procedures. The stage we are at now would be that we are consulting with justice as to how this might be developed into draft legal provisions. Once we have those, it will be our intention to circulate and publish the draft legal provisions, and we hope to introduce in this legislature a very good, well-thought-out mental health act.

Mr. Kimmerly: On the amendment, I will be very brief; it is an uncontroversial amendment and, as far as I am concerned, the question could be put unless various other members wish to speak on the amendment. One brief point is that it is clear that in other jurisdictions there is a substantial, and I will call it a political, discussion where the medical profession and the experts in general are adversaries to mental patients' associations or associations of former mental patients. It is important that citizens and laypeople and, indeed, patients and former patients have input as well as the experts — and have input at an early stage. The early stages are the most formative stages and it is crucial that these groups as well as the psychiatrists and doctors be consulted in the earlier stages. The amendment is essentially uncontroversial and we are not opposed. I would call the question.

¹⁷ **Mrs. Joe:** I would just like to let the members across the House know of some circumstances surrounding the JPs' involvement under the *Mental Health Act*. I can speak personally because I was involved in a few cases; as a matter of fact, in the apprehension of a person to be committed to the hospital.

One of the things that I had realized, at that time, was that it was a very, very trying experience, because what we were doing was doing something that we were totally untrained for. What would happen in a case is that somebody would apply to the JP to have a person apprehended and committed to the hospital so that he or she could undergo psychiatric assessment. I had dealt with two or three cases that I felt very, very troubled with while I was doing it, simply because I did not have the training or the knowledge to deal with such a case and surely realized that I was possibly infringing on the human rights of that person.

What evidence we went on was the evidence that was given to us by the person who was applying to have this person apprehended and committed. The police and the hospital and the JP department were not really sure whose job it was to fill in all the applications to get them together to deal with it, so there were very big problems in that area.

The minister had stated that the remark that my colleague from Whitehorse South Centre had made was erroneous with regard to what the JP does, but that is, in fact, what had happened, and I was a JP only a year and a half ago. Until the time that I had dealt with my very first application, I had not had any experience whatsoever in dealing with a mental health case. I cannot speak for what

training they have now, but, hopefully, there will be an improvement.

I am glad to see that the minister has indicated that they are working on a new act and I am very hopeful that it will be tabled in this House as soon as possible.

Amendment agreed to

Mr. Penikett: I want to join this debate briefly and, at the outset, to express appreciation both to my colleague, the member for Whitehorse South Centre, for bringing the motion forward, but also to the minister in responding, as he obviously is, to the situation.

I want to say, from my own knowledge in reading on this subject, I know that the problem which has been identified in the debate today is not unique at all to the territory. It is a problem that exists right across this country. In the argot of the politics in most of the western provinces, I think they talk about the problem as a problem being of lieutenant-governor's warrants where, in fact, people can be sent away on the authority of the lieutenant-governor.

The problem is that that is a serious enough procedure in our day, but the problem is that there is, in most cases, no automatic review. A person can be sent away and there is no review. They can literally spend the rest of their lives in an institution, with no advocate to represent them unless someone makes a representation on their behalf and there may be many cases where there is no one around to do that: they could literally spend their lives in such a situation.

Now, it may well be that, at some point, a psychiatrist will pronounce them well, or a couple of psychiatrists will pronounce them well, and it may be that the procedures vary from one place to another and are better than another. There have been, I know, in the media, from time to time, a lot of horror stories about the uses of mental health acts in the country. I want to just share with members of the House one story that I know of, because of the fact that it concerns a Yukoner.

¹⁸ I am not going to get into such specifics as to reveal the identity, but I know the case of one elderly man who became ill and was subsequently shipped outside, presumably on the commissioner's order or some similar procedure. As I said, I do not want to get into a lot of detail, but this old gentleman did not speak, read or write English so his problem of communicating both to the officials who were handling him and, also, I would suspect, the ability of professionals examining him, was extremely difficult because of that communication problem.

Partly as a result of that, he got lost in the process. There were errors made, I gather, in British Columbia about his name, about his point of origin. As a result of that, he quite literally disappeared into the institutional maw of the mental health system. He might well have stayed in an institutional situation for the rest of his life had it not happened that a generation later, a grandchild was born here to this person. The contemporary relatives of this old gentleman named this grandchild in his honour. As a result of which, the parents of this child who, I would point out, were not even born when he was sent away, became curious about him. They made some inquiries. After some effort on their part, they managed to locate him in an institution in British Columbia. He was, by this time, in his 90s and he had literally spent the best part of 30 years in that place, without contact or communication with his family or community.

I happen to think, in human terms, that that was a tremendous tragedy. I happen to think that kind of case can be avoided, or ought to be avoided, if you have some kind of automatic or proper review procedure of such cases. I do not want to suggest that such a case could happen in today's circumstances. However, I do want to urge this upon the minister that, in bringing the legislation forward for discussion, I hope that the review procedures are adequate to make sure that, in this day and age, we never have a repetition of such a case.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Whitehorse South Centre, now speaking, will close debate.

Mr. Kimmerly: The minister stated that my statements about

JPs were erroneous. I would like to add a bit of further information.

It is quite true that the normal procedure, at the beginning, is a person is committed either pursuant to a peace officer arresting the person without any warrant — which can be done under Section 4(2) — or an involuntary 72-hour admission signed by two doctors but not a JP. This is under Section 6 and 6(1).

¹⁹ What occurs after that is that the JPs are called. The minister talked about the forms, and that is entirely accurate. It is quite literally, or perhaps I should say it used to be, a matter of completing forms and signing on the dotted line. There are JPs who have personally told me about signing the forms without ever seeing the patient, without ever a procedure in a court or anything of that nature. That has occurred and in fact can still occur. It is the current procedure today that the JPs are called, not the judges.

In referring to the commissioner about a particular case, I spoke to Mr. Commissioner less than two weeks ago in the company of a psychiatrist and the administrator of the hospital and some other officials; we talked about that very procedure, and I believe it is fair to say — and Mr. Commissioner would undoubtedly thank me for publicizing it — that there are not sufficient guidelines or procedures in place whereby the commissioner's decisions can be formally considered. He expressed concern over exactly that issue.

In closing, I wish to mention two kinds of things. First of all, this is an important issue not only for the question of individual rights; it is an important issue concerning the delivery of services and the kinds of services in Yukon and elsewhere. As an example, the cost in the O&M budget of maintaining involuntary mental patients approaches \$200,000 a year. I almost hesitate to mention those figures, because the question of rights and liberties is vastly more important, although it is financially also important. In considering the review process or the consultation process, I did not go into many of the major issues.

²⁰ However, briefly, the present act talks about mental deficiency, as well as disease, referring to retardation. That power should be removed as soon as possible.

Another issue is the test whereby a person can be imprisoned as a result of a disease. The present test is a disease of the mind, loosely and generally stated. It should be a test concerning a danger to himself or others, which is a far more practical and sensible test and is more defensible on democratic and civil libertarian grounds.

There also must be a consideration of the right to treatment and the right to refuse treatment. For example, if a person is involuntarily imprisoned, is there also a losing of the right to refuse medication or electric shock or psycho-surgery? Those issues are thorny issues that the legislation must eventually deal with.

Thank you.

Motion No. 44 agreed to

Motion Number 45

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 5, standing in the name of Mr. Byblow.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member prepared to deal with Item 5?

Mr. Byblow: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. member for Faro that this House urges the government to give consideration to taking action which would have the effect of making adult Yukoners eligible for assistance under the *Students Financial Assistance Act*.

Mr. Byblow: The motion that is proposed, essentially, calls for a broadening of the guidelines that govern financial assistance for post-secondary education. I think the Minister of Education will recall, when we revised the act in the summer of 1982, the subject was brought up that the revisions that we implemented at the time, while very useful and, in effect, broadening the parameters that existed previous to that, still would eliminate a number of legitimate Yukoners from being eligible for assistance.

Since that time, we, on this side, and I am sure on the side opposite as well, have had a number of inquiries and input to have the guidelines broadened. Part of that appeal, I am sure, has to do with the current economic times, in that a number of people find themselves in a position to take advantage of the current situation to upgrade their formal education or, perhaps, to procure some technical training, but they are limited from doing so by their own

limited financial resources.

This, I believe, is a very legitimate appeal and it is the main intent of the motion.

21 Many adult Yukoners currently unemployed are desirous of either completing some formal training or perhaps undertaking a new program for future employability or future employment or simply wanting to engage in something more productive at this time during the current economic lull. These Yukoners in most instances fit virtually any type of residency requirement that you may wish to name. They have, in many cases, lived here all of their lives and their intention is to remain here. However, their choice to upgrade or re-educate or complete some formal training has disadvantages primarily because of some form of assistance to do it.

The motion is left deliberately very open in order to allow for a thorough examination of this question. I am sure that the need would be required to examine what possible costs may be incurred. Certainly, what benefits would accrue from such an exercise would be desirous to know, and certainly one would want to examine very closely the guidelines that should be expanded to increase this legitimate eligibility. The motion, in my opinion, is quite non-controversial and quite acceptable and should be supported.

I would also submit that action on the motion to expand the eligibility of student assistance as described has a number of benefits, both socially and economically. I am sure, as the minister is aware, the current act requires the eligibility of independent students — and those are the ones to whom this motion is directed — to meet the various criteria of residency, of high school attendance and age criteria. I am sure that the House recognizes that such criteria eliminate quite a number of Yukoners from receiving assistance; in fact, the majority of Yukoners. Many such people could easily have spent decades here but did not spend the two years in high school that is currently required under the act, or perhaps for some reason did not take their high school here, and in fact may not have taken their high school anywhere. Many universities and technical training institutions are now broadening their adult-entrant requirements. In some instances, you merely have to write an entrance qualification regardless of whether you had any high schooling or not. Some entrance requirements of universities require you only to successfully complete a course — again not requiring any high school training at all. And, certainly, dating back to the 50s and 60s, there were many people who did not take the necessary high school training. Such adult students in Yukon are currently ineligible for any financial assistance and certainly I do not think the motion suggests that the measure or extent or degree of assistance be identical to that which exists. It is a simple request to examine the question.

22 With respect to broadening the guidelines, it takes no imagination, in my opinion, to say that any encouragement of educational opportunity is a socially beneficial exercise. It is enhanced, in the social sense, by an economic sense in that, when one is attending school, he is not necessarily on UI or taxing any part of the system that we currently have. Probably more important, the increase in skill or training that would be procured through an upgrading completion or retraining would be very beneficial in terms of employability.

I think that is the extent of the points I would make. I call on support from the government for this mild motion to encourage the educational and employment opportunity for adult Yukoners.

Hon. Mrs. Firth: I found this motion extremely interesting and found that there were some very interesting aspects about it, in the sense that the member for Faro says that it is a very open and very non-controversial motion.

However, I want to be very practical about the motion and not emotional about it. I want to be practical in the sense that we are already dealing with these considerations or investigations within the Department of Advanced Education. The motion is not really premature but somehow seems to me to actually be redundant because of the actions we are taking within the department.

To elaborate a little further, the member for Faro and his colleagues are aware, I am sure, that the government is looking into funding or grants or loans, or whatever, some sort of funding for adult Yukoners. At the School Committee Conference that I

attended last weekend, the member for Faro was present and I made some comments, at that time, about the mandate of the post-secondary advisory council for post-secondary education. One of their mandates was to look at adult education in Yukon, the acceptability of it within the public and to give some recommendations to the government regarding post-secondary education.

As well, in the House, I was asked a question regarding student financial assistance that the member for Faro asked regarding adults being funded for their education. I believe, in my response, I had indicated to him that we had not had an increase in applications by adults. At that time, I talked about one particular instance I could remember in the last year and a half and, on some further thinking and research, there have actually been three people within a year and a half who have run into some difficulties with putting themselves through some post-secondary education.

I had made the comment as to whether — and I am quoting now from *Hansard*, November 2, page 555, I believe — it is blanked out — that “the increase of incidents in applications of adults applying has not been brought to my attention. I have had one adult applying for assistance in the last year and a half. The principle of the *Student Financial Assistance Act* was so that we could assist young adults going right from high school to university. As to whether this government will further expand that in funding adults for their education, as well, will have to be a decision that this government has to make and we will be looking forward to some input now that we have a Post-secondary Education Advisory Council”.

23 The Government of Yukon has not yet made a policy decision regarding the funding of adult Yukoners. Because we have not made that policy decision, the motion is rather specific when it says that we will give consideration and that the outcome would have the effect of making those grants available. So, in agreeing with the motion, we would also be agreeing with the principle, which is premature at this time because Cabinet has not had an opportunity to sit down and review all the factors and the aspects of funding Yukon adults in their educational pursuits.

To make this decision as a Cabinet, we are going to have to have some information about the financial implications to the taxpayers of Yukon, and some idea of what this funding is going to cost us. The *Student Financial Assistance Act* that is presently established in Yukon funds Yukon students in an amount of well over \$700,000 a year now, and I see that increasing in the years to come. We also have to look at establishing an eligibility criteria or residency requirement, and we have to look at the numbers of potential students.

So, the policy decision has to be made, and to make that decision we have to have some idea of the financial impact on the taxpayer of Yukon.

The adult students who currently wish to pursue some post-secondary education are not without resources at all; they do have the Canada Student Loan program which they can apply to. They also can apply for a loan from the bank. Now, granted, these are loans that have to be paid back, some at rather high interest, but it is still available. I am not sure, and my colleagues will verify this, whether we will be prepared to make it a loan or whether we will be prepared to make it a grant. This is another factor that is involved in the policy decision.

In conclusion, I would like to say that if we agreed with the motion we would in effect be raising people's expectations by making a political commitment, we feel, through the motion, and we are reluctant to do that at this time in view of the fact that we have not made the policy decision. My colleagues have not had an opportunity to review the situation, to review the impacts, and therefore I think it is fair to say — and I am not saying this to be difficult or non-supportive of the member for Faro — that we will not be supporting this motion. We will be defeating it because of the reasons I have outlined.

Mr. Penikett: I am disappointed that the minister concluded her speech in the way she did because it is, in fact, not logical. The motion only asks that consideration be given and consideration given. A commitment is not made, in any dictionary that I know of.

However, I want to respond to the minister's more positive

comments during her speech, about the examination of this. I think she will be aware that, with the current changes that are going on in the national economy, there are a lot of people whose skills are redundant or their education is not marketable any more and who will want to be retrained. There are a lot of people unemployed who might want to see this as an opportunity in their lives to get that retraining. And I think those points were well made by my colleague.

I want to deal with a couple of specifics in the present regime which have bothered me and which I have raised before with the minister and her predecessors. I am encouraged to raise them again here today because I, in fact, have had representations from constituents on these points. The minister says that there is not a great indication of an increased demand or the incidence of applications has not increased.

« I suspect that that may be, in large part, true because the present rules are quite well known. I know people who have not gone through the process of applying because they know they are not eligible.

I was curious, knowing something about the previous practices, when Yukon College was created whether the fact that some programs might be available there would have an effect on the eligibility of Yukon students for certain kinds of financial aid. But I have long been concerned about the two-year high school rule. I have discovered that there are bona fide Yukoners, who wish to go to university, who did not spend two years in high school here. In one case I know, the parents and grandparents, were Yukoners. There are a large number of reasons why they may not have gone to high school here, but what is unfortunate in these people's cases is not only are they ineligible for the kind of financial assistance here, but they are also ineligible elsewhere.

A person can obviously be born here; if you grow up in some rural communities or in the bush, it is quite conceivable that you may have been sent to high school somewhere else outside of the territory simply because you have relatives there who are prepared to house you or look after you. I think that is less likely to be the case nowadays than it once was, but it certainly was the case among people of my age and, in fact, a little bit younger.

It is also possible, as the member for Faro has said, to gain admission to a university nowadays without having completed high school. In fact, that has long been the case. You can be admitted as a mature student under various different rules, one of which, alluded to by my colleague, is to simply take a course from a university like UBC, pass that course and they will admit you for a full program. However, if you have not, under these rules, completed high school or done two years of high school here, you cannot get any financial assistance from the government, even though you have been admitted as a full-time student at the university.

That seems to me to be a problem which an increasing number of good Yukoners are going to fall afoul of. You can be 24 years old, but did not do high school here, or you might have done your high school here and be over 24.

Notwithstanding my regrets that the minister is going to have her side vote against this motion to give consideration to this important question, I hope that, nonetheless, she will disobey the motion that she is going to vote against. I said we are asking to give consideration. The Conservatives are going to vote against it, so that means the House has decided not to give consideration to this issue. I hope the minister will decide to disobey the decision of the House not to give consideration to it and give consideration in any case and, in fact, very soon bring the necessary amendments forward to the bill.

Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I just have a couple of comments to make with respect to this motion. The way it is worded, as the Minister is concerned, when you first look at it, it is apple pie and motherhood. Who is opposed to education, who is opposed to adult education, who is opposed to post-secondary education? When you start examining it and you start looking at the wording of the motion, it raises a number of concerns that I would just like to emphasize, as my colleague, the Minister of Education did, with respect to the

overall consequences of what we are speaking about.

We had the member for Whitehorse South Centre raise the question of homemaker care yesterday. I, personally, believe that he believes very strongly that that type of service should be delivered by government. The member for Whitehorse South Centre, for the record, says yes.

Now, I do not know what we would be looking at, but maybe we are looking at an expenditure of the taxpayers' dollars of \$300,000 - \$500,000, depending on the program that you would implement, if that were the political decision. Today, we are dealing with a motion which really is a budgetary item, both legislatively and, more importantly and just as importantly, a budgetary item that would have to be dealt with in the main estimates.

We are looking, as the Minister of Education said, probably at a substantial increase, depending on how far you would widen the eligibility as far as the recipients in the post-secondary education are concerned. So, let us assume that we are talking another \$300-500,000. Well, we have, as I said, the request yesterday and this one today. So we are looking at maybe a million dollars. Perhaps fully justified, but the point I want to make is that we cannot continue as members of this House to ask for more and more and more without taking the responsibility and the accountability that goes along with it and saying 'yes, we are prepared to increase taxes' or, the other alternative is that we will cut back on a program somewhere else in government; it is a program that has outlived its usefulness.

This is the point that I want to make: I do not think we can continue to stand in this House and be responsible to the general public if we are not prepared to say how we are going to get these dollars. We talk about development: on one hand we do not want development, the next hand we do want development. It is all tied together in the general economy.

Getting back to the post-secondary financial assistance under the present act, I just want to go back in history so that all members are aware of this. In 1968 or 1969, the initial act was brought forward by the legislature of the day. It was found in that particular piece of legislation that the parameters were so wide that almost anyone could apply and was eligible and, under the law, had the right to those amounts of dollars that were available. In fact, if you go and talk to some of the people who were here at that time, who actually were on the financial assistance advisory board, they used to refer to what they called the bunkhouse student. It is a fact, a documented fact, that people would come up from British Columbia and, in some cases, Alberta, and work for the summer for a month or two months and the Yukon government of the day, unbeknownst to themselves until it actually happened, was required by law to pay financial assistance for those students to go to university.

I have been in this House for a decade. That is a long time. A heck of a long time. At any rate, we have dealt with this bill I believe on three occasions during my term in office from two points of view: tightening up the eligibility requirements and looking at more assistance to those people who could apply, recognizing inflation, the costs and ensuring that those students who wished to pursue an academic or non-academic training would have some dollars to offset their costs. Now, as the Minister of Education has indicated, we have \$700,000 paid out in that program alone. I have to ask myself as a member of this House — and this is one of the questions that this side of the floor is going to have to seriously look at — are we prepared to widen the eligibility? Where does our responsibility start and where does it end? The member for Whitehorse West, the leader of the official opposition, legitimately raised a number of constituents who came with problems and said they could not get post-secondary assistance. When you set rules, there is always going to be somebody on the borderline; there is going to be somebody who does not quite comply.

« When we start to accept the principle that we are going to widen that eligibility, we have to be sure in our mind that it is those people that society really has a responsibility to help support in their initial stages of education.

I have to further ask how far do we go with respect to our student financial assistance in relationship to other federal programs? The member for Faro talked about retraining and about people unemployed. The Minister of Education, time in and time out, in Question Period, in discussion of the budget, has stood in this House and talked

about the various programs available through Yukon College and through the federal government. Those are taxpayer's dollars also being applied in their particular area that the member speaks of. Now we look from the perspective of the Yukon taxpayer. We are starting what we call the Yukon College, and some very well-accredited courses are being put on by that particular institution. How far do we go in supplying dollars through this particular program for people to leave Yukon and go to other academic universities as opposed to funding programs here at home at Yukon College and providing it to the general populace at perhaps a lower cost. Probably even more cost because of your administration. Providing it so that the population who is living here can have better access to further educational programs as well as facilities. That is another ramification that has to be looked at in light of the motion that you have here.

I not going to get into the debate on the North Slope again. We have been all through it and I think we know where everybody stands; at least we know where we stand. The point is that if that project does not go ahead — and as I indicated earlier, there is a glimmer of light that maybe there is a chance the minister could change his mind — a two hundred million dollar project in a region of the country comes very seldom in a man's lifetime, let alone a generation. Let us assume that it does not go ahead. Then, what are we looking at for next year? We are looking at a very, very tough year as far as any expansion is concerned. For an example, I bumped into a lady who I went to school with. She was telling me that on her particular job they are on job sharing. In effect, her salary that she was making a year ago is cut in half. So, when we take a look at this post-secondary financial assistance, in light of the economy, are we being wise in asking the general taxpayers of the Yukon to assume those additional burdens, which we would be asking them to do, at a time when the economy does not obviously look that bright.

So, I think that the Minister of Education is correct in her assessment of the implications of the motion. I want to emphasize that I do not think any member, and let us not get into a partisan debate on this, is opposed to adult education, as I said in my opening remarks. But the point being the ramifications are going to be significant. I think they have to be assessed accordingly and as the minister has indicated, I do not think that we should support the motion, from basically the point of view of raising peoples' expectations. The minister assured this House and assured the member she was doing her homework, looking at the variables involved and she was going to have to make a decision over the course of this year. I would have thought that would have been sufficient. So it would seem to me that the mover of the motion, if he wishes to withdraw it, in view of the logical arguments that have been brought forward by the Minister of Education, we would give unanimous consent so that he, himself, would not be embarrassed and we would not have to turn this into a partisan debate, which I do not think is the way anybody is viewing this particular motion. In view of the cooperative debate that we have here, I would expect the same cooperation from the side opposite and maybe the member for Faro would consider that as a possible action, as opposed to trying to push such a motion through.

²⁷ **Mr. Kimmerly:** I will enter this non-partisan debate in as non-partisan a way as I can, after the last speaker.

The members opposite made, in the last week so, various insulting comments about colouring books; I think I will draw on my bunch of crayons and try and colour a picture for the minister in very simple language. It is necessary to look closely at the wording of the motion and, if the two ministers speaking did that, they would have no trouble, I am sure, supporting the motion.

First of all, the relevant issues, or the important factors are the issue of consideration and the issue of being adult. I would painstakingly colour a picture: if one took out the phrase "to give consideration" — that is the last three words in line one — then the Minister of Education would be right in saying that the motion calls for a decision on a political principle. However, if one adds those three words, "to give consideration", then it is absolutely clear that the motion calls for study or consideration, not the expression of a policy statement or a position. The minister is, therefore, wrong.

In looking at the total motion, the most significant word is the word "adult". That is the first word in line three, because if we take out the word "adult" and read the motion, it is obviously an apple pie and motherhood motion. If that one single word was not there, we would be describing a program already in existence. The only real import of the motion, in terms of the wording, is the word "adult" and the meaning of the words is that the *Student Financial Assistance Act* does not cover adults now and consideration should be given to covering adults.

The minister for Porter Creek talked about the North Slope and about taxes and about residency. The motion certainly would have financial implications, in the long run, and the consideration, obviously, involves a consideration of any financial implications and affordability and practicality and also coordination with federal Manpower retraining programs, which we all know exist.

²⁸ There is also a consideration of federal contribution. The minister neglected to tell us about the federal contribution, which is substantial, and he talked about increasing taxes and development, which is simply right off the topic.

What the previous speaker was talking about in his too-long experience is the question of residency. Residency is always a problem where it is legislated and it will continue to be so. The motion does not talk about residency. It is connected only in a very peripheral way. The present requirement of a two-year high school attendance in Yukon is defended on only one basis: it is defended as a residency requirement. Now, it is more than a residency requirement because it also entails a discrimination on the basis of age — the attendance at schools being partially governed by age.

The intent of the motion, on its face, is that we should look at the question, consider the question of resident Yukoners being assisted for training and retraining even though they are adults. That is obviously a timely question because of the economic situation today and because of the general change in the workforce in the western world. With the technological advances and social changes, it is estimated that modern workers will probably have three careers in their lifetimes. The days of doing the same job for 30 years are ended. The jobs change drastically over 30 years; indeed, over three years the jobs change in today's world. Retraining for adults is a fact of life and it is ever more present. The motion clearly and simply calls for, on its face, only consideration of assistance for adults as well as non-adult students. If the ministers do not understand that after I colour it all in for them, I can only suggest we need retrained ministers.

²⁹ This is a simple, modest motion calling for consideration of a well-needed program and it concerns a very important principle of discrimination on the basis of age and is extremely timely, considering the uncertain economic times. I am extremely disappointed that the Party across the way is so blinded by only one kind of development that they cannot see the wisdom of this.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The member opposite alludes to a colouring book and crayons. I suggest the colour he is using is grey.

The members opposite have mentioned words here and I think they are reading out what I read in. Mind you, I am not a lawyer, but I do read things that I believe I have an understanding of. Let me please read what the member for Whitehorse South Centre is talking about, "to give consideration". It says, "to give consideration to taking action, which would have the effect" — and I stress those words, "which would have the effect" — of making adult Yukoners eligible". Both the leader of the opposition and the member for Whitehorse South Centre have not mentioned the words "taking action which would have the effect of making adult Yukoners".

I see the hon. member for Mayo having a problem with this. I have a problem with the hon. member for Mayo.

This is a policy decision. The members opposite, obviously, are not concerned about where the money is going to come from. The members opposite are obviously not concerned about very much after the debates in the past few days about development. I would suggest that they take their heads out of the sand and start considering things like development, consider where money is going to come from and leave the policy in the hands of the

government, who are greatly concerned about development, about education, about health and human resources, job creation. Job creation, for the member for Mayo, job creation for the member for Whitehorse South Centre, job creation for the individual for Faro, who also should go out and do a little colouring on animals like caribou to figure out which are male and which are female.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Just before I recognize the hon. member for Faro, I have many times asked members if they wish to speak to rise and indicate they wish to speak. It is rather embarrassing for the Chair, and it is very difficult to know, if a member wishes to speak unless he rises in time.

I will permit final remarks, then, from the hon. member for Faro, which will close debate.

Mr. Byblow: With respect to your comments, Mr. Speaker, I would note that in rising I would close debate, and I did not wish to prevent anyone from speaking to the debate.

Mr. Speaker: I might say, in response to the hon. member, I might also add that if seven members rise, I would not recognize the member proposing the motion until all others have been heard. I simply ask that all members who wish to speak will rise or forthwith will not be recognized.

Mr. Byblow: To the subject at hand.

There was a member in this House at one time, and I cannot quite remember who, who said that since he came to this House, confusion was nothing new to him. I am sure that, after the brilliant display of logic from the front bench today, that person must be repeating his previous observation.

I heard the Minister of Education say that her department was already pursuing adult education avenues but it would not agree to a motion that calls on the government to give consideration to the very same thing. I heard the Minister of Education say to the House today, as well as on a day previous in Question Period, that her government will wait for a post-secondary advisory committee to recommend changes in adult educational assistance, but that today she would not give consideration to that very same thing. In other words, the government is saying that they have been, are, and will be, giving consideration to this question, but they will not agree to a motion that urges them to do something specific on the question.

The logic and the set of contradictions on the subject are a complete set of mixed signals. The Minister of Economic Development says this ought to be a budgetary item and I can agree with him that next spring I will be looking for a budgetary item. He says that we have to raise the question of how far can we go on the subject of providing assistance in the field of education. He talks about the business of asking for more and more. I would simply remind him that this is not a case of giving out a non-productive handout. It is a case of investment. It is a case of improving the educational training or the educational opportunity for Yukoners. Certainly the times are tough. Because of the very tough times, any small measure of assistance may mean the difference between whether someone gains an employable skill, is retrained, upgraded, or a new form of training.

I think the point to make about the *Student Financial Assistance Act* is that the principle of the act is to permit students to attend those post-secondary courses that are not available in Yukon. I can appreciate what the minister was saying about the availability of our program courses, but the principle of the act is to allow for those training programs that do not exist here. I think the Minister of Economic Development would probably be the first to admit that his government could find some additional monies quite easily, and I am sure that the Minister of Renewable Resources might even find something like that faster.

³⁰ I am afraid I cannot respond to the Minister of Health and Human Resources, because he seems to be talking on another subject not cognizant of the current economic times.

The Minister of Economic Development would dearly love us to withdraw the motion so that it would save them the embarrassment of having to vote against it. I would submit to them, in a very persuasive, mild way that they have already admitted their desire to proceed in the direction of examining this question. The motion urges the government to give consideration to the question. I call on

the government to reconsider its hard-nosed position of voting it down and support it, and we can get along even better.

Mr. Speaker: Are you agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: Disagree.

Mr. Speaker: I declare that the motion has been defeated.

Some hon. Member: Division.

Mr. Speaker: Division has been called. I will again put the question to the House. Mr. Clerk, would you kindly poll the House?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Disagree.

Hon. Mrs. Firth: Disagree.

Hon. Mr. Ashley: Disagree.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Disagree.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Disagree.

Mr. Falle: Disagree.

Ms. Nukon: Disagree.

Mr. Brewster: Disagree.

Mr. Penikett: Agree.

Mr. Byblow: Agree.

Mr. Kimmerly: Agree.

Mr. Porter: Agree.

Mrs. Joe: Agree.

Mr. McDonald: Agree.

Mr. Clerk: The results are six yea, eight nay.

Motion No. 45 defeated

Mr. Clerk: Item number six, standing in the name of Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter: Next sitting day, please.

Mr. Speaker: So ordered.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I would move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker leaves the Chair

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Chairman: I would like to call Committee of the Whole to order.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I just want to notify the committee of a number of things prior to recess. I would just like to list the calibre of business as we see it in respect of the deliberation of Committee of the Whole. The order of business we are proposing, unless it changes and I would notify members opposite, is tentatively as follows: Bill No. 29, Bill No. 31, Bill No. 15, Bill No. 25, Bill No. 26, Bill No. 30 and Bill No. 32. And while I am on my feet, I have a number of amendments, minor technical amendments really, to the *Municipal Act*, and I will ask the pages to disperse them to all members so that you may look at them at your leisure until such time as we read the *Municipal Act*.

Mr. Chairman: At this time, I shall declare a short recess.

Recess

³² **Mr. Chairman:** Committee will come to order.

Fourth Appropriation Act, 1983-84

Department of Economic Development, continued

Mr. Chairman: We will now proceed with Economic Development, on page eight. It is now open for general debate.

Hon. Mr. Lang: The requests for the supplementary estimate for the department is, as you can see, \$301,000 for its O&M budget, in order to complete the programs over the last year. The increase represents an increase of about 15 percent over and above the estimates tabled in the spring session.

I should point out that it is our anticipation that the capital estimates are estimated to be on target for this present year and

there is no request for a supplementary in that area.

As you recall, and as is in all these supplementaries, as the government leader indicated, one of the requirements, of course, is the increase in salaries to the public service of six percent. A number of areas that we asked for additional dollars in were to hire consultants to assist in developing programs for the proposed Economic Regional Development Agreement. We also are asking for a revote of funding from the last financial year to enable the completion of updating the Yukon Economic Accounts through the Yukon River Basin Study Committee, which is \$23,000 and is fully recoverable from the Government of Canada.

I think that that roughly gives you an idea with respect to what is required, as far as the ongoing basis is concerned. As for new projects — and those total about \$175,000 — there was \$20,000, over the course of the year, allocated for the purpose of an energy audit assistant for the purpose of our energy retro-fit program, as well as auditing various buildings, in order to identify means of reducing our energy consumption.

We also had a \$20,000 allocation to the Klondike Placer Miner Association, and that is being requested as a supplementary, as well. We also had \$35,000 for northern hydro carbon projects, for hiring two contract staff to perform work on the development of the northern hydro carbon projects in the Beaufort Sea. The staff members, of course, are working with businesses in Yukon and also preparing our position for the Environmental Assessment Panel, which the government leader is presently attending.

Also, \$100,000 was approved to update our data development. That is for four contract staff to perform some data collection to support further information for the purposes of policy consideration. Those areas of concern are the statistical profile, also to update our labour force survey, government inventory, statistical holdings and data development.

I think that gives a fairly clear picture, with respect to the amount of dollars that we are requiring. So, in essence, what it is, as far as new programming is concerned, is \$175,000. The other dollars that we are speaking of are, in reality, forced on us through the negotiations of the civil service and various other costs that occurred over the course of the year, as far as the normal program is concerned.

Mr. Byblow: I just want to raise a question with one of the items the minister cited under new projects and that was the northern hydro carbon project. He indicated that there were a couple of personnel assigned to work with industry in developing inventories, or am I extrapolating too much? What did those people do?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Not those particular individuals. They are primarily there to get the necessary information together for a number of appearances we will be making to the Beaufort Sea Assessment Review Panel. As I indicated in my opening address, the government leader is presently there giving that address.

Also, we will have, for example, an individual monitoring those particular areas. We seem to be in the world of consultants, planning, hearings, the various regulatory regimes and we, as government, have certain responsibilities and it is costing us money, but we believe we have got to be there in Yukon's best interest.

Mr. Byblow: I certainly would support the minister in his position that the government is required to be there monitoring the developments. However, he indicated that what the purpose of the personnel was to monitor the environmental review process. Within this particular grouping of personnel, is there any activity relating to a close communication within industry in terms of developing the business opportunity, developing the job requirements as well.

Hon. Mr. Lang: We are working very closely with the proponents, as the Minister of Education indicated earlier today. Call the proponents and ask them whether or not we are working closely with them. I think they will stand up in a public forum, or privately speak to you, and say that we are probably one of the only governments in Canada that is prepared to work with the companies to try to propose development as opposed to trying to forge it. All I can say is that these people are in contact with the proponents, the various people involved.

For an example, we were very much involved in Norman Wells, and Esso, the company that is doing that particular project, when it came to our attention there was a northerner here who could not get on the bid list for the purpose of contracting catering, a person you know very well, and we got involved in that. First, he got on the list, then he got the job. So it has borne out results. We have over approximately 120 people working in combination between the Norman Wells project and the Beaufort Sea project, who are commuting back and forth. So we are bearing some fruits. We have some businesses initiated to go and talk to the proponents. They are subsequently doing business with the various proponents. I think we estimated the ballpark of probably this year of maybe \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 in direct business with local suppliers here. I think it is safe to say, if you talk to the business community and what we are doing within our financial limitations, the business community is very happy with what we are doing. But I also stated that we have responsibilities with the Beaufort Assessment Review Panel. You have the placer mining commission, you have the MacDonald commission, you name them, and we have to have resource people to get the necessary information together.

I have to say this in the House. I am becoming very concerned about the number of public hearings that are being held on the various issues in Yukon because it gets to the point that for this front bench we are spending most of time trying to prepare for these public appearances. I have to say to you that I think that maybe governments, which includes this one, as well as the federal government, have to start assessing this and the requirements and the costs of all these things to see if it really necessary to go to the extent that we are going to these particular hearings and are we accomplishing anything in the end result.

We have experienced the Lysyk inquiry. What did we accomplish? We are still planning for the pipeline. You take a look at the placer commission. We still do not have the results. It is going to be very interesting to see whether or not we have accomplished something out of that particular exercise. I have to question, not only as a member on this side of the House, but as a member of the public, just exactly what is government doing with respect to promoting the welfare and the general wellbeing of the general public with respect to looking for job opportunities, the things that make the country go? At the same time, like I say, we are forced into these things because of the Government of Canada initiating the various commissions that they have. I want to be fair here. Some of them are justified. I have to say that I think, in the political world, no matter what party we are in, at the federal level and at our level as well, we have to seriously consider just how many political regulatory bodies we are going to create and make it the requirement of the general public to appear. It is a great media event but I have to say, are we getting any results? Of course, in some cases, only time will tell. I think the pipeline is a fine example and I think we have the result of that.

Mr. Byblow: Certainly, in a brief response to the minister's question as to where government should be in terms of development scenarios, I would say to him quite bluntly, obviously in the forefront in the encouragement and protection of the public interest as it would affect Yukon. So I certainly have no quarrel with this government's participation in those processes that protect the public interest and that encourage the return of investment to Yukon. I certainly would not want the minister to feel that in any way I am criticizing the line item that precipitated his comments. It would appear to me that there is, indeed, the requirement by government to be adequately prepared in the processes that go on up there. Perhaps I could extend to him some of the concern that we feel on this side, working with a single researcher and trying to accomplish much the same thing in terms of understanding the issues, developing positions and providing the kind of encouragement that is necessary.

I have one question related to the line item. It seems to me that this government participated with, I believe, the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce in the preparation of an inventory for business opportunity relating to the Beaufort — I cannot recall whether that money was called for in the previous budget or it came through a supplementary — some of the expenditure took place this

past summer.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am going to go on memory and if I am wrong I will get back to the member. I believe that those dollars will be asked for in the forthcoming budget, when we deal with any supplementaries. Yes, we did work on the business inventory with the Chamber of Commerce; it is completed. In fact, just at the meeting that the member opposite did not attend here on Monday when Peter Kiewit was to give their proposal, they did present the final product, and I think the money will be asked in a further supplementary because it was not spent totally prior to the compilation of this particular budget.

Mr. Byblow: Relating to the \$100,000 the minister cited for the improvement of the data base, because it is an O&M line item, it would indicate to me that nothing was spent on equipment, that it must be personnel. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Yes. It was four contract persons to do some data collection, as I indicated earlier, and I expect to see the results of that by January 1st and see the significance of it. The departmental people tell me that there is a need to have much more of a complete compilation of statistics to be able to do the demographic and economic social analyses of the situation to give to us the possible scenarios that could happen in respect of the general economy and other departments in the government, for that matter. I will be viewing it with a great deal of interest because I have to question that, sometimes, we ask for statistics and continue to discuss statistics and sometimes we do not actually deal with the issue, and I think sometimes the debates in this House show it when we talk about statistics. I will see the results of it and will report back at the next budget session. I just want to say we are going ahead with it and I am going to take a very close look at it as regards just how much of an ongoing compilation we are going to do, because I take it very seriously. It is a major expenditure of money and it is one that I think we have a responsibility to look at, to say are we getting the product and the end result that is of value to this House and to the government.

Mr. Byblow: I was not too clear on the \$20,000 expenditure for energy audit. Was that the procurement of additional personnel to do energy audits on government facilities, or is it broader than that? I would follow-up by asking why was the energy audit services that currently exist under federal programming not utilized there?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Yes, it is to do audits of government buildings. The government buildings do not come under the federal program. They are outside that particular agreement, therefore, we have to pick up the costs directly. It is not cost-shared with the Government of Canada in the assessment of our government buildings. Therefore, we felt that it was important that we get someone to go and do the audits so that we could see where we can improve and retro-fit our particular dwellings for the purposes of saving money, of course, on the O&M side, as far as our fuel consumption is concerned.

I believe that it is a very worthwhile program. I had the opportunity to go to an energy audit demonstration in a home and see just what does take place. With the equipment that they have, and the various techniques they use, it is amazing what they can find in a very short space of time — as far as finding areas in a home or in a government building where there are major deficiencies as far as the insulation is concerned. Therefore, I think it is money well-spent for the long term of the territory.

As I have said to many guys, who are carpenters or whatever, they should be looking seriously at getting into this type of work because I think there is going to be a lot of it provided from all levels of government, recognizing the cost to the consumer and to the taxpayer, that we are going to have to do the necessary work to cut down our O&M costs and that means jobs for people if they get into that type of a technical area as far as trades is concerned.

I would encourage any of the members here, if they know of carpenters who are looking to upgrade their skills, we are seriously looking at the possibility of having another retro-fit program for them. I think it would be very wise, if they are not working, to take that particular course because I think it will open avenues and channels that, perhaps, were not open there for them previously.

On Operation and Maintenance

*Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$301,000 agreed to
Department of Economic Development in the amount of \$301,000
agreed to*

Mr. Chairman: The next two items we have are Executive Council Office and Finance. As the government leader is responsible for those, and is not here, I suggest we stand those over.
Motion agreed to

On Government Services

Hon. Mr. Philippsen: We have to, this afternoon and this evening, discuss Government Services. We have four areas: administration systems; computing; supply services and public works. I could stand here for an amount of time and read my prepared notes but it would seem to me that, in the interest of all members of the legislature, if they wish to just get straight on with general debate and then line items, I am quite happy and prepared to go right into that debate.

Mr. Kimmerly: There are no line items, of course, it is only one line. I am interested in a list of the projects and the amounts involved, which total \$3,750,000.

Hon. Mr. Philippsen: On the O&M, \$1,548,000, it is comprised of administration, systems and computing services, supply services and public works.

In the area of administration, we have increases in salary of six percent, which is a fairly large amount; we have a general insurance premium, which is higher than budgeted for; we have, in the systems and computing services, another six percent salary increase; we have greater than anticipated requirements for professional and special services, due to permanent position vacancies; we have upgrading of central computing service facilities; and, we have systems priorities committee recommendations for short-term implementation.

In supply services, we also have the six percent salary increase; we have an increase in postage rates; the Queen's Printer has experienced some problems with the print production in Debates and Proceedings; we have additional volumes of *Yukon Gazette*, notices have been greater than anticipated; we have an increase in the amount of repairs and maintenance for the Queen's Printer; and, our janitorial contracts have been higher than budgeted for.

In public works, we have a salary increase; we have use of casuals, over-time, stand-by pay not budgeted for; and, we have additional funding for extra rental.

Those are the areas in the O&M. Would you wish to continue with that or do you wish to go on to capital?

Mr. Kimmerly: Is the total O&M expenditure \$548,000? That is my understanding and I would ask if that is correct.

Under special services, I would ask what sorts of services, in general, and the dollar figure of that, which was part of the list under administration.

Hon. Mr. Philippsen: The figure is \$1,548,000.

I am sorry, I seem to have misplaced my note on special services, but I will bring back the answer to that as quickly as possible to the member for Whitehorse South Centre. I would not like to say anything that would, in any way, mislead any members of the House on that matter.

Mr. Kimmerly: The next list, I suppose, is the employment stimulation project. I am interested in that one.

Hon. Mr. Philippsen: The employment stimulations are all the projects that were announced through government services to do exactly that, stimulate employment. Those are items that were announced during the fall of this year: the contracts have all pretty well been in the paper.

Mr. Kimmerly: I understand that. I am interested in which ones were under this department and the amounts. If I could get a list, by title, of the project and the dollar amount, I would be very happy.

Hon. Mr. Philippsen: Under employment stimulation we have items that would go from cold storage, shed carpets for Jeckell School, recorders, shredder, Correctional Centre skylights, Correctional Centre generator, Mayo grader station, Ross River grader station, Carmacks grader station, Whitehorse grader station, F.H.

collins lock sets, Whitehorse administration building, landscaping, administration buildings, Old Crow School renovations, Dawson City firehall, Ross River firehall, Robert Service School, Mule Creek grader station, computer room shelving, erosion study for Yukon College, Correctional Centre electrical work, and relocation and alteration. These stimulation projects are just about entirely the amount between the O&M and Capital, \$3,715,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: My problem is that the minister says "just about entirely". Now, that is different from saying "entirely". I am not nitpicking but if we look at the schedule on page 17 it says funds required primarily for employment stimulation projects, \$3,715,000. On questioning, the information is elicited that more than one-third of that is operation and maintenance, salary increases and extra expenses. I am simply interested in the proper information. Now I have asked for a list of projects under employment stimulation. We got a list with no dollar amounts attached to each one. Is that list available or is it difficult to get hold of?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The statement in the book the hon. member is reading from say funds required primarily for employment stimulation projects. The reason that that is placed in the book in that manner, I believe, is that the finance people taking the larger of the two numbers between Capital and O&M, have stated that the capital, which is \$2,167,000, are the funds that are required primarily for that.

If the member opposite is interested, in fact, in the sum of the amounts that we are discussing here, we can go to the cold storage shed, which is \$75,000; carpets at Jeckell School were \$22,000; the shredder is \$40,000; Correctional Centre skylights \$85,000; a generator at the Correctional Centre is \$45,000; Mayo grader station \$20,000; Ross River grader station \$80,000; Carmacks grader station \$80,000; Whitehorse grader station \$180,000. We have renovations in the Old Crow School for \$26,000; Dawson City firehall for \$60,000; Robert Service School \$40,000; Mule Creek \$15,000; Correctional Centre on electrical is \$105,000. Will that give you a beginning?

Mr. Kimmerly: We are getting there. My problem, now, is identifying that there is a cold storage shed for \$75,000. That appears to be a lot of money for a cold storage shed. I would be interested in some of the other expenditures as well as that one. For example, the Dawson City firehall, \$60,000. Well, it is not building the hall. I know that it already exists. What was the work?

We are voting here for \$2,000,000-odd and the information is extremely scanty. I am not in a position to make a judgment on it. I realize that my single vote is not going to make any difference, but it is a responsibility to look at these amounts.

I am also interested in the tendering process and the way these contracts were let. Especially, as it seems that they were not voted in the normal procedure and they were all put in place very quickly as employment stimulation. I am interested in the tendering process and more information about the specific projects. It probably assists if we start at the beginning; there is a cold storage shed for \$75,000. Where is it? What is its size? And, what was the tendering or contracting process in that case?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The cold storage shed is to house a number of items that are maintained in warehouses that do not require heated storage space. This area is in the renewable resources campground storage area. The storage shed is approximately 12 feet wide, 200 feet long and 20 feet high. Three sides are open, it is frame construction, wooden floor and has metal-clad siding.

You are interested in the tender. Engineering has appointed a consultant, Underhill Engineering, to complete the design, plans and specifications. The working drawing and the specifications have been completed and this project is now out to tender and the tender opening date is November 18.

Another area you asked about was the firehall in Dawson. There is \$60,000 for the firehall in Dawson; and liquor store complex. The money has been placed for repair of foundations and the boiler room section to keep the foundation safe for the next several years. J. Wood Consultants commissioned the design, working drawings and specification. Two tenders were received on October 4. There was a low tender that was \$219,000. The project was retendered at a reduced scope of work and a low tenderer submitted \$40,000. The

contract has been awarded and the work has started.

We have another area or two in here that I should have mentioned.

¹⁰ There was a retro-fit program for \$268,000, which is a major sum of money. There was an asbestos abatement program for \$557,000. Both these were approved on May 6, 1983.

Mr. Kimmerly: I do not want to take a lot of time. My major purpose is to get the information available and on the record. Will the minister put on the record a statement of where detailed information about each of these projects is available, if anybody is interested?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: A detailed statement of all these projects and the tender process would be available from Government Services. Also, I might add that all projects tendered were tendered through the local newspapers and followed very specific tender regulations and rules. Anybody who is watching the newspaper could obviously see the tenders as they come out.

Mr. Byblow: Yesterday, when I was in debate on the education portion of the budget with the minister, I specifically asked about whether school-related facilities improvements were included strictly within the education budget and the minister responded in the affirmative. Today, I hear from the minister responsible for Government Services that some improvements in Mayo and \$26,000 in Old Crow are in his portion of the budget. There is something inconsistent there.

Hon. Mrs. Firth: If I could just answer that. Maybe I misinterpreted the question. I was of the impression that he wanted to know if the programs were all within the Department of Education and I believe I indicated to him at that time that we had a schedule of improvements that were done on a regular basis and that schedule was within Government Services. I recall mentioning that to the member for Faro. I never, at any time, said that they had not proceeded with any part of that schedule but that we may have in the Department of Education advanced certain items on that schedule ourselves. So, perhaps that is where the member has been confused by a misunderstanding.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: I believe the line we are talking about was transferred from that department to Government Services and the areas that you are discussing: one would be the installation of new carpets. This is what you are primarily interested in? The specifications are completed by our engineering technicians and this budget has been scheduled for tendering November 1984.

Another area was the Old Crow school; these were renovations to the sprinkler system and to the pipes that were breaking in the water system, the water distribution and the sewer connections. This was for \$26,000 and the work was completed by government forces.

Another area was in Dawson City, the Robert Service school; this was \$40,000, which was to repair the pile foundations to counter the foundation deterioration that was going on particularly under the school mechanical room and the library. A consultant has been commissioned to prepare the design work, drawings and specifications. The project was tendered with the fire hall project. The tender was opened on October 4. Two tenders were received, and the low tender was in excess of the budget. Due to high costs, this project has been deferred until the summer of 1984.

⁴⁰ **Mr. Byblow:** Perhaps I could backtrack a bit. It is my understanding, from previous familiarity with government services, that they often undertake to do capital projects and maintenance work for the departments. I would conclude that what has taken place here is much the same process, that education has provided the funding, money has been transferred and government services has done the work. Is that generally correct?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: In many instances that is correct. There are instances where government services does, indeed, identify their own money.

Mr. Byblow: I know what those instances could be, so I will not ask the question.

The minister made reference to the tendering process; however, there are some times when government does not go through the formal tendering process but makes an award in a community. Perhaps it only takes place in the rural areas, I do not know, where a tendering process is not put in place simply because, I would

assume, government does not feel that a tendering process would achieve any competitive bids, or there is probably only one person in the community who could do the work and it is a small job and so an award like that is made.

What process does government services use when they do not tender formally?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Government services does have a staff of individuals who are trained technicians in many areas. They have jobs that they do on both the operation and maintenance side and they operate with some capital money on some work. I would suggest that, in an area like Old Crow, where it is obviously easier for us, as a government, to have our own forces go in and stay in government facilities and do work where otherwise the cost would be escalated greatly if a contractor were asked to go in for a small amount of time to do a relatively small program, we would attempt to do that work under those circumstances.

I would also suggest that, in some circumstances where time is of the essence and a tendering process would take too much time to go through, that we would go to other forms. The other forms I can think of would be from the pure tendering process you could also go to a call system, an invitational bid system or, in the case of an extreme emergency, use our own forces and get the work done.

Mr. Byblow: The minister described a couple of variations beyond the pure tendering process. He called it a call system, an invitational system and his own forces. If I am reading the categorization correctly, that would make four methods used by government to distribute government contracts, if you will. Could the minister describe what takes place on a call system and what takes place on an invitational system, because I understand the other two.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: If you were placed on an invitation to bid, it would be a formal system, but it would do away from the long process of doing everything — like in the papers — and going through that system. It would be an attempt to use contractors that you knew were locally available. Your invitation would go out to the contractors that you knew locally could, in fact, do the job.

On a call system, if it was an area where it was more urgent than that, you could actually pick the telephone up and call all the people who supply any particular service in your area and ask them for quotes so that you could carry on and get a job done quickly.

All these systems are very, very closely monitored to ensure that there is no one in the area who is either getting preferential treatment or getting left out of any of these contracts.

Mr. Byblow: I think sometimes that becomes a rather sticky and dicey issue in a small community. It may very well be that there is no other contractor available and it may very well be that he has submitted on invitation the lowest bid and it may be that everything is perfectly legitimate, but it has the appearances of preferential treatment. I am sure the minister is aware of those kind of instances and has to bear the criticism that goes with it because it just invariably happens.

I have another topic of questioning. When Cabinet was in Dawson City it, among other things, announced a repair job to the liquor store there. That is a government structure, to my understanding. That is also a responsibility of Government Services. Just so I understand, and I have cited that one just as an example to understand the process better, what does Government Services do in the case like that where it has its own building to upgrade, has identified a budgeted amount — I believe, in this case, of \$60,000 — what happens to the procedure to do that stimulation project, because that is what the minister identified it as?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The same methods of tendering this project would be observed. It is a Crown corporation and that is under the Yukon Liquor Corporation. The contract is being done as a transfer of funds, I think. Tendering processes would be observed.

Mr. Byblow: That brings up the second set of questions on the subject.

A number of projects announced in the rural areas when Cabinet made its tour were, in fact, to Yukon Housing units and improvements to government buildings, i.e. liquor stores or the regional government office in the area. When Government Services

undertakes to do an improvement to Yukon Housing projects, is what the minister is saying; that it has a transfer of money and contracts the work for that crown corporation? Or is there another process by which Government Services undertakes to do that?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: I am sorry. I will explain the Dawson City liquor store-firehall complex again.

This was foundation repair to the firehall and boiler room section, to keep the foundation safe for the next several years. That amount was \$60,000; the amount that we have proposed for that. We had consultants commissioned for the design to do the working drawings and the specifications. We received two tenders on October 4th for this job. The lowest of those two tenders was far above what we had been told or thought the price would be. It was, in fact, \$219,000. This project was re-tendered. We reduced the other specifications along with the amount of work and the scope of the work. The low tender came in at \$40,000. We have therefore awarded this contract and the work has started. I hope that I am answering the question that you are asking.

Mr. Byblow: I will repeat the second set of questions that I wanted to know more about. When Government Services does work for a Crown corporation like Yukon Housing, what is the process that takes place there by which the work is done? Let me give an example. We will assume that Yukon Housing wants to upgrade the foundation for a particular set of units in a particular community; it does not have the personnel to do it. Does Government Services become involved? To what extent? And how does the money flow?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Yukon Housing would then come to Government Services with their proposal, with the amount of money that they have available to do the job. Government Services would take that, put it out to tender, go through the normal tender process, put it through the papers, they would administer the awarding of the contract, they would administer the opening of the documents and they would in fact award the contract, and that work would then be carried out for whoever the client is, be it Yukon Housing or Education or whoever came forward to the Government Services to do this for them. All contracts — I understand now what you are talking about — for the government would go through the contract administration portion of Government Services, so all areas would have to identify in their own budgets the money that they had available to do the work. Government Services would not do that work for them, per se. What they would do is tender the contract for them. They would try and make sure that the lowest tender got the job, they would award the contract. They would also ensure that all was done to the specifications. They would have the engineers on the job check that out, and they would be responsible for payment of the funds and they would also be responsible at the far end to ensure the specifications have been completed before final payment is made.

Mr. Byblow: To answer my own question, from what the minister has said then, all projects go through Government Services. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: I could stand up and say I stand corrected as soon as I stood up and sat down. No. Yukon Housing looks after their own affairs. I am sorry to have sort of misled you there.

Mr. Byblow: Aside from that Crown corporation then, the minister can reassure me that all the awards that were made in the various announcements this past summer go through Government Services?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: As the minister has said quite often, most of them go through Government Services. There are some that do not; Highways, for example. Their contracts do not go through Government Services; they are highway contracts. In certain circumstances, Municipal and Community Affairs might not go through Government Services. But all others except for the Crown corporation Yukon Housing which looks after its own buildings would go through Government Services.

On Operation and Maintenance

Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$1,548,000 agreed to

On Capital

Capital in the amount of \$2,167,000 agreed to

On Total

Government Services in the amount of \$3,715,000 agreed to

On Department of Health and Human Resources

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Health and Human Resources supplement totals are for O&M, \$509,000 and for capital, \$958,000. In O&M, in administration, we have a six percent salary increase, which is a large percentage of this. We have a workflow study, rehabilitation and geriatric services review, cross cultural training, nutrition guide. We have contract native training funds and child welfare project.

⁴¹ We have funds identified for the battered woman research; we have \$136,000 for the residential facilities; we have a salary adjustment of six percent; we have janitorial services provided for the undertaking of extensive cleaning of the youth services facility and Detox Centre; there are funds to provide for purchase of replacement items at Macauley Lodge; and, funds to provide for the replacement items in MacDonald Lodge.

In the health administration program, there is a salary adjustment; there are funds identified for an information project; a mental health project; speech pathologist; and, salary adjustment of six percent.

On the the capital side, for \$958,000, we have furniture and equipment; medical supplies for medical training; we have renovation of a portion of the first and second floor of Macauley Lodge; upgrading of MacDonald Lodge; renovations to the Detox Centre; renovations to Alcohol & Drug Services; renovations to spaces indicated in the expansion of Macauley Lodge; renovations to the basement area of the Whitehorse receiving home; purchase of furnishings for Macauley Lodge; and, renovations to the Dawson area office. Under Northern Health Services there is \$129,000 for unanticipated billing received from National Health and Welfare for construction undertaken at Carmacks and Destruction Bay health facilities. That would start the debate.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am especially interested in four areas of the O&M side. We have asked, in the past, about the battered women research and I understand a person was just hired to do the research. What research is contemplated here?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: This is the \$10,000 that was placed between both this department and the Department of Justice, so, it is an interdepartmental committee. It was established to review the information being received and give direction to the study. The committee is being co-chaired, as I said, by the justice department and health and human resources.

The report resulted from when the Minister of Justice went to the Justice Ministers Conference, and on a recommendation from that conference this study was brought forward. Other than that, on the people involved in doing the study, I really cannot speak to the end result of the study until we have it.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am sure that more information is available. I am quite aware that a \$10,000 federal grant or federal funds has been loosened up from Ottawa. I am aware that a person was recently hired. Perhaps if I am wrong, I will be corrected. In any event I am aware that \$10,000 is being spent and a person is now hired. The money is primarily salary money, I understand, and will be spent before April 1.

⁴² I am expecting a report will result, of course, but the question is, what is the purpose of the study? Why is it being done? What is the report about? I am aware it is about battered women but I am looking for more particulars. The situation in the Yukon has recently been studied in connection with a federal demonstration grant for Kaushee's Place. I am interested in what additional information or research is being looked at here. Perhaps after 7:30 that information might become available.

Just as notice, because I appreciate we are almost at 5:30, I am also interested in the area of cross-cultural training. I am wishing to ask very specific questions in the area. I would notify the minister of that. It is an area that I have raised, and other members as well, in justice and education and here. I am interested in what was done, the amount of the supplementary, and I am interested in the plans in the future as well.

I am very well aware, as the minister is, of the very large turnover in staff just before the beginning of his tenure in the department. I am sure it is a problem he is paying attention to and I

am interested in the efforts made about Yukon orientation for new Yukoners. I am also interested in the efforts made to hire locally in Yukon and also in specific communities.

I am interested also in the native trainee position and the planning about that and the child welfare project. Perhaps after the break, we will be asking for as much detailed information as is reasonably possible about those four areas.

⁴³ **Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Philipsen, do you have something short to say?

Mr. Philipsen: Yes, very short.

I will do the best I can to give reasonable answers to all the questions that I have been given notice on, but I would like to state before we go for our break that the \$10,000 is our money, it is not given to us by the federal government. The \$80,000 for Kaushee's Place was the money given by the federal government and, as all members should be aware, it is coming to an end this year. The \$10,000 is our own identified money to do our own study.

Mr. Chairman: I shall recess until 7:30.

Recess

Mr. Chairman: I will call Committee of the Whole to order.

We will continue with the department of health and human resources.

On Health and Human Resources, continued

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Further to what we were discussing before we recessed, the \$10,000 is money allotted by this government to coordinate information between justice and the human resources department of this government. We recognize we have a problem in the area that we have allocated these funds for and this is on gathering of information. That is basically what the \$10,000 for the battered women study is about.

Mr. Kimmerly: Because the statements I have heard so far are to review information received, to coordinate the various departments and gather information about battered women — those are general statements, of course — I am wondering if there is now a specific research goal. The reason I ask the question is that the money was originally announced as a research project, or research monies, and it appears that it is more of a coordinating role. I am interested in whether I am wrong, or if there is, in fact, a research goal or not?

⁴⁴ **Hon. Mr. Philipsen:** Yes, there is a goal. It is research. When we have the results of that research, if the member opposite wishes the full extent of the research we have, I am sure we can give it to him.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am sure eventually it will be known. It is obvious that before the research is undertaken, there must be some goal; in layman's language, the reason for doing the research or the goal. In scientific language, either the gathering of data or the testing of a hypothesis. What is the goal of the research? Is it about batterers or the battered people, about frequency or causation or is that known now?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The goal is a review of all existing programs and policies at each level of government which provides assistance to battered women. It is also an examination of the options for action which would provide new directions of help to those ministers to be examined in depth at the next meeting of the ministers responsible for the status of women to be held in May, 1984 in Ontario.

The first meeting of this working group of officials has been held in Ottawa, October 17 to 19 of this year.

Mr. Kimmerly: I will go on to the child welfare project. Is there more detailed information about that?

⁴⁵ **Hon. Mr. Philipsen:** The monies allocated here are to provide funds to undertake extensive cleaning of the group home facilities.

Mr. Kimmerly: In what amount?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The amount is \$1,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: On the contract native trainee: I was interested when that was announced. What is the state of progress of that program and what is the trainee for? Is it a trainee as a social worker or a child care worker, or what?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The contract native trainee description would be a native trainee-worker to work specifically with native

families in the child welfare area. At the present time, we have hired an individual who is already performing these duties.

Mr. Kimmerly: Under cross-cultural training, I identified that as a problem area. What is the amount of the supp and what, specifically, is occurring there?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The amount of the supp is \$3,000. The reason the person was hired was to try to give information to non-native social workers from a native's point of view and perspective. The person hired to do the job is a native person who is qualified to do the job and, I might add, was previously unemployed.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am not aware of the individual. Was it a Yukon native who was employed and what was the training? Was it a short training package or a longer term one?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: To the best of my knowledge, the person who was hired to do this job was, indeed, a Yukon native. The project is currently underway and the description of the program would be a workshop.

Mr. Kimmerly: Also identified was a mental health project. What amount is that and what is the project?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: The mental health project was to undertake a review of the existing mental health services, which I mentioned earlier, together with the identification of additional requirements and needs. The amount was \$12,000. The project is currently in the discussion stage with the Medical Services Branch, Health and Welfare Canada, concerning the timing of the project.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in this project and I welcome it wholeheartedly. I have spoken, in the past, about a fairly long term plan for the addition of more services over time. Is this supp part of that process of planning for filling in the gaps in the network available now?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: This government is always working with the Department of National Health and Welfare to expand and develop all programs that have anything to do with health and welfare. It is an ongoing process.

Mr. Kimmerly: Is there any consultation with citizens' groups or laypeople in this process?

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: Currently, there is only the medical services branch of Health and Welfare Canada involved in the discussions.

On Operation and Maintenance

Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$509,000 agreed to On Capital

Capital in the amount of \$958,000 agreed to

Department of Health and Human Resources in the amount of \$1,467,000 agreed to

On Department of Highways and Transportation

Mr. Chairman: We will now go to Highways and Transportation for \$9,239,000, on page 20.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: The majority of the money budgetted in the Highways and Transportation supps is for highway brush clearing projects that we instituted around the territory for employment stimulation projects. There was also additional funding for special projects on the Alaska Highway in BC, for Public Works Canada, and that is recoverable at 106½ percent, and the six percent wage increase.

The highway brush clearing was \$804,000. The additional funding for the highway projects was \$493,000 and \$101,000 for wage increases, for a total of \$1,398,000. The advance capital funding was from the federal government for the Dempster Highway and for the Klondike Highway south. There was also some money there for clearing and grubbing of the Mayo Airport, and also some cost over-run on the sign shop.

Mr. Byblow: The question I have relates to the \$403,000 additional projects, over and above the \$804,000. Could the minister elaborate a bit there?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: This is for work done for the federal government and is cost-recoverable at 106½ percent. So, we are actually making money on that, it is not a cost to us.

Mr. McDonald: I have just one quick question regarding the capital funding, in general. Is this cost-recoverable, as well; the

work done on the Dempster Highway and the Klondike Highway and the Mayo airport?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes.

On Operation and Maintenance

Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$1,398,000 agreed to

On Capital

Capital in the amount of \$7,841,000 agreed to

Department of Highways and Transportation agreed to

On Department of Justice

Hon. Mr. Ashley: This is our supplementary, of course. It is pretty explanatory, on page 23. The main \$630,000 over is mainly as it says there: the service contracts to the local law firms because of increased demand for legal aid services. The increased demand of using local law firms was mainly due to the situation we have had in justice this year, without a deputy minister in place, and then the reorganization of the department.

Mr. Kimmerly: I am interested in a breakdown of the amount for legal aid and the amount for the other contracts.

Hon. Mr. Ashley: In all of this \$630,000, there is a six percent salary increase that has been distributed throughout the whole department. The legal aid portion of this is \$102,000; above the extra legal services, \$132,000; and, administration is \$131,000; there is \$161,000 in Corrections, which is mainly the six percent increase because of the amount of staff we have in that area.

One that was a small amount, \$5,000, was for criminal injuries compensation and is also in there. This was due to administration costs charged by the Workers' Compensation Board, which were not included in the main estimates. Then, court services have increased by \$67,000, as well, mainly because of unanticipated additional requirements for travel of the Crown witnesses under protective custody; that is one of the major costs in that.

Mr. Kimmerly: I added up all of the amounts and there is \$36,000 missing. What is that for?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: The figures I have, I believe, add up to the right amount, \$630,000. For the legal services, \$132,000; \$67,000 for court services; legal aid, \$102,000; \$5,000 for criminal injuries compensation; \$131,000 for administration; and, \$161,000 for corrections.

Mr. Kimmerly: That adds up to \$594,000. The six percent salary increase may be a separate item, or under administration, I do not know. I wonder if that could be clarified?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: I believe it is \$598,000 that it adds up to, so the member opposite is almost right. There is a prior approved adjustment, I believe, of \$30,000 for advanced supplies for the correctional centre. And, there was \$2,000 awarded, in advance, to the Women's Bureau for the librarian. The total, then, is \$630,000.

Mr. Kimmerly: What is the \$30,000 on advanced supplies for the correctional centre and why is it different from the \$161,000 already mentioned for corrections? That is a total of \$191,000. I would ask for an accounting in general of what those expenditures are for?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: The expenditure of \$30,000 was money that was advanced in the early advancement in April that we put forward.

Mr. Kimmerly: And, what is the \$161,000 for?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: It is mainly the six percent salary increase for the staff, as I said, and the increased Yukon bonus and fringe benefits. It is all staff-related.

Mr. Kimmerly: Under legal aid, is the additional \$102,000 to bring the expenditures up to date or is that a projection to April 1?

Hon. Mr. Ashley: It actually does advance it. That is correct; it is advanced to project it to April 1.

On Operation and Maintenance

Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$630,000 agreed to On Capital

Hon. Mr. Ashley: For the capital, \$131,000, it is mainly a revote of the advanced capital funding for the justice trailers of \$120,000 and security cameras for \$11,000. The total amount is \$131,000.

Capital in the amount of \$131,000 agreed to

Department of Justice in the amount of \$761,000 agreed to

On Municipal and Community Affairs

Hon. Mr. Lang: As you can see, there is a significant amount of money requested here, with respect to the supplementary that you have before you.

To take care of the operation and maintenance side, as you can see, we are requesting \$237,000. This breaks down in rough figures as follows: there was a six percent salary increase which was \$8,000 in the administration. There was six percent as well in lands which amounted to \$11,000. We had staff vacancies which helped us overcome some of this. We also had dollars in the last department for the consultant services for agricultural development, which was \$25,000. Also, there was \$2,000 for travel in that particular area.

In protective services, we had a six percent salary increase which was \$30,000. We had a vacancy of a building inspector's position which offset that. We had a shift differential, overtime and casual cost for ambulance services not budgeted for, for \$31,000. We also had a six percent salary increase in assessments which was \$12,000. In municipal services, we had a six percent salary increase as well. We also had a final adjustment for the 1982-83 operating expenses of the Dawson City water and sewer which was \$81,000.

In municipal engineering, we had a six percent increase for the staff. We had an over-expenditure on the Old Crow eductor wagon and the Ross River water truck which was \$9,000. We also had a mosquito control program with a greater than anticipated requirement which was \$14,000 over the initial budget, plus some additional travel costs of approximately \$6,000.

We also had to do some upgrading in our garbage dumps which was in the neighbourhood of \$50,000 and totals the figure you have before you on the O&M.

In discussion of the capital, I think it is important to note that this is probably one of the largest areas in government with respect to accelerated capital funding with respect to decisions that were made this fall. I will just go through a list of the projects, which was \$1,840,600. The projects were as follows: Whitehorse Lions' Pool was \$140,000; Whitehorse Stan McGowan Arena was \$50,000; Whitehorse Outdoor Recreation Facilities was \$40,000; Whitehorse Cassiar Building retrofit, \$100,000; Whitehorse Wood Street Board Walk was \$30,000; Whitehorse fencing reservoir and pumping station was \$30,000; Whitehorse clearing of the golf course, \$70,000; and, Whitehorse City Hall was \$10,000. In Faro, repairs to the sewage lagoon were \$30,000; insulating the public works building in Faro was \$40,000. Also, there was a bridge replacement of \$30,000 in Faro and also, for the golf course improvements there was \$10,000. There were also some drainage problems in the community and that cost us an additional \$20,000.

In Watson Lake, we fenced the public works compound there for a price of \$50,000. In Teslin — it is unfortunate that the member for Campbell is not here so he could stand up and give the necessary accolades — we did community hall renovations for \$30,000; ambulance garage relocation was \$30,000; pool renovations was \$25,000; skating rink upgrading, \$15,000; and, the dump was \$5,000.

⁹⁹ In Haines Junction — God bless Haines Junction — we have \$4,000; a public works garage, \$100,000; Haines Junction swimming pool, \$75,000.

In Carmacks — I am beginning to sound like Santa Claus, here — swimming pool, \$15,000; Carmacks, the LID office renovations, \$15,000.

Mayo — God bless Mayo — we have swimming pool renovations at \$10,000 and a curling rink insulation at \$20,000.

Beaver Creek — we go to Beaver Creek for the chairman, here, who works so hard for that community and I believe is not only putting it on the map, he is probably going to turn that particular community into probably the future capital of the Yukon Territory, given all the work and effort that he does there — community hall, \$60,000; swimming pool, \$10,000.

I just want to go on the record here. There has been a lot of debate as far as swimming pools are concerned and I just wanted to say — more for the chairman's edification — that I think that

Beaver Creek is probably the best community in Yukon as far as their swimming pool and taking care of their swimming pool. It is one community that really does work hard and they really put the time and the effort in, as parents and volunteers. Now, I am not discrediting any other communities; all I am saying is that it is a consistent basis, all the time, in that particular community.

Dawson City — what can we say about Dawson City? I imagine a lot of things — boardwalks, \$90,000; the clean-up of the city was \$30,000; the Centennial Centre was \$50,000; the swimming pool was \$5,000.

We move to Ross River: the community hall renovations were \$30,000.

Porter Creek Alternate Access — now that is very important, as we all know and there is consensus on that — \$67,000.

Watson Lake Sewage Lagoon fencing was \$64,000; community firebreaks in various locations was \$150,000. We also put a number of concrete slabs forward, one in the Watson Lake area for \$80,000; Carmacks curling rink, \$40,000; Mayo arena, \$80,000. We also had a retro-fit of a number of community firehalls in various locations. We also have set aside \$25,000 for renovations that are just presently getting underway in Carcross for \$25,000.

So, I think that gives a fairly good rundown of the costs, as far as the capital side of the budget is concerned. I cannot see too much to really get into a debate over. I think it has created quite a number of jobs.

I think we also tried to keep in mind the fact that, looking into the future, these were projects that were slated to be done over a two or three year period and, fortunately, we were in the cash-flow position, as the government leader has indicated, to proceed with a lot of those particular programs that may be insignificant to the member for Porter Creek West, if he does not know too much about Teslin, or the member for Whitehorse South Centre, but, in those particular communities, those small things really count and they are a constant irritant. I think we have managed, through working with the communities, in most part, to answer most of their requests, as far as what they deemed to be essential and, in some cases, perhaps, luxury types of projects being done.

I think you are going to find, as time goes on — and I am making a forecast here — in the next couple of years I do not think it is going to be that much of a requirement, once we get our recreation facilities in Whitehorse up to a standard that they are not falling in, but if we take a look around the territory, most of our facilities, I think, are going to be in pretty good shape, other than the ongoing operation and maintenance and some capital requirements to keep them up, in conjunction with the community, as far as safety, as well as to ensure the longevity of those buildings is concerned. I think we are going a long way. We are taking major strides forward. If you take a look, in the past — and I think the chairman would agree with me on this — and compare the amenities in Haines Junction ten years ago to what they are now, I do not think there is any comparison.

So, the member for Whitehorse South Centre, I think, whispered to his colleague for Faro, that, perhaps, I was giving myself a pat on the back. It may sound like that, but I just wanted to get this on the record.

¹⁰⁰ **Mr. Byblow:** Where to begin?! I suppose what I want to do first is ask the minister whether or not the projects that Cabinet announced in the communities, as they went through, are either currently going on or have taken place already. I realize, when the minister was running through some communities mentioning what was done and what was not done — I have a list here of each and every community Cabinet tripped through and all of the items that they announced — that the minister was, by no means, exhausted when he was giving some references of expenditure. At the same time, I realize the double difficulty that, perhaps, the money that may have been spent for what appears to be a municipal and community affairs project, could have actually been appropriated through another department.

For example, when Cabinet was in Ross River they announced \$7,500 for community firehall painting which would appear to fall under this department. There was a reroofing of a grader station for \$80,000 announced in Ross River. I could cite 50 or 60 kinds of

things like that. What I am asking the minister is, on the announcements that were made in the communities, are those projects going on or have some of them been scrapped or shelved?

Hon. Mr. Lang: It is a good question and is one that I intend to follow up. The basic question that you want to know is what has not proceeded and what will not proceed. I do not have a list. I want to assure the member opposite that most of the projects that I listed off have either been accomplished or are in the process of being done. I think the member could look at what we announced we were doing in Faro and I think it is safe to say that almost all of those have been completed.

So, I will endeavour to get a list as to where those projects are. I am not going to guarantee that I am going to do it during the course of the session, but I will get our people to work on it and, if necessary, will correspond directly with the member in writing. I am not trying to hide information, I just do not have it with me. I will see what I can do in that respect.

Mr. Byblow: I appreciate the commitment of the minister. I want him to know that there is no devious motive intended. It is simply a following-up to the projects announced: are they going on, have there been some changes and, when I get an enquiry about a particular project that was announced in a community, as to why it is not going ahead; perhaps there is a very good reason. Or, perhaps, money is being spent another way. It is a simple case of follow-up.

I think this is probably a good department in which to discuss some of these, because a lot of the projects fall into the municipal and community affairs realm of jurisdiction. Granted there are monies for other departments, primarily highways, for example, and the brush clearing. A lot of the projects that were announced as labour intensive exercises this past summer emanated from municipal and community affairs. When the minister's department was drawing up these projects, what priorities did they use in deciding the projects?

I know that the minister will say, well, we went to the communities; the communities identified priority projects; we weighed them against the number of man-years that would be created and we picked the most labour intensive and, possibly, most important projects of the community by the community's own identification. Could the minister improve on my answer?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am the last to ever try to improve on my dear colleague from Faro.

11 I think he reported it very eloquently and very well with respect to the procedure that was followed in authorization of the projects.

Mr. Byblow: A logical follow-up question to that is: given that so many of these projects are the normal responsibility of government — normal in the sense that they are servicing public buildings, maintaining highway right-of-ways, improving grader stations, improving the structures of government in terms of maintenance — why would they not have been in the normal course of budgeting announced last spring?

Hon. Mr. Lang: The government leader made it very clear. Financially, we were facing a difficult year. The members opposite, God bless them, recognized that as well. At the same time — I forget the figures and I am going on memory now — the government leader said that we are holding back in the neighbourhood of \$6,000,000 because we could not foresee whether or not United Keno Hill was going back to work or whether the strip mining at Faro was going to go. All of these things, as you will recall, were question marks.

Things happened; our revenues increased; we were in a situation where we were much better off financially. We had accomplished a great deal in our negotiations with the Government of Canada. The consequences of all of that was that these dollars then were freed up. Subsequently, we made the decisions we did. We could have made the decision to leave the money in the bank. We did not believe it was in the interests of the Yukon Territory that that money be retained in the bank; that we should put those dollars out as best we could generating job creation while we got through this troubled period of time in our economy.

We were following the advice of the members opposite. The members opposite stood up, I recall, in the budget speech and said,

"You know, we should maybe have more dollars going into public works programs". The reason it was not in the normal budgetting procedure was because it was the type of year it was. With the unknown variables we had with our negotiations with the Government of Canada — whether or not our revenues would increase or decrease; United Keno Hill was a variable; Cyprus Anvil was a variable — all of these things had to be taken into account. There was a question mark as far as our tourism was concerned. Would we even maintain status quo in our tourism with the closure of White Pass? We did, so we managed to get through the year much better than what we thought, and we were able to make these necessary announcements.

Mr. Byblow: I would conclude, from what the minister said, — and I remember the argument last spring when the surplus budgetting was left in place: there was some \$3,000,000 in the O&M and some \$3,000,000 in capital and complementing that with a \$4,000,000 deficit, was the \$10,000,000 expenditure this past summer. I understand where the minister is coming from.

Just on that same line of questioning, and realizing I am bordering on perhaps subject matter that may not be in order, I will only have one question. If the logic to have left the surplus in the current fiscal year's budget to utilize, as the supps are indicating, was because the year was tough and unpredictable, next year's budget has a \$6,000,000 surplus projected. Is the minister saying that the government anticipates a doubly worse year next year, and therefore is leaving that amount in the budget next year on the same argumentation?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I do not think it is any secret that this coming year is going to be a tough year. If anybody is under the impression that it is not, you better wake up to the economic realities of the world. We do not need a study; we do not need a commission; we do not need an economist to figure out that things are going to be a lot tougher than perhaps what they would have been, for example, if the North Slope project had gone ahead.

I am not saying that we left the \$6,000,000 totally on account of that. You need a working reserve to begin with, as far as dollars are concerned. If I recall correctly, the government leader indicated that there will probably be a number of projects okayed over the course of this winter and will probably be submitted in the spring. I am not making a commitment here, but in all likelihood, if that is the case and there are a couple of other projects authorized, then, under the *Financial Administration Act*, we are going to have to come forward with the necessary legislation to give us the financial authorization.

See, the other thing you have to understand — and perhaps the public does not really understand — is that the dollars we are voting today, as you know, are for 1984-85. This money cannot be spent until 1984-85.

I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I was going on with capital. I stand corrected — one of the few times in this House — and I give the member for Whitehorse South Centre full marks.

12 But I am talking about this forthcoming year and the \$6,000,000. The point is we are going to need authorization from this House, at some time, and we will try to expedite it as quickly as we can. I do not like anymore than any other member on this side of the House having to come more or less after the fact. I would much prefer to come in and unfold the big picture and say that is it, pack up and Mr. Kimmerly and I do not even have to talk to each other for months. But that is not the case, with respect to the overall budgetting, because we are into a situation where you have about a four-month lag, five months almost, before you can vote those capital dollars that we talked about earlier.

So, if you are going to improve the system, I would like to hear it. We are trying to streamline it as best we can.

Mr. Byblow: I am not going to enter into debate with the minister. I think he has heard me make the references before that there is some difficulty when, in fact, what is taking place here is a rubber-stamping of what already has taken place. It is not that anyone objects to the projects — well, perhaps with one or two, to some extent — but with the process. It is unfortunate that the process has to be such that the government simply can spend the money, as it chooses and with a lot of juggling and with a lot of its

own discretion. That is supposed to be its political right, but the fact is that, in the process, we are simply here rubber-stamping what has already taken place.

To get more in line with the subject at hand on the line item, I want to raise with the minister the question about a number of retro-fit programs he mentioned, or upgrading of buildings. The Cassiar Building is one, in particular, he mentioned for \$100,000. Are not these retro-fit and improvements, upgrading buildings to improve their insulation quality or level. Is it recoverable? If so, why have we not heard that?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am going on memory and if I am incorrect I will get back to the member. No, not in this particular case because it is a municipal government building and, therefore, we have to put the dollars out. We feel it is a good project because it is going to save the city a fair amount of money, as far as their ongoing expenses in fuel consumption is concerned.

Mr. Byblow: I, obviously, was not aware. The government is not eligible for the federal funding programs on energy retro-fit?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am going on memory and, overall, I believe that they are not. There are one or two areas that are eligible, but, overall in a general sense, no.

The idea of those particular projects is to try to get out to the private sector. You have the one for the commercial purposes, which is available, as you know, for the audit and whatever. We have one project for senior citizens in residential. So, those are the projects.

On Operation and Maintenance

Mr. Byblow: On the specific item of the Dawson sewer and water, what is the current status of the relationship between this government and the Dawson local government, municipality, on funding the costs of that project?

Hon. Mr. Lang: We have an agreement with the City of Dawson for them to operate and maintain the system. We still retain ownership, as a government, of that particular system. We are not asking the City of Dawson to take over ownership. I, personally, believe it is academic, in any event. It is the general public who owns it, no matter whether it be the Government of the Yukon Territory or the municipality that says that they own it.

Under the conditions of that particular agreement, we have required them to bring their rates to those of Whitehorse, as far as a monthly rental charge is concerned, for utilization. We took the approximate figure over the past three years of what it would cost to run that system, with no major breaks. We then averaged it and said we will go into an agreement for four years. There is a certain amount of trust here between the two levels of government. I believe the first year was for \$230,000, in that neighbourhood, and when we get into the operation and maintenance budget this spring, I will have the exact figures.

¹³ We said here that we are prepared to pay you four installments. You do it within \$230,000. Now if you can do it for \$210,000, you can take \$20,000 and spend it elsewhere, perhaps, in the community. That is up to you. What we are doing is building in an incentive for the municipalities to be cost conscious and as efficient as they possibly can. Because, prior to that time, what we had was the administrator sitting down with the municipal administrators, people checking the books of each other; it was turning into what I would suppose some people would call a bureaucracy's delight and a taxpayer's nightmare.

So what we did was to say, look, can we think of any other method that gives them incentive and try to ensure that we are not trying to burn anyone on this, but, an incentive to run the system as efficiently as possible. We are going to be monitoring very closely over the course of the next year, not only from the principle of how well they run the system but, more importantly, I think if it works well there, I think we will seriously look at the other municipalities to see if we can work out the same type of arrangement. I think it is to the benefit of the community.

The other point being is, in the agreement, we have agreed that we will pay for any major breaks. We recognize the financial capabilities of the community and the same applies to Watson Lake, or whatever the case may be, because of the size of the community. Whether or not there will be any breaks, I leave it to the member

opposite to make his own projections. We have budgetted for this forthcoming 1984-85, \$100,000, as a contingency if there are major breaks. That is where it lies. That is the situation in Dawson City. I do not think I can add much more to the discussion.

Mr. Byblow: Is the City of Dawson currently satisfied with the agreement as explained by the minister?

Hon. Mr. Lang: To my knowledge, they are. I have not had any feedback that they are not. The mayor and the council ratified the agreement. In fact, I took a special trip up there to spend a day with them, going through with them what was expected of them and, just as importantly, what was expected of us in respect of that agreement. I indicated to the mayor that we cannot write everything down in an agreement. We are going to have a certain amount of trust between our two governments to make this thing work: you have a responsibility, we have a responsibility.

To my knowledge, I believe they are fairly well satisfied that we have tried our best and that they have done their best.

Mr. Byblow: Could I ask the minister what the current status is of a study that I understand is being undertaken by municipal and community affairs, relative to the original installation?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I do not know exactly where the study is. We have one individual who is doing a lot of the work on it, but he has a lot of day-to-day departmental responsibilities between Penderosa, Dawson City and Haines Junction, and wherever.

Hon. Mrs. Firth: Penderosa.

Hon. Mr. Lang: Porter Creek. God's country.

Hon. Mrs. Firth: Big Valley.

Hon. Mr. Lang: So, I do not know exactly what stage the study is at and I do not really know what it is going to prove, to be quite frank. We are going to get all the information correlated and into one particular document so we can assess the situation.

Mr. Byblow: Because the Dawson City sewer and water system has been a subject of many hours of debate in this House, will this document, this study, that is being done by the minister's department be made public? Will we have access to it? Will we be able to read the final chapter?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I do not want to make a firm commitment. I have not had a chance to read it myself.

Mr. Byblow: Oh, it is finished?

Hon. Mr. Lang: No. However, when it is completed, I would like the opportunity to reading it. I cannot see any reason, at the present time, why it should not be released. I will reserve judgment. I have every intention of releasing it, let us put it that way, unless something comes up.

¹⁴ **Mr. McDonald:** The minister mentioned, I believe, \$20,000 consultative services for the Department of Agriculture, or an ace at the Department of Agriculture — a growing Department of Agriculture. Is the money that the minister is referring to the money that would be spent for our new agricultural expert — the minister is nodding his head, I can see him, yes — and does it at all include payment for members of the Agricultural Development Council?

The minister also mentioned a travel expenditure of, I believe, \$2,000. Is this money allocated for travel for the council, for the expert, for whom?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I thought we were going to get on to "whom was going to go where". This is supplementary, first of all. What we did when we hired the agriculture agronomist for the department was that when we had a building inspector's job come open, we did not replace that position. We took the dollars, in effect, from there and said, "Look, we have this available, we do not have that much building in the Yukon Territory. A requirement for a building inspector, at this time, really is not necessary". So, we did not fill that particular position. Subsequently, it is going to pay for the time that this individual is putting in with respect to that.

The \$2,000 is for cost of travel of Mr. Filteau and, in part, probably Mr. Fletcher, for that matter, with respect to Haines Junction, Dawson City and various other places they have been.

Mr. McDonald: So, is the minister saying that the \$20,000 that they are asking for is in addition to what would already have been charged to another sector of the department for the building inspector, it is going to be added on to make a total salary for the agronomist?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I do not have the contract that was entered into with the agronomist. I am sure it is going to be more than \$20,000. I mean, he is getting paid right now.

No, I just wanted to point out that what we did is we did not fill a position in the department — trying to do it within budget as best we could on the operation and maintenance side.

Mr. McDonald: So, we did — I use the collective we — try to fill the position without adding extra dollars to the budget but, in fact, we ended up having to pay, ultimately, an extra \$20,000. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I think that is a fair statement, using the collective we.

Mr. McDonald: That is good. I think it is \$20,000 well spent. The costs of travel, the minister has suggested, is \$2,000. Has that \$2,000 already been spent? Is it planning to be spent? What sort of travel are we anticipating for Mr. Filteau and Mr. Fletcher?

Hon. Mr. Lang: This is money that was already spent. They have been up to Haines Junction and various other communities. I am sure some of those dollars were utilized, in part, for the trip when we went to Fairbanks and the costs that were incurred there. So, there has been some travelling that has had to be done. You have to relate this to the O&M budget that we have passed already, a year ago. This is just an additional amount for that.

Mr. McDonald: Yes, I believe that the travel costs, the extra \$2,000 beyond what was already budgeted for, is also money well spent.

Can the minister say whether or not the government pays for the remaining two members of the Agriculture Development Council, for their travel to meetings in Whitehorse and, if so, how many times does the council meet and how many times do we anticipate that it should meet over the course of the remaining part of the fiscal year?

Hon. Mr. Lang: It is a per diem plus whatever expenses. That is all set by policy. With respect to the number of meetings that they have, I do know that they have something like 40 outstanding applications they are going to have consider, so they are going to have a number of further meetings, I suspect, over the course of the next couple of months. I do not know the exact number, and I am sure they do not. It depends how expeditiously they can get through the necessary documentation and whatever. They are doing the best with what they have, and I think they should be commended for it.

Mr. McDonald: They also deal with policy on an ongoing basis. This is something we hear from the minister almost on a daily basis. There are all the aspects of policy initiative which we are told, on this side of the House at least, that the Agriculture Development Council is putting their minds to and I am hoping that they will be spending some time with that as well.

Because we are spending \$2,000, on travel, it obviously means that we have used up what was already budgeted for in the mains this last spring. Also, the \$2,000 that is budgeted here has already been spent. Can the minister say how much he might anticipate will be spent over the course of the remaining fiscal year up until the operation and maintenance budget which we anticipate will be coming next spring?

Hon. Mr. Lang: The member opposite will have to wait until the spring. I do not even want to project that, because I probably, in all likelihood, will be inaccurate and that is the last thing the member opposite would want me to do.

I will make note of the question and I will give him the information when we sit in the spring.

Operation and Maintenance in the amount of \$237,000 agreed to On Capital

Capital in the amount of \$1,927,000 agreed to

Department of Municipal and Community Affairs in the amount of \$2,164,000 agreed to

Mr. Chairman: We will stop for a short break now. When we return, we will go into Renewable Resources, as the Public Service Commission will be stood over as will be the Executive Council and Finance. Is that all right with everybody?

Recess

On Department of Renewable Resources

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

We are now on Renewable Resources for \$2,127,000, on page 28.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I think we talked about this enough; let us just pass it now and get it over with.

The supplementaries to this budget show the commitment of my department to the various areas of the territory in our employment stimulation projects. We have \$841,000 for O&M supplementaries. The biggest part of those, almost \$600,000, are cost-shared agreements with the federal government; \$405,000 of the \$841,000 is recoverable.

The capital side is where we made most of our expenditures, \$1,200,000, and that is for various projects throughout the territory such as wildlife, buildings, upgrading and fixing up the yards around the buildings, campground developments, areas such as the administration building in Dawson. Some of these were also re-votes of previous years. Over \$300,000 was a re-vote from previous years. The Administration Building in Dawson, for example, was one for \$110,000. There was some work that we did on the SS *Tutshi* but a great deal of the work was campground work and campground development throughout the territory in order to supply employment stimulation for this fall and winter.

It has been working very well. We have a great many people out working, I think, for the betterment of the territory. These are projects that would ultimately have gone ahead anyway; all we did was advance the capital and take on some projects that we had not programmed for this year. As I said, we would have been doing a great deal of them anyway. It was beneficial for us, at this time, to have these people working.

Basically, it is what we consider a wise investment of money. None of the money is wasted and it is all creating jobs and facilities throughout the territory.

Mr. Porter: Maybe the minister can explain to me how the revote process works? He talks about other years and monies being reallocated.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: If we voted money this year — for example, let us take \$200,000 — for a building construction, and the building is not built and we have not expended the money, we revote the money next year. It is not new money; it is money that has already been voted.

Mr. Porter: I thank the minister for his answer. In last year's main budget, there was no anticipation of the wolf problem that we experienced last winter. Consequently, I suspect that part of the supps that we see here reflect monies that we spent with respect to the wolf management problem. I would like to ask the minister, if that is true, what kind of dollars are we talking about in this respect?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, some of that money was for the wolf management program. \$100,000 of the money in O&M is for the wolf, moose and bear study.

Mr. Porter: And, was the \$100,000 that was expended through the wolf, moose and bear study cost-shared under the Yukon River Basin Study program?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: No, although some of the money was recoverable. We got money from the North American Foundation for Wild Sheep. I am not sure, but I think we got some from the Safari Club. So, some of that money that we did expend on the wolf, bear and the moose study done in game management zone seven and nine was recovered.

Mr. Porter: When the minister speaks about receiving monies from the North American Foundation for Wild Sheep, are these monies that were granted to the government to study the deformity and abnormalities that were occurring in the sheep population of the Sheep Mountain area?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: No. They were given to us to reduce the wolf population in the territory.

Mr. Porter: There was a study initiated with respect to the sheep problem that was identified in the Sheep Mountain area. Is that study continuing?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes. That is an ongoing project in the

department. Whenever we have quite a few horns; they have been studied. The biologists are continuing that project.

Mr. Porter: In the expenditure, a portion of the funds the minister stated were spent on the study of the question of the moose, wolves and bears. I suspect that part of the money was spent on the study that was done in the southern Yukon to bring forward some answers to the question of the high calf mortality rate in that particular area. Are there going to be funds allocated in the future to continue monitoring that particular study area and are there going to be funds spent specifically on identifying a greater knowledge of the predator-prey relationship with respect to the problem in game zones seven and nine?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, we will be continuing to monitor in game zone seven and nine. We are also going to do a large project in the Watson Lake area. In fact, it is in progress right now. We are doing a moose count and a study down in that area. Ultimately, we will, no doubt, over the course of the next few years, do the major portion of the territory in order to get the information that we need.

It is very hard to manage the game wisely without knowing, for example, whether it is bears or wolves that are the problem. In the Teslin burn area, it was the wolves that were the problem. In game management zone seven and nine, most of the area; it was the bears that were the problem. But we do not know that until we have a study done.

Mr. Porter: One of the critical aspects of game management has always been the compilation of base data, in terms of determining the numbers of animals you are dealing with and the various species populations. I wonder if the minister could very generally inform us as to the progress — I say generally, just give us an overview as to the progress — in terms of establishing a firm, base line data of Yukon's animal population?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, the member is quite right. We do need the base line data and we have been vigorously gathering that data. Part of the Yukon River Basin Study agreement is gathering that data and that was how we came across the problem we were having, originally, in game zones seven and nine. We saw that the moose population was dropping, because we were gathering that data. We are computerizing that data so that it is readily recoverable and we will continue that process.

Mr. Porter: In the area of trapping, I would like to ask the minister if there were any monies spent specifically on the trapping area? The main concern, in terms of a political question for trappers in Yukon and throughout the north, has been the resurgence of the anti-trapping groups, the environmental conservation groups that generally view trapping as a non-humane way of making a living. Many of the discussions that have gone on have been prejudicial to the trappers' livelihood, so there are some very serious questions as to whether or not that sector of the economy of the north is going to survive, given the intensity of the lobby. I would like to ask the minister: has his department assisted in any way in assisting the trappers to campaign against the lobby and have they spent any money shown here in the supps for that purpose? In the future will they be spending any money and will they be assisting the trappers openly in fighting this lobby?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, we are spending money. I do not have it specifically identified and broken down in here, but we are spending money. One of the major things that we are going to try to do in this regard is try to educate the trappers.

It is very hard to tell the rest of the world that you are trapping as humanely as possible when a great many of the trappers are not actually trapping as humanely as possible. So, number one, we are going to educate the trappers. To do that, we have identified — I am not sure, I think it is \$60,000 or \$70,000 — and I may be wrong on my figures here because I do not have it broken down, but we are going to run a project this winter, in fact. We have just now hired the president of the Yukon Trappers Association to do an education program throughout the territory; a trapper education program. We are hopeful in increasing the knowledge of trappers so that they can trap more humanely.

We have also supported all the other governments in Canada in a lobby against the anti-trapping people who are mostly being funded in Europe. There is a fairly significant anti-trapping lobby

developing in Europe and we, in conjunction with the Canadian government, are fighting that as vigorously as possible. All the provinces and the Canadian government, in fact, are mounting a campaign against the anti-trapping lobby.

Hon. Mr. Philipsen: With the approbation of this House by special warrant, with unanimous consent, I volunteer my services to go to Europe to try to explain to Bridgette Bardot the problems faced by the members of the Yukon community. My bags are packed.

Mr. Penikett: We will agree to that, as long as the minister promises not to come back until he has persuaded Ms Bardot, and he has it in writing.

Mr. Porter: Seriously, this side of the House encourages, I think, and will offer any support to, the minister's department with respect to bringing forth the case of the Yukon trappers and, generally, the fur industry in the north. By way of advice, and I think that the minister may be looking at this, but the composition and production of an audio visual program would probably be very useful in terms of showing the true side of the trappers' story.

Another concern with respect to the trapping issue is that the minister, his department and the Yukon Wildlife Advisory Board are seriously considering in some areas of the Yukon to drastically limit the harvesting of moose. It may be such that complete deletion of cow moose harvesting in the next year, at least to some, may be necessary. Should these measures be deemed necessary by the department, will the trappers that are on the lines in the bush in the areas affected, be exempted from such change in the regulations?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: If we do close the cow moose season, no, we will not exempt the trappers from the cow moose season. If we are forced, in the future, to close the bull moose season and it includes certain trapline areas, at that time, I would be prepared to have a look at that and see whether we could exempt the trapper from that provision. If we do restrict the cow moose season, it will be restricted for everyone.

Mr. Porter: One area that is seemingly gaining wider based interest with respect to the trapping industry is the whole business of fur farming. That brings into question the regulations with respect to the trapping of wild animals, because some of the people in the fur farming business would like to harvest wild animals in the Yukon as opposed to contracting out or purchasing the animals from southern fur farmers. The problem is, as I understand it, that the most opportune time to catch wild animals is when they are young, and that usually takes place in the spring outside of the normal trapping season. Has the minister been approached on this specific question? If he has, is his department considering to structure the regulations in such a way as to allow the live trapping of wild animals in the spring season?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, and we have done so already. We have allowed one or two trappers to live-trap animals. In fact, we encourage it. All we are concerned about is good game management and the department is aware of what is being done and how it is being done. As I said, we encourage it. There are at least one or two trappers now who are doing that at this time. We do not have any problem with it at all. In fact, we think it is a good way to utilize the trapline but it has to be done in a proper manner and the biologists in the Department of Renewable Resources have to be satisfied that it will be done in the correct manner.

Mr. Porter: Some jurisdictions in North America, particularly, and in some parts of Canada, as well, suffer a loss of certain species of animals and they classify those animals as being of the "endangered species". In some instances, the Yukon has a plentiful supply of those species that are endangered in other regions. I would like to know if the minister has been approached by other jurisdictions as to the transplantation of animals from Yukon to those other jurisdictions? If he has not, but he should, would the minister be receptive to such an idea?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: We do, at this time, give animals of the endangered species, such as the peregrine falcon, such as the tundra falcon. We do that at this time. The only endangered species that we have of the vertebrae type, are the wood bison — that we are actually going to introduce — and the elk and deer, which are specially protected animals in the territory. The wood bison, when

it comes, is an endangered species, but it may be taken off the list. I am not aware of any other animal that we have in the territory that is an endangered species, except some of the birds: peregrine falcon, and others like that.

Oh, the musk ox. Yes, well we do not have any musk ox, either. We have about three or four musk ox running around up on the North Slope. I saw one of them when we took the people from Old Crow on the North Slope. We saw one musk ox. We do not have any that I am aware of that are endangered anywhere else.

Mr. Porter: Speaking of the musk ox, musk ox, as the minister is probably aware, is sold in Inuvik and is called polar beef. That particular question of the use of the wild animal resource for commercial purposes, in terms of harvesting and distribution as an alternative food source to domesticated animals, has been raised. I am wondering if the minister's department has done any further investigation in that area and are there any positive reports?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: The only one that we have looked at, seriously, has been elk. There have been one or two people come to us about reindeer. However, the problem with reindeer is that they will compete with the Porcupine caribou herd. The only area that we have, really, where we can raise reindeer will compete with the Porcupine caribou herd. So, that is not a very good idea.

It is very likely that, if we bring in any more elk into the territory, we will probably fence a compound and keep some of those elk readily available to us for domestication and for, perhaps, people who would be interested in raising elk for the meat.

Mr. Porter: As I understand it right now, the game regulations read for an outfitter or a trapper to maintain a concession, or a right to a concession in the Yukon, they must meet the residency requirements established under the Game Regulations. The Constitution, in all probability, poses a question. Has the minister's department wrestled with that question of the Constitution's impact on the residency requirements of the wildlife regulations?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: It is certainly something that we have been concerned with. We are not changing any of the laws, yet, to this date, because there has never been a court case yet to settle whether residency is legitimate or whether it is not. Until there are one or two court cases to set the parameters of how we should be operating, we do not intend to change our act at this time.

Another program that the *Wildlife Act* addresses itself to is the whole area of compensation, with respect to removal of rights to outfitters and trappers. The *Wildlife Act* calls for the structuring of a compensation review board. I would like to ask the minister if his department proposed any policies on the formation of that board and could he tell us what the recommendations are as to the structure of the board and the guidelines under which the board will operate?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: No, we have not structured the board. Up until this time, we have had no need for a compensation review board. I believe the department has put together most of the requirements that will be required for the compensation review board, but it is kind of senseless setting up a board if you do not have something to refer to it. So, until we do have something to refer to it, it is unlikely that we will set up the board.

Mr. Porter: Recent statistics that have emerged from the biological branch of the Government of Yukon indicates that the Porcupine caribou herd is as healthy as it has ever been since statistics have been kept on that herd. Therefore, the harvest limit of that particular herd has increased, along with the growth of the whole herd. Is the department considering accessing that herd to Yukon hunters and, in consideration of that fact, would they be willing to exempt or in some way amend the *Area Development Ordinance* that stipulates the corridor concept on the Dempster Highway?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: As all members are aware, we now have the report from the Dempster Highway Management Committee, and it is public. Originally, I wanted all the public input back by October 15th; I have now put that off until the end of December. Some of the recommendations in there deal with reducing the corridor and it certainly will be given very serious consideration by us to reduce the corridor in certain areas.

Yes, the Porcupine caribou herd is very healthy and the

department sees no problem with us being able to allow hunters to have more access to it. In fact, it is probably beneficial that they have more access to it.

We also have to consider the agreement-in-principle that we have with the Council for Yukon Indians regarding the Porcupine caribou herd. We also have to consider that we are presently negotiating with the Government of the Northwest Territories, with the Dene and also with the COPE people with regard to the harvesting of the herd. We will also have to get together with Alaska to set the numbers of caribou that are going to be coming out of that herd and allocating them to various communities and groups of people.

So, yes, the herd is very healthy and, yes, there should be more coming out of it, but there are a lot of other things to take into consideration besides reducing the corridor on the Dempster Highway.

Mr. Porter: Last year, the minister raised in the House a concern with respect to the overall health of the Finlayson caribou herd. As a matter of fact, I believe the minister went so far as to cut down on the harvesting of the herd to bulls only. Can the minister inform us as to what kind of monitoring programs have gone on over the last year on that particular herd and what future regulatory changes or studies does his department propose for the Finlayson caribou herd?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: We have been continuously monitoring that herd. Since the aerial reduction of the wolf population in that area, the recruitment of calves into the herd has been approximately three times as high as it was prior to the wolf reduction. As I stated in the House earlier, I think it is 34, 35, 36 percent, somewhere in that area. The recruitment to the herd was down to around the 12 to 15 percent level.

So, it has been very beneficial. My department has not made any recommendations about changing any of the hunting regulations with regard to the herd. So, I could not give the member an answer in that regard.

Mr. Porter: A few years ago, there was also some concern expressed for the Mitchie-Squanga caribou herd, and, most recently, there was some suggestion that the caribou herd whose habitat is located in the Rancheria area of the Yukon was also having some problems. Can the minister, very generally, discuss the health of those particular herds?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: We are concerned about both of those herds, mostly the Rancheria herd. We are concerned that the population is dropping. We are concerned that the wolves are probably a serious problem in that area as well, but we do not have the time or the money to do the complete study. I think some of the study that we are doing this winter in the Watson Lake area is earmarked for the Rancheria herd, but I could not give the members a definitive answer on that. We recognize that we have a problem in that area and we will try to address it as soon as we possibly can.

Mr. Porter: Before we leave the caribou area, I would like to ask the minister his preference with respect to caribou. Is it a low bush or a high bush?

In the area of game statistics and the question of the baseline numbers, Westwater Research, a Vancouver-based research organization that is linked to the University of British Columbia, has recently put a study out in respect to the whole question of hydro electric management in the Yukon. They also give some very definite numbers with respect to the game populations by species. Is the minister aware of those figures, and can he verify as to whether or not his department supplied those figures to Westwater Research?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I am aware of the Westwater Research study. I do not know; I have not seen the actual study myself, but my department certainly would have it. I could not tell the member whether we supplied the numbers. I am certainly sure that we supplied quite a few of them.

Mr. Penikett: That is an interesting question. As my colleague says, the numbers are very specific about certain species on which, at least a couple of years ago, we were unable to get numbers from the department.

I want to pursue with the minister, if I could, in a general way, the same subject as Mr. Porter, but I want to pursue it from a

broader historical perspective. The minister is right. It is appropriate that the minister should take pleasure at the state of the health of the Porcupine caribou Herd, but every now and again, when I read some of the studies about the habitat and the problems of such species, I am slightly concerned that we are maybe not looking at a broad enough or long enough timeframe on the population of some of those species.

For that reason, I would like to ask the minister about some of the historical information that may be available to the government about the herds in southern Yukon. When one goes back and looks over old newspaper records, for example, when the Northwest Staging Route was first put through, you will discover lots of reports of evidence of them having lots of problems with caribou on the runway at Watson Lake. We know that Carcross, for example, got its name from caribou crossing, but I think the last reports of big herds going through there was around the turn of the century.

I was talking, with my colleague, to a gentleman in Teslin a few weeks ago who talked about when he worked on the riverboats in the late 40s that there was still evidence of large swathes cut through the bush where large herds had crossed the river, but that he had never actually seen them. He saw the evidence, but by that point they were gone.

It occurs to me that some of the very, very large herds went into great decline, suffered decimation of the majority of their populations, but there are no clear ideas or proven ideas about why. I know there are all sorts of theories. One theory advanced is that the population suffered a serious drop, during the Second World War, during the construction of the highway. I think the officers in the American army were all given hunting licences by the Commissioner. I cannot remember that detail. That sounds to me too simplistic an answer to a very big problem.

I asked the minister if he is aware of any studies being done on the history of the herds in southern Yukon. I suggest the word history, rather than just the biology, because you cannot look biologically at these questions after the fact, I do not think. It seems to me an oral history approach — talking to some of the oldtimers about when they started to see the herds go down or what they thought the reasons were — might be useful. I say it occurs to me; that may not be so to anyone else.

I asked that question because, it seems to me, that kind of experience is probably, or conceivably could be, useful in making some judgments about the Porcupine caribou herd and, at the same time, about what remains of the other herd. I ask him as a general question — he may not have the answer, and it is not necessary that I have an answer in order to pass these supplementaries — but I must say that it is something that I have puzzled about for quite a long time.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I think we are all puzzled about it. I can recall talking to a lot of people in the 50's about the construction of the Canol Pipeline road, about trucks being held up for hours because caribou were crossing the area. I understand that was probably part of the 40-Mile herd. In fact, the 40-Mile herd was a thing of the past here for the last 20 years or so — 15 or 20 years — and now it is coming back and no one seems to know where they went to or where they come from.

Certainly, I think my department has a great deal of information on it, but I do not know of any final consensus that has ever been reached on why the herds increase and then, all of a sudden, disappear. I would be interested in knowing myself, in fact I will follow it up with the department to see if they do have any concrete suggestions of why it has happened.

On Operation & Maintenance

Operation & Maintenance in the amount of \$841,000 agreed to On Capital

Capital in the amount of \$1,286,000 agreed to

Department of Renewable Resources in the amount of \$2,127,000 agreed to

Hon. Mrs. Firth: In view of the time, I would move that Mr. Chairman report progress on Bill 29.

Motion agreed to

Hon. Mrs. Firth: I move that Mr. Speaker do now resume the

Chair.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker resumes the Chair

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

May we have a report from the Chairman of Committees?

Mr. Brewster: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of the Whole has considered Bill Number 29, *Fourth Appropriation Act, 1983-84*, and directed me to report progress on same.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: May I have your further pleasure?

Hon. Mrs. Firth: I move the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Education 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 9:25 p.m.