



# The Yukon Legislative Assembly

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Number 8

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24th Legislature

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## **HANSARD**

Tuesday, April 6, 1982 — 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

# Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Donald Taylor, MLA, Watson Lake

DEPUTY SPEAKER — Grafton Njootli, MLA, Old Crow

## CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
Hon. Chris Pearson	Whitehorse Riverdale North	Government House Leader — responsible for Executive Council Office, Public Service Commission, Land Claims and Intergovernmental Relations.
Hon. Dan Lang	Whitehorse Porter Creek East	Minister responsible for Renewable Resources, Tourism and Economic Development.
Hon. Geoffrey Lattin	Whitehorse North Centre	Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs, Highways and Public Works, Yukon Housing Corporation and Yukon Liquor Corporation
Hon. Meg McCall	Klondike	Minister responsible for Health and Human Resources, Education and Heritage & Cultural Resources
Hon. Howard Tracey	Tatchun	Minister responsible for Justice, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Government Services and Workers' Compensation Board.

## GOVERNMENT MEMBERS

### (Progressive Conservative)

Al Falle	Hootalinqua
Robert Fleming	Campbell
Doug Graham	Whitehorse Porter Creek West
Peter Hanson	Mayo
Grafton Njootli	Old Crow
Donald Taylor	Watson Lake

## OPPOSITION MEMBERS

### (New Democratic Party)

Tony Penkett	Whitehorse West
Maurice Byblow	Faro
Roger Kimmerly	Whitehorse South Centre

### (Liberal)

Ron Veale	Whitehorse Riverdale South
Alice P. McGuire	Kluane

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

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

**Whitehorse, Yukon**  
**Tuesday, April 6, 1982**

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

**DAILY ROUTINE**

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any Returns or Documents for Tabling?

**TABLING OF RETURNS OR DOCUMENTS**

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Pursuant to Section 223 of the *School Ordinance*, I have for Tabling the Yukon Teachers Staff Relation Board 7th Annual Report, 1980-81.

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I have the answer to several questions posed to me by the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any Petitions?  
 Reading or Receiving of Petitions?  
 Introduction of Bills?  
 Notices of Motion for the Production of Papers?  
 Notices of Motion?  
 Statements by Ministers?

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I am pleased to announce that all the materials and the prefabricated units for the Old Crow School have been delivered on-site in Old Crow.

<sup>02</sup> Fabricated units have been bolted into place with only the mechanical, electrical and finishing work yet to be completed. We anticipate the school will be ready well before the next school term begins. I would also like to point out the number of other ways the residents of Old Crow have benefitted from the construction of the winter road. In addition to the 39 prefabricated units, there were 41 other loads of goods, equipment and building supplies hauled in over the road at a greatly reduced transportation cost.

These other loads consisted of materials such as 133,000 gallons of fuel, three 10,000 gallon fuel tanks, seven loads of building materials for Old Crow Band Community Centre, which is partly funded by the Government of Yukon, two loads of aviation fuel and building materials and assembly crews for the construction of a Renewable Resources building.

The Department of Highways and Public Works replaced one motor grader, two dump trucks and one loader already located in Old Crow with newer equipment. In addition, there were five loads of well drilling equipment hauled in and the water well was successfully drilled for the school.

The Old Crow Band also took advantage of the drilling equipment that we brought in. Unfortunately, they were not able to find a suitable water supply. The cost of transporting many of these goods by air would have been prohibitive.

In hindsight, the effect of the burning of the school last December has been softened by the benefits that are now occurring to the residents of Old Crow. It was the people of Old Crow who were most tragically affected by the burning of the school and it is the people of Old Crow who are the best judges of the way this Government has responded to their needs. I am pleased to inform the House that they are all very happy with the results.

The winter road is now closed to incoming traffic. Materials transported over the road will be beneficial to the community of Old Crow for many years to come.

<sup>03</sup> **Mr. Byblow:** I feel compelled to respond to the Minister's statement because I raised a few questions surrounding the project. I would like to say that if the people of Old Crow are pleased with the project there will be very little further objection from this Party. I

would like to add that the spin-off benefits capitalized on by the Government and the community is a result of the availability of the winter road show that some initiative was taken to create some useful results from a very tragic situation.

I was particularly interested to hear of the new equipment that was procured by the community — the new Resource building and various other supplies that were brought in. The benefactors are the people of Old Crow and that is good.

I do have a couple of reservations I would like to raise with the Minister. One is whether the people of Old Crow were sufficiently advised of the alternate possibilities. I realize that the people of Old Crow asked for the prefab units and they were provided. I would like to hear from the Minister whether any availability of other building materials or supply from within the Yukon was fully examined?

I would also be curious about whether local employment considerations were fully assessed? I would also be curious about the Government's wisdom in having to go outside the Territory, where the majority of expenditure on this project also went? I would also be curious about what went wrong in the management of the project, where it appears now that a resolution will be required in court? Finally regardless of whether the project cost \$2 million or \$2.2 million or more, I would be curious about what amount of that, if any, is recoverable under insurance from the old school burning down? What is this Government's portion of the project?

<sup>04</sup> **Mr. Veale:** The prefabricated school was made in Alberta, by Albertans, trucked to Old Crow, primarily by Albertans, and erected in Old Crow, primarily by Albertans.

I am prepared to concede that the people of Old Crow have used the Winter road to good advantage, but that is like saying we built a monument of snow which is going to melt in a few days but it is being well-used in the meantime. I have heard a number of arguments about the lack of logs, which really mystifies me and it mystifies most people in Old Crow. They are well aware of the fact that they are building a community centre this spring from 300 logs that will be brought down the river very shortly. I am sure that those people could have done 500 or 1,000 logs if the alternative had been presented to them in a fair way. Will the benefits of the snow road outweigh the costs?

I heard a collective sigh of relief from the Government benches that all the units actually made it up that road. If the weather had warmed up, it would have been a colossal disaster with half the units at the Dempster Highway and half the units in Old Crow. It was the most incredible gamble in the history of the Yukon.

You may not be this lucky at the elections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Veale:** They are getting aroused in the back benches.

The Government Leader indicated on Thursday that the cost was \$300,000 for the construction of the road. I think he can stand corrected on that because the Minister of Highways and Public Works indicated in a letter to me that it was \$384,844. That does not include the cost overruns for the trucking contract, nor the substantial Government outlay for an inspector to oversee the project and the graders that were supplied, by the Government, and aircraft time for inspection purposes. The cost-benefit conclusions will only be drawn when all the financial numbers are in.

<sup>05</sup> Of course, the benefits to the people of Old Crow can be judged in the coming years when the Albertan prefabricated building starts to shift and deteriorate as they inevitably do.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further statements by Minister?

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**Question re: Federal income tax**

**Mr. Penikett:** I have a question for the Government Leader. Recently the Honourable John Munro announced a Federal Government group formed to study ways to subsidize the high cost of northern living, other than by tax-free benefits. Has the Government been advised of the formation of this group, and is a submission being prepared to state the official Yukon Government position on the

taxation of these benefits?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** As I reported to this House, as much as a year ago, we have submitted to the Government of Canada our official position in respect to the taxation of these benefits. We have not seen nor heard anything since then to change our minds about that. From what little I was able to glean of what happened at a recently held political convention in town, the feelings expressed were identical to ours. I have not heard from the Minister of the creation of this new task force.

**Mr. Penikett:** On the subject of similar feelings, I would like to ask the Government Leader if he is prepared to state his Government's support for the position of local labour and industry groups — that the moratorium on the taxation of isolation benefits be extended indefinitely, while also providing tax relief to Northerners now not receiving those benefits?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No. If that was the motion that was passed, then I did misunderstand. What we have said is that the moratorium should stay in place. If that means indefinitely, then that is what it means. The moratorium should stay in place until there is a scheme developed that will benefit all Yukoners equally.

**Mr. Penikett:** Some labour leaders have publicly expressed fears that the termination of Northern benefits may lead to fly-in, fly-out kind of developments in the North. Has the Government Leader examined this possibility and is the Government prepared to state a position in respect to whether it favors this approach to Northern development?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** That supplementary question should properly be put to me since it is part of my responsibility. This is an issue that we are presently dealing with, with Industry and the Government of Canada, and once we come to some resolution of the possibilities of fly-in versus permanent installation of new communities, I will report to the House.

The present policy of the Government is to try to utilize all our present communities as much as we possibly can, both from a cost point of view and also a social point of view to help progress and growth.

#### Question re: Old Crow road

**Mr. Veale:** I have a question for the Minister for Highways and Public Works, regarding the Old Crow road.

The Minister has advised me in a letter that the contract price is approximately \$384,844. Would the Minister advise what the additional costs were for the inspector who was on contract, the Government graders that were used, and the aircraft expenses that were incurred during construction?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I am unable to give you those costs now because the contractor has just finished pulling out his machinery and there is going to be some charge-backs to the contractor. My department is working on that now. When they are available I am sure the Honourable Member will get them.

**Mr. Veale:** On Thursday last I also asked the Minister about the substantial cost overruns which did not relate to Government expenses but rather the trucking company expenses. His only answer was that it was a hard question. Will he now confirm that there are substantial cost overruns beyond the initial trucking contract price?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** There are some overruns. As I said a moment ago, we are tallying up all the overruns. Until it is finalized it would be very inappropriate of me to make a wild guess on these figures because I do not know what they would be.

**Mr. Veale:** Would the Minister explain what the additional \$37,000 was to provide work for Yukon trucking companies and why that was not part of the entire trucking agreement? Why is that additional expense required to get truckers working?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I think that question can more easily be answered by me. We very much wanted to stimulate as much local involvement in this whole project as we possibly could. When we receive the initial bids from the three suppliers of the prefabricated units, they all included a delivery price. The prices that they quoted were F.O.B. Watson Lake and F.O.B. Old Crow. We talked to the local trucking industry in the Territory and reached an agreement with them as to what it would cost to use local truckers to haul those units

into Old Crow. It developed that cost was \$37,000 in excess of the price quoted by the successful tenderer of the prefabricated units. We chose to opt for the local transportation.

#### Question re: Carcross School

**Mr. Byblow:** I have a question I will direct to the Minister of Education on the subject of the Carcross School. Last week I raised the matter of instructional space limitation and I am told that the problem is still quite serious. The remedial tutor works in what amounts to a porch and has very little privacy. I would like to ask the Minister to reassure the House that she will review the problem again and initiate further improvements?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** I can assure the Honourable Member that we are looking carefully at the problem in the Carcross School and it will get the attention it deserves.

**Mr. Byblow:** It has been forcibly brought to my attention that parents were not advised that last December's trial bus run was in fact a trial. The transportation subsidy afforded parents does not come close to covering the costs of parents driving their students. Given that the regulations covering transportation subsidies were last amended in 1977, is it the Minister's intention to review and update this regulation?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** There were several questions there, not just one.

There was no need to explain that it was a trial bus run. If there had been enough students it would have continued. The fact of the matter was that there were not enough students. It ended up being a trial because it did not become permanent.

A subsidy is a subsidy. It is not a total payment.

**Mr. Byblow:** I will move to a more urgent problem.

It is my understanding that for the fourth time this winter, one of the portables housing the Kindergarten students has had its plumbing frozen. Therefore students have problems negotiating their needs. Given that the last freeze-up took four weeks to correct, can the Minister assure me that the present freeze-up will be corrected immediately.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Having had frozen pipes most of the winter myself, I am in great sympathy. I assure you that that is something that I will take great care to see is looked at very carefully.

#### Question re: Yukon Native Health Conference

**Mrs. McGuire:** I have a question to the Minister of Health and Human Resources.

The Minister, probably at this time, has received and read the recommendations of the Yukon Native Health Conference. One recommendation recommends the installation of a Native Health Care Commission. Is the Minister in favour of this?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not sure the question is in order, if you are seeking an opinion of the Minister. Perhaps you could be a little more specific in your question so that you are not seeking an opinion of the Minister.

**Mrs. McGuire:** Would the Minister agree that perhaps a joint Commission would be in order to better serve the Yukon population?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Such a Commission works very well in Alberta and it could work well for the Yukon. It is something, however, that is being discussed in Land Claims. It should appropriately be thrashed out at the Land Claims table. When we have a Land Claims settlement I think this will come up for discussion again.

**Mrs. McGuire:** It is my understanding that that Conference was jointly funded and participated in by YTG and CYI. The recommendations we received came from the Indian Health section of the Conference, directly relating to Natives. Can we then expect more recommendations from the Department of Alcohol and Drug Services that will relate to all people with alcohol and drug problems?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Yes, the Conference was a joint effort and a very good joint effort between CYI and Yukon Territorial Government. I still have not received the recommendations officially and I am a little reluctant to take about them until I have received them. The recommendations should come from the joint Conference — the Alcohol and Drug Section and the Indian Health. At the Conference, recommendations came from both sections to be put together. I have a

draft copy of some recommendations which do include some of the ADS recommendations as well.

**Mrs. McGuire:** Another recommendation was that YTG and the Federal Government provide funds for non-Status Natives to take alcohol treatment at Poundmaker's Lodge in Alberta or other outside treatment centres. Can the Minister foresee any funding to channel in that area?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** We sometimes do fund non-Status people to Poundmaker's with help from Social Assistance. We are improving the Crossroads program. They have much more money to work with and we feel we have to spend our money locally rather than fund people to go out. Status people go out to Poundmaker's and it is a very good institute. There is no way we can fund people going out except with Social Assistance help.

**Question re: Established program funding**

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In answer to a question concerning the Federal funding, yesterday the Minister of Finance said, "The Government has used numbers that we were informed by Ottawa to use in that Budget." Specifically, has the Minister had negotiations with Ottawa concerning changes in those figures since the Federal Budget day in November, 1981?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No, we have not been advised of any changes in those numbers.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Yesterday the Minister told us that the new established program financing guidelines were not taken into account for the 1982-83 Estimates because, "it is neither fair nor equitable to the Yukon Territory." What has the Minister done to date to communicate that view to Ottawa?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** As I advised the House, I have personally been in correspondence on a continuing basis for the past number of months with the Federal Minister of Finance in respect to what the impact of Bill 297, which was passed in the House of Commons yesterday, is going to mean to this Territory. The reason that I said it is neither fair nor equitable to Yukoners, and the problem it has raised in Ottawa, is that it is based primarily on per capita grants. Our per capita population is so small that the system becomes unrealistic to apply to an area such as we administer in this Territory.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** On November 16, 1981 in this Assembly the Minister spoke of the Federal Budget and referred to a Federal document tabled with the Budget called *Fiscal Arrangements in the 80's*. On Page 54 of the document, the Federal estimate of increased funding to Yukon in 1982-83 is \$400,000. The Budget projects approximately a \$4 million dollar increase. Is the Minister able to rationalize this difference?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No, I did not have anything at all to do with the creation of the first document.

**Mr. Penikett:** I have a question for the Minister of Human Resources. The Yukon Rehabilitation Society has recently effected some controversial program changes and on Thursday this Board will be challenged at a public meeting. Since this Society's program is funded by this Government, were the Board's recent actions supported by this Government?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Our Department of Human Resources was fully consulted by the Board of Directors while these events were taking place. They consulted with us and told us that they were not happy with the program as it was, and they were going to make some changes. The changes they made were rather precipitous and a little surprising, but we are very careful to see that the needs of the clients were looked after at this time. We have been satisfied that the needs of the clients are being looked after very well on an interim basis. Their mandate is to look after the clients in a way that is suitable and they are fulfilling that mandate. If or when they are not, the Government would have to step in in some way.

**Mr. Penikett:** Should the program decisions be reversed at Thursday's meeting, will the Minister continue to fund the Society's program or will it be placed under Administration?

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is almost hypothetical, however, we will permit it.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Since it is before the Courts, I think it is something that we cannot comment on. The only thing that I can say is

that, if it were changed around, there would be a Board in place still, and if that Board fulfilled the mandate satisfactorily, then we would support that. If it were the case that we did not feel that they were doing this then it would be a possibility that the Government would have to step in.

**Mr. Penikett:** I would like to address a question to the Government Leader and ask him if the Government has any policy to govern the conduct of senior employees of this administration in respect to their participation in public disputes within publicly funded societies?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I have always supported the principle that Government employees of this Government, be they senior or junior, who want to participate in publicly-beneficial groups in this Territory should do so. It is a private decision that they make and they do it on their own time.

I think the Minister of Health and Human Resources has stated the case quite clearly as far as we are concerned as a Government. Our only concern is the well-being of the clients. They are the people who we are giving money to the Rehabilitation Society to look after. If they are managing to do that, we really do not have any reason to complain to them.

**Question re: Lot sales**

**Mr. Veale:** I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. The Minister recently announced that once lots had been made available for sale and they are not purchased, then all the lots will be opened up for sale to any corporation, or any individual, who may indeed purchase them all.

Will the Minister assure the House that he will not be permitting one person or one corporation to buy all the available lots in any place in the Yukon in a speculative manner?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** That is why we have the change in policy. I do not think that it would make one bit of difference whether it is one person or three persons buying all the remaining lots. We would always keep a few lots there for individuals, but as far as one or three people buying them, it could not make a bit of difference.

**Mr. Veale:** I am sure the Minister is aware that there have been agreements negotiated between municipalities and owners of large numbers of lots in terms of how the construction of those residential homes will proceed. Would the Minister advise if he discussed the implications of his announcement with City officials before he made it?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** There is no doubt that the local municipalities can make any by-laws that they wish. If they want to get into land development business, we would gladly give them the opportunity.

**Mr. Veale:** The other part of the policy announcement indicated that they will remove the time limit for building a home. Will the Minister advise how he will prevent the complete elimination and removal of the time limit from resulting in empty residential lots being held for speculation?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I am not quite sure what he is trying to ask me. We are talking about the lots that are coming on stream now and I think it is very clear what we are expecting to get.

**Question re: Faro access road**

**Mr. Byblow:** This question I will direct to the Minister responsible for Highways.

Can the Minister advise me when tenders for the first phase of the Faro access road construction will be let? Can he perhaps say what state of preparedness his department is at on this road construction job?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I do not know the exact day when they will be let. We have done a lot of pre-engineering on that road. I am sure the Member is looking forward with a bated breath and when I do announce it I will give him a personal call so he will be well informed and can tell the people in Faro what a good job this Government is doing for the people of Faro.

**Mr. Byblow:** I have been telling the people of my community all sorts of things about what this Government is doing. Given that this project is slated for two phases over two years and recognizing the unemployment situation facing my community as well as that of the Territory, will the Minister consider any accelerated funding for

construction on that project this year?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** At this particular time, no. There is a very valid reason for that because there may be some work done on the airport. Until we know exactly what they are doing we would only do one phase because there might be some fill that could be used in one place or the other and it would make the cost of both projects more economical.

**Mr. Byblow:** I appreciate the Minister's answer and I believe tomorrow morning's meeting should address the airport question.

Again, on the subject of the access road, given the unemployment situation in my community — I might add that I have had numerous inquiries surrounding this — what position will the Government take with respect to local hire guarantees on this job?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** I am sure the Member opposite knows that there is no such thing as a local hire deal. We have stated that we would like to have local hire, and most of the contractors who have been doing the work are using local labour.

I would hope that we do not make the assumption that some outside contractor will get this job, and the contractors in Yukon do hire mostly local help.

#### Question re: Cyprus Anvil strike threat

**Mrs. McGuire:** I have a question for the Government Leader. In view of the fact that there may be another strike arising from grievances at Anvil Mine which could very well result in a 750 worker lay-off, rather than 95, and although it may not be within this Government's mandate, I would like to ask if the Government Leader if he would take it upon himself on behalf of the Yukon people to intervene as a mediator between Anvil Mines and the union members in their grievances before the issue goes to independent arbitration?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No. There is absolutely no way that I can do anything like that. There is an agreement in place and that must be followed.

**Mrs. McGuire:** I am simply asking this Government to plan ahead a bit. The Government Leader must recognize that another mine strike and another mine shut-down would be disastrous to the Yukon economy and the unemployment rate would skyrocket. Would the Government Leader, at least, agree to make a direct appeal to both parties to set up a meeting to discuss the impact on the entire Yukon economy if another strike should take place?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** This is very difficult. I have not heard the word "strike" used. I believe that I listened very carefully to what the union representative, Mr. Power, had to say publicly on the radio yesterday morning. I know that I did not hear that word used by him. It is a word, of course, that strikes fear in the hearts of everyone in this Territory.

As far as I know, there are problems that are being dealt with in the prescribed form by both the union and management at Cyprus Anvil mine.

**Mrs. McGuire:** As the Government Leader knows, where there are grievances it could lead to a strike. Even though what I have suggested may seem like Government interference in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, this Government must realize that many people....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Honourable Member is now giving a speech. Would the Honourable Member please get to the question.

**Mrs. McGuire:** I will get to my question. This Government must realize that many people's livelihood would be at stake. Will the Government Leader at least contact members of the union and managers of Anvil mines to see if the role of a mediator will be accepted?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I do not think that I will. I will not make such an undertaking because it will be deemed to be Government interference.

#### Question re: Constitutional development

**Mr. Kimmerly:** A question to the Chairman of the Special Committee on Constitutional Development.

The last meeting of the committee occurred over a year ago. When is the Chairman planning to call the next meeting?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not normally allowed that a Member be asked a

question other than a Cabinet Member, however, in the case of a Chairman of a Committee, I believe, it is sometimes permitted and I will permit the question.

**Mr. Graham:** At this point in time we have not set any date that the Committee will meet. If the Honourable Member wished to make some kind of a recommendation, I would be interested in hearing it.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I am not allowed to make a recommendation in Question Period, but I will ask if the Chairman is planning to call a meeting to discuss the implications to Yukon of Canada's new Constitution?

**Mr. Graham:** Had the Member taken the time to read the Terms of Reference of that Committee, of which I am Chairman, he would have no doubt noticed that the Committee did not have within its Terms of Reference the direction from this Legislature to discuss the Terms of Reference of the Constitution of Canada.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Is the Chairman planning to call a meeting with C.Y.I. to discuss matters relating to Constitutional development of Yukon?

**Mr. Graham:** I guess I could call a meeting with C.Y.I. at any time. There is one small problem, as I am sure the Member knows, unless C.Y.I. agrees to meet with us, calling a meeting to meet with them would do absolutely no good whatsoever.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

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

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved the Honourable Member for Whitehorse Porter Creek West, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, 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 call the Committee of the Whole to Order. At this time I will call a short recess.

*Recess*

**Mr. Chairman:** I will call Committee of the Whole to Order. We are having general discussion, on Page 54, on the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. There was lengthy debate on that. If you want to continue on that, it is still open for general discussion.

**Mr. Penikett:** I wanted to ask some general questions but, because they cut across the lines of a couple of items, the Minister may not want to give the answer now, but give them when we get to those particular items. I am trying to figure out what is happening to Manpower resources in the department.

I think the Minister said something about Manpower and Labour consisting of Manpower Policy and Planning, Women's Bureau, Labour Services and Occupational Health and Safety. These were all separate items in the previous year's estimates. When you look at the numbers, it looks as if the resources in Labour Services have gone up. Is this really the case? What are the Manpower resources there?

When we are talking about Labour Services, the management of that would have been somewhere else previously because it did not exist. I would like to know what the changes have been in terms of the items in the Budget which have been moved around and how Manpower has been moved, and whether those areas that look like they have been improved here are real improvements.

I notice that Occupational Health and Safety shows an increase. I would like to know if that is new money and what effect this function has on the job that was in Workers' Compensation before? Was it called the Education Officer? Has that been moved or is it the same?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We gave the answers to these questions yesterday.

**Mr. Penikett:** I did not get the answers clearly. The numbers were not clear to me when the Minister gave them. They did not add up. I do not know for sure where the new Landlord and Tenant Mediation Officer is. I am not sure how all these people report.

I raised the question yesterday as to the terms of the structure of the department and that the people do not have very many people to report to. The Minister explained that the staff structure was because of the professionalism of the people at the top, therefore they did not have very many people to supervise. I am not sure, in the chart that he is talking about, in terms of the relationship between organizational programs, what is going to change there in terms of the numbers of people and relationship as a result of the new Landlord and Tenant Amendments.

If he says that he has answered the questions already, I am going to have to ask him some more questions as I have trouble adding up the numbers.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** One that I can very easily answer is that we moved the man-year over from Workers' Compensation. That is what the increase was in Occupational Health and Safety. There are now two man-years in Occupational Health and Safety, a Director and Workers' Compensation Board Education Officer.

There are four man-years in the Labour Services Department, a Director and three others. There is one Director in Motor Vehicles, one in Corporate Affairs and one in Consumer Affairs. For Consumer Services and Landlord and Tenants we have not identified where we are going to get that man-year. It will probably be in Consumer Services, but we do not expect that this mediation officer is going to be anything close to a full-time job so it will only be part of the functions in the Consumer Services Department.

**Mr. Penikett:** Could the Minister explain the function of the Director of Policy and Planning?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** The Director of Policy and Planning is John Lawson. He works on developing new legislation and he works in the administration of the department. His main function is to work on new legislation. Most of the legislation is in the Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department and we need somebody to work on that legislation.

**Mr. Penikett:** Could the Minister briefly explain where he fits into the Organization Chart that has been provided for us. I understand he reports to the Deputy Minister, but he has both this policy advisory role and an administrative function. I am not sure where the administrative function fits in.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** There has been an error made in the paper that shows each function. His function has been inadvertently left out of there. He does report directly to the Deputy Minister.

**Mr. Penikett:** Just so I can be clear in picking up on that error, who reports to him then? That would help me clarify it in my own mind.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** There is one accounting clerk in Administration. He is the Administrator as well. One accounting clerk reports to him.

His other function is the legislation.

*On Administration*

**Mr. Chairman:** We will be going on to Administration, \$229,000, Page 54.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** A follow up to the last question which is marginally relevant to the topic at hand.

If there is a new box in the diagram and there are two person-years, the addition of the two person-years throws out the totals of person-years for the department. Could the Minister explain it?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It does not throw the person-years out at all. His function and the Administration comes out of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, the \$26,000.

*Administration in the amount of \$229,000 agreed to*

*On Occupational Health and Safety*

**Mr. Chairman:** We shall now proceed to Occupational Health and Safety. \$113,000.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think I have already explained the money for the increase in Occupational Health and Safety. It is the Education Officer that has come over from the Workers' Compensation Board. It is funded by Workers' Compensation Board.

**Mr. Penikett:** The Minister has, by way of the Throne Speech,

indicated his intention to bring new Workers' Compensation Board amendments before the House and we have also been considering in Committee his Green Paper on Labour Standards. Is this movement of the person-year from Workers' Compensation to the department a preview of changes to come in respect to integration of the two functions, the Workers' Compensation Board and Occupational Health and Safety in the Government. Is there going to be a new relationship established there?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We are leaving the Workers' Compensation Board set aside as a Board whose function it is to maintain the Workers' Compensation fund and to set rates. Occupational Health and Safety, which contains much more than is dealt with under the Workers' Compensation Board, has been moved over to Occupational Health and Safety in the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

**Mr. Penikett:** The two matters are nonetheless closely related. What will be the functional relationship between the Occupational Health and Safety activity here and the Workers' Compensation Board? Is it just the fact that they have a common Minister or is there some other umbilical link?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** The tie-in is through the Minister. There is, of course, the safety factor that is involved in both the Workers' Compensation Board and the Occupational Health and Safety, which is the reason why the Workers' Compensation Board will be funding part of the total cost of the Occupational Health and Safety function in Consumer and Corporate Affairs. They will have ongoing communication between them so they will all be aware exactly what is going on. If there is a complaint from the Workers' Compensation Board, they will contact Occupational Health and Safety and vice versa. There will be an ongoing dialogue between the two.

**Mr. Penikett:** The Minister will, before making such a move, have done some crude calculation of the benefits to be obtained from that expenditure. He may have obtained from the Board some kind of estimates or predictions as to the positive impact on the accident rate and compensation pay-outs by an increased emphasis on safety. Can the Minister indicate what estimates they may have obtained or what kind of estimates may have been provided by the Workers' Compensation Board? I would guess that is the assumption behind which the Board would fund such an item. They would expect it to produce real and financial benefits for the Board as well.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We have not gone to the bottom line. I have instructed both the Workers' Compensation Board and the Department of Consumer of Corporate Affairs to reach an agreeable figure using statistics from anywhere in Canada. There is only one place in Canada where the Occupational Health and Safety is a function of the Workers' Compensation Board, and that is British Columbia. Using all the other provinces in Canada, we want to pull the figures out to find the percentage that Workers' Compensation should fund and that is the figure that Workers' Compensation Board will pay for the Occupational Health and Safety Department. They will both work together because it is health and safety they are trying to preserve.

**Mr. Penikett:** I wonder if he might indicate to Committee what that percentage is. Is it a percentage of the total costs of the Board? Will it increase with the Board's expenditures, if that is what it is tied to? Presumably, if the Health and Safety function is enormously successful, the Board's expenditures would be reduced. Is it the Minister's hope at some point that charges against the Workers' Compensation fund be so reduced that we would see a removal of this function since it is tied to a percentage from the Board?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No, it would never be removed. Occupational Health and Safety is necessary. What we want to do is set the percentage that both sides will pay. The Government will pay a certain percentage. I do not care whether it is 40, 50, or 60 percent. It does not matter what the figure is. What we want to do is arrive at a figure by using the statistics across Canada to set it.

If Occupational Health and Safety is very successful, it is going to stay small. It will not have to grow. If there is a necessity for it to grow in order to do the job better, the Workers' Compensation Board will have to pick up more of the cost. I never expect it will go below the basic two man-years that we have now.

**Mr. Penikett:** I thank the Minister for clarifying his answer. I had

misunderstood his previous explanation. So it is that the Workers' Compensation Board picks up a percentage of the costs, and it is not tied to a percentage of the Compensation Board's expenditures. Could the Minister indicate if the percentage he has arrived at, which was a product of negotiations between his officials and the Board, is now a matter of policy or is that going to be subject to continual renegotiation every year?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** The final figure has not been arrived at. The figures that are in this Budget do not work on a set percentage. That is something we are going to negotiate in the next few months between the two departments because we do not have the statistics available to set that percentage. Once that percentage is fixed, that will be the ongoing percentage every year. If Occupational Health and Safety costs \$150,000 a year and if 50 percent of it the Workers' Compensation share, it will be \$75,000. If it costs \$200,000, it will be \$100,000. It will move up and down according to whatever the Budget is for Occupational Health and Safety.

**Mr. Penikett:** Could the Minister indicate the ball park percentage he is talking about? He says it is not finalized, but presumably there is a range in which they are negotiating?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No, I cannot give you that figure because Workers' Compensation Board naturally wants to keep their costs as low as possible. They say one and Consumer and Corporate Affairs say another. I would not even guess at a percentage until they get together and reach a number they are both satisfied with.

**Mr. Penikett:** Would the Minister be prepared to guess at a date by which they would conclude these negotiations?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I would hope that within the next couple of months we would have that done.

**Mr. Penikett:** I would take it for granted that the Minister would make some kind of public announcement when that was concluded. The Occupational Health and Safety people in his department have been involved in the Green Paper proposals which, whatever the outcome of the Committees' work on it, or the Ministers' response to the Committees recommendations, at some point some new legislation would seem to be indicated.

Is it the Minister's hope that the new legislation might appear in this fiscal year and what impact might that kind of legislation he is considering, have on the staffing requirements of this activity?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It is hoped that we will bring that legislation in this fiscal year. Right now I could not say what the staffing would be. If we take over mining safety it is going to bring over the Federal staffing which would have a tremendous effect on Occupational Health and Safety. It would probably have to be a very knowledgeable Director in the department. I am not sure at what level it is going to be or whether we have one available. Perhaps even the one we have is capable of doing the job. We are going to have to have a very knowledgeable person in order to be the arbitrator in disputes between labour and management, if there are any. I could not speculate on a number that would be involved.

**Mr. Penikett:** The Minister has mentioned the Mine Safety problem and the fact that we have a peculiar situation with the Territorial Ordinance being policed by Federal officials. If that transfer were to take place, what financial implications are there to that transfer? It occurs to me that I do not know if we are underwriting the cost of that Federal policing or not. What is the situation?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We would have to negotiate a transfer of funds as well as the Manpower from the Federal people.

**Mr. Penikett:** Do we now pay something towards the cost of doing that policing or is that just one of the marvelous benefits we get from the present Constitutional arrangements?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That is one of those marvelous benefits.

*Occupational Health and Safety in the amount of \$113,000 agreed to*

#### *On Motor Vehicles*

**Mr. Chairman:** Motor Vehicles, \$222,000.

**Mr. Penikett:** I would like the Minister to give some explanations for the forecast here. Yesterday I raised a question about the Minister's estimate of revenue from this source and I may pursue that matter.

We have a forecast for this expenditure below last year's. Could the

Minister give a brief explanation of the \$220,000 figure?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, it looks as though there has been a decrease, although it is not actually true. There is one man-year transferred to Administration. There has been a decrease of \$8,000 in regards to that transfer. There has been an addition of \$4,000 added for the Seat Belt Promotion.

**Mr. Penikett:** Prior to embarking on the Seat Belt Promotion, which occurred shortly after some discussion of that subject in this House, did the Minister obtain any indication as to the success or failures of other provincial campaigns of this kind?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, the department has facts and figures from various places.

**Mr. Penikett:** I would like to ask the Minister if news reports which I have seen from time to time — such as the original campaign in Ontario, which was a scare campaign with a lot of crushed bodies and broken cars — was counter-productive in that jurisdiction, whereas the other campaign they brought in after they brought in their Seat Belt Law — much more in line with what the Minister now has — was much more successful. Can he confirm if that is the case?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** My Deputy Minister just informed me that yes, our type of campaign has been much more successful than the original campaign that Ontario had started.

**Mr. Penikett:** What are the Minister's intentions in this regard? In Ontario they tried a scare campaign, if my memory serves me correctly, then they introduced a law which they decided not to enforce — interestingly enough, a Conservative tradition — in the interim period, but did a promotional campaign to persuade people of the merits of seat belts. Could I ask if that is the Minister's intentions in this area?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think the Member is trying to get information that he knows I am not prepared to give him.

I said last December, during the Session, that we would do an extensive educational campaign to get people to use their seat belts. We did not want to bring in legislation. That is as far as I am willing to go at this time.

**Mr. Penikett:** I accept the Minister's reprimand. He may not want to give me information, but surely he cannot blame me for trying to get it.

Could the Minister indicate, in respect to the Motor Vehicles Branch expenditures, if there are any major changes in the pattern of spending that he anticipates this year? We know that in the business of motor vehicles, the kinds of motor vehicles, the user patterns by consumers — which the Minister will be well aware of as I am sure that he monitors those kinds of things — the rising price of fuel, impact on vehicle use and the kind of services that motorists demand from the Government. I wonder if there are any changes in the spending patterns and services of this branch which are going to be coming in the next year?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No. We do not expect to have any major changes in Motor Vehicles this year. All we will be trying to do is try to get our computer system working much better. We hope to get a computer installed in our department to handle personal properties security and motor vehicles licensing. That is about the extent of the change that we are going to have in the department for this year.

**Mr. Veale:** Has the Minister dealt with the whole concept of unsatisfied judgment funds? We had a go-round last spring on it. That refers to, for example, a pedestrian who is hit by a motor vehicle that is uninsured. There is not a great problem when two insured vehicles hit, because there is protection, but it is when a pedestrian, who is completely uninsured, is hit by a person who is uninsured. Has the Minister been able to resolve any method of setting up a fund or dealing with the issue?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Not to this date. It is something that we will be looking at.

**Mr. Byblow:** In the Supplementary Information on Motor Vehicles on Page 58, there are a couple of blanks in the Estimates for 1982 and 1983. I am curious as to why those were not included?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Delivery licences are now a part of the function of the Transport Public Utilities Board. I cannot give you that information right now. I will have to bring that back to you. I cannot understand why it is blank.

**Mr. Byblow:** In the Revenue and Recoveries under Motor Vehi-



cles Licences and Permits on Page 66, there is a calculated amount for what is anticipated to be recovered in revenue. I will leave the Minister to provide an answer later.

What is the meaning of recovery, in Supplementary Information on Page 58?

<sup>24</sup> **Hon. Mrs. McCall:** That deals with tow trucks under Transport Public Utilities.

*Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$222,000 agreed to On Consumer Services*

**Mr. Chairman:** We move on to Consumer Services in the amount of \$99,000.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I raised a few questions in General Debate about this item and I would refer the Minister to Page 58 in the statistics about consumer complaints. I notice from the 1980-81 actual to the 1981-82 forecast there is an increase of 175 percent and an estimate of a decrease in consumer complaints. Could the Minister explain why there is a prediction made that the department is going to be less active next year?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** We are going to go into the Consumer Education Field and we are hopeful that the fact that we get that information out and educate the people that that is going to reduce the complaints. Most of the complaints are just superficial. People do not really know what the situation is and how they can resolve their own situation. A lot of the time it is just questions. That was one of the big reasons we decided to go into consumer education. We expect a significant drop in the consumer complaints.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** That is a remarkable process. Normally when public education is done by Government service, there is an increased use. Going through the same process with the landlord and tenant complaints, there is a 300 percent increase from 1980-81 to 1981-82. Why is the Minister not projecting the same kind of increase in the next year?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** There is a very good answer for that. We, as the Members know, are bringing in amendments to the *Landlord and Tenant Ordinance*. I have already said that we are going to have a Mediation Officer. We do not expect, along with the publicity that will be given to it, a vast increase.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** If there is going to be a Mediation Officer, how can it be done effectively with this Budget?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think that the Member thinks that everyone who is a tenant in this Territory has a complaint and walks into this office and complains. That is not true. We have very few complaints when you think of all the tenants that there are in this Territory. As much as the Opposition is trying to blow this all out of proportion, that is not exactly true.

<sup>25</sup> **Mr. Byblow:** In analyzing the Consumer Services expenditure over the past three years, in 1978-79, \$165,000 was actually spent and it has been decreasing since that time to the present expenditure of \$99,000, resulting in a 40 percent reduction in consumer services expenditure over three years.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That is just a statement. I do not know what the question is, but I will give you some background information. Labour Services and Consumer Complaints used to be all in one department.

**Mr. Veale:** One of the greatest problems that I have encountered from a number of complainants is that companies come into the Territory to do a door-to-door sales routine without either complying with the *Consumer Protection Ordinance* or actually registering their corporate name in the manner that is required. Has there ever been a prosecution against such a company for failure to register before carrying on business?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No. My Deputy informs me that whenever we have run into this situation, we have been able to contact these people and they have complied with the legislation.

**Mr. Veale:** Could the Minister advise if there are occasions where companies simply do not comply but decide to lay low and not carry on business any further? Are there companies that just go away as opposed to companies that file and carry on according to the law?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That is a hypothetical question. How do I know? Probably there are.

**Mr. Veale:** It is a simple question. Your Deputy can answer it. Do those companies, when they are advised, comply, or do they just drop

the matter and not carry on business?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I just finished telling the Members that whenever we found somebody that was doing this, we approach them and they all complied. If they did not comply, they left the Territory.

*Consumer Services in the amount of \$99,000 agreed to On Corporate Affairs*

**Mr. Chairman:** We shall now consider Corporate Affairs in the amount of \$179,000.

**Mr. Penikett:** I am just doing some calculations on the expenditure there, and I was interested that the expenditures on Corporate Affairs seem to be going up quite fast as compared with Consumer Services. Could the Minister give some explanation of that?

<sup>26</sup> **Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think all the Members across the floor realize that starting June 1, Personal Properties Securities are going to be moved into Consumer and Corporate Affairs on the computer. There are going to be additional expenses this year in order to handle this function. Together with staff increases and wage increases this pretty well takes up the increase in that Budget.

**Mr. Byblow:** What is the total function of the computerized services that the Minister is referring to? Is it partially in place now, or is this something that he is expecting?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We have some of Motor Vehicles on the computer now. What we are going to do is put a terminal in Consumer and Corporate Affairs. We will bring in our new Personal Properties Securities Legislation and it will all be put on the computer. That is going to require some additional costs this year.

**Mr. Veale:** On the supplementary information for Corporate Affairs the terminology "rejections" is used. What does it refer to?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That is just documents that have been rejected. They do not comply with the requirements.

**Mr. Veale:** Is it documents for the entire gamut of document filing or does it relate specifically to companies?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think if the Member looks at the rest of them he will see rejections all the way down the line.

On Page 57 it says "Bills of Sale Absolute, Rejections; Chattel Mortgages, Rejections; Conditional Sales, Rejections."

**Mr. Veale:** On Page 56 there appears to be 300 Rejections for 1981-82. Now, that does not refer to what the Minister has referred to on Page 57. What does it refer to then?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That is Rejections of all of the Departments above it; Corporations, Extra-Territorial Registrations, Restorations. It is Rejections because the paper work has not been done properly.

**Mr. Byblow:** Looking through Page 56, there seems to be a decrease in the number of activities when compared to the year previous, almost 80 or 90 percent of the time. We are incurring a substantial increase of 21 percent. How does the Minister resolve what appears to be the decreasing work load in terms of estimates, yet an increasing expenditure in terms of Budget?

<sup>27</sup> **Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We have a Budget of \$179,000. There are four or five people in that Department. Just the salary increase alone is going to mean a significant increase in cost, plus the Personal Properties Securities. I do not know where the problem arises.

**Mr. Penikett:** Which of these two handles the *Societies Ordinance*?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Corporate Affairs.

**Mr. Penikett:** I know the commendable efforts by this Department to try and have various voluntary organizations in the Territory comply with certain standards and certain kinds of minimal rules about businesslike conduct in their affairs. I gather there are still a number of organizations in the Territory who have difficulty keeping active boards and meeting the annual meeting requirements and the rules regarding financial transactions and so forth. I would ask the Minister, therefore, if he or his officials have given any thought to revisions in the *Societies Ordinance* to lessen the restrictions or write them in such a way that they may be more easily implementable by these voluntary associations?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, we have done some preliminary work on it. It is on our list of things to be done.

This department has only 29 man-years and we cannot do everything all at once. Most of the legislation in the Government comes through this department. We can not handle everything at once.

**Mr. Penikett:** I am pleased it is on the list. The Minister might indicate on what time table he expects it to arrive at the top of the list. More particularly, I am interested in what kind of policy direction is he going to be pursuing in respect to the *Societies Ordinance*. Is it to look at simplifying the present rules or to provide some more information to make them more understandable? What is his inclination?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Our policy will be to try to make it as easy as possible, so there will be more information and a reduction in the necessity for complying with various filings. We will try to reduce it as much as possible for the Societies, recognizing that most of them are small in small communities and they do not have the capabilities of doing it.

<sup>28</sup> *Corporate Affairs in the amount of \$179,000 agreed to On Metrication*

**Mr. Chairman:** We shall now consider Metrication in the amount of \$45,000.

**Mr. Byblow:** I would like to ask the Minister what kind of services are provided under this vote?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think the Members opposite know as well as I do what services are provided. It is to provide the metric information to the general public and it is funded mostly by the Federal Government.

**Mr. Penikett:** I am sure will be pleased to find out how enthusiastically this Government supports metrication. Is any of this local expenditure is for assistance to industry in converting to metric measurement?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, that is one of the functions. Public education and technical consultants to industry are other parts of the function. Whatever is being done or can be done in metrication is what this person in the department does.

**Mr. Penikett:** I wonder if the Minister could tell us who is the person who provides the technical expertise? Is that Mr. Spray, or some other person in the department?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No. Mrs. Saunders is our Metric Officer and if she needs any consulting, she receives it from the Federal Metrication Department.

**Mr. Byblow:** Given that the recovery on this one man-year is \$19,000 as indicated in the recovery section, I would ask if the expenditure in this is for salaries and additional materials? If so, what are the additional items that would fall under expenditure for Metrication?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** If the Member has received any of the metric information pamphlets, that is all part of the metric function that is funded by Ottawa.

*Metrication in the amount of \$45,000 agreed to On Labour Services*

**Mr. Chairman:** We shall consider Labour Services in the amount of \$140,000.

**Mr. Veale:** On the continuing saga of Cogasa attempts to put all the risks on the workmen that are going to be on those claims this summer, did the Minister have the opportunity to hear the latest proposal put forward by Mr. Schmidt on radio today and could he advise whether there has been any reaction from his department to that proposal?

<sup>29</sup> **Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, I did hear Mr. Schmidt on the radio today. If Mr. Schmidt complies with our Legislation and if those people want to buy a partnership in that company then they are no longer labour, they are a member of management and they do not come under the labour relations function of this Government.

**Mr. Penikett:** Given the information that the Minister provided both today and yesterday, my guess is that we do not have any more officers in Labour Services. We have some support staff, secretarial, or whatever. The Minister has indicated, though, from the activity we have particularly in respect wage claims that there are a fair amount of demand on the services of this branch. Apart from the Labour Standards, which may be revised and the other kind of labour law, what other functions are these people engaged in? They have obviously provided some assistance to the Minister in terms of preparing the Green Paper, which is a kind of policy and research. Is that still embodied in this money or is that policy and research up now with Mr. Lawson's office?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It would be a joint responsibility. We will be

working through the Labour Department, but also with Mr. Lawson's. There has been a clerk-typist transferred from the Manpower function to Labour in order to lessen the work of the actual Labour Officer. He can do most of the actual consultation and the clerk-typist can do the basic work for him.

**Mr. Penikett:** As I understand it, the Branch Management for this function was previously in Manpower and it is now moved to Labour Services?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It is still the same department. The Manpower in Labour Services was all one function. We have just moved the Manpower section of it back into Education. The rest of the function stays with the Labour function.

**Mr. Penikett:** But there is a Manager or a Chief or an Administrator, or whatever you call it, under this amount, which means that the real expenditures in Labour Services have not gone up this year?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, there is a Chief. The increase in the function has been a \$42,000 increase in salary expenditures and the transfer of the clerk-typist. The decrease has been about \$9,000 in professional and special services, largely because we have Mr. Lawson working on legislation.

<sup>30</sup> **Mr. Veale:** The Supplementary Information on Labour Services indicates an increasing number each year of complaints under the *Fair Practices Ordinance*. Would the Minister provide us with some general detail on the type of complaint that is coming in under the *Fair Practices Ordinance* and whether the mediation service that he is going to be introducing for landlord and tenants, and has probably had in effect for some time, going to be provided for those complaints?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I could not be specific about what types of complaints they are. They are general fair practices complaints. I would have to refer to the department for that. Last summer we set up a three-man board, within our Government, to help with these complaints, much the same as a Human Rights Board would act. We have that function within the Government doing that so that the person who is handling the human rights complaints does not have everything loaded on his shoulders and does not have to be the absolute judge in regards to human rights. We have tried to alleviate that situation by forming this group of senior people in the Government to assist this person.

**Mr. Veale:** Would the Minister advise how the complaints are being handled? Are they being handled like other Human Rights Commissions across the country do, where they first attempt mediation and then proceed to prosecution? What happens if there is no resolution immediately? What takes place then?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We have not ever reached that point where we have had to prosecute. If we did reach that point, we would be prepared to prosecute.

**Mr. Veale:** What a pleasure to hear that. Could the Minister advise, perhaps from consulting with his Department Head, as to whether the complaints that are coming in are discriminatory complaints? Are they related to housing or are they related to the work force? Is there any focus, at all, on the type of complaints coming in?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** About 25 percent would be "other complaints" and 75 percent would be "work force".

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Is the Minister assuring the Committee that the seven complaints that apparently came in 1981-82 have been resolved to the satisfaction of the complainants who brought them in.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, to the best of my knowledge, that is exactly true.

<sup>31</sup> **Mr. Byblow:** I note, in the Explanatory Note afforded under the Labour Services Supplementary Information on Page 59 that there is reference to \$64,000 outstanding on wage claims. Could the Minister clarify if there is a problem in pursuing this collection? Is it awaiting court proceedings? What is the problem on the outstanding amount?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** That amount is already under Court Order. We have to recognize that there are some that we never collect, because the companies have gone out of business, absconded or left the country.

*Labour Services in the amount of \$140,000 agreed to On Medical Profession Ordinance*

**Mr. Chairman:** We will now turn to Page 60 and have an explanation as to this department, *Medical Profession Ordinance*. There is no amount here.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** This is here only if we need an investigation under the *Medical Profession Ordinance* as is the *Legal Profession Ordinance*. We had one enquiry under the *Medical Profession Ordinance* this past year. We do not know when we will ever have one, so we do not budget any money for it.

**Mr. Veale:** If there is found to be any validity to a complaint, as in the one that occurred, are those costs incurred by the Board charged back to the individual against whom the complaint was made, and was that proceeded with in the incident that took place?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We have not done it. I suppose that if we really wanted to press it we might be able to, but we have not done it.

**Mr. Veale:** I think that would be worth pursuing because there is no reason in the world for the public to bear that expense if the Board, in fact, comes to a definitive conclusion that the member of the profession is not behaving properly.

*Medical Profession Ordinance agreed to*

*On Legal Profession Ordinance*

*Legal Profession Ordinance agreed to*

**Mr. Hanson:** After listening to some of the questions in this House, I think we had better turn to Page 63.

*On Public Boards*

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall we proceed to Public Boards on Page 62 in the amount of \$16,000.

**Mr. Veale:** Are we dealing with them in order?

**Mr. Chairman:** No. We are just having General Debate on the whole department and then we will proceed to Labour Standards Advisory.

**Mr. Veale:** My information is that there are some 69 boards now that have been set up under this Government. Would the Minister confirm if that number is correct? Does he have any idea what the total cost is, on an annual basis, for all the board work in the Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I think that we are dealing here with the boards that are enumerated on this page. We are not dealing with other boards or committees.

*On Labour Standards Advisory*

**Mr. Chairman:** Labour Standards Advisory for \$2,000

**Mr. Veale:** Could the Minister advise why Labour Standards will have a decrease, considering that with the Green Paper and the Government moving to legislation it may have a lot more work.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** When we do bring in the new legislation that is going to relieve the board of many of the applications it has now to deal with that are laid out in our Ordinance. So, all of those functions will be taken care of with the new legislation and the board will not have to sit as often.

**Mr. Veale:** I stand to be corrected, but my understanding of the Report of the Select Committee is that the board is going to have a lot more work to do. The word "Advisory" is going to be removed and it is going to have a very active role in determining wage claims and so on. In fact, the board would need a tremendous increase in its Budget.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No, I do not think the Member has that right.

The main function will still be done by the department. The Labour Relations Board will be sitting there as the final arbitrator on it. Most of the work will still be done exactly as it is done right now by the Labour Services Officer.

**Mr. Veale:** On Page 17 of the Report of the Select Committee on Labour Standards, and I am sure the Member for Mayo would concur on this recommendation, states that "Legislation specifies that the Employment Standards Board is the final source of appeal for decisions or orders of the Employment Standards Officer." It seems to me that if the decisions of the Employment Standards Officer are appealed to the board, that the board is going to have a very busy year. Perhaps the Minister could simply state that this does not include any of the work foreseen in the Select Committee Report and that any work that is required through Legislation would result in a substantial Supplementary.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I guess I have to state that we are not dealing now with the Report of the Select Committee on Employment Standards. That will be dealt with when it is brought before the House. As the Member across the floor read in that Report, it is still the recommendation that it be the Appeal Board. Now, I do not know if the Member thinks that everything that goes before a Labour Standards

Officer is appealed, but I can assure you that it is not. So, we do not expect any increase in appeals.

*Labour Standards Advisory in the amount of \$2,000 agreed to*

*On Transport Public Utilities*

*Transport and Public Utilities agreed to*

*On Medical Review*

**Mr. Chairman:** We will proceed to Medical Review in the amount of \$1,000.

**Mr. Hanson:** I am sure glad Mr. Veale does not represent a political party because he would make the rest of us look pretty bad.

**Mr. Veale:** It has come to my attention that a Member of this Assembly is quite sick and is saying some very strange things. That is the only relationship this question has to the Medical Board.

I think that it is clear from the Select Committee that there is going to be a board that is extremely active. We have given the board more things to do. We made it a final source of appeal, and these recommendations will certainly be accepted by this Government. Will the Minister be introducing Supplementary Budget Estimates to pay for the expanded role of that board?

*Medical Review in the amount of \$1,000 agreed to*

*On Driver Appeal*

**Mr. Chairman:** Driver Appeal in the amount of \$1,000?

*Driver Appeal in the amount of \$1,000 agreed to*

*On Medical Council*

**Mr. Chairman:** Medical Council, \$12,000.

*Medical Council in the amount of \$12,000 agreed to*

*Public Boards Expenditures in the amount of \$16,000 agreed to*

*Consumer and Corporate Affairs in the amount of \$1,271,000 agreed to*

*On Utilities Boards*

**Mr. Chairman:** We will proceed at this time to the Utilities Boards and have a general discussion.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I felt that there was a great need for an overhaul of our Public Utilities Boards so during the year we set up the administration branch of the Public Utilities Boards which necessitated a significant increase in the amount of funding. Right now, we have just about completed our review of the Transport Public Utilities Board. We are also looking at the Electrical Public Utilities legislation for some updating in that area. All of this has necessitated a significant increase in the budget of the department.

**Mr. Byblow:** Both in the objectives and the Minister's comments made reference to the Transport Public Utilities Board possibly introducing or enforcing legislation. I would assume, then, that the Minister is considering considerable new legislation or is he considering the problems associated with the existing legislation?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It has been mostly problems with the existing of the Transport Public Utilities Board. We are not sure whether we will require changes in the legislation. We think that we have most of the functions already in the *Transport Public Utilities Ordinance*. It is mainly getting everything sorted out and the licensing situation all straightened out with the various truckers.

**Mr. Veale:** In the statistics the number of Public Carrier Single Trip Permits is forecasted to decrease from 825 to 683. Is that because of the substantial increase that was implemented last year in the cost of a single trip permit? Is it not \$400 or \$500 now? Is that the reason? The cost has gone up so much that it is reducing those trips?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** No. All it is is a reduction. Because of the down turn in the economy, we do not project that we are going to have an increase in the amount of single trips permits applications coming in.

*On Transport Public Utilities Board*

**Mr. Chairman:** Because the last couple of questions were in relation to specific items, I think the Chair will just move right on and proceed to Transport Public Utilities Board in the amount of \$160,000.

**Mr. Byblow:** As I understand the regulations governing Transport Public Utilities there are no uniform regulations governing inter-provincial trucking transport. I would stand to be corrected by the Minister on that, but it appears to me from the complaints that I have received that the Yukon carriers seems to face a lot tougher regulations in B.C. and Alberta than what truckers from those provinces face in the

Yukon. It seems to be a perpetual problem. Is it the intent of the board to review this situation? What it would amount to is creating a physically better deal for Yukon truckers with relation to the inter-provincial transport.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, that has been a large problem. One of the functions of the board has been joint meetings with Alberta, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. They had a meeting in Inuvik last fall. We are trying to set up joint meetings with the Transport Public Utilities Boards in these various jurisdictions so that we can have one licence that is good for them all. We also recognize that there are problems. For example, it is easy to put an application in and get a licence in Yukon, whereas in B.C. there might be a very long list and it takes you an extensive amount of time in order to get a licence. There are those problems. The boards have met jointly and they are continuing their dialogue. Hopefully, we can resolve the situation.

**Mr. Byblow:** It seems to me that Alberta and B.C. carriers are allowed unlimited trips into the Yukon at the discretion of the Yukon Government. Yukon truckers, on the other hand, are allowed only, I believe, six trips into the provinces. The net result of the complaint that I get is that a freight rate effect results from this because of the deadhead trips that end up taking place when this type of permit system takes place. Is this another area that the Minister will be addressing?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes. The Transport Public Utilities Board is addressing that matter at this time. They will be making recommendations as to whether we should change our legislation or whether we should leave it the same. That is part of the function that the Transport Public Utilities Board is doing. It is reviewing everything in order to make recommendations to me on whether there should be any changes in the *Transport Public Utilities Ordinance*. That is one area that we will have to consider.

**Mr. Veale:** I am aware of the fact that the decrease in single carrier permit trips is because of the economy, but has the increase in the cost for a single permit trip resulted in an increased number of applications to the board to expand operating authorities for outside trucking firms? It becomes very uneconomical to pay that amount of money for a single trip.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I suppose it has. That is part of the design. If they are going to have a licence in Yukon, we expect them to have some presence in Yukon, such as an office here or a freight agent. It is beneficial to Yukon Territory if we can have those people apply for a licence.

**Mr. Veale:** Is that now a policy of the board? When these applications are dealt with from a party that has been making single trip permits and they want to get a permanent authority, are there those kind of conditions being placed, as a matter of policy, on the authorities?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** The Transport Public Utilities Board looks at all of the ramifications of an application and they take everything into consideration including whether or not they have an agent here. Yes, it is something they consider when they issue the licence.

**Mr. Veale:** Is the Minister aware of any other cases other than the one I am familiar with? A number of years ago Arrow Transport had certain conditions placed on it like that. Are there other examples the Minister is aware of?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Yes, there are.

**Mr. Veale:** Could he elaborate on them? I mean are they with large trucking companies? Are they for offices, or are they simply to have agents in Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Both. For a large company, we would expect them to establish an office. For a smaller company, we would expect them to have an agent here.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is that amount clear?

*Transport Public Utilities Board in the amount of \$136,000 agreed to*

*On Electrical Public Utilities Board*

**Mr. Chairman:** Electrical Public Utilities Board for \$50,000.

**Mr. Byblow:** How is the Minister budgeting this \$50,000 expenditure?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It is for board meetings. As the Members across the floor are quite aware, we are going to have many meetings this year. NCPC has already consumed a significant amount of money

in the previous year. The NCPC report is still being studied. There will be other applications. As soon as the NCPC rate increases go through, Yukon Electrical will be applying. It is going to be a very busy year for the Electrical Public Utilities Board.

**Mr. Byblow:** Did the Minister inadvertently say that the NCPC rate increase is going through?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** Well, naturally there is going to be a rate increase. The increase in fuel cost is going to mean a rate increase. We do not say it is going to go through as NCPC applied for it. There certainly is going to be an increase because of the increase in fuel cost alone.

*Electrical Public Utilities Board in the amount of \$50,000 agreed to*  
*Utilities Boards in the amount of \$210,000 agreed to*

*On Whitehorse Credit Union*

**Mr. Chairman:** I refer Committee Members back to Page 52. We have a line item — I do not have any supplementary information — the amount of \$18,000 for Whitehorse Credit Union.

**Mr. Veale:** Is that the last payment that is going to be made?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** We are hopeful that we will not even have to pay it. This \$18,000 is to cover the potential loss of a house we own in Riverdale. If we have to sell it, we are budgeting this money to cover a loss. Perhaps we will not have that loss so we will not have to expend the money.

**Mr. Veale:** Is the house being multiple-listed or is it to be sold by the Government Board of Survey?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** It is multiple-listed and it is also rented.

*Whitehorse Credit Union in the amount of \$18,000 agreed to*  
*Corporate and Consumer Affairs in the amount of \$1,271,000 agreed to*

**Mr. Chairman:** Before we go on, I shall call a short recess.

*Recess*

*On Health and Human Resources*

**Mr. Chairman:** We have before us now the Department of Health and Human Resources in the amount of \$25,676,000. We will begin with General Debate on the whole department.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** It is with great pleasure that I outline for you some of the main items in the Estimates for the Department of Health and Human Resources.

Some of the initiatives you see in these Estimates are items of achievement dear to my heart and for which I entered politics to attain.

The main initiatives in Human Resources are in the area of Alcohol and Drugs and Senior Citizens programs, together with staffing improvements in the Social Service area. Other areas of service, such as Child Welfare and Grants to Private Agencies, have been attained at a level which allows for good quality delivery of service.

You will notice in the area of grants that all private agencies receive an increase in funding with a particularly generous increase in funding to Crossroads. I am pleased, in that area, to note for you that in the beginning of November of this year, the Government will be providing a grant to the Yukon Women's Transition Home. That is a program which I am particularly pleased to see in place. We wonder how we ever managed without such an institution. Therefore, we have agreed to continue funding when the present arrangements with the Federal Government run out.

Some of the particular areas in the Main Estimates require more specific explanations and I will be pleased to provide that when we get to the point of line-by-line discussion. Some of the explanation will lie in the area of reorganization, bringing together certain items for administrative efficiency. It should be noted in the recent reorganization and bringing together of Alcohol and Drug Services with the Field Region provided an improved and co-ordinated service in the communities. It has led to items in this Main Estimate being brought together and amalgamated. It therefore can be confusing, when one looks at last year's forecast in comparison to this year's Main Estimates. I will provide you with the details of this and suitable explanations when we arrive at these items. I would like to highlight for you, in point form, some of the initiatives which I think are particularly commendable.

The Pioneer Utility Grant has been increased from the present \$360

per annum to \$480 per annum. You will recall that the amount of this grant was changed during the Spring 1981 Session when the amount was increased from \$300 to \$360.

The *Yukon Senior Citizens Income Supplement Act* allows me to introduce an additional income supplement, on a monthly basis, to Seniors in the greatest need. Therefore, we are able to offer a level of guaranteed income to Senior Citizens above that provided by the Federal Government and related to Yukon's cost of living and needs. This program will be implemented on July 1, 1982. Together with that, I am bringing forward an Extended Benefits Program in the area of health which will allow Senior Citizens coverage of medically necessary non-insured items and health costs such as medical and surgical supplies, some dental work, optometric and hearing aid services. As I have mentioned previously, this program is an extension of the philosophy behind the Pharmacare Program which was introduced last year. The implementation date of the Extended Health Benefits Program will be July 1, 1982.

In the area of Alcohol and Drugs, you will notice considerable improvement in the grant to Crossroads previously mentioned. It is my hope that this will allow the Board of Directors of the Crossroads Program to develop, with the assistance of my officials, a program that is more effective in terms of meeting the needs of Yukoners with an alcohol problem. Funding, at the level that is found in these Main Estimates, should allow for flexible program and admission criteria. One of the main things arising from this is that referrals to the Crossroads program will no longer have to be processed through the Social Assistance Program.

<sup>39</sup> In the area of Mental Health, I have included additional funds under General Health. These funds will be directed to the provision of outpatient services by the creation of a community psychologist position, a Native Mental Health Coordinator position, and expansion of community health nursing.

In the area of Social Services, I have included an increase in Social Assistance Funds, at the same time being aware that, given the economic climate in Canada, we might see an increase in recipients. I have added two positions within that department. These positions should allow us to develop appropriate programs for those recipients of social assistance who are employable. These programs will be aimed at encouraging employable recipients to return to the work force. Whether or not this is a possibility will only be seen by trying but it is certainly my conviction that, wherever possible, we should be trying to remove people from the welfare rolls back into the working force.

Another initiative in that area will be the use of one of the positions to carefully scrutinize all applications for social assistance to make sure that funds are being expended in a wise and reasonable fashion. It is clear that a program like social assistance is, to some degree, open ended. Figures which you see in the Main Estimates are figures which I believe we can live within while, at the same time, provide fair and equitable rates to recipients. In the area of Health, I would like to pay more detailed attention and give you more detailed information on the different program areas. I will do this because I believe from past years it is an area of administration which has not been truly understood.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman and Members of this Assembly, I would like to give just a very short description of some of these areas. Extended Benefits, effective July 1982. We will be introducing this program. It will provide benefits to Yukon residents age 65 or older and their spouses age 60 or older. The new program will cover the costs of medical and surgical supplies, artificial limbs, hearing aids, medical equipment, refractions and eye glasses, basic dental and denture care and home nursing services. The estimated cost for 1982-83 is \$80,000.

The Health Services Branch and Federal Medical Services Branch have jointly set Mental Health Services as the top priority for 1982-83. \$80,000 in new funds will be transferred from my department to the Federal Government, as Government of Yukon's cost-share of the program expansion. This expansion involves the hiring, by Federal Medical Services, of a community psychologist, a community mental health nurse and a Native health co-ordinator. These new positions will greatly enhance the Mental Health Program capabilities.

In connection with this expansion, I would like to announce that Dr.

Herbert Cohen, a Clinical Psychiatrist, will be establishing a practice in Whitehorse in June of this year.

New man-years are being added to the Speech Pathology Program. The first will be used to bring an Audiologist on staff. This will permit the development of a co-ordinated speech and hearing program, something that is especially important for Native Yukoners given the high incidence of hearing lost due to middle ear disease.

<sup>40</sup> The second man-year will provide administrative, clerical and typing support to the two speech pathologists and the audiologist. Target date for hiring the audiologist is June, 1982. All other programs in health care will be maintained at start service level.

General Health is comprised of public community health activities undertaken on Government of Yukon's behalf by the Federal Medical Services Branch. The budgets for each of these activities reflects 70 percent of the total cost of program provision. The other 30 percent is paid by the Federal Government.

While the total Government of Yukon cost share of \$1,650,000 is correct, the Dental Health activity expenditure is erroneous as it appears in the Mains. \$118,000 from Dental Health should be applied against Health Centres, reducing dental from \$379,000 and increasing Health Centres to \$827,000. This error was carried over from the Budget Data prepared by the Federal Government.

The additional \$80,000 for expanded Mental Health Services, to which I referred earlier, is reflected on the Mental Health activity line of the General Health Program.

The Hospital Insurance Program provides payments to the in-Territory Federal hospitals for both in-patient and out-patient services, as well as payments to outside hospitals which provide services to eligible Yukoners. Payments to the in-Territory Federal hospitals amount to 100 percent of those hospitals' operating expenses, minus revenue they receive from other paying agencies and individuals. These payments are made on an advance basis of one-twelfth of the approved expenses per month for in-patient services plus actual out-patient accounts.

Payments to outside hospitals are made on a billing for service basis. The Health Care Insurance Plan makes payments to doctors, dentists, pharmacists and patients for insured services provided to eligible Yukoners. The bulk of expenditures, over \$4,000,000 of the \$4,270,000 total is to doctors. The remainder is allocated to dentists, pharmacists, pharmacare and the new extended Health Benefits Program.

The Mental Health Services Program is not to be confused with the Mental Health Program I spoke of earlier. Mental Health Services relates to payments to psychiatric institutions for patient care. The relatively small increase in this area reflects the trend away from institutionalization of psychiatric patients, a trend we are supporting by enhancing community and preventative services.

The Medical Travel Program provides for the full cost of medically required transportation to centres both within and without Yukon. In spite of increases in air fare, no increases have been sought in the Budget of \$528,000. The reason for that decision is the belief that funds can be used more effectively now that a Medical Travel Audit Committee has been struck.

Disease Control is a relatively small program responsible for the cost of drugs used in the control of specified chronic and communicable diseases. A moderate increase has been applied to bring the Budget to \$225,000.

Administration includes all staff and program administration costs, excluding Speech Pathology. Those administrative costs have been kept exceedingly low. The \$481,000 represents only three percent of the Budget that is in Health. 97 percent of the funds are applied directly to benefits.

I gave you an extra long explanation so that it may save some questions later on.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I thank the Minister for delivering what amounts to a throne speech for the department. I would make reference to her phrase, which I know is accurate, that it gives the Minister great pleasure to announce these things. I can assure the Minister that I will do everything that I can responsibly do to extend that pleasure so she can enjoy it to the fullest.

I know that these sorts of things are dear to the Minister's heart and

are some of the major reasons why she entered politics. They are also some of the major reasons why I entered politics.

41 This department, of course, is not a powerful department or a prestigious department, in the political sense, although it does spend an awful lot of money. I will be asking many questions throughout about the planning, especially, that goes into the various expenditures.

I wish to say at the outset, with the possible exception of the Administration of the Health Care Premiums, I do not wish to criticize the programs of the department. I would criticize that particular program for various reasons, of course some of them political.

The thing I wish to emphasize is the direction of the department as it is planned by the Expenditures. I am thankful for the Minister's "throne speech" and I will answer some of those points — not in an oratorical way, perhaps, but in a way that will give the Minister notice of the questions that I intend to be asking as we go through the various lines in this Budget.

At the very beginning I wish to make reference again to the point about the political power of this particular department and refer that to the complementary power of the Department of Finance. I am going to be making reference to the planning of the department in the way the Department of Finance affects that planning. Just by way of introduction, I should mention, for the Minister's benefit — and perhaps the Minister of Finance's benefit — I am glad that the Estimates for Finance are going to come after this because I intend to acquire a lot of ammunition here to use in the debates on the Finance Department.

42 I would refer the Minister to the recent Public Accounts Committee evidence which has been tabled in the House and made public, and the questioning of the Deputy Minister, specifically with regard to the Social Assistance Budget and the estimates for Social Assistance. If we look at that department or that program, this is illustrative of a number of points I wish to make. We see in the year 1977-78 the percent increase over the previous year was 16 percent. In the year 1978-79 the percent increase was 31.9 percent. In 1979-80, the increase was 25.4 percent and in 1980-81, the increase was 31.6 percent. If the Minister is a visual person, you can visualize the on a graph and very forcefully come to the conclusion that every year Social Assistance costs us more money. However, the Social Assistance estimates have not always reflected that and I would ask the Minister to answer why? If you go back over the years and look at the estimate to the actual, or the percentage difference from the estimate to the actual, in 1979-80 the percentage difference was 16.4 percent. To be absolutely clear about that, the estimate needed to be increased by 16.4 percent in order to balance with the actual. In 1980-81, the same figure is 23.6 percent.

The Member from Porter Creek East has made reference to that in the sense of asking during Public Accounts evidence why is it that there is always a substantial supplemental estimate for Social Assistance.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Just for the record Mr. Chairman, it must be the Member for Porter Creek West, not the Member for Porter Creek East.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** The fact is that over the last several years, the estimate for Social Assistance has been a substantial underestimate. When we look at the estimate this year, we have exactly the same situation but much more blatantly so.

43 The projected increase is approximately six percent. I make the prediction that the estimate is simply inaccurate, that the reality is that responsible forecasting would indicate that the percentage increase this year should be even higher than in previous years. Another interesting figure is that the 1981-82 estimate is stated very differently from the 1981-82 forecast that was made for the purpose of the Estimates. There is no Supplementary as of yet. There obviously will be, or some other program is going to be cut. I am going to be asking for explanations of this and go on to the question of the Health Care Insurance Plan, and it is interesting if we look at the data over the last years.

I will describe it this way. The Health Care Insurance premiums, as a percentage of the total expenditure in the program, look like this: in 1978-79 the actual figures are that 37.16 percent of the expenditure was raised by premiums; in 1979-80 the figure is 47.27 percent; in 1980-81 it is 42.02 percent; in 1981-82 the forecast figures is 70.8

percent. If the figures in the estimate are to be believed on 1982-83, the figure would be 72.94 percent. There is obviously an increase in the premiums as a percentage of total expenditures — more than doubling.

44 That obviously reflects the policy of this Government. I will ask for that policy to be further explained and I will have something to say about that when we get to the department in the Estimates.

Also, on the question of recoveries, much has been said already about the Established Program Financing question. I am simply going to ask for the record in this department what recoveries the department receives under EPF? I expect the answer is going to be none and it flows to general revenue or the Consolidated Revenue Fund and I will have much to say about that in the Department of Finance estimates, especially considering the intent of the Federal Government is that approximately 68 percent of that money should go for programs in this department.

I would also ask, in the sense of giving the Minister notice of questions under the recovery section, about the Canada Assistance Plan and the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Agreement and the recoveries under those plans and ask if there are other recoveries which are not specifically listed in the Estimates, or is there a potential for others?

I will also ask questions about the administration of the collection of Medicare premiums because I suspect that the collection of premiums for transient people is not as efficient as it might be. The expenditure involved in collecting all of that money is not particularly cost-effective and I am going to be asking questions about that particular area when we get through that line in the Budget.

Also, I would mention on the question of general administration of the department — and I do not wish to be critical in this area — but the point I do wish to be critical of is the estimated expenditure for next year, in that it is my confirmed belief that the amount of money estimated is going to require some decrease in service and efficiency.

45 It is interesting to look at the actual figure for administration in 1978-79 and the estimate in 1982-83. The percentage increase is 80.15 percent. In those five years there is an 80 percent increase and the percentage increases in previous years have been substantially more than the percentage increase estimated in 1982-83.

On the question of Alcohol and Drug Services, there are of course many questions to be asked around this issue and I thank the Minister for her identification of the issue in her mini-throne speech. The reality is that Alcohol and Drug Services, as a department, is going to disappear. The person-years in that department are all removed and, as the Minister announced, put into other places, mostly in administration and some in residential facilities. I believe, for the Detox Centre.

That particular question has been a very serious one for a number of Ministers. The Minister of Justice is obviously affected to some degree, the Minister responsible for the Liquor Board is responsible to some degree. There was the Brass Report last year. The Government Leader is involved with the recommendations from the Liquor Board directly to the Government Leader, made just recently. All of those Ministers are involved in this general issue. It appears that there is a resolution in the planning sense, at least for this department — and it is expressed in the estimates — and the department is going to, in the words of the Government Leader, "be gobbled up".

I will be extremely interested in learning of the training that is going to be necessary for rural social workers and social workers in the City of Whitehorse in this area. It is my belief that the rural social workers are not trained as well as they could be in this area, and I am going to be looking for any indication in the Budget of any monies voted for training purposes, especially for rural social workers, and a description of the training program which is planned by the department.

I believe — and the Minister will correct me, I am sure, if I am wrong — that the 1981-82 forecast is based on what the department calls Period Nine figures, and I am going to be asking for updates on those particular figures as the year is now over.

On the question of the statistics on the information pages, a number of the statistics are not yearly statistics. They are obviously monthly statistics. That has certainly come to my attention, and in a couple of places it is confusing and I will need instruction on that matter.

On the question of grants to private agencies and voluntary agencies,

I first wish to say that I welcome, and support, the Minister's direction in this area, however, there is more that I wish to talk about. I have been on the board of probably most of the major voluntary agencies in town and I have certainly had significant dealings with every single one of them in other cities. Almost all voluntary agencies that deliver programs, that employ staff people, have significant problems at one point or another. I do not wish to be critical, however, it is very productive to recognize that fact and to plan for it.

The Child Development Centre in Whitehorse went through a crisis-like series of events last year. Crossroads went through a crisis-like series a little better than two years ago. The Rehabilitation Society is going through one now. The Boys and Girls Club went through one in the fall. All of the voluntary associations have gone through some sort of management crisis and the Minister is following the policy of increasing the grants of public money to these associations.

47 That appears to be a paradox in planning, I suppose, but I wish to say again that we on this side support the general direction that the Minister is taking, but we have very serious questions about the kinds of guidelines and policies that the department could, and should, follow in this area. There is no Social Planning Council here but the department should, when passing out these grants which now collectively add up to a very, very large sum of money, have a clearly articulated policy.

It is the direction of the Government, in the major Throne Speech, to contract out services and as that becomes more prevalent the same kinds of guidelines are going to be useful, especially in the Social Services area. I am going to be questioning, especially in the Child Welfare Services area, the possibility and the utility of contracting out services to locally controlled bodies, especially in Native-controlled bodies, as was recommended recently by Yukon Native people and as is already a fact in several provinces.

On the general question of Mental Health Services, we on this side welcome the attention to this area. However, we are extremely critical of the amount of money being expended here and I will have many questions about the planning and the implementation of these kinds of programs, and I will spell out in more detail the general proposition that we realize that the Minister is not going to get all of the money that she wants in one year and that there should be a long-term plan — a five- or ten-year plan of increasing these services over time, as the Minister of Finance will allow.

48 On the question of Medical Travel, we have some questions which arise basically from case work that has been done about the information given to participants in this particular program.

**Mr. Veale:** I thought that as I would be succinct and critical that I would shoot it all at once so the Minister does not have to jump up twice in response.

Unlike my friend who has just finished — he constantly said he did not wish to be critical — I will be openly critical of the Minister in some areas and I do not hesitate to say so.

When you first look at some of the budgetary increases on Page 103 — the Pioneer Utilities Grant, the Daycare Program, Yukon Family Services, the Child Development Centre, Crossroads, Yukon Indian Women's Transition Home — I think those are tremendous things. They truly are because some of them are more than simply increases, they are allowing programs to expand. For that, one would like to compliment the Minister and say "what a fine job".

However, when it is placed beside the very serious flaw which, to my mind, is the shamefully low increase in Social Assistance, it seems to me that those are the people who are going to be paying for those programs that I have just mentioned. That, in itself, if times were good and employment was up, would not be the worst thing that has ever happened, but, we are facing now a very serious economic crisis.

There are going to be more people who are going to require Social Assistance and unless the Minister has some excellent explanations as to how that Social Assistance Budget is only going to increase by a small amount, I am going to remain very critical because the increases that are going into certain areas are going to be carried on the backs of the people that are really going to need it the most.

I am very pleased also to see the extended benefits for Seniors in terms of Health because that falls very much in step with the Yukon Liberal Party Program of slowly eliminating Medicare premiums for

many groups of people. The more we do it, the closer we get to the point where there will not be any Medicare premiums at all.

The area of Homemaker's Service is one area that perhaps the Minister would agree she has not been able to provide anything for in this Budget — at least nothing that I have seen. That is an area where a small expenditure could have some very widespread benefits, particularly in communities outside of Whitehorse.

49 The problem of Social Workers from outside coming into small communities and leaving very shortly could be alleviated by having people in that community hired on perhaps a contract basis or a casual basis to provide the Homemaker's Service and provide it with some continuity. When there are changes in Social Workers because of the usual turnover, there would not be the tremendous loss and disruption that occurs in many communities.

The areas that we discussed last year in the Budget have been addressed. I compliment the Minister for that. There is Speech Pathology Mental Health, and I am pleased to see that there is going to be — is it a clinical psychiatrist the Minister calls him — in private practice. I think that is an excellent benefit for this community as well, although I am not aware of what the Government had to do with that, maybe more than the eye can see.

I am, of course, also pleased to see that the executive jet proposal which was discussed last spring is not in the Budget because I was very concerned that we were going to have an executive jet to fly patients all over the place and also do the odd political visit on the side when the plane was not in use. In any event it is not there, to my surprise, after all the planning and flying around that various Ministers were doing — they even flew to Faro to check out the runway. I recall my friend from Faro raising that last year.

49 I would look forward to the Minister coming forward with an explanation of how we are providing so much extra money in the programs we mentioned and yet have this very low increase in Social Assistance. That seems to me to be the crux of the whole matter, particularly now with the new revenue projections, which everybody agrees are going to be much lower than in this document because it was prepared before the decline took place.

I said I would be succinct and short.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I want you all to recognize what I brought into the House this afternoon. It is under the auspices of our great Federal Government in Ottawa. It is metric candy that we distribute to people so that everybody knows what metric means.

**Mr. Chairman:** Just before the Minister speaks, I just want to ensure the House that there are pages and if you want candies they are 25 cents. Do not throw them. I am sure they will take them for you.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** If everybody is finished playing, we can get on with the business.

Mr. Kimmerly in his lengthy reply to my throne speech gave his views on the way he thinks things should be and it was all quite interesting to listen to but he will have to be on the Government side of the House if he feels that his way is best.

50 As for the premiums, I would just like to point out that the B.C. Government announced, in the second week of March, major premium increases. The new B.C. rate for a single person is \$15.00 per month, for a family \$32.00 a month. Our single rate is \$18.00 a month and \$25.00 for families. We have admitted that we were favouring families. We were looking for a stable population. The B.C. premium for families is now 28 percent higher than Yukon's.

On top of that B.C. has also introduced fees, co-insurance charges and increased charges for ambulances and use of hospitals. It now costs a B.C. resident \$7.50 out of his or her own pocket for each day of care in hospital. The Yukon, by comparison, has amongst the lowest premiums and the absence of user charges and co-insurance. Yukon is alone in having universal no-patient charges health care. Even the Northwest Territories has charges. The individual has to pay the first \$100 of medical travel.

Mr. Kimmerly's comments on Social Assistance were all very interesting and we will deal with that further in the actual vote.

**Mr. Veale:** Is that the response?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** For now, unless you want to stay here for a long time.

We have noted his remarks on other subjects. I think that there are

too many to go into at the beginning, so we will wait until each vote comes up. Mr. Kimmerly's firm belief that the forecasts are not realistic, we will have to just wait and see, will we not?

The ADS service will not disappear. This is nonsense. I do not know where this is coming from. The new organization should provide a better service, and will provide a better service. We are already training people to make sure that it does work well.

Grants and Volunteer Agencies; Mr. Kimmerly touched on this. We are well aware of the problems that volunteer agencies have run into. We are planning for any eventuality. We have been through a lot with some of the agencies. It is the democratic process. Democracy is not efficient, as we all know. I think that they have to be allowed to try to survive. We have increased their funds because their reasons are very often that they do not have sufficient funds. Certainly that was it with Crossroads. They were always saying this. Now there is no reason that they cannot succeed if they are capable of doing so. We have staff people who are involved with the volunteer agencies who give them guidance, support and help them plan.

We are also planning a training program for Volunteer Agency Board members. I think this is going to be helpful in the long run. I would hate to close down all volunteer agencies. This would be terrible. We are doing our best to help them survive. We will have a contribution agreement with all private agencies which will spell out our policy and expectations very clearly for them. This will be a way of measuring them, in that they will know what is expected of them.

<sup>51</sup> I have outlined my feelings on child welfare for Indian children before. I am sure the Honourable Member is aware of my feelings on that subject. We can enlarge on that later on. I might add, finally, that we are setting up long-term planning with medical services and C.Y.I. is involved.

If I might just comment very quickly on Mr. Veale's admission that he will be critical, we know that the Government governs and the Opposition opposes so we will expect that even when we know that they are really impressed.

I might say that the department is working on a Homemaker's Program and I am sure the experts in the department will appreciate his advice on setting it up, as he outlined. The department did take the initiative, after years of waiting for the Federal Government — Liberal, I might add — to bring up a psychiatrist. They simply were making no headway whatsoever. We know how long that it has been since Dr. Mason-Browne left. The credit is totally due to the department. They took the initiative, located the person, brought them up and made an arrangement for them so that it enabled them to feel that they could come. We might take total credit for that.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** I am sure it was not the Minister's intention to imply in any way that I was advocating disbanding all volunteer agencies, because my feeling is exactly the opposite.

I was extremely interested in the Minister's announcement of the plans of a training program for board members for voluntary agencies. At what stage is this plan? May we expect a voluntary training program? When may it be? What length might it be? There are existing programs in the South in this area and they are extremely beneficial. I know that even I have learned something from programs of that nature.

The Minister made reference to no extra billing in medical coverage. I have had two people come to me, in the recent past, who are professional drivers over the age of 45, and they are required to get an annual check-up, and it costs them, I believe, \$45.00, and we are told it is not covered by the Insurance Plan. I would ask the Minister to look into that. If it is truly the case that there is no extra billing at all those check-ups would be paid for under the same Plan.

<sup>52</sup> **Mr. Veale:** I was interested in the statement that the department was planning for a Homemaker's Service. I would appreciate knowing the Minister's thoughts on this because it is not in the Budget. It does not appear to be something slated for this year. However, I would be interested in knowing the thoughts of the Minister on whether it will be done in conjunction with one of the volunteer agencies or whether it is to be — and I mean you could have it done in conjunction with the Yukon Indian Women's Association or Yukon Family Counselling or Yukon Family Services Association — an all-Government operated Homemaker's Service?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** To answer Mr. Kimmerly's question on the

training program for board members, we hope to have it going in the summer months after the Annual General Meetings of most of the organizations. It will include things like management of programs, board procedures and financial planning. I think it is going to be very worthwhile. I hope it is going to solve some of the growing pains of these volunteer boards.

The only thing I would like to add to Mr. Veale's question is that the department is taking an organizational position with the Homemaker's Program. We hope it will be a volunteer program, and there will be a pilot project in Whitehorse.

**Mr. Penikett:** I have a general question for the Minister and I want her to understand that it is by way of representation from a constituent. It really touches not only on the responsibilities of this department but two other operations for which the Minister is also responsible. It has to do with the question of the Women's Centre and the whole problem of the Department of Education.

<sup>53</sup> My constituent has written me, expressing the view that there will be growing budget for this department because of the economy, but also expressing her opinion that priority should go towards encouraging people to get training and upgrading and developing the necessary skills for living or being independent, and that sounds somewhat in mind with the Minister's own expressed hope. She points out that if single parents are to be encouraged to be independent then it is her view that more daycare space needs to be developed and that may involve some capital assistance.

She also is concerned about the Human Resources Policy concerning training. She is concerned that the department will not consider university level training for its clients so that they can make themselves self-sufficient, even if it involves finishing one course or two to make them employable, and she has a concern that the department is not sensitive enough about the problem of access for women, especially single parents, not only to non-traditional employment but to certain kinds of jobs that may not require a definite upgrading in their skills. I wonder if the Minister would care to respond to this, particularly to the situation of single parents who may have no wish to be clients of the department for any long period of time. In responding perhaps the Minister would do so in respect to her previous remarks about the efforts to get people working, and I would ask her in answering to keep in mind the situation in our economy where some of the jobs may not be presently available, but we may be able to use this period of recession, if you like, to enable such persons to obtain the training they would need in order to make them productive when those opportunities occur.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** We have the individual employment opportunity program, which will be starting as soon as we have the Budget approved. We have provided for more daycare and I firmly believe it is a question of welfare or daycare. The options for Single Parents Program started last Monday at the Yukon Vocational School. There are nine single parents there and the intention of that program is to offer, through group sessions, an exploration and evaluation of the problems they are facing, and provide an opportunity to look at their educational and training options, and to help them pursue a better productive and self-reliant lifestyle.

That program was developed through Women's Bureau, the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Resources. I think that we are doing as much as can be done in that way. Just to send people back to school is I do not think a function of the Department of Health and Human Resources. I think people certainly should be encouraged to go back to school and I would be the first one to encourage them to do that. The main concern of Health and Human Resources is to get people back into the workforce and not to have to make them dependant people and rob them of their pride.

The question of people upgrading their education is another question altogether which I suppose would have to be discussed under the Student Financial Assistance arrangement.

<sup>54</sup> **Mr. Penikett:** I did not want to reopen the Education Policy debate and I wanted to raise it with the Minister as a Human Resources question, because that is the way in which it was raised with me by the individual concerned. This constituent has raised two points that I would bring to the Minister's attention, which she does not need to respond to now because she has described some admirable initiatives in



this area.

My constituent states the obvious, that some of the trades training is very good — what is available — but the real problem for many single parents in this situation is that they do not have the qualifications to get to the entrance level. That is a particular problem. The department may not have been willing to provide the kind of assistance to get them over that hump.

She also makes the point, in respect to the single parents program at the Vocational School, were there some kind of daycare facility at that school, it would make it considerably easier for single parents, especially in the winter months with all the transportation problems. That is the point made by the constituent and I will give the Minister an opportunity to reply.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** There is one other point that I forgot to mention in my longer speech. Perhaps I will simply give the Minister notice of this area of questioning under the Social Assistance area.

The major Throne Speech made reference to a person to assist people on Social Assistance, with the general aim to get people out working instead of on Social Assistance. I would advise the Minister, and I would advise this House, that the Party policy for the NDP, by which I am instructed and bound, is oriented precisely to that goal, that Social Assistance programs and Social programs ought to have as their objective making as many people as possible self-reliant and independent. We welcome that program objective.

However, in the fall session of the Legislature, I asked several questions during Question Period about this kind of program. The Minister mentioned the British Columbia program. I have done a little research about the British Columbia program and I am not satisfied that what is going on there entirely fulfills the program objective that I just stated.

ss There is probably a fine line between encouraging welfare recipients to be self-reliant and harassing welfare recipients to try to get as many as possible off welfare. It is related to the general economy in that it is obvious that, with an unemployment situation in the country, all the welfare recipients cannot be given jobs. There are simply no jobs there. Individual situations are often fairly difficult. There are often fine lines about this question. I will be asking the Minister for her plans and the budget expenditures in this area. Any information on the British Columbia programs would be welcomed. The problem there, I believe, is that most of the data is not in yet, especially with regard to the programs established in the last year or two under the present Social Credit Government.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** To answer Mr. Penikett's letter from his constituent, we do upgrade to a level where they can participate. We will help them to do that, and we are also providing daycare at the Vocational School.

As for the plan that Mr. Kimmerly is speaking of, it is the Yukon Opportunity Plan. The whole idea is working towards self-reliance. Our intention, certainly, is not to harass people in order to get them off welfare, but to counsel them and to encourage them to become productive members of the society, and to retrieve their dignity. No one wants to be on welfare, or very, very few do. That is the aim of the whole program.

**Mr. Chairman:** If there is no further debate on the overall program I would like to refer Committee to Page 72 and resume general discussion on the Administration of Human Resources. Is there any discussion?

**Mr. Penikett:** I move that you report progress on Bill No. 5 and beg leave to sit again.

**Mr. Chairman:** It has been moved by the Leader of the Opposition that Chairman do now report Bill No. 5 and beg leave to sit again.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Hanson:** I move that Mr. Speaker do now resume the Chair.

**Mr. Chairman:** It has been moved by Mr. Hanson 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 Committee?

**Mr. Njootli:** The Committee of the Whole has considered Bill No. 5, *Second Appropriation Act, 1982-83*, and directed me to report progress on same and ask leave to sit again.

**Mr. Speaker:** You have heard the report of the Chairman of Committee. Are you agreed.

*Agreed*

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

**Mr. Hanson:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Faro that we do now adjourn.

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

*Motion agreed to*

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

*The House adjourned at 5:23 p.m.*

**The following Sessional Paper was Tabled Tuesday, April 6, 1982:**

82-5-11

Yukon Teachers' Staff Relations Board Seventh Annual Report

**The following Legislative Return was Tabled Tuesday, April 6, 1982:**

82-5-1

Northland Mobile Home Park Agreement

