



The Yukon Legislative Assembly

Number 40

3rd Session

26th Legislature

HANSARD

Tuesday, May 27, 1986 — 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: The Honourable Sam Johnston

Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Sam Johnston, MLA, Campbell

DEPUTY SPEAKER — Art Webster, MLA, Klondike

CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
Hon. Tony Penkett	Whitehorse West	Government Leader. Minister responsible for: Executive Council Office; Finance; Economic Development; Mines and Small Business; Public Service Commission
Hon. Dave Porter	Watson Lake	Government House Leader. Minister responsible for: Tourism; Renewable Resources.
Hon. Roger Kimmerly	Whitehorse South Centre	Minister responsible for: Justice; Government Services.
Hon. Piers McDonald	Mayo	Minister responsible for: Education; Community and Transportation Services.
Hon. Margaret Joe	Whitehorse North Centre	Minister responsible for: Health and Human Resources; Women's Directorate.

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New Democratic Party

Sam Johnston	Campbell
Norma Kassel	Old Crow
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Willard Phelps	Leader of the Official Opposition Hootalinqua
Bill Brewster	Kluane
Bea Firth	Whitehorse Riverdale South
Dan Lang	Whitehorse Porter Creek East
Alan Nordling	Whitehorse Porter Creek West
Doug Phillips	Whitehorse Riverdale North

Liberal

Roger Coles	Liberal Leader Tatchun
James McLachlan	Faro

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⁰¹ **Whitehorse, Yukon**
Tuesday, May 27, 1986 — 1:30 p.m.

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

Prayers

DAILY ROUTINE

Speaker: We will now turn to the Order Paper.
 Are there any Introduction of Visitors?
 Are there any Returns or Documents for Tabling?

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Kimmerly: I have for tabling a proposed Yukon Business Incentive Policy. I will make a Ministerial Statement about this policy momentarily.

Speaker: Are there any Reports of Committees?
 Petitions?
 Introduction of Bills?
 Are there any Notices of Motion for the Production of Papers?
 Are there any Notices of Motion?
 Are there any Statements by Ministers?

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Yukon Business Incentive Policy

Hon. Mr. Kimmerly: I am pleased today to table a proposed Yukon Business Incentive Policy designed to replace the government's current Northern Preference Policy for construction contracts.

The intent of this proposed policy is to create more jobs and business opportunities for Yukoners by expanding the existing northern preference guidelines to cover not just the awarding of government construction contracts, but the purchase of all goods and services.

⁰² The policy tightens up the definition of northern contractor and defines "northern supplier", to give legitimate Yukon firms a clear advantage in the awarding of government tenders and contracts.

It also provides for a pre-tendering list of northern businesses, designed to pre-qualify these firms for government contracts.

Tonight, I will outline this proposed policy to the Yukon Economic Council for its consideration. I also intend to consult with the Yukon Chamber of Commerce, the Yukon Contractors Association and labour groups before finalizing the policy. The target date for the formal adoption of the policy is July 1, 1986.

In addition, I propose to implement the Yukon hire motion that was unanimously passed by this House, by providing that a Yukon hire clause be included in government-funded construction contracts and that this requirement be included in all tenders for such contracts.

Both of these measures reflect the government's commitment to promote Yukon jobs and Yukon business.

Mr. Lang: At the outset, I would like to table the present policy in effect, the Northern Preference for Construction Contracts, for clarification to Members' who are new to the House and for the media, who have perhaps not been following this issue over the years as it has evolved.

I was very pleased that the Minister provided me with a copy of the policy so that I could compare it with the present policy that is in place. The Minister may have used the wrong word in replacing the present policy. I would use the word "refinement" of the present northern preference policy. I see the Minister nodding his head in assent to that point.

⁰³ I was pleased to see that the contractor is required to register for northern preference to meet the eligibility prior to tendering on a project. I think that is a move in the right direction.

We are pleased to see the addition of the northern preference clearly defined for service and supply. That was not in the present policy, but was a policy of 15 percent.

We are pleased that the government has seen fit to implement the local hire policy motion brought forward by the Leader of the Official Opposition last week. We believe that that, in part, will meet all political parties' aspirations for local hire.

Once the rules have been agreed to, they should be rigidly adhered to. I believe it is an important facet of contracting. Once you have the rules, they are followed, and if the rules are breached, you are not eligible to apply for those contracts.

The reason I say that, without malice, is because the side opposite's track record in contracting over the past year has been less than admirable when you take into consideration the fiasco over the furniture contract. There was also the Frenchman-Tatchun Lake issue where the lowest tender was bypassed eight times, and then the principle of contracts versus regulations was brought into question. That battle is not over yet.

I am concerned that this refinement to the present policy took too long. The Government Leader mentioned in his speech to the Premiers that he was working on a policy, and when I compared the two policies I found that there was not a major departure in principle. Principles that had been enunciated previously by government were still intact with just some clarification and refinement.

It concerns me that the refinement of the policy having occurred so late will not apply to the contracts that are tendered at the present time. As the Minister knows, one of the reasons for voting our Capital Budget is to tender our projects early in the year so that we can get the most benefit from the short summer construction season in the Yukon.

⁰⁴ I want to make the point that I think the government has been remiss in not bringing this policy forward in the past because, from reading it, it is not a major departure from what we have in the past; it is strictly a refinement.

I would also like to point out as a cautionary note to the side opposite, and to all Members of the House, that we must be very careful in the area of contracting. The more exceptions we make to the rules, the more subjective the awarding of contracts becomes. Then the Legislature and the government of the day can, at times, be accused of pork-barrel politics. We have to be very careful when we make our contracts subjective decisions as opposed to the competitive market out there. I just caution the Members opposite that that is the uppermost in everybody's mind as far as the principle of contracting is concerned. I think it is one that they would be well-advised to observe.

Mr. McLachlan: We do applaud the initiative that has been taken by the government in following the motion that was debated in this House and passed unanimously by all parties. We do have one reservation with regard to the provision of local hire on government-funded projects if the specialty tradesmen services are not available locally in the Yukon. But, before commenting further, we wish to study the proposal a little bit further.

Hon. Mr. Kimmerly: I thank the Members opposite for their general acceptance of this Business Incentive Policy. The more partisan comments made by the Member for Whitehorse Porter Creek East deserve some answer. We do not in any way accept that the practices in the past were not in strict adherence to the existing policies. I could engage in a partisan battle about the record of the previous administration and the record of this administration. All of that is partisan rhetoric. I look forward to the implementation of this policy, and I am thankful for the substantially unanimous view about the objects of this most important policy.

National Physical Activity Week

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Yesterday marked the beginning of the 4th Annual National Physical Activity Week. All week long Yukoners will have the opportunity to take part in fun physical activities. The goal of National Physical Activity Week is to promote fitness and to stress the important role that fitness plays in

the health and general well being of all Yukoners.

Throughout the week, many Yukon communities will be participating in a wide range of physical activities. Communities like Elsa, Watson Lake and Faro will enjoy "Fitnics", a day of family fun and fitness when people of all ages will take part in physical activities in a carnival atmosphere of friendly competition.

Also, many of our Whitehorse youth will be working together with students from Newfoundland to make a national statement at noon on Wednesday of this week. Whitehorse students will begin the high noon marathon. Their goal is to log enough kilometres to represent a run half way across the country. Together with the Newfoundland students, the mission is to cumulatively jog across Canada.

The Government of Yukon is committed to increasing fitness opportunities for all Yukoners. This week, most of Yukon's community pools will be opening with the assistance of pool grants. Over the next week, YRAC and the Yukon Lottery Commission will be meeting to review over 100 applications for projects in the broad area of physical activity. These programs, and many more, are examples of how the Government of Yukon recognizes the importance of a physically fit society.

The Government of Yukon is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Yukoners. This government recognizes the significance of fitness in contributing to the overall strength of our democratic society.

Over the course of the week, I encourage all Yukoners to take part in events of the National Physical Activity Week. I challenge all Members of the House to sweat a little at noon-hour fitness classes in the lobby, ride a bike to work or join in on the interdepartmental softball tournaments.

Fitness means feeling good from the inside out. Good physical and mental conditions build a vital and alert society. The Government of Yukon urges all Yukoners to individually strive towards a higher level of fitness which, in turn, will build a healthier society for all Yukoners to enjoy.

Applause

Speaker: This then brings us to the Question Period.

QUESTION PERIOD

Question re: Predator control

Mr. Phelps: I was going to ask the Minister who wrote that statement, but I will not. It is something to think about.

Last night, we had an interesting debate with respect to the issue of predator control in the Yukon, particularly in game zones 7 and 9, and with respect to the decision taken in Cabinet to suspend that predator control program until the Select Committee reported back to the House this fall. We have lost a year.

During the course of last night's debate, Mr. Porter said, in response to a question put to him by the Member for Tatchun, on page 795 of *Hansard*, "As the Member is probably aware, we are getting letters, on a daily basis, for the program that we have now. This is not simply a question of biology. This is an issue of public policy. This is an issue that permeates a number of questions. If the Member is in the position that he is in favour of taking grizzlies using government personnel and equipment, that is his position. I differ."

What did the Minister mean when he said, "This is not simply a question of biology. This is an issue of public policy."? Is he saying that he is playing politics with the very important issue of game management?

Hon. Mr. Porter: First of all, I would like to correct an inaccuracy of the Member's statement. He says that the program has been suspended. As we reported last night, we have not suspended the program; we are allocating \$90,000 of this year's funding to continue aspects of the program. The part of the program that has been suspended, as the public is well aware, is that where the program calls for removal of predators, we have suspended that aspect of the program.

With respect to public policy issues, there are a number of criteria as to what warrants a public policy issue. I would suggest that the

most important public policy issue, with respect to the grizzly bear, is the fact that it is a resource that is increasingly unique to only certain places in the world.

In this instance, we have 30 percent of the world's population of grizzly bears. I think that we have a responsibility to the world environmental community to ensure that we manage that resource very carefully. It is a very fragile one, and a few mistakes can have tremendous consequences to its future.

Mr. Phelps: It is not simply a matter of standing up and answering with platitudes. That will not do. Let us get back to the Minister's answer on the record.

First of all, the Minister is saying that he has been getting letters on a daily basis from Greenpeace, I suppose, and that type of person. Secondly, it is not simply a question of biology. It is a matter of public policy.

Did the Minister make this decision on the basis of politics alone with disregard and total contempt for the resource?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The answer is clearly no.

Mr. Phelps: Would the Minister be good enough to tell us exactly what steps were taken leading up to the decision by Cabinet and, more importantly, his recommendation to Cabinet?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The process of decision is that the biologists in the Fish and Wildlife Branch recommend to the Director. The Director then takes the matter to the Deputy Minister. The Deputy Minister then brings the matter to the Minister. The Minister brings that to Cabinet, and a decision is announced.

We have already gone over what was contained in the Cabinet document detailing our recommendations to Cabinet. It is a question of policy of government, as it was with the old government. Cabinet documents have to be kept on file. The Member is aware of the eventual decision that was made by Cabinet.

Question re: Predator control

Mr. Phelps: We are not too happy with this open government, as it is so called. Last night, again, it was made very clear on the record, in answers to questions from myself, that there were three options given to the Minister.

They are as stated on page 797, "to carry on with the program; to postpone it until the report was received from the Select Committee"; and "to stop it altogether".

Last night, the Minister agreed that that was the situation. He also stated that as far as he was concerned his biologists had no preference among the three options given.

Further, it came out last night that the Minister did not ask if they had a preference.

Speaker: Order, please. Would the Member please get to the question?

Mr. Phelps: Is the Minister prepared to stand here in this House and tell the Members that he went to Cabinet without knowing what preference the biologists in his department had with regard to predator control in game zones 7 and 9?

Hon. Mr. Porter: As I indicated last night, I did not canvass individual biologists to ascertain any personal preferences that they may have held on the question. That statement still stands.

Mr. Phelps: We have a situation where one is to continue with the program that is costing lots of money and two years have gone into it. Another is to forget it forever. Apparently, there was no preference given to the Minister.

Again, why did the Minister not ask the biologists what their priority was?

Hon. Mr. Porter: With respect to the way in which decisions are arrived at, Ministers do not go to individual employees of government and ask a particular employees' personal feelings with respect to preferences they may have on the question. We have a job to do in terms of making decisions. In this case, we have fulfilled that job.

Mr. Phelps: That does not answer the question at all. Obviously, the department must have had a preference among the three options given to the Minister. Why did he not ascertain what the preference of his department was before going to Cabinet?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I do not know if the Member is very familiar

with government as it operates, but personal preferences are not, in many instances, included. What the department does is to very clearly lay out the alternatives for the government to consider and then leave it to the government to make the decision, and we have made a decision.

Question re: Foster children

Mr. Coles: Last Thursday, I asked the Minister of Health and Human Resources a question regarding foster children and the foster families attempting to get some kind of financial assistance to take them to Expo. Does the Minister have any answers today on that?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I mentioned that there were certain expenditures that were allowed for foster children in this department. The information that I have is that there has been \$15,000 allotted for those special considerations. They are normally used, from year to year, to pay extra needs such as sports and band and summer camp and membership fees and those kind of things.

So far, we have had 25 requests for trips to Expo. That is just now at the beginning. At this time, the position of the department is that there is not enough money in that \$15,000 to look at funding or cost-sharing some of those expenditures.

The other question that the Member asked me was with respect to what it would cost if a foster child was left in the department's care, in the receiving home. He wanted to know whether or not that would be more expensive. The information I have is that they are placed in the home for which spaces are already paid or sent to summer camp or returned to their families for a family visit, and that it would be the same cost or less expensive.

Mr. Coles: Can the Minister tell me what it does cost per day to keep the child in one of the homes?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I do not have the specific amount, but the costs do vary in different group homes. I can certainly get the information for the Member.

Mr. Coles: I would be very interested in receiving the information. If it is so that it would cost the same to keep the children in the Receiving Home as it would to send them to Expo, I just do not understand why the department will not reconsider.

Would the Minister actively take this to her department and see if they would reconsider, since Expo is probably a once in a lifetime experience for many of these children and for many of the families whom they are living with?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I could pursue that, but the cost would be almost the same as it would be to pay the foster parents to foster the child as it would be to have that child in the Receiving Home, so there would be no difference in that kind of a per diem. If they were sent home, of course there would be no cost.

Question re: Predator control

Mr. Phillips: We have a serious problem with moose populations in game zones 7 and 9, and this is an area where 30 percent of the native and non-native hunters traditionally harvest the moose.

Studies have determined the low moose population as a result of predation by bears and hunting for non-natives has been restricted severely in the past two years. Your government has been in power for over one year. What regulations has the government put in place to increase the harvestable moose population in this area?

Hon. Mr. Porter: All of this information was contained in the debates last night. If the Member does not remember what has been done very clearly, I will go over it again.

We have made a decision to restrict hunting of moose in the area to a two-week season. That will have the effect, as it is a bulls only season, of decreasing the harvesting of the moose.

Previous to that, there had been a decision to not allow hunting of cow moose anywhere in the Yukon. That will assist as well.

As to whether there will be an impact on the grizzly population, the previous government brought in regulations that allowed for a more liberal approach — to use a common word — in terms of allowing people to go in and harvest grizzlies.

There are three points to that. Outfitters are allowed special permits. The resident hunters can take a bear a year in the area and, as well, resident hunters can guide non-resident hunters by special

permit in the area.

Mr. Phillips: The regulations that the Minister has pointed out were all regulations that were put in place by the previous government. They have been in place for two years. I do not even believe right now that an outfitter can go into that area.

I think that is the wrong statement for the Minister to make. The Minister should check with his department, but I believe the outfitters cannot hunt in that area right now.

Can the Minister point to a single regulation that his government has put in place in zones 7 and 9, other than the decision to suspend the Predator Control Program, which will make the problem worse?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I would like to correct the record. The regulations that stipulated bulls only over a two-week period were adopted by this government.

Mr. Phillips: I do not understand how the Minister can justify doing nothing, in his one year of office, to increase the moose populations. As a result of his inaction, he is virtually shutting down moose hunting for 15 to 20 years in that area, where 30 percent of Yukoners hunt their moose.

This lack of decision will affect every other area in the Yukon, as hunters will now be forced to seek other areas, such as Dawson and Mayo, which will put increased pressures on these populations.

Who is the Minister managing game for? The uninformed outside letter-writers, or the Yukon taxpayer?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That was a political speech. It was not designed for Question Period at all.

We have a responsibility to the people of the Yukon in terms of the wildlife management. As well, we have a greater responsibility to the world community, to ensure that we manage wildlife in acceptable terms.

Question re: Wood bison

Mr. Brewster: I have often wondered about speeches, when I saw 106 pages that one put here last night. On May 22, 1986, in response to a question I raised regarding young buffalo calves, the Minister stated, "We are not turning any calves loose. When we get to the point of decision-making respecting the release of offspring, I am sure that we will have adequate policies in place."

Can the Minister advise the House whether or not the point of decision has now been reached and there are adequate policies in place?

Hon. Mr. Porter: With respect to the question of the speech, I might like to add that, as a consequence of the Members' wanting more information and the information provided, at least in my time in the House, was the most comprehensive presentation of any department's O&M budget. I thought they would be appreciative of that gesture. Obviously not. You cannot win.

We are not going to be in the business of releasing wood bison calves. The program is going to be designed as such that we will be releasing the yearlings.

Mr. Brewster: Here we go fooling around with words again. A yearling is a calf. Can the Minister explain why a Renewable Resource bulletin, dated May 5, 1986, issued under the authority of the Minister, states, "Yukon born offspring will be released every year, with a management goal of establishing a free-ranging herd in the vicinity of the enclosure."

On May 22, why was the Minister not aware of this policy decision he released 12 days earlier?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That has been the situation all along. We will be releasing the yearlings from that herd. That is our intention.

Mr. Brewster: It is no wonder we get a little frustrated with the smart aleck answers that come along in this place. Does the Minister not agree that there is a contradiction between those two statements?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No. I do not believe that there is any inherent contradiction in the statement; the policy is very clear. With respect to the way in which I answer questions, that is the way I answer questions. If the side opposite, and certain individuals, want to become personal about it and become cranky and cantankerous, that is the way they are.

Question re: Elk

Mr. Brewster: To the Minister of Renewable Resources: can the Minister confirm the fact that elk have been sighted in the southeastern Yukon?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I did not see them, so I am not able to personally confirm that information. I have no report. Somebody may have seen them. I will ask the department if anybody in the department has seen elk in that area and if they are aware of anybody else who has seen elk in that area.

Mr. Brewster: I wonder if the Minister can explain who, under his nameplate, is stating that the elk are sighted in the southeastern Yukon? Have any of the officials gone down to confirm this sighting?

Hon. Mr. Brewster: No, but I will ask them to look at it.

Mr. Brewster: I thank the Minister very, very much for that.

Question re: Nordenskiöld River bridge

Mr. Coles: A week or two ago, I asked the Minister of Community and Transportation Services if he would send an engineer to Carmacks to check the safety of the bridge across the Nordenskiöld River, and I wonder if that has been done yet?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: The request has been made. The movement of the engineers depends very much on the work plans. There is a lot of work to do this time of year. Site inspections and a variety of projects are underway, and they will try to work that project in with the others.

Mr. Coles: I am a little worried that the government and the Minister's department is going to spend \$700,000 to engineer a new road that has a bridge in front of it that, perhaps, nobody can get across. I would think that the bridge would be a very serious aspect of the road, as nobody could haul heavy equipment across it even if it is in good shape. Is the Minister planning to replace that bridge in the near future and, hopefully, before construction of the new road?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Clearly it is not the government's intention to construct or engineer a road for which there is only air access from the rest of the highway transportation system in the territory. I am not a bridge engineer myself, and I do not know the exact state of the bridge. I have asked the department to review it, as the Member has suggested that we should. When the bridge engineer's analysis comes forward, if remedial action is necessary, they will, I am sure, recommend it. If it is necessary, we will put it under our Capital Budget.

Mr. Coles: I am not a bridge engineer either, but I can certainly see when lumber is rotten and when the bridge is falling into the river. The bridge that is there, even if it is in good shape, cannot bear the weight of heavy equipment. If that road is being put into place to give mining companies access into that area, I think that the bridge is going to have to be replaced. I have just asked the Minister to have the bridge checked for what weights it can carry and what weights it should be able to carry and if there is a way to allow proper access for mining companies that will be using it.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: We will certainly check into it. As I stated already, I was not aware that the bridge was falling into the river. I will have the engineers check it whatever condition it is in.

11 Question re: Parliamentary Special Committee on Child Care

Mrs. Firth: The Parliamentary Special Committee on Child Care is here in the Yukon listening to public submissions. I know that the Member for Faro made a presentation, and I made a presentation. Could the Minister tell me whether the Women's Directorate, the Department of Health and Human Resources, or she made a presentation to the committee?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: The Women's Directorate and the Department of Health and Human Resources and I had a breakfast meeting with the task force this morning. We do not have anything that we can table in the House. However, I can inform the Member for Riverdale South that I would write her a letter and give her all the information that we gave to the task force this morning.

Mrs. Firth: This gives me a great deal of concern. In *Hansard*, on page 720, Tuesday, May 20, in response to questions from the Member for Faro, the Minister responded that yes, the Women's

Directorate, as well as the Department of Health and Human Resources, would be making a public presentation and that the submissions would be tabled to us after they had been made to that committee.

The government is insisting on having these secret meetings with parliamentary committees that come forward. Is the Minister going to be making their position on childcare services available to the public; not just to us, but to the public?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: We have been very open with our position on daycare in the Yukon. One only has to read the statement that I made before we did the budget on Health and Human Resources. We have made a number of changes in the daycare services that are offered to Yukoners. That is our position. We want to improve the services for daycare in the Yukon.

Mrs. Firth: This is not an open government. This is a government that has secret breakfast meetings and secret evening meetings with parliamentary committees. Is the Minister going to table these submissions that were presented to the secret breakfast meeting that they had with the parliamentary committee?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: When it quiets down in here, I will respond. There are members from the task force here, and they are welcome to give out any information that I gave to them, or anybody else, this morning. I have already told the Member that I will write her a letter and I will give her that information that I gave to them this morning. It is no secret.

Introduction of Visitors

Mr. Nordling: Just before I ask my question, I would like to introduce to the House the members of the task force who have come in during Question Period. There is Rob Nicholson, Conservative MP for Niagara Falls; Ross Belsher, Conservative MP for Fraser Valley East; and Leo Duguay, Conservative MP for St. Boniface, Manitoba.

I should also add that Mr. Duguay is the Vice-Chair of the Special Committee on Child Care.

Applause

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Question re: Faro housing mortgage

Mr. Nordling: My question is to the Minister of Government Services. Yesterday, in response to my question as to whether or not an amendment to the second mortgage on the Faro housing to include protection clauses had been registered in the Lands Title Office, the Minister said that he would check and get back to me. Has the Minister checked this, and can he tell us whether or not the amendments have been registered?

Hon. Mr. Kimmerly: Yes, I checked yesterday. No, it is not registered, but I am assured that the government lawyers will work on it this week.

Mr. Nordling: Perhaps the Minister could be a little more specific on when we could expect the registration? It was on April 16 that he said that all the appropriate legalese had been negotiated and that the legal technicalities were well looked after.

Hon. Mr. Kimmerly: At the risk of sounding facetious, I can only say, "When it is ready." It is clear that the direction that I am giving is to speed it up. I thank the Member for his questions.

Question re: Challenge Program

Mr. McLachlan: The Challenge Program was begun in the Yukon schools in 1984 and 1985. On May 12, 1986, while we were doing Department of Education budgets, the Minister said, "It (the Challenge Program) has proven to be very successful." Can the Minister advise how many person-years are allocated to this program at present?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: I cannot. The program is being offered around the territory. There are fractions of person-years allocated to schools. I would have to come back with that information.

Mr. McLachlan: Can the Minister further advise as to what criteria go into selecting which schools get the split on the broken person-years? Who gets into the program? Who makes the decisions?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: The government makes the decisions as

to who has access to the program. Department officials make recommendations based on information about who has requested information, who has requested a program, what school committees have requested access to the program, what need there is based on educational terms, what need there is for the program in a school and the availability of financial resources. Essentially, that is how the decision is made.

Mr. McLachlan: Does the Minister know if there are Yukon schools at present that have made requests to be included in the program, but have had to have that request denied because of funding restrictions?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: I am not aware of any requests that have been denied because of funding restrictions.

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Question re: Young offenders facility

Mr. Phillips: Has the Minister of Health and Human Resources made any decisions regarding the building or purchasing of a closed custody young offenders facility?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: Not yet.

Mr. Phillips: We have an extremely short construction season in the Yukon, as the Minister well knows, and time is dragging on. Has the Minister made any decision on what type of facility they need and what the cost will be?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: We would hope to have that information very shortly. If I have it before we end this session, I will give that information to the Member.

Introduction of Visitors

Mr. Lang: I would like to welcome a long-time Yukoner to this House. It is Margaret McCullough. She is here from Ottawa and is a good friend to the Yukon.

Question re: Dawson City gravel pit

Mr. Lang: About three weeks ago, the City Council of Dawson passed a resolution to open the gravel pit in the community. Has the government taken a position on that?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Yes. I believe they did make representation that they wanted the pit to be opened. They made representations as early as January, in an official capacity, mayor to Minister. The pit was closed for reasons that I presume the Members are aware. At the present time, we are working up a lease agreement with various terms and conditions that, I am hoping, will be signed by the government and the City of Dawson and will be acceptable to all concerned, including those who had concerns over the safety of the pit.

Mr. Lang: Since we are in a situation where the building season is very short, and the cost of putting in foundations can be much less if the pit is utilized, when is this lease agreement going to be finalized for presentation to the City Council of Dawson City?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: The drafting instructions for this agreement have been communicated from my office to the department. I am hoping that within a week the lease arrangements can be signed, pending approval from the City of Dawson, who will be a signatory to the arrangement.

Mr. Lang: Do I take it that the Minister is satisfied, from an environmental point of view, that the pit can be utilized for the purposes of fill within the community and the surrounding area for the foreseeable future? Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: It is necessary to take remedial action to ensure the safe use of the pit. That remedial action will be worked into the lease arrangement to ensure the safety of all persons in the Dawson area and all persons who will be working in the pit around the asbestos.

Question re: Casino Trail

Mr. Coles: The Minister of Community and Transportation Services has advised me that \$700,000 is going to be spent this year on the Casino Trail. When asked yesterday if the engineering and survey work was going to be done by the government, or contracted out, he took the question on notice.

Has the department been able to advise him, as of yet, how they are going to do it?

¹⁴
Hon. Mr. McDonald: The Resource Roads Committee is still consulting with the Chamber of Mines to determine the basic design of the trail. These discussions should end by July 1, at which time we will determine whether or not federal funding will be required or requested. We believe that our own forces can adequately handle the engineering and survey work easily enough. The development work will be contracted out.

Mr. Coles: Does the Minister plan to let out major contracts on the road or do third party renting? Will he assure me that most work, if not all of the work, done by equipment on that road will be done by private equipment and not government equipment?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: I do not anticipate that the work will be of a nature that government equipment will be performing the work. The use of third party equipment rental is designed for very small jobs. If the amount of work to be done this year is of a minor nature that would require third party equipment rental, we will use it. Otherwise, the normal practice is to tender and contract it out to a private road construction firm.

Mr. Coles: I have no problem with that. In many of the small communities, Carmacks included, a lot of the contractors are not big enough to bid on the big contracts. The smaller jobs may be of a benefit to not just the contractors in Carmacks, but to every community in the territory.

The problem we have is that in the last few years we have watched the government opening the Freegold Road with government equipment being hauled in from somewhere else. The contractors there are worried that the same sort of thing is going to go on with the new road. All they want is an assurance from the Minister. Perhaps he could even assure them today that from this date on third party rental or contracts will be let to open and maintain those roads in the winter.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: The one major factor to bear in mind is to determine whether or not the government is going to take responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of that road.

The Chamber of Mines has indicated a very low standard road, which would be very difficult to maintain in the first place. The government has certain criteria for the maintenance of roads by our forces. If the agreement for the Casino Trail Project shows that the government will be maintaining the roads, then we will maintain it the same as is the usual practice.

The details have to be ironed out over the course of the next few weeks. A lot will depend upon the deliberations between the Chamber of Mines and the Government of Yukon.

¹⁵
Response re: Children in custody

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I have a response to a question by the Member for Tatchun with respect to placement of our young offenders in other parts of Canada, in Willingdon in BC. The Solicitor General's department of Alberta has agreed that they would take some of our young offenders sentenced to open custody, on a case-by-case basis, and that if we do have some of those young offenders in the future who are sentenced to secure custody, we could contact them and they would decide whether or not that person could be sent to Alberta to one of the young offenders facilities out there.

Speaker: The time for Question Period has now elapsed. We will now proceed with the Orders of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Government House Leader that the Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Motion agreed to

Speaker leaves the Chair

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Chairman: Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

We will now recess for 15 minutes.

Recess

¹⁶ **Chairman:** The Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

We will continue with general debate, Department of Renewable Resources.

Bill No. 5 — Second Appropriation Act, 1986-87 — continued

Mr. Brewster: I have read in a couple of places where the Advisory Committee is changing in structure. Could the Minister explain how it is changing?

Hon. Mr. Porter: There is no definitive plan yet as to how, but we have advised the Advisory Committee that we will be looking at changes. Essentially, we are going to restructure the committee as per the proposed Agreement-in-Principle. I have undertaken to the committee that we will have that information to them by the time of its next meeting, and we will flesh out what the structure will look like.

Mr. Brewster: I noticed for instance, in our green paper that the Advisory Committee is now reporting to the Deputy Minister and not to the Minister. I believe that is quite a radical change.

Hon. Mr. Porter: If that is shown, it would be an error because they still report to me.

Mr. Coles: Does the Minister's department have any plans to do some sort of a survey on what the impact of the Casino Trail is going to have on the wild game in that area, since it is a major project?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We are represented on the Resource Roads Committee, and, yes, there will be some work.

Mr. Coles: The main concern we have is with hunting. It is going to be great for the trappers who have been unable to get into that area for years. There should be good stocks there.

I would be interested in any information the Minister could bring to me in regard to the impact that the road may have on wildlife or any other renewable resource in the area.

¹⁷ **Hon. Mr. Porter:** Yes, we will make any information that is relevant to the question available to the Member.

Mr. Brewster: On the organizational chart on page 221, he has Lands, Parks and Resources; he has 18 person-years, yet, if you go over on page 220 he has 15. On Fish and Wildlife he has 33.5 person-years on page 221. If you go over to the other one, he has 36.5. Could he explain the difference there?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We found the discrepancy. With respect to the accurate number, the number that we are talking about is 36.5. That is the real number.

Chairman: And for the Lands, Parks and Resources, is that 18 or 15?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The number is 15.

Chairman: So the total is correct.

Mr. Coles: In Question Period yesterday, I asked the Minister a question on the study of wild game ranching, or raising of wild game. The Minister said he would get back to me with some information on that. Has he got it?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The stage we are at is developing the terms of reference for the study.

Mr. Brewster: We would like to move onto Administration.

On Administration

Chairman: General debate?

¹⁸ **Mr. Brewster:** Why is there a reduction there when, on page 27 of Supplement No. 2, we voted \$78,000 more? Does that mean another supplement will be voted for that later?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The supplements we talked about for the overall department were related to the previous Deputy Minister. Again, that is a cause for a decrease because of the severance pay to him. We do not expect to be in a position of having that situation arise this fiscal year.

Mr. Brewster: Could I get a breakdown of Other?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We are looking at a decrease of \$4,000. We are anticipating that we are going to have less use of professional

consultants this year.

Administration in the amount of \$775,000 agreed to On Policy and Planning

Mr. Coles: Why do we have one full-time policy person and one on contract?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The contract position was brought on to assist in the area of devolution. There are a number of areas within Renewable Resources where devolution is an issue, so we have made a bid for a policy analyst to assist us in that area. We have that contract person to assist the government in developing positions and doing necessary research related to devolution.

Mr. Coles: Does that mean that there will be only one policy person when you are finished that? You are not creating two positions?

¹⁹ **Hon. Mr. Porter:** No. We have two full time people, and we also have the term person.

Mr. Coles: I would like to tell the Minister and the policy people on the Select Committee what an excellent job they did for us who were on the Select Committee and for his department. I congratulate all of them.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I thank the Member for his positive comments, and I will make sure that the individuals who were cited receive those comments.

On Director and Policy Planning

Mr. Brewster: Could the Minister explain the rather large increase from 1984-85 to 1986-87?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I will break it down into the two areas, Personnel and Other. Under Personnel we are seeing an increase from \$266,000 to \$366,000. The reasons for the increase are due to JES implementation, and a Policy Advisor position was vacant for most of last year. We have now filled that position, so we are going to look at bearing that salary cost for all of next year.

We also went the route of bringing in an additional policy person to deal with devolution for the one year period.

In Other, we are showing a situation of change where we have gone from \$233,000 to \$218,000. The decrease is due to the use of a consultant in 1985-86 with the implementation of the EDA. We hired a consultant to assist us in that, because we had no person-years established.

The Government Leader has stated that the EDA coordination is going to be handled centrally by a secretariat, so the department will not have that consultant cost to do the work.

There has been a decrease in Information and Education. That is due to less printing required in 1986-87. That has been picked up by some marginal increase in travelling. There is an increase for travelling to various communities to support the Agricultural Planning Advisory Committee.

We have just made a decision to bring on the agricultural Director to set up the new branch, so we are anticipating that they are going to be asked to go out to a lot of the communities. There is an active chapter in Dawson and Mayo, so there is going to be increased travel in agriculture for a number of the new personnel whom we will be hiring.

There was a marginal increase in Regulation and Legislation due to the redesign and reproduction of several brochures and the increased travel that will be done with public education programs.

Director and Policy Planning in the amount of \$340,000 agreed to On Information and Education

Mr. Coles: Is this where the money is coming from for the video tapes that the Minister has been telling us about?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes, that is where the money is coming from.

Mr. Coles: Does the Minister have a total figure of what the department has spent up to now on video-taping? How much is in here for making videos?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We gave the numbers last night in the overview, as to what we have spent. As to whether or not there were additional expenditures, other than what we have given to the Legislature, I will check. If there were, I will provide that to the Member.

Mr. Coles: Is there money in the \$190,000 for making more videos?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We will look for specific information. As I

stated last night, we intend to have a stepped-up presence in the Information and Education area. We are going to be producing radio ads that will be voiced by the individual Conservation Officers, as well as getting into more video productions than we have in the past. Some of the activity will be directly related to our efforts at the World Conservation Meeting in Ottawa, where we are going to be doing a slideshow.

What we have here is one 15 minute dual slide projector audio-visual on habitat, using slides already in position. As well, we are going to have a slide-tape audio-visual presentation of the critical habitat areas. Also, we are going to look at audio-visual presentations for community evening sessions with interest group meetings. The total that we are looking at for 1986-87 would be \$15,000.

Mr. Coles: Before we leave this, I just want to congratulate a constituent of mine, Mr. Taylor McGundy, for the video that he helped the department make on snaring. He is certainly a movie star in his own right. I am glad to see that the department chose him to do the job.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I know the Member would like to applaud and congratulate us at every opportunity that is available to him. In this case, we cannot take the credit. That venture was initiated by the Yukon Trappers Association. They went to the Economic Development Agreement with the idea and received the funding. They undertook that particular production.

Information and Education in the amount of \$190,000 agreed to On Regulation and Legislation

Mr. Phillips: Could the Minister explain the change in that line?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Under personnel for Regulation and Legislation, we are looking at an increase of \$3,000. This is due to JES implementation, merit and general salary increases.

Under the Other expenditure area for Regulation and Legislation, we are increasing it from \$2,000 to \$5,000. As I stated earlier, this is going to be due to increased travel to the communities.

²¹ *Policy and Planning in the amount of \$584,000 agreed to On Lands, Parks and Resources*

Mr. Brewster: I would like to know why there is a large increase from \$77,000 up to \$107,000 for the Director.

Hon. Mr. Porter: The increases are as follows under the Director position. Last year's forecast for the Director was \$86,000; it has gone to \$92,000. That was due to an increase to normal merit and general increases as a result of JES.

Under Other, we have gone from \$9,000 to \$15,000. That is due to a projected increase in travel costs as a result of anticipated increased activity in land use planning and regional planning. At this point, we are very close to signing a land use planning document with the federal government. We expect there is going to be increased travel as a result of that because the land use planning process is going to be territory-wide.

Mr. Brewster: Why is there a decrease in Personnel from 20 person-years in 1984-85 down to 15 in 1986-87, and yet we have a large increase of \$100,000?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The decrease in personnel is because we transferred the drafting position to Administration. We found the drafting position is central to the government, to all of the departments. Because Administration is a central unit within the department, we thought it would be best located there.

Three habitat positions were transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Branch because we thought that it fitted better to have habitat within that branch.

One person-year, Stores Clerk, has been transferred from ourselves to Government Services.

Mr. Brewster: That still does not explain why there is an increase of \$100,000 when you got rid of five person-years.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I thought the Member was asking why our person-years were showing up previously as 20, and now they are down to 15 between 1984-85 and 1985-86.

The increases show up in the Director area of Personnel. The increase is \$7,000. The majority of the increases will take place in Regional Planning. The forecast is \$25,000, and we are going up to \$122,000, so there is an increase of \$97,000. We had staff

vacancies within that department, which we expect to fill this year.

²² **Mr. Coles:** Could the Minister tell us what the difference is between a recreational area, park and a parkway?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I do not have the *Parks Act* in front of me so I cannot respond specifically to the different designations. I will get a copy of the *Parks Act*, which does contain the definitions, and make that available to the Member.

Mr. Coles: I am referring specifically to the Tatchun-Frenchman Lake area. Are there different regulations applied to that area because the department is calling it a parkway rather than a recreational area?

Hon. Mr. Porter: When a park is developed, there is a set of park management plans put in place that are derived through the public consultation process. In this instance, we have not developed such a plan so there are no park guidelines, if you will, that will apply to the Frenchman-Tatchun area.

On Director

Director in the amount of \$107,000 agreed to On Parks and Resources

Mr. Brewster: I gather that this is campgrounds and such things as that. I wonder why there is a decrease there, when actually tourism, on page 241, has gone up by 35 percent? Why would the parks be decreasing their allotment when tourism is going up that fast?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Under personnel for parks and resources, we are actually looking at a decrease. This is because of, as I mentioned earlier, the transfer of a drafting position to administration and three habitat positions to Fish and Wildlife during the latter part of 1985-86. Under Other, we are basically maintaining the same costs for parks and resources.

Mr. Coles: I would just like to make a point to the Minister. The campgrounds that they have built in the Tatchun-Frenchman Lake area are perfect; they are beautiful. The only problem is that the boat dock is a mile away from the campground. I am not too sure why that is. I wonder if the Minister could just check with the department to see if there is some way that they could put a boat dock at the campground, because people who are going through there are staying for one day, and they are just not using the lake at all for that reason.

Hon. Mr. Porter: We will check into that situation, and we will receive an accounting from Personnel in Parks as to why that is the situation.

Mr. Brewster: When the Minister is checking, I would suggest that he look at a couple of other places. I believe that the same thing happened in Watson Lake. The campground is apparently a long ways away from the lake, or something, and they are not too happy with that one, too.

²³ **Hon. Mr. Porter:** Yes. We are actively addressing the situation in Watson Lake.

Parks and Resources in the amount of \$355,000 agreed to On Regional Planning

Hon. Mr. Porter: Under personnel of Regional Planning we have gone from \$25,000 to \$122,000. That is because of the staff vacancy situation in the department last year that we expect to fill this year. Under our other costs, we expect to remain constant.

Regional Planning in the amount of \$160,000 agreed to On Development and Operations

Hon. Mr. Porter: Again, breaking this down between Personnel and Other, we are looking at an increase of \$44,000 under Personnel. The increase is due to JES implementation in the latter part of 1985-86. We had a Chief of Operations position under this department that was vacant for a good part of the year. We have now filled that position.

Under Other, we have a decrease for that particular area. That is due largely to travel costs. Equipment and rental rates pertaining to the development of the various projects were changed to O&M in 1985-86, but will be charged to the Capital Budget for 1986-87.

Mr. Brewster: I would like to get onto the statistics for a few moments. Something I must have missed. What is the difference between a campground and a campsite?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Campground would be the total area. The campsite would be the individual sites within the campground.

Mr. Brewster: I see where he is upgrading the Marsh Lake Campgrounds again. It says campgrounds. Does this mean we have more than one? Were they not upgraded just a few years ago?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Subject to clarification, my personal knowledge is that there is one campground at Marsh Lake. As to what work has been done in the past, I do not know, but I will check and see what work we have done in the past on that particular site.

Mr. Brewster: I know that it says it is going to bring it up to current standard guidelines. Has he set a new set of guidelines, or is this still the old set?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That is in conformity to the guidelines that are the department's capital plan.

Mr. Brewster: Just one other thing: where is the Little Atlin Campground, and what are the plans for that?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We are not able to find that information as to what is intended for the Little Atlin Campground, but we will get that information to the Member.

Mr. Brewster: The Watson Lake area has got expansion or relocation. Which one is it going to be? Were the people in Watson Lake consulted about this?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The Member for Tatchun raised a concern in his area where the boat ramp was located quite some distance from Carmacks. In this situation, we have the campground built quite a distance back from the lake, and people have been complaining that when they go to the campground they have no access to the lake.

We will be trying to redesign the campground to give the people access to the lake. There will probably be a loop road down to the lakeside and maybe additional sites.

My information on Little Atlin is that we are doing repairs and replacement on worn out campground facilities, picnic tables, privies and the like.

Mr. Brewster: In other words, there is definitely not a relocation, just expansion of the present campground. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That is correct.

Mr. Lang: I recall in the Supplementaries that we did have a discussion on how this would relate to a private investor who wanted to set up a recreational vehicle campground in Watson Lake. I recommended to the Minister that he perhaps talk to the people in the community and not spend all of the \$40,000 on the campground, but to set aside a portion of it to make the lakefront a little more accessible. Has the Minister followed up on that suggestion?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The one thing I would like to say is that part of the campground expansion in Watson Lake that will definitely go through is giving people access to the lake.

I do not know what percentage of the overall budget that constitutes, but the people have definitely made that a criteria. We can look at relaxing expansion of other sites. I will definitely consider that before we begin construction there.

Mr. Lang: Do I have a commitment from the Minister that he will be consulting with the municipality and the Chamber of Commerce on this issue to ensure that the money is spent as judiciously and as wisely as possible?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I would undertake to speak to the Chamber of Commerce. We also got a letter from the Town of Watson Lake on this question. They would like to see the loop developed closer to the lake, and we will definitely commit ourselves to that. I will reconsider other work that we plan to do in the area, and I will talk to the Chamber of Commerce and the community first to find out their concerns.

²⁵ *Development and Operations in the amount of \$506,000 agreed to*

Lands, Parks and Resources in the amount of \$1,128,000 agreed to

*On Fish and Wildlife
On Director*

Hon. Mr. Porter: The increase under the Director position under personnel went from \$114,000 to \$263,000. The increase was due to northern regional and southeast regional officers temporary seconded to headquarters. As Members may be aware, we have taken a position from Watson Lake and have transferred that to the

central offices. We have also taken a position from Dawson and transferred it to the central office. Largely, this is to go over the redraft of the *Wildlife Act* and other legislation.

The resource development officers will be involved in planning for the fisheries transfer and other related field operations.

In terms of the Director position under Other, we are looking at a \$53,000 decrease there. The reduction is in support of funding for the transfer of fisheries and other program changes. In the past, we were bringing consultants in to assist the department with the fisheries area. What we have is a situation where the Director of Wildlife is going to be doing a lot of that work. As well, with the additional assistance in the policy area where we have that term position for policy, a lot of the work for fishery devolution, for example, will be handled by that person. We are also bringing the two individuals from Watson Lake and Dawson into the department. In the fisheries area, we feel that we now have the people to do the work and do not have to necessarily hire consultants to assist us, like we have been doing in the past.

Mr. Brewster: Are the two person-years that have been transferred in here to work on Regulations going to be replaced during the busy summer season?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No. The plan is not to bring in additional staff to replace them. To a large extent, these positions that we are talking about were both regional supervisors. We found, in some instances, that there was not enough work to keep them out there for the entire year.

With respect to this summer, we are moving the regional officer from Dawson to Whitehorse. The Dempster is a problem in the fall. We have a lot of hunters going up the Dempster. There are all kinds of reports that have happened in the past. We feel that with the additional conservation officer position in Old Crow, which we have transferred from the special services officer, he will take up the slack and give us the assistance that we need in the fall on the Dempster.

²⁶ **Mr. Brewster:** I agree that quite often you do not need that extra person there, but I would really question why the person in Old Crow can be there, unless he is stationed somewhere on the Dempster. I hear reports about problems on the Dempster Highway. I would think the man would be more available to it than Old Crow where he has to fly back and forth at terrific expense.

Hon. Mr. Porter: We do not see the conservation officer from Old Crow spending an awful lot of time in the Dempster area, but there are certain peak seasons that have been documented so we know when we are going to need the extra manpower. We will bring that individual down when we need them. They will not be sitting in Dawson for any length of time doing nothing. They will be there when we have a peak demand.

Mr. Brewster: Is it not true that during peak demand, other conservation officers are sent in unmarked cars into these areas?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We have done that in the past, yes.

Mr. Brewster: Is there a plan to do that again this year?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We have no particular plan right now to announce that we are going to do it, but if we find that we need additional help, then we will make that decision.

Mr. Brewster: He says, "If we need additional help." I do not think there is any question that that is one of the hot spots of the whole Yukon where game is definitely being abused. I think it has to be looked after. An announcement that these people would be in that area might smarten a few people up.

Hon. Mr. Porter: In addition to that, in the past, the RCMP have participated in giving us a hand when they have not been busy, and that has really helped as well.

Mr. Phillips: Has the department considered a public reporting thing? They have it in BC I think. They actually offer a reward to people who turn people in who are eventually convicted.

Hon. Mr. Porter: In part, we encourage the auxiliary officers to assist us in that program as well. There is information to that effect in the hunting brochures that are given out. I would suggest that that is probably one area we can look at when we receive the Select Committee Report. We can look at having local people assist the department in carrying out its responsibility.

Mr. Phillips: I would suggest that the department, rather than

reinvent the wheel, check with BC and Alberta. I am not suggesting that anyone should report on their neighbour, but, on the other hand, hunters have a great deal to lose over a few people who might abuse the system. That may tighten up the system in that area, if everyone was concerned about the wildlife and was prepared to do something about it.

Hon. Mr. Porter: It is a preventive idea, and we would support that. Apparently we have been in contact with B.C. and Alberta, and we have received their information.

Mr. Brewster: I would suggest that this Auxilliary program is a good one, but I think the Chairman will agree from our travels through the Yukon that this is not a success. These people get into these things, and they are very seldomly called. I recall talking to Conservation Officers and with the people; they did not even know the names. I suggest that there is something wrong with the coordination of the program, although I think it is a good program.

I suspect that the deal is that most people become Auxilliary Officers, and then want badges to arrest everyone. However, I think that they should be encouraged by the Conservation Officers, and I sometimes question if they really are.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I imagine it is different in some areas. I remember last year that one Auxilliary Officer was really dedicated on a weekly basis of assisting us. We made a presentation to that individual for all the efforts he made. The Director of Wildlife was in Dawson and made that presentation.

There are obviously other cases where that is not happening. I will ensure that it will go down through the department that there are some concerns about it, and that the people working in the field should make every effort to involve the Auxilliary Officers.

Mr. Phillips: I made a suggestion to the department, and I am wondering if they are following up on it. The suggestion was that the department, in many of their programs like the Moose Study, the Wolf Study and other programs, utilize leaders in the communities, for instance, people in Champagne or in Old Crow, on the projects as opposed to hiring someone from Whitehorse who has some biological experience.

I think the human approach would be to get someone from the communities. It tends to work both ways. It informs the biologist working in the area of the feelings of the community on the wildlife in that area. It also helps with the individual who picks up on what the biologist is doing and understands it more clearly. That person then passes that message back to the community and builds a better working relationship. Is the department considering involving people in that even though there are insurance problems?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I completely agree with the sentiments expressed by the Member. I believe it is not only the people who are schooled in the academic or scientific aspect of wildlife who do have real knowledge about wildlife activity.

That is something that is occurring throughout wildlife management agencies. There is a discernible trend where agencies in Alaska, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, ones that we have worked fairly closely with, are moving toward an aspect of wildlife management that recognizes that the people who live in the bush know a great deal about wildlife and wildlife management.

I would add my concurrence to the opinion as expressed by the Member. There are some areas where individuals have been assisting. For example, in the Ross River area, we have tremendous support from the community with them helping out with the program on the Finalyson caribou.

²⁸ I remember last summer there was a specific incident where an individual from the Watson Lake area assisted our people when they were looking at the Rancheria caribou. They were netting the caribou and radio collaring them.

I would say that, yes, we are moving more and more toward a program like that. Hopefully, in the future, we will get to a point where it will become commonplace throughout the Yukon, that individuals will be asked to assist the department personnel.

*Director in the amount of \$288,000 agreed to
On Small Game*

Hon. Mr. Porter: In this particular area, under Personnel the increase is \$28,000. This is due to more emphasis on furbearer management projects in 1986-87 and the lynx harvest study. In the

area of Other costs under Small Game, there has been no change in those costs.

Mr. Brewster: One thing I would question on this one and the next line item are, to me, the two important things to be studying, game and that. I notice that they have decreased. Yet, some of the other things that are, to me, quite technical or staged in Whitehorse go up. I wonder why the money is not turned the other way, where we get more studies than looking after our predators and such things out in the field.

Hon. Mr. Porter: First of all, I will endeavour to give him the correct information. Going back over again the Small Game, I gave the Other as Personnel costs. Personnel costs is that we have gone from \$270,000 to \$296,000 for Small Game. The reason is the JES; an overall increase on salaries. In Other, the increase there is \$269,000 to \$297,000. That was for more emphasis on furbearer management.

I would like the Member to repeat his specific question again. As I understand it, he is asking us if we would increase the money being put into the communities as opposed to studies?

Mr. Brewster: No, just the opposite way. He is appearing to be increasing such things as Administration and directors and that. They have all increased and yet both small game and big game where, to me, there should be more study out in the field, have decreased quite considerably. He has decreased one by 17 percent and one by 28 percent.

I feel that money should be out there and not so much created into more or less the technical parts and the administration.

Hon. Mr. Porter: That is a very legitimate point, however we find ourselves in a catch-22 situation, where if we increase the activity in the field and the research activity in the field, then we end up needing more support staff within the department, for example, secretarial support staff to be able to write the reports that are brought in from the field research activity.

What we have to do in Renewable Resources is take into consideration the green paper exercise and the report that comes out of that. We have to put in place a strategic plan. The question of resources, from the overall government, should be looked at.

It is our intention, after we receive the Select Committee report, to submit ourselves, as a department, to a comprehensive budget review for the whole government. Some areas of other departments of government have gone through this, but we have not yet had the opportunity.

²⁹ Overall, and in past years, they think that we have not given enough resources in this particular area. I think we have to look at renewable resources as a department. If you look at what it represents to the other parts of government, it is relatively a small item of expenditure. It is a major area of concern and importance to all the people of the Yukon.

I think the specific questions that flow from the Member are many, and I agree that there has to be more support for acquiring better baseline data on all of the wildlife resources that we have, because that is lacking in many areas.

*Small Game in the amount of \$593,000 agreed to
On Big Game*

Hon. Mr. Porter: Under personnel in Big Game, we have decreased from \$460,000 to \$350,000. The decrease is the reduction in budget from the predator program for zones 7 and 9. We also have a decrease of another \$155,000. Again, this is related to the predator-prey program. You will recall, last year we spent in the neighbourhood of \$360,000 on that program, and we cut that down to \$90,000.

Mr. Brewster: I am a fellow who likes to save money, but I have a little problem when we are not managing game the way I feel it should be; however, I am one person.

Quite often we seem to bring in university students to do these studies. I am continually hearing very bad reports. I will not bring any personal ones in here. I have reported one or two of them. I am wondering if this is why. These people come in and write their thesis here, and our game suffer for it. In a couple of cases I know that the game suffered very badly. If it comes down to something like that, maybe we should have one more qualified person on our staff who could be doing this work.

Hon. Mr. Porter: In this budget we have four person-year increases. We have three in agriculture, and the fourth person-year increase is the hiring of a biometrician. That individual's job will be to take a lot of these reports, write them up and get them out to the public. That will assist us in condensing these reports from the technical language produced by the biologists to a language that the public can understand. With that additional person on staff, the outside consultative work that is being done will be cut back.

We are bringing students up in the summer. We are trying to assist the individual as well as gain some information. We will ensure that supervision will be emphasized with any future students that we do bring to Yukon to work on the summer projects.

³⁰ **Mr. Brewster:** I think bringing in that public person is a very good idea. One thing I would suggest, when you put out these studies, you could include an average breakdown of the costs so that people can really understand what each one of these studies is costing. This will make people more aware of what is going on, so that they realize what the department has to do. It will also make people more conscious of what it is costing us to look after our game and keep it alive.

Are the studies done by these university people their own property? Can they sell them to other journals? Do we get anything back from this, or is it just gone?

Hon. Mr. Porter: My understanding is that if an individual is doing studies in the Yukon, we have the ability to check their work prior to that work being released. We also receive copies of the work that they do produce.

*Big Game in the amount of \$689,000 agreed to
On Technical and Planning*

Hon. Mr. Porter: Under Personnel, we have increased in this area from \$110,000 to \$298,000. The increase is due to salary. That is two staff previously located in another area of Big Game, plus a transfer of three positions and four habitat that were in the Lands, Parks and Resources Branch before. We are looking at a decrease under Other. The decrease is due to hosting international conferences last year, a major shift toward habitat management program, protecting critical areas and project review.

Mr. Coles: Would the money for negotiating the takeover of Fisheries and Forestry and things like that come under this line?

Hon. Mr. Porter: All branches of government would be responsible for assisting in working towards any negotiations that we do. The primary area of expenditure is in the policy branch of renewable.

*Technical and Planning in the amount of \$327,000 agreed to
On Field Services*

Hon. Mr. Porter: We have a \$25,000 decrease in Personnel under Field Services. That is due to temporary secondment of two senior regional positions to headquarters, as we noted earlier, from Watson Lake and from Dawson. As well, we are going to be converting the special services officer from the headquarters to a CO position to Old Crow.

In the description of Other, under Field Services, we are looking at an increase of \$76,000. This is due to campground maintenance; also, the necessary support dollars for the CO position in Old Crow.

³¹ We are also going to transfer a conservation officer from Whitehorse to Teslin.

Mr. Brewster: There is one question that always comes up, and I believe the Minister asked it when he was on this side of the House. Poaching and violations of the law are always done on Saturdays and Sundays, yet the Conservations Officers very seldom work on those days. Has any provision been made to change that?

Hon. Mr. Porter: During the hunting season, we try to manage the timetable of the hours of work so that the conservation officers are working on the weekends.

Mr. Brewster: Do these conservation officers have any authority to manage this? I think it should be much like policemen. You cannot have the hours regular because you do not know when one of these things is going to happen. If there are two officers, there should be someone available at least for 12 or 14 hours a day, the same as police are.

Hon. Mr. Porter: In situations where we do have a two-person operation, that is the policy that we implement.

*Field Services in the amount of \$1,166,000 agreed to
On Special Services*

Hon. Mr. Porter: As we have stated under Special Services, under the area of Personnel, the increase shown is for merit and general increases. Under Other, we have gone from \$1,952. We reduced the position of the Special Services Officer, and that cost is for a conservation officer in Old Crow.

Special Services in the amount of \$52,000 agreed to

Mr. Brewster: I would like to go into statistics again. It is very interesting that, from 1984-85 to 1986-87, the licences were reduced by 230. With the price of meat, I suspect there should be more people hunting. Is there any reason why there is such a large reduction?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We do not have a reason for the situation. I will undertake to ask for an explanation as to why we have that decrease.

Mr. Brewster: It is also very interesting that in the Number of District Occurrence Reports we have dropped by 25. The prosecutions are exactly the same as they were in 1985-86. The number of District Warnings are exactly the same. That is very peculiar. Do we arrange these prosecutions so that they come out like this?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No, we do not arrange for them. The projections are based on the level of activity of the preceding year.

³² **Mr. Brewster:** He has gone down 231 licences, but prosecutions and warnings have jumped by almost 30.

How does he estimate this thing when he has lost 231 licences, yet he has gone a way up on his warnings and prosecutions?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The explanation for the prosecutions and the warnings is that it is expected that in this coming season we are going to have more activity out in the field with the COs and personnel. Because of this increased contact in the field, there may be increased warnings and increased prosecutions.

Mr. Brewster: I would like to thank the Minister for that. I will be watching, just out of curiosity, to see if we are getting worse all the time, or just what is going on.

*Special Services in the amount of \$52,000 agreed to
Fish and Wildlife in the amount of \$3,115,000 agreed to
On Agriculture*

Mr. Coles: Is there any plan in the department to hire a meat inspector or a meat and poultry inspector for the territory?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes. What we have said to the agricultural industry is that we will bring on the necessary inspection services as they are needed.

In terms of the agricultural program, we are increasing it. This is the first year that there has been a branch created within the department for the purposes of serving agriculture. We have a three permanent person-year establishment for this branch.

With respect to jurisdiction, we have a situation where agriculture is not going to be a major industry. It is going to be an industry that is going to be developed to meet the market demands. I would suggest that in the immediate future we are looking at the local market demands. Depending on the industry and the individuals involved, if we develop in expertise and are able to cut our costs, we may become competitive with other jurisdictions.

Because of that, we cannot go out and hire specific inspectors who are trained in special areas. As we have been discussing it, what we plan to do on the question of inspection is to contact other jurisdictions, like BC and Alberta. For example, if someone develops an elk ranch and they are going to slaughter their elk and we know ahead of time when the slaughter is going to take place, we coordinate that with other elk ranchers or reindeer ranchers. Then we will contract for meat inspection services for that specific timeframe. We look to BC and Alberta as two provinces that have those people on staff, and we look to establishing a contract relationship with them.

³³ **Mr. Coles:** I would like to tell the Minister that there is a person living in the territory right now who is a qualified meat inspector who worked with the federal government in that capacity for a number of years. The Minister probably would not even have to go out of the territory.

I do not want to see us getting into the situation that the NWT is in right now where the meat that is sold within the territories is not

even inspected. Inspectors are brought up from outside to inspect anything that is sent out.

Hon. Mr. Porter: We will use the services of local people who are qualified to do the work.

Mr. Brewster: I am a little confused. I thought all meat inspectors were federal. I know a federal inspector comes here every year to inspect all the cattle.

When the Minister talks about the slaughter house, only caribou and elk are referred to. He did not mention cattle and chickens. That could be successful except that the meat cannot be sold in the stores until the inspector comes in.

There is one in Dawson Creek who comes up to check for TB on cattle. He happens to be a friend of mine and is a long-distance relative of mine, so I know a little about him. He has been doing this for years.

Could the Minister give us a breakdown of what the three person-years are for? Does it include the man in the office who is on federal wages.

Hon. Mr. Porter: The federal meat inspectors' role is for inter-provincial trade in meat, shipping from province to province. There are inspection services in the Province of Alberta. The Province of Alberta will retain meat inspectors for the movement of meat within the province. The federal inspectors become involved when Alberta, for instance, decides to ship to Ontario, because the beef there is not as good and the people there want to eat some good beef now and then. That is an example of the role of the federal inspector.

We are planning to install a Director of Agriculture, a Development Officer, a part-time Agronomist Inspector, and part-time secretarial support.

Mr. Brewster: Are all three now on staff?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No. The Director's position has not been filled. We have an acting Director filling that position. When you talk agriculture, he is, without a doubt, one of the most qualified people living in the Yukon right now. The Agricultural Development Officer position has just been hired, as well as the secretary.

Mr. Brewster: There is a federal employee in the department who tests soil. Will he stay with the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That individual will stay with the federal government.

Mr. Brewster: I noticed that the Minister has no transfer payments at all from the federal government for this department.

Hon. Mr. Porter: The Yukon River Basin Studies have been completed. There are no transfers there at all.

Mr. Brewster: There are a lot of studies in the agriculture department for which the federal government gives grants and money all across western Canada. It is my understanding that we were now getting some of these grants, are we not? If not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes, we are in receipt of funding from the federal government on the Crop Development Program. This is where we are running little plots in various parts of the Yukon: Dawson, Watson and the Pelly area.

The number there is somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$173,000. As opposed to it being a transfer from the federal government to us, we see that as a joint-funding program. We are spending \$40,000 in that particular area. The Yukon Livestock and Agricultural Association is also involved. It is a joint program between the federal government, ourselves and the agricultural industry.

Mr. Brewster: Where would his share of this be shown in this budget?

Hon. Mr. Porter: That particular area of expenditure would show up under Other. We are projecting \$85,000 total for expenditures this year. That will include our share of the costs for the demonstration projects.

Mr. Brewster: Just out of curiosity, why is this transfer payment sitting in this budget when it is blank all the way through? Why would he even bother with this line item?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I will have to raise that question with the architects of the budgeting process.

Mr. Nordling: Could the Minister clarify why there is \$85,000 allocated under Other? Did the Minister say that the whole \$85,000

was being spent on these joint projects? Or is only a portion of it? Could he break down that \$85,000?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The breakdown for Other costs is transportation, communication, staff travel, telephone service, long distance tolls, advertising, \$29,000; professional and special services, consulting services seminar, conferences, \$47,000; vehicle rental, \$2,000; materials and supplies, \$7,000.

Mr. Nordling: Could the Minister repeat those numbers, and I will put my earphone on. I got the first number of \$29,000 and nothing after that.

Hon. Mr. Porter: The numbers are \$29,000, \$47,000, \$2,000 and \$7,000.

Mrs. Firth: There is a conflict study being done within the department. Could the Minister tell us where the funding for that is?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The funding for that is coming out of the Policy and Planning Branch.

Mrs. Firth: Was that money originally identified in the Policy and Planning Branch, or did it come from some other area within the department?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No, it was originally in the budget. We did not move money from another place.

Mrs. Firth: Where was it in the budget? Was it under Agriculture?

Hon. Mr. Porter: No, it was in Policy and Planning Branch.

Mrs. Firth: There is also a departmental committee that is going to study agriculture. Can the Minister tell me who is on that committee and exactly what the objective of the committee is?

Hon. Mr. Porter: They are not going to study agriculture. We have set up an interbranch committee. We get people from the Wildlife Branch and a representative from the Policy and Planning Branch. They are going to try to assist the agricultural unit in processing the applications. If there are any areas where they can speed up the process, that is the purpose of bringing that interbranch committee together, to sit down with the agriculture unit and try to increase and expedite the speed with which applications are dealt with.

Mrs. Firth: Can the Minister tell us how many people there are on that committee and who the people are?

Hon. Mr. Porter: There are four people. As to their specific names, I do not have that information, but I could write a memo to the Member and let her know.

Mr. Nordling: I understood the Minister mentioned a figure of \$40,000 that the government was spending in joint projects with the federal government. The Member for Kluane asked where that \$40,000 was reflected in the budget. The Minister said under Other. When he broke down Other, it was transportation, travel, communications, \$29,000; consulting, \$47,000; something for \$2,000 and something for \$7,000 to add to a total of \$85,000.

Where exactly is the \$40,000 that will be spent jointly?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I did not have the specific numbers in front of me. Those were just guesstimate numbers about what the federal government is spending on crop demonstration and what we are spending as well. I can break out the specific numbers.

The money that we would be spending for the Crop Demonstration Program will come out of the Professional and Special Services, which is the \$47,000.

On Agriculture

Agriculture in the amount of \$217,000 agreed to

Chairman: Any comments on the Revenue Recoveries on page 230 and on 231?

Mr. Brewster: Here we go again. Campgrounds are down, yet tourism is up by 35 percent and renewable resources seems to be taking all the tourism programs and going the other way. What is the reason for the permits being dropped that fast when we know from estimates now that tourism, this year, is going to go up again?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The explanation is that the decrease is due largely to hours of work for campground fee collectors being reduced, thereby reducing anticipated number of permits sold.

Mr. Brewster: Here we have this beautiful campground. In most places all over the world you would be paying \$10, \$12, \$15 a night for it, yet we do not even bother collecting money. Then we wonder why the private campgrounds get so very, very upset when

they try to collect \$7 for one with water and showers and then go down the road three miles and have one and they know that there will be nobody there to collect the fees. Yet their tax money is helping to keep this campground going. This is an illogical thing that I have been fighting for 25 years. Maybe this Minister can tell me the answer to this?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Apparently this is a problem that is a Yukon problem. Apparently it is a problem that is widespread across Canada where governments are involved in the campground business. As to why we are losing on the collection side, I do not really know the answer right now, but I will make an enquiry as to why that trend is showing up.

Mr. Brewster: I do not notice an expenditure in Recovered here where there is any money from Canadian Wildlife Service to cover half their share on the buffalo deal, or are they completely out of it now?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The CWS contribution, just from memory, is around \$60,000, but that was done in the 1985-86 year.

Mr. Brewster: Also, in here we have the North American Wildlife Sheep Foundation. When they put that money in, what terms of reference do they lay down to the government?

Hon. Mr. Porter: They designate the problem that they would like to see the money expended on. This year we have: the burn in Kluane, \$20,000; the wolf-sheep interaction also in the Kluane area; and the wolf control in Finlayson. The two Kluane projects total \$40,000, and the Finlayson, \$30,000.

Mr. Brewster: This question is probably a little late. Is the burning on the Kluane going ahead this year?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes, the burning is going to go ahead. Apparently, an individual complained of a problem. When we talked the situation over with the individual, we came to an amicable agreement on the project.

Chairman: Before we begin with Tourism, we will recess for 15 minutes.

Recess

Chairman: The Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

On Department of Tourism

Hon. Mr. Porter: I am pleased to present the O&M Estimates for the Department of Tourism for 1986-87. I would like to, first of all, review last year's results and take a look at what is anticipated for this coming year.

As I previously advised the House, in 1985, there was an estimated 469,509 border crossings into the Yukon, an increase of 11 percent over 1984. Of that number, it has been further estimated that some 428,000 were non-Yukon residents. This information is from Statistics Canada Border Crossing Data.

Of these visitors, some 64 percent came from the US, 29 percent from Canada and seven percent from overseas. In 1975, Americans represented 77 percent of our visitors. The trend over the years has seen increasing percentages of Canadian and overseas visitors is significant, although recent world events and Expo 86 in Vancouver could very well change the patterns in this coming year.

There was an increase of 34 percent last year in the number of visitors arriving by motor coach. This has significance because it implies greater utilization of the accommodation sector of the tourist industry.

Further statistics for expenditures are still being determined. The annual Industry Highlights Report for 1985 will be available very shortly for distribution. It has been delayed slightly this year because of inconsistencies in expenditure calculations. These will be refined further during the coming year.

To ensure that Members will agree with me, credit is due to the marketing efforts of not only Tourism Yukon, but also to the Yukon private sector, principally represented by YVA. The time is donated by the members of the Cooperative Marketing Committee, and the advice that they provide is invaluable in the formulation of our marketing plans.

The outlook for this year, based on a number of indicators, is also extremely promising. The number of cruise ship dockings in Skagway has gone from 162 last year to a projection of 226 this year, a significant increase.

Major tour operators are reporting that their bookings are very significantly increased over last year while unsolicited inquiries — that is to say individual letters as distinct from advertising coupons — have increased to 4,434 to the end of April. Including responses to advertising and inquiries at consumer travel shows, we have processed 84,271 inquiries since last October when our advertising for the 1986 tourist year started.

³⁹ Before I get into the debate on the 1986-87 Main Estimates, I would like to advise the House on a number of matters that were raised during debate of the 1985-86 Supplementary Budget No. 2.

Reference was made to the study that was done by Mr. Mark Denhese of Ottawa, who was contracted for \$8,500 to produce an analysis and recommendations for Yukon heritage policy and legislation. Currently, the report is still being reviewed in consultation with the Department of Justice. I hope to have something for the Members opposite in the near future and look forward to introducing heritage legislation by the next spring sitting of the House.

Further to the discussion on the possible museum in Watson Lake, I have been advised that the museum subcommittee of the Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce has drawn up terms of reference for an architectural and engineering study of the Dalziel House and has been sent to a number of Yukon engineering firms. Proposals are awaited, and it is hoped to have a report by June 30.

In response to questions from the Member, yes, a fire did occur at the Dalziel House, as well as an earlier burglary. The pieces remaining from the collection have not yet been expertly examined to determine the extent of possible damage.

During the earlier debate, the Member for Riverdale South asked how many archeological permits were issued last year, and who was signing them. I am pleased to inform her that six permits were issued, and that all scientific licences and archeological permits are signed by the director of the Heritage Branch as the authority delegated to administer the program.

The Member for Porter Creek East asked how the Lords' current study into museums policy and systems planning dovetailed with reports done in the past. His understanding that Lords had made a study in the past is correct. Specifically, it was done for the MacBride Museum. Studies were also undertaken by other consultants for the Dawson City Museum and for the proposed Transportation Museum.

The current Lords study is territory-wide and will take into account the plans and aspirations of all the individual museums. It is expected to be completed by June 15. Following receipt it will be reviewed by the department and me prior to recommendations being presented to Cabinet.

The Member for Riverdale South also inquired about how many response cards were received last year. Responses to our 1984-85 advertising campaign in the form of cards or coupons received between October, 1984, and September, 1985, totalled 44,757. As well, 2,368 cards or coupons from previous years' advertising came in. An additional 6,388 unsolicited letters were also received in the same period.

⁴⁰ Twenty-five thousand, five hundred and fifty response cards were received by YVA and private sector people at consumer shows in 1985. The grand total of individual enquiries, therefore, is 79,063. Expenditure figures on projectors, prints and films for Expo were sought by the Member for Porter Creek East. The overall contract for the main audiovisual in the theatre was with North of 60 productions and amounted to \$265,375. This includes the 18 projectors and programmers as well as the slides themselves and production costs, including the musical score.

In addition, there are two other contracts with the same company, one for \$20,800, to produce a 16mm film version of the audiovisual, and the other for \$23,635 to produce two duplicate sets of the slides. Also, AV Action Yukon Limited had three contracts: one for \$53,000 to produce an audiovisual for the entrance waiting area, including six projectors. The other two contracts, totalling

\$32,556, were to produce the travel trade promotional audiovisual, and one for economic development. These latter two AVs will be used in the lounge area for promotional purposes for small groups or individual tour operators or businessmen.

During debate concerning Expo, the Member for Porter Creek West raised a question regarding the Yukon manufacturers selling their products at Expo other than through the Yukon Pavilion; also, whether a contract existed with the Chamber of Commerce. I am advised that although the Expo Corporation decided not to operate a provincial-territorial boutique, they did, in fact, hand the project over to the Crafts Association of British Columbia for operation. Also, there are two other retail outlets at Expo that are operated by two Vancouver area retailers. In turn, the Department of Economic Development, I understand, signed an agreement with the Chamber of Commerce for them to undertake the coordination of Yukon suppliers with the three Expo outlets. Eleven Yukon manufacturers provided products that they wished to sell at Expo. The two retailers expressed interest in certain products, and the necessary instructions were made. The Yukon Craft Society is coordinating the sale of Yukon products through the boutique.

The Member for Porter Creek East expressed concern that too much money was going to be spent on historic sites inventory. Within that debate I erroneously stated that we had 1,700 known historic sites in the Yukon. In fact, we know that there are 1,700 archaeological sites, and we also believe that there are an additional 1,000 or more historic sites, but are not sure.

There is a need for the study to identify and describe all of these sites. These will provide baseline data from which priorities for future historic sites development can be established. The priorities will be established by Yukoners based on the inventory, community consultation and various heritage, economic and tourism uses identified for the sites.

The Member opposite and I have had correspondence over the direction that the funding for the Tourism sub-agreement under the EDA should take. It is now my wish to update the House on the substance of the discussions between me and the federal Minister.

In December, 1985, I contacted the federal Minister of State for Tourism and offered the cooperation and involvement of my officials with his in reviewing the establishment of revolving loan funds within the Canada-Yukon Tourism Subsidiary Agreement.

In April, Mr. Murta replied to the effect that a revolving fund would not be feasible. His primary objection was that such a measure could not be put into place without an act of Parliament with all its intended complexities. He said, "The previous revolving funds established by Parliament involved very large amounts of capital and direct support of internal government operations". The type of revolving fund envisaged for the Yukon did not meet these parameters. He felt that the current mixed financial assistance available under the Subsidiary Agreement was sufficient to meet the needs of the Yukon tourism industry.

I responded and expressed my disappointment in his reply. Given the legal constraints that may preclude the establishment of a revolving loan fund, I suggested three options to the Minister to provide the greatest possible assistance to the industry. The first would be to continue as at present with the provision of repayable contributions, but to renegotiate the total value of the agreement to a level where the assistance to the industry would approximate original commitments.

A second option would be to provide for the Yukon delivery of the product development component of the agreement. While not having considered this in detail, there does not appear to be any impediment precluding approval of funds, which would subsequently be administered on a revolving basis by this government. I assure you that this government is open and is willing to administer the program in this way to the benefit of our industry.

The third alternative, which we will be forced to consider if the loan issue cannot be resolved, is to revert to the provision of outright grants. Although this is contrary to the consensus of industry and of ourselves, and that loan assistance is preferable, we will be forced to reconsider this option in order not to lose a major portion of the funds committed.

Our application of this approach might be to require applicants to

obtain financing from commercial and other sources and to provide grant assistance in the form of interest payments. This has the merit of simplifying the application and approval process for industry, but might mean that a number of projects may not proceed due to the unwillingness of commercial lenders to provide higher ratios of financing and to expose themselves to additional risks.

I am aware that the situation does not sit well with the Member opposite, and it does not please me either. However, the situation, from our perspective, is now in the hands of the federal Minister of Tourism, and we are going to await his response. Yesterday, he confirmed that he is willing to meet with me next week in Ottawa. This is one of the topics that will be on the agenda.

In an earlier address to the House, with respect to the 1986-87 O&M Estimates, I gave details of new programs and enhancement of old ones that we proposed. Before moving into general debate, I would like to give Members an idea of some of the activities of the department over the past year, many of which gave rise to the new program initiatives.

In terms of the Canada Tourism Subagreement, during last year a total of 91 applications were received. Of these, 26 have been approved, 28 have either been rejected or transferred to another program or withdrawn by the applicant or deferred. The remaining 37 are at various stages in the process. Funding that has been approved to date is \$3,030,320. The Subagreement Management Committee has met 15 times since its inception. Administration of this program is the responsibility of the Development Branch. There have been two project officers working on it, funded under the agreement: one since July, 1985, and the other since November, 1985.

A project officer spends anywhere from 10 to 25 hours working with an applicant and assisting in the development of the application. There are additional further hours on the analysis of each application and, subsequently, there are some hours spent auditing claims from the successful applicants. Besides this, there is also preparation of submissions for Management Committee meetings, attendance at meetings and the writing of the accurate minutes of those meetings afterwards.

Another program administered by the Development Branch is the Special Events Grant Program. There were 22 applications approved in 1985. There are three of them that are going to be taking place in this tourism season. The program is meant for groups and individuals who are staging an event that has touristic implications, but who are not eligible under the Tourism Subagreement.

Another 21 applications have been received for funding under the 1986-87 program. I reviewed those last week. Those have gone ahead. For this next year we have already committed funding under that program. It seems to be a very popular program throughout the Yukon. There is \$75,000 as well this year.

The Development Branch is also overseeing the consultant who is developing the tourism development strategy. Inherent in the strategy will be elements to guide formulation of regional tourism development plans where such do not already exist. Last week, a very successful industry workshop was organized to obtain private sector input.

In addition, progress to date was presented to YVA at their recent convention. There is also the consultants for market research that will be presented to the department and to industry in June, in time to be of use in formulating marketing plans for 1987. The study's final report is expected by the end of August.

This government has been participating in the deliberations of the National Task Force on Tourism Data for the last year. One positive result of that has been the announced intention of Statistics Canada to treat the Yukon as a separate statistical entity, and not lump us in with the provinces or with the Northwest Territories.

This year should see some form of resident travel survey carried out by Statistics Canada in the Yukon. However, unfortunately because the details are not available to us, we cannot brief the Members in the House as to what those details are. As soon as we get them, we can undertake to make them available.

Nevertheless, with responsibility for all tourism research now resting in the Development Branch, they will be correlating the

segmentation study that we had done last year in the United States and Canada, with a similar study done in the US for Tourism Canada; producing the annual Tourism Highlights Report and refining the methodology used to calculate tourism expenditures; carrying out a conversions study of those who request information this year; testing of advertising promotion themes; and, designing of testing the exit survey to be carried out in 1987.

Over the past year, there were a number of meetings between the Director of Development and officials of the Department of Education to discuss ways of introducing training courses for various sectors of the tourism industry. The lack of formal training and professionalism in tourism was recognized as a national problem during last year's Tourism for Tomorrow consultative process. Our own Tourism Yukon-YVA submission identified it as a problem and further stated that it was government's responsibility to take the lead to correct the problem.

This we are seeking to do. Officials of the Tourism department and members of the private sector have been meeting on a regular basis with those in the Department of Education involved with Continuing Education. The purpose of this Tourism Hospitality Program Development Committee was to review existing programs and to develop future courses and programs that would meet the needs of industry and government.

In 1986-87, Yukon College will be offering tourism specific courses at three specific levels: the service level, supervisory level and management training. More tourists last year, many of whom were arriving earlier or leaving later than usual, created a demand for a longer season for Visitor Reception Centres. Accordingly, we shall be extending their opening by a week at each end, so that this year they will be open from May 10 to September 28. Surveys in the past have shown that visitors who frequent an information centre are more likely to stay longer in the Yukon than those who do not.

We shall be continuing our participation in the Alaska Marketing Program — I am sure the Member for Porter Creek East will be happy to hear that — although it is going to cost us more this year. The cost for participation this year is going to be \$220,000 US. This represents an increase of 10 percent.

Last year, we attended six meetings of the Alaska Visitors Association Marketing Council. Our advertising and reply card, as well as editorial copy on the Yukon, appeared in 675,000 copies of the Alaska Travel Planner, which they use as a fulfillment piece for their US advertising campaign, which is a \$4.5 million program. So far, we have received 16,528 responses from this source.

We continue our cooperative marketing involvement in Europe with our partners in Canada West, which are Alberta, British Columbia and Northwest Territories. Elements of the program include consumer and trade advertising in the United Kingdom and Germany, trade seminars and consumer presentations in the United Kingdom and Germany, Switzerland, Austria and the Netherlands, and the International Tourism Exchange in Berlin.

The Tourism Yukon representative participated in the Switzerland presentation, to a total of 1,500 potential visitors, and a trade seminar for 75 agents in Vienna. While in Germany, he met with over 50 tour operators and travel influencers. In the Australian and New Zealand markets, a representative of Tourism Yukon attended seminars and workshops for retail travel agents, organized by Tourism Canada in eight major cities. He spoke to more than 1,000 agents.

This participation was after a year's absence and was in response to requests for our presence from the private sector. The major marketplaces for tourism operators were appointments scheduled for Computers Are The Way of Doing Business and were organized by Rendezvous Canada and Tourism Yukon. This is held in Edmonton and also held at the National Tour Association convention in Reno.

Over 120 appointments were kept by Tourism Yukon at the two events. Local industry representatives also attended these functions. At the 1986 Rendezvous Canada, held this month in Montreal, we were pleased to subsidize the private sector attendance at that particular trade show. Also, Tourism Yukon and YVA representatives manned a booth there and had a total of 58 appointments. Private sector Yukon firms were also there, and they manned three

other booths.

To our knowledge, over 19 North American tour operators now have bus tour packages that come to the Yukon each summer. Many of them have multiple departures such as Westours, Princess Tours, Atlas Tours, Universal Funfinders, Maupin Tours, and there are others as well.

In German-speaking Europe, there are at least 25 tour centres with packages in the Yukon. This does not include the many operators who put together a special one-time-only group.

In line with cooperative marketing to address the rubber tire market, we have a representative travelling in the U.S. and Canada to hold seminars for automobile association counsellors. Over 400 counsellors were reached, and the program was well received. This was the first time that we held such a series, and it is in recognition that 71 percent of our visitors arrive in a private vehicle. The program will be repeated this year.

It must not be forgotten that the private sector plays an important role in our marketing program. In broad principles, tourism in the Yukon deals with promotion to the travel trade and to the media, while the YVA handles consumer promotion.

Thus, the YVA organizes the manning of the Yukon booth and consumer travel shows in San Francisco, Toronto, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. They also run a tour of RV parks in Arizona and southern California, with the Arizona Charlie Meadows show featuring Conrad Boyce as the principle entertainer.

Another tour of 20 locations in Texas was carried out by the YVA with Yukon entertainers to promote this year's Alaska Highway Square Dance Jamboree. This involves a caravan of motor homes that will be travelling from Dawson Creek to Fairbanks, Alaska. They will be stopping in individual communities and holding a huge square dance, which is going to be, I think, an exciting event this coming summer.

This winter, 28,957 response cards were brought back from the shows and tours. The YVA plays an important part in representing the private sector through its on the Cooperative Marketing Committee.

There are a number of YVA members drawn from various sectors of industry advising on the government Tourism Marketing Plan. Last year, there were 11 committee meetings. Two of the new initiatives in this year's estimates follow in part from recommendations received from the committee. Of course, I am referring to the \$100,000 advertising campaign and the \$50,000 Partners in Tourism Program.

The new travel film, "Yukon, Canada's Last Frontier", was premiered at this month's YVA Annual Conference. Now, we will be ordering prints and looking at the foreign language versions and distributions. This is a capital project, and I am sure the Members will be interested in this item. Additional prints in English will be available by the end of June and foreign language versions in time for next year's marketing program.

The Heritage Branch was also very busy over the past year. In addition to the six archeological permits mentioned earlier, 28 scientists and explorers' licences were also issued by the branch. This function alone is time consuming since each of the 34 applications has to be scrutinized and evaluated before the issuance of either permit or licence. When, eventually the licensee or the permittee submits a copy of the report, it is studied in order to determine what value, if any, pertains to the Yukon.

The need has been apparent over the last year for a native heritage advisor to be on staff, not only to advise on matters pertaining to native heritage, but also to act as a liaison with the aboriginal community at large and to convey their concerns to the department in many areas of the department's mandate.

We have made allowance in this Estimates for the appropriate addition of one person-year for that function. The Branch bid successfully to host two prestigious conferences this coming September. The first one is a Canadian Conference on Heritage Resources, and the other is on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names. Altogether, we might expect a total of 70 participants at the two events, with the result of an injection of \$36,000 into Yukon's economy.

I would like to depart from the speech to explain to the Members

that I am sure that they will be looking for the transfer of that responsibility of geographical names to the Yukon to show up in the budget. Unfortunately, because of a mix-up, that is not so. We did negotiate for the transfer of the toponymic names programs from the federal government to the Yukon government. An agreement was struck. We went to Management Board for funding for an addition to the budget. Unfortunately, because we asked for an increase, other than what was negotiated — the amount was \$23,000 that was negotiated — we made the pitch that we should have a full person-year allocated to do that, plus set up the committee to be able to carry out the program. We were not successful in Management Board. The program was basically turned back. Unfortunately, because of the technical process, because they made the decision to turn the program back, the effective decision was to turn all of the monies back. Since then, we have gone back and we have got assurances that although we did not get the full person-year and the added dollars that we were asking for, we do have the \$23,000 that had been negotiated. We will probably show that in this Supplementary next year as an accounting measure.

The Heritage Branch also had input during the land selection process related to land claims negotiations. They expect that they might be busy again this year with renewal of the negotiations being imminent. The Branch administers the Museum Grant Program, both O&M and Capital. The procedure involves reviewing each museum's application individually with the Museum Association to determine their needs, discovering the priorities, and eventually making the recommendation as to the disbursement of the available funds. The museum's handbook, which was compiled last year, will be published this spring and will provide museums with a how-to resource, which has up until now been lacking.

Last year, the Canadian Conservation Institute surveyed five Yukon museums and this year will survey the remainder. This survey is of no charge to us, but the survey report will indicate areas of concern where conservation practices to our museums need upgrading.

The Art Gallery mounted monthly exhibitions last year and will continue to do so this year. This is a means of exposing local people to many different artists with different styles and media, both local and from outside. A large part of the curator's work is in preparing and implementing tourism exhibitions of the work of local artists. The Ted Harrison exhibit has been on tour in Canada for almost two years and has been viewed in seven galleries in Alberta and British Columbia by 8,250 people and is currently in Langley, B.C. The Lillian Stephenson exhibition opens in Whitehorse on June 5 and starts a two-year tour of Canada next January. In addition to all the work involving the shows already mentioned for last year, much effort will go into the organization of seven different exhibitions for the Yukon Pavilion at Expo.

Expo is now open and, as we have stated time and time again to the House and to the public that our effort at Vancouver is — I think the best description would be — a smashing success.

“It is one of the smallest pavilions on site, but that does not hamper us at all. It is one of the most colourful pavilions at Expo. We were very fortunate in being able to put together a staff equal to none on the site. They are a very warm, friendly staff. The last figures that I saw, in the first two weeks of operation, we pulled in 100,000 people. At the time I received that information, we ranked number three of all pavilions for international inquiries. Clearly, the previous government's decision to participate in Expo, and our decision to wisely support that good decision, has shown to be very positive. I am sure that the Yukon tourism industry will benefit greatly in the future as a result of that decision.

Mr. Lang: The budget is pretty straightforward; I can see that. I am very pleased to hear the results from the Expo pavilion and about the success that the Yukon has obviously enjoyed so far and will continue to enjoy over the course of the summer. I think the end result will be very positive for the territory. It is an area that my colleague, the Member for Riverdale South, was initially involved in. It was a decision that had to be made, and, at that time, it was a long-range decision. I believe it was four years ago now, and it is nice to see the success that is being enjoyed because of that decision. It takes time to prove whether or not the proper decision

was made.

I appreciate the Minister's explanation of the tourism revolving fund. I see his staff realized I would be broaching the subject, so they wanted to make sure that we were aware of what was going on. I am disappointed in how far we have gone so far. I will be corresponding with the Minister directly on this matter. In view of what has been said, I do not want to belabour the point, but I also think that the office of the Deputy Prime Minister could be involved to see what changes could be made.

I favour the YTG approach — the government handling that element of the subsidiary agreement. I believe things can be better done at home. Forget partisan politics, because we are the ones who have to live with the results. We will pursue that area. I do not see any real legal problems there if that conscious political decision is taken. If you are going to see Mr. Murta next week — provided we are out of the House — then I would say that perhaps you should take those views expressed by myself in *Hansard* on behalf of our caucus. You will have no argument from this side.

I want to reiterate our concern about the trepidation, or at least the appearance of trepidation, in entering into a further agreement with *Alaska and Canada's Yukon*. We are strong proponent of working closely with Alaska. We slowly see British Columbia coming forward and asking to be involved with us. I think the love affair is not really with the Yukon, quite frankly; it will be with the State of Alaska, primarily because the State of Alaska is a leader in marketing, not only in the north, but internationally.

I think the extra 10 percent increase is probably justified in view of the fact that I think the YVA and the departmental staff have to be commended, up to this year, for holding the price down for marketing the product we are receiving.

⁴⁷ I think it would be a sad day for Yukon if we pulled out of that agreement, recognizing that financial constraints and financial negotiations are part of the process. If we were to ever get out of that agreement, I think we would rue the day that that happens.

I want to impress upon the Minister the importance. I know there are people within his department who would like to say they could handle this money better and invest it better for the purpose of marketing. I am here to tell you I do not think so. I do not care if we have two new people on staff, or three or four. The reality of the situation is that we have that access to that marketplace.

The other thing is that I do not think you can put a dollar value on it but it helps solidify our relationship with the State of Alaska. We may have our differences of opinion with the State as far as the opening of the Skagway port is concerned, but it is important that we have overall territorial-state agreements. It does a lot for the wellbeing of the citizens who we represent, as well as those in Alaska. I am pleased to see that there is an agreement that has been reached.

The question of the Alaska Highway and the shape of the Alaska Highway, vis-a-vis the B.C. section, is the other area that I would like to touch on. If the Minister of Community and Transportation Services would, perhaps he would like to become alert and aware of what is being discussed here.

I would impress upon the government that further representations be made to the Government of Canada with respect to the continuous upgrading of the B.C. sections, as well as on the Cassiar stretch which, I understand, is not in that good of shape. We talked about a 34 percent increase in the travelling public traffic. If these roads are not up to a standard, then we are in a situation where there are not good reports going back home. That can have a devastating effect on other people coming up in future years. I would submit to the government that they should take responsibility to ensure, on a continuous basis, that it is being brought to the Government of Canada's attention to try to do whatever we can, through the good ministerial offices that we have, to try to impress upon the Government of Canada the importance to Canada, not just the Yukon.

I thought I would mention the area of the Tourism Development Strategy. I will be looking forward to seeing what comes out of that. I sometimes suspect these things, when we go through the exercise of spending a great deal of money and see how far we are going with these so-called development strategies. Maybe we could

have made better use of the information that is being provided through the State of Alaska, through the various reports that they have done, and also from the examination of the marketing that they have done. That is a subjective point of view. I will wait and cast judgement later. I do have my reservations, and I might as well express them now.

The other area is the YVA-Government of Yukon relationship. On this side, we are a strong proponent of it. We feel very strongly, and I am pleased to see what the Minister said about the importance of the private sector. I hope that continues to be reflected.

I think the Minister erred in his presentation. It is funny that we would subsidize the private sector that is so crucial to the success of the tourism industry, but if we pay for the civil service to travel it is an investment. I would submit to the Minister that I see that as an investment. It is important that these people, who are in the private sector, who may not have the finances to go and see what these marketing agents are for and how it works, that we, as a government, look at that as an investment, not a subsidy.

48 The key in years to come will be our ability to market. I think that you have to continue to work through the private sector to do that.

The other issue is the vignettes. I know that there are some prints being made, as the Minister has outlined, for the overseas market. Maybe this is an area that we should be looking at for next year as fillers for the U.S. As a resident, I find them effective, and I think anyone watching either from Florida or the midwest states would find them very favourable and would draw some interest.

I still do believe that a sprinkler system should be put into the Dawson City Museum. I am sure that the MLA for Klondike would agree. Maybe he could express a view. He is shaking his head to the contrary. I do not understand why there are not sprinklers there.

That ends my comments. I do not want to hold up the budget. I think it is pretty straight forward, and I do not have a lot of questions on the line-by-line debate.

Mrs. Firth: I want to follow up on some specific areas after the presentation that the Minister has just made. I want to thank him for giving details and answers to the questions we had asked during the Supplementary Estimates.

In reference to response cards and the information the Minister brought forward about letters, he made a comment that he received 6,388 letters to the Department of Tourism. Can he tell me how many of those letters were complaints about the government's grizzly bear program?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Those are requests for information.

Mrs. Firth: Has the Minister received any letters regarding the program?

Hon. Mr. Porter: When they do come to me, they do not come to the Department of Tourism, they come to Renewable Resources. We are still receiving some. We get them from both sides; some people say not to have predator controls, and some people say to have predator controls. We are getting letters constantly on both sides of the issue, as we always will.

Mrs. Firth: Could the Minister give us some idea how many complaints that he is receiving? Are the majority of the letters complaints?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I do not have compiled statistics on the predator control program, but I could do that. I think that the department is keeping tabs. We have put together an explanation letter and send people that letter.

Mrs. Firth: I would like to have those figures. When the Minister sends these information letters, are the letters sent in response to the complaints sent and signed personally by him? Do we still enjoy a large percentage of our visitors from the U.S.? Is it still much better in comparison to other areas in Canada?

49 **Hon. Mr. Porter:** Sixty-four percent of our visitors, from the last figures, are from the United States. It is interesting that the Canadian market is growing as well. This does not compare favourably with 1975. We are actually seeing a decrease of visitors from the United States from 77 percent to 64 percent. The Canadian participation in our tourism industry has displaced that, and it is improving steadily.

Mrs. Firth: When the Minister brings the reply regarding the

letters, I would also be interested in any complaints he gets about hospitality and the kind of service visitors receive here in Yukon. Are there many of them? Could he supply us with that information.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I can ask the department about that, but I do not recall any letters of complaint at all. There may have been some. We will check with the department.

Mrs. Firth: I would like that information.

I want to make a comment about how pleased we are about the success of Expo. I think a lot of credit has to be given to the individual who was hired by the previous government to coordinate, deliver and oversee the Expo program. I would like to extend our thanks to that individual and our congratulations to the success of Expo. Was there a list of special people who were invited to the opening of Expo?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We did not have opening ceremonies. We participated in the opening of all of Expo. We did not schedule any specific opening. We thought that it would cost a great deal of money to set up a specific opening program. Our big day is going to be on August 18 at the Expo site. We are going to put our effort and money there to bring people on site. It should have been August 17, but because that date falls on a Sunday, we could not get permission from Expo to use it, so we had to move it the 18th. The invitations for the opening came from the Expo committee.

Mrs. Firth: I wonder if the government took any people with them the first day that Expo opened? Was there a contingency of people, and who were they?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I went down; the Deputy Minister went down, the Executive Assistant to myself, the Commissioner of the Yukon and his wife. We invited the President of the YVA and the President of the Chamber of Commerce. They cancelled.

Mrs. Firth: I want to raise it as a recommendation to the government; there may have been an oversight on the part of the government, but I think it would have been good to have invited Mr. Ted Harrison, who was responsible for the whole exterior design of the pavilion. I would recommend to the Minister that, on August 18, an invitation be extended to Mr. Harrison.

50 The Special Event Program that the Minister talked about — the 22 applications, three in this season. Could he tell me what applications have been approved?

Hon. Mr. Porter: It is our intention to invite Mr. Harrison down for August 18. Mr. Harrison contributed greatly to the look of the pavilion, inasmuch as he designed the facade of the sky in the pavilion.

I do not have the list of the programs that were approved for this year with me, but I could supply that to the Member. An example of something that would have been approved would be the Yukon Quest dog race. The Kwanlin Dun Band also received a commitment for funding for the Japanese visit. We have 130 Japanese coming on June 22. A huge salmon bake is being proposed for them. They have asked for assistance. Because it is a one-time only thing, we are granting assistance. I will get the specific information as to what applications have been committed and give that to the Member.

Mrs. Firth: I would appreciate that. In the information that the Minister is going to bring back to us, could we have an updated list of the tourism funding projects that have been approved for the \$3,030,320? That would complete the funding programs that we have asked for, if the Minister is prepared to bring that back to us.

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes, I will undertake to provide the Member with an update of the successful applicants under the EDA.

Mrs. Firth: With respect to the heritage legislation that the Minister is anticipating will be here in one year, can he give us a brief idea of what the consultative process is going to be on that legislation and who is going to be involved in it?

Hon. Mr. Porter: As the Member is quite aware, a previous discussion paper had been developed on this particular issue and circulated to the public, so there has been a degree of public consultation already. The obvious people who have an interest in heritage and issues related to heritage will be contacted, for example, all the museum associations in the Yukon will be contacted; all the bands that have expressed an interest will be contacted.

We have not made a firm decision as to how we will deal with the public process. I guarantee the Member that we will give the public an opportunity to give us the benefit of their position on heritage-related legislation.

Mrs. Firth: My concern is that the Yukon Historical and Museum Association be given a relatively high profile role in that consultative process. Should any consultation like public consultation be required, that they are definitely quite capable of handling that kind of process. The Minister has said they have done it before, and they can do it again.

⁵¹ Has the department made any literature available to the ferry terminals or to the travel agencies to warn people about the potential construction on the road? The Minister mentioned the increase in the high percentage of rubber tire traffic and the increase of the ships coming into Skagway.

Hon. Mr. Porter: We have contacted those people involved, but we have not made any specific literature available, but it is a good idea. We will look at that.

Mr. McLachlan: Is the Department of Tourism keeping abreast of the offer by White Pass and Yukon Route Railway to lease the railroad operations for major tour operators like Westours or Princess Patricia Tours? I ask this question because there are so many who dock in Skagway who stay overnight only, and leave the next morning or sometimes after only two or three hours. If the incentive was there to take the rail journey into Whitehorse, I think it could add significantly to our visitors and tourism revenue. Can the Minister advise us on that?

Hon. Mr. Porter: I may have some additional comments to add, but because the Member for Mayo is so anxious to get involved in the debate, and also because he is the lead Minister on the White Pass discussions, I will allow him the opportunity to speak to the question.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: The discussions about the use of the White Pass Railway for tourism are ongoing. We have indicated our interest in supporting any private sector application for the use of that train for tourist purposes, and we will continue to do so. I anticipate that the study that is being undertaken, which we mentioned a number of times in the House, will be completed sometime in early or mid-June.

The Member for Porter Creek East referred to the maintenance of the Alaska Highway. In the interest of responding to the concerns about the level of maintenance of the Alaska Highway in BC, the Government of Yukon, in concert with the Department of Public Works, explored the possibility of maintaining a certain stretch of road in BC, south of our border. We worked up the financial logistical consequences of such a proposal to determine whether or not there was room for any meaningful negotiations. It was clear from those preliminary discussions that there was. We were interested in pursuing the issue, if we could.

The one base that DPW then touched, which was critical to the decision, was the Government of BC's position as to whether or not they would be willing to have another government perform maintenance work in their jurisdiction. They, after some time, registered strong objections to the Yukon government performing that work. They have essentially, for the time being, given the indication that we will be unable to perform any maintenance work in BC. We have indicated to the Department of Public Works that we would like to see a higher level of maintenance on the Alaska Highway south of the Yukon border, because we recognize that there have been legitimate concerns expressed by the travelling public, and we would like to rectify those.

⁵² *On Administration*

Chairman: The first program, Administration, general debate? Administration in the amount of \$285,000 agreed to On Heritage

Mr. Lang: Could we have a general update? There are some significant increases in administration. Could he tell us why there is a 53 percent increase?

Hon. Mr. Porter: There is a significant overall increase under Heritage from \$249,000 to \$290,000. The increases were because of the addition of the native heritage advisor, JES merit and Yukon bonus increases. That is under Operations.

Under Museums: a casual to complete the museums training handbook, JES merit and Yukon bonuses.

Historic sites: the position of historic sites coordinator was vacant last year. There was quite a lengthy vacancy in that position. We filled that position, so we are going to pick that up for the full year; JES and merit and Yukon bonuses.

Art Gallery: merit increases.

Under Other, there was a \$12,000 increase. It is broken down into various areas.

Under Operations, we are seeing a slight increase in travel in Yukon due to the addition of the native heritage advisor. We are also looking at a trip to Old Crow. There will be increased travel for the Director due to heritage policy legislation initiatives that may come about during the year that might require public consultation.

In Museums, we are looking at increased travel in the Yukon. Again we are going to make a technical visit to Old Crow to look at the museum there. There is going to be travel outside of the Yukon to allow the Museum Advisor to attend a Museum Management Course that will be at the Banff Centre School. This course is going to help the Museum Advisor set up a more intensive and comprehensive training program for Yukon's museum workers.

Other travel outside: workshops in 1986-87 will involve fewer outside specialists, so we have a reduction in that particular area. ⁵³ The additional in Historic Sites is for increased travel expected in travel in Yukon with the Historic Sites Coordinator. This is also part of the familiarization. We have hired a new individual to the position and we expect, because the individual is new, that there is going to be a need for that individual to acquaint himself with the Yukon.

Outside travel: there is a national conference that was held in Victoria last year. This year it is going to be held in Ottawa so there is a slight increase in that particular area. We expect in most areas, communications, specifically, that phone rate charges are going to go across the board.

For Art Gallery, the travel outside Yukon, increased costs there. In terms of other travel outside the Yukon, there is honoraria being spent in bringing a couple of guests — art workshop leaders — up, and we are paying them \$150 a day for their time spent here. We are also going to be looking at increased telephone charges. Those are some of the increases that we are looking at.

Mr. Lang: I still have a lot of problems with the comments that were made about the inventory being made in the Yukon and undertaken at over and above the costs identified in here. I think we are in the neighbourhood of \$100,000. As far as I make out, this is to have a bunch of people from Toronto running around deciding what is an historic site and what is not. I think it is a waste of money. I just want to register that observation.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I agree with the Member opposite. We have only let phase one of the contract out. For the remaining work that will be needed to be done, we intend to insist that, in the contract, it be written that whomever lands the contract must employ Yukon people.

Mrs. Firth: Has the Native Heritage Advisor position been filled? Can the Minister tell us who it is?

⁵⁴ **Hon. Mr. Porter:** No, we have not filled that position. I have just recently had the opportunity to review the job description, and it has now gone to PSC.

On Administration

Administration in the amount of \$148,000 agreed to On Museums

Museums in the amount of \$122,000 agreed to

On Historic Sites

Historic Sites in the amount of \$80,000 agreed to

On Art Gallery

Art Gallery in the amount of \$52,000 agreed to

Heritage in the amount of \$402,000 agreed to

On Development

Chairman: Development, general debate.

Mr. Lang: That has only gone up 100 percent. Perhaps the Minister has a comment to make.

Hon. Mr. Porter: The major increase in this area is contract

services in the amount of \$89,000. The majority of the other increases are travel, phone, rental supplies and light. The Development Branch is now assuming the responsibility for administering the department's research activities. The funds that were previously allocated to the Marketing Branch are being transferred to the Development Branch. This transfer accounts for a 75 percent increase.

If the Member recalls, earlier we talked about the need for greater analysis of market trends. We talked about the segmentation study that was done. This money is for that, and it has been moved from Marketing to Development.

Mr. Lang: Who do we contract with?

Hon. Mr. Porter: We have not let any contracts yet, but we are looking at a conversion study, then the Annual Highlights Report, market testing and design and testing, and also the exit survey that we did not do this year. We are looking at doing this next year.

Mrs. Firth: Could the Minister tell me how much an exit survey costs?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The previous one was in excess of \$200,000. We are looking at a substantial expenditure, but it is necessary because we have to keep up with what number of players are in the market are doing to understand what it is that our travelling public want from us and how they feel about the Yukon; and suggestions on how we can improve our services.

Mrs. Firth: Is there then no money here to do an exit survey?

Hon. Mr. Porter: The money that we have allocated in this budget is not to do the survey, but to design the study in anticipation of doing the survey next year.

Mrs. Firth: Is the Minister talking about the 1987-88 budget; that that is where the exit survey money would be identified?

Hon. Mr. Porter: Yes.

Development in the amount of \$322,000 agreed to

Hon. Mr. Porter: I move that you report progress on Bill No. 5.

Motion agreed to

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

Motion agreed to

Speaker resumes the Chair

Speaker: I now call the House to order.

May the House have a report from the Chairman of Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Webster: The Committee of the Whole has considered Bill No. 5, *Second Appropriation Act, 1986-87*, and directed me to report progress on same.

Speaker: You have heard the report of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. Are you agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: I declare the report carried.

Hon. Mr. Porter: I move that the House do now adjourn.

Speaker: It has been moved by the hon. Government House Leader that the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to

Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until 1:30 tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The following Sessional Papers were tabled May 27, 1986:

86-3-44

— Proposed — Yukon Business Incentive Policy — Proposed (Kimmerly)

86-3-45

Policy Directive Northern Preference for Construction Contracts