



# The Yukon Legislative Assembly

---

Number 69

3rd Session

26th Legislature

---

## **HANSARD**

**Monday, February 2, 1987 — 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 Penikett	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.

## GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS

### New Democratic Party

Sam Johnston	Campbell
Norma Kassi	Old Crow
Art Webster	Klondike

## OPPOSITION MEMBERS

### Progressive Conservative

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

James McLachlan Faro

## LEGISLATIVE STAFF

Clerk of the Assembly	Patrick L. Michael
Clerk Assistant (Legislative)	Missy Follwell
Clerk Assistant (Administrative)	Jane Steele
Sergeant-at-Arms	G.I. Cameron
Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms	Frank Ursich
Hansard Administrator	Dave Robertson

<sup>01</sup> **Whitehorse, Yukon**  
Monday, February 2, 1987 — 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?  
Tabling Returns and Documents?

#### TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

**Speaker:** I have for tabling a letter from the Hon. Harvie Andre, federal Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, which is in response to Motion No. 56 passed by this Assembly on November 26, 1986.

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I have four returns in response to various questions from Members of the Opposition.

<sup>02</sup> **Speaker:** Are there any Reports of Committees?  
Are there any 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?  
This then brings us to the Question Period. Are there any questions?

#### QUESTION PERIOD

##### Question re: Agricultural land

**Mr. Phelps:** I have a question or two by way of follow-up. The first one would be a follow-up to questions asked in the House last Thursday regarding present policy for people applying for agricultural land, namely that the policy does not allow for disposition of parcels of less than 20 acres. I am wondering if the Minister can tell the House why.

<sup>03</sup> **Hon. Mr. Porter:** The policy question was originally proposed by the Agricultural Development Council and adopted by the former government. At the present time, we are implementing the same policy. However, in our review of the whole question of developing an agricultural policy, we are reviewing that particular question.

**Mr. Phelps:** With respect to the grazing policy of the government, we were advised on Thursday that there was going to be a meeting with APAC about a grazing policy. Following that meeting, can the Minister advise whether there is going to be any further public consultation?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** I cannot confirm that particular question. I understand the meeting did take place; however, since this morning, I have not been in receipt of the conclusions of that meeting. In other words, I have not yet been briefed as to the results of it.

**Mr. Phelps:** Can the Minister advise whether there have been any grazing areas applied for from the federal government by this government?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** Yes. That was a question that the Member had asked earlier. The response is that the department has 20 grazing lease applications on file, seven agricultural applications that list grazing as a second-most important activity, and three applications that list grazing as the third most important activity, for a total of 30 grazing-related applications on file.

##### Question re: Agricultural lands

<sup>04</sup> **Mr. Phelps:** Can I take it then that the government itself has not made any application for grazing lands in anticipation of the need following the passage of the Bill, which is presently in Committee of the Whole, related to animals-at-large?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** If the Member's question is concerning the movement of the applications from the department to the federal government, our position is that as soon as we can have a definitive decision on the new grazing policy, which should come very soon, then we will move those applications along with that new policy.

**Mr. Phelps:** I have a follow-up question to one I asked of the Minister in charge of Community and Transportation Services relating to the Tagish Cemetery, on January 15. At that time, the Minister was going to look into that situation and advise exactly where the Tagish Cemetery application was, whether it had been transmitted to Ottawa and how long it might take for the land to be transferred. Can the Minister give us an answer today?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** As I recall the question, last time it was put in the House, I had indicated that it had moved through our system, and that we were withholding any decision on the development work on the property until such time as we had an indication that the land would be forthcoming. I am informed, without the formal indication from the federal government, that the land is forthcoming. We have had, I guess, good signals at the administrative levels and, therefore, have undertaken to begin the development work.

<sup>05</sup> **Mr. Phelps:** I am pleased to hear that development work will be going ahead on the Tagish Cemetery.

##### Question re: Six Mile River road

**Mr. Phelps:** I would like one other question followed up. On January 15, I asked questions about the proposal for a new road along the Six-Mile River at Tagish, which was opposed by a vast majority of the residents there. Can the Minister reassure us that that road will not go ahead?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I would like to assure the House that the road will not go ahead. I have indicated as much in a letter to the petitioners who have indicated their desire that the proposal for the road be rejected.

##### Question re: Lottery contract

**Mr. Lang:** I want to raise an issue that was raised last week with the Minister of Community and Transportation Services. It has to do with the question of the proposed changes by the government which is being opposed by a great number of individuals as well as organizations, with good reason.

On Friday the Minister is quoted in a newspaper as follows: "The Whitehorse organizations of both the Arts and Sports organization works against the nature of the Lottery Commission, which is supposed to be representative of the entire territory." I would ask the Minister, in view of the fact he has a contract with Sports Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council that has two years left to run, is it now the position of the Yukon government that Sports Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council do not represent the sports, arts and cultural organizations throughout the territory, and that is why he is making the moves to have the government take full control of the distribution of lottery tickets?

<sup>06</sup> **Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The changes that are being proposed are not being opposed by all and sundry. It is the time lines that are being opposed, or that people are taking issue with.

I do not have a contract with the Lotteries Commission or with Sports Yukon or the Arts Council. It is the government that has the contract with Sports Yukon and the Arts Council.

With respect to the question the Member asks, I can indicate that it is the government's view that the Sports Federation and the Arts Council represent a wide variety of interests in the territory and do good work.

**Mr. Lang:** That is the problem. We do not understand why the government is taking the moves that they are taking at the present time, in view of the fact that the Minister keeps standing up in this House telling us what a good job they are doing.

In view of the fact that government is going to take over control of the distribution of lottery tickets and, in view of the fact that, contrary to what the Minister has said, he has signed a contract with Sports Yukon and the Lottery Commission for a three-year contract, could he inform this House whether or not it is true that the Lottery Commission has, either verbally or in writing, rented the necessary

space to make the necessary moves in order for the government to get control of this money?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The short answer to the question is no. The government is not taking over control lotteries; the Lottery Commission is assuming its control, as is under the legislation, to take the hands-on approach to the managing of lotteries.

As I mentioned in the debate, and as I have mentioned numerous times outside the Legislature, the reasons for the changes are that the Lottery Commission is proposing that, because of the introduction of new technology and because of the desire by many groups to have a fair allocation of retailer licenses, they wish to assume more direct responsibilities in the managing of lotteries.

That has met approval from representatives of the groups that I have met with in the last week or two. Their only concern is the issue of time lines.

**Mr. Lang:** It would appear to me that the Minister is only hearing what he wants to hear, not what is actually happening outside of this Legislature. There are a number of people and organizations very concerned about what is basically a money grab, for the purposes of control.

Is it true there will be up to four people required to administer the distribution of lottery tickets, when the contract that the Minister has been fully breached to his satisfaction?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** It is hardly a money grab. It is a desire to promote the fair allocation of resources. With respect to the consultations that I have received, I have been hearing exactly what is being told to me.

<sup>07</sup> **Question re: Lottery contract**

**Mr. Lang:** I asked the same question on Thursday, and I am asking the same question Monday: is it true that it is going to take up to four person-years to administer the distribution of lottery tickets in view of the actions that the government has taken?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The Member continues to assume that the government is taking action. I am certain that the complexities of this issue are being wilfully ignored by the Members, so I am not going to bother to continue explaining the situation. The short answer to the question is no.

**Mr. Lang:** I would like a second answer to the question. Is it true that there are up to three people required to administer the lottery distribution of tickets in view of the actions that the government has taken?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The allocation of resources to manage the lotteries has not been determined, so I cannot give a specific number at all. I reiterate that, of course, the Lottery Commission is initiating these actions; it is not the government doing it.

**Mr. Lang:** I have been informed that it is going to take four person-years, and the cost of four person-years, to take on this work that Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council are presently doing. Can the Minister inform me how he knows that it is not going to require four people, in view of the last response?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I am fascinated by the information that the Member is providing. Clearly, I think I would be involved in the decision as to how much personnel would be required to manage the lottery operation, or I would at least be informed. Clearly, the Member assumes that he is better informed than I. There has been no decision made as to how many personnel would be required. I presume that he might be getting his information from the consultant's report. As I have said already in debate, not all the recommendations in the consultant's report have been accepted. Certainly, to my knowledge, no arrangements have been made with respect to the staffing of the lottery office.

**Question re: Lottery contract**

**Mr. Lang:** A further question to the Minister. Is he telling this House that a decision to dismantle the present system, which has been working well by all accounts from all sides of this House, and the people of the territory, that a decision has been taken to remove and breach the contract, which is presently with Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council, and the government does not know how many people are going to be required to administer this program in view of the action this government has taken?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I say again: the contract, up until this point, has been working well in its conception, however, there is definitely the recognition amongst the Lottery Commission, unanimously, and many of the groups that I have met with, that there are changes required. As I have indicated already with respect to the allegation that the government has made a decision to breach the contract, that is absolutely, unreservedly false.

With respect to the issue of whether or not the government has made a decision to allow the changes to be made without the final determination on the staffing of the office, the answer is yes.

**Mr. Lang:** It is a funny way to do business. In view of the fact that you have made the decision, and it has been made public, to implement the report that was commissioned by the Lottery Commission, could the Minister tell us, and the people of the territory, and the groups affected, how much it is going to cost the government, through the aegis of the Lottery Commission, to take over the responsibilities from Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I continue to have to respond by first of all rebutting allegations and innuendos made by the Member. The Member clearly does not wish to understand the complexities and intricacies of this particular issue.

The government is not implementing the report. There are many recommendations contained in the report. The government has every intention of implementing a number of the recommendations, not all the recommendations, contained in the report.

With respect to the cost of the operation, it is anticipated that there will be some managerial requirements. Those are being established currently. There will be a period of transition, I would presume, between the existing lottery bureaucracy, if you want to call it that, which the contractors hold, and the new system where the so-called bureaucracy will be reporting to the Lottery Commission. Those details have not been established.

**Mr. Lang:** I want to pursue this further. Is it fact then that the Minister is informing the House today that he does not know what the cost to the Lottery Commission is going to be with respect to the decision they have taken to undertake the distribution of lottery tickets?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** Not specifically, no.

**Question re: Lottery contract**

**Mrs. Firth:** It seems that the Minister is having fun doing a roundabout with the Commission because they are each trying to hide behind the other's back when it comes to being publicly accountable. I do not think that is going to go on very much longer.

Under the government's new control over the Lottery Commission, will the lottery profits go into the general revenues of the government?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I reiterate, once again, that the government is not taking new control over the Commission. The relationship between the government and the Commission stands as it always has.

With respect to the question, I indicated exactly what the answer was last week.

**Mrs. Firth:** The government is taking control; whether the Minister likes to say it or not, they are. That is the fact of it.

I am advised that the NDP government in Manitoba is also taking control. For a province that is deeply in debt — and broke, I would believe that is what we call it — the NDP government has decided that a new way to increase their revenues is to...

**Speaker:** Order, please. Will the Member please get to the supplementary question.

**Mrs. Firth:** Yes I will, if the Members opposite would extend me the courtesy of allowing me to make my presentation and ask my question.

As the NDP government in Manitoba has just found this as a way to increase their revenues by putting lottery profits into general revenue funds, and in light of some of the decisions that this government has made where they have a shortfall in revenues now, can the Minister reassure us that it is not going to go into general revenues, because legally the funds are going to go into general revenues.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I have been in this House for a couple of years now as a Minister. What the Member is introducing now is probably the worst kind of fearmongering, red herring discussion I can possibly imagine.

With respect to Manitoba, I am not at all assuming that the Member's allegations are correct, it also has the lowest unemployment rate in western Canada.

The government is not taking control over the lotteries. The Lottery Commission, as mandated by the *Public Lotteries Act*, is assuming more direct control, as is its right under the Act. The relationship between government and the Lottery Commission stands the same.

With respect to the issue of general revenues, I indicated last week — if the Member wants to be reminded, because her memory is either short or — that the funding for...

**Speaker:** Order, please. Would the Member please conclude his answer.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** ...lotteries will go into normal activities that would be funded by the lotteries.

**Mrs. Firth:** I am prepared to debate with the Minister any day what is going on in Manitoba. Manitoba has done just this, the same thing that this government, who follows the steps of Manitoba...

**Speaker:** Order, please. Would the Member please get to the supplementary.

**Mrs. Firth:** Thank you for reminding me to get to my question. I see how sensitive the Members opposite are.

Would the Minister tell me what legislative authority he has to see that the funds do not go into general revenues? I believe he does not have any, and it will go into general revenues, as it did in the NDP government in Manitoba.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I reiterate once again that it is the government's intention to ensure that funds that are received from lottery sales will be turned to recreation, sports and arts funding. That is the government's commitment.

#### Question re: Lottery contract

**Mr. Brewster:** I note that, in the final report prepared for the Yukon Lottery Commission, interviews were supposed to have been conducted with Recreation Board representatives. Can the Minister explain why the Haines Junction Recreation Board was not consulted?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** No, I cannot explain why they may not have been consulted. The consultant was responding to a request made by the Lottery Commission and was responsible to the Lottery Commission. The extent of this consultation would be an important factor. If he had met with the Haines Junction Recreation Board, then that would have been one thing that limited the extent of the consultation. We will have to take that into account when proceeding with any other recommendations.

**Mr. Brewster:** In Haines Junction, the community club was advised by the consultants, by letter, that they would be contacted, but no interview was ever conducted. Can the Minister explain why this was done?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** With all due respect, I just answered the question. I do not know why the consultants would have promised to consult with the Haines Junction Community Club and then not consult. We can ask the consultants but, as I say, they were responding to the Lottery Commission. Not only the task that was given them by the Lottery Commission, but also on an ongoing basis to the Lottery Commission.

**Mr. Brewster:** The Minister does not know what he is talking about. In the first place, the Recreation Board is not the same thing as the community club. Can the Minister explain how the consultant obtained the views of the people in Destruction Bay, Haines Junction or Beaver Creek, since nobody in these communities was contacted?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I apologize if I misspoke myself with respect to mistaking a community club for a recreation board. There is a difference. It does not negate the intent of my answer, in any case.

#### Question re: Lottery contract

**Mr. Lang:** There is a very major concern on this side with respect to the fact that consultation that was said to take place did not take place and, secondly, the first steps that are being taken with respect to grabbing this money for the purpose of the government, which is similar to the tax that was put on liquor here in the late 60's.

In view of the fact that it is his position that it is the Lottery Commission that makes the decisions with respect to the management of the distribution of tickets, it is his position that they will make the decision and have the authority to make the decision to revoke the present contract that is in place between Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** That has got to be a rhetorical question. I am sure the Member knows that the Minister has to revoke that particular contract. That is my understanding of the legal obligations. That is the position. We all know it. Would the Member please get on to his next question?

**Mr. Lang:** That puts us back to where it belongs, in this House, where the responsibility lies, with respect to the lotteries and the distribution of tickets. It ultimately lies with the Minister, who signed this contract.

Why is the government threatening, in newspaper articles, to invoke the section of the agreement, the 90-day clause, to take away the responsibility of the distribution of lottery tickets, in view of the fact he has all the support, not only on that side of the House, but with the organizations that are affected?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** People have wanted to know in the past what would happen if all failed and government and the Lottery Commission still wanted to proceed with more direct management of the lotteries. They wanted to know if there was any legal recourse by the government. I have indicated that I do know and do recognize that there is such a recourse. There is a clause in the contract that allows the contract to be terminated within a 90-day notice period. I recognize that particular section exists. I have also made it very clear that it is my desire to have the Lottery Commission negotiate arrangements with the various user groups who currently hold the contract to ensure that their interests are served.

**Mr. Lang:** Let us get this clear on the record. If Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council maintain the position that they have a two-year commitment on their contract and wish to continue with that contract, is it the position of the government that it will honour that contract?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** It is very hypothetical and not a proper question for Question Period. Nevertheless, I have indicated before that the government has every intention to proceed in a new direction to allow the Lottery Commission to assume more direct management of the lottery sales. The Lottery Commission has, for its part, indicated that it will proceed no further until it seeks some arrangement with the managers of the system, the retailers, to ensure their financial wherewithal is maintained for the duration of the contract.

#### Question re: Lottery contract

**Mr. Lang:** The Minister did not answer my question. I want to know what the policy of the government is. The position of Sport Yukon and the Yukon Arts Council has been made public. They wish to continue with the contract they entered into with the now-sitting Minister, who signed that contract. The question is: Will the Minister honour that agreement that he signed and let them continue with their business for the remaining two years of their contract?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** With all due respect, we have indicated we are proceeding with a new regime to allow the Lottery Commission to take more direct management of lotteries. If the current contractors feel that no matter what the Lottery Commission says to protect their interests, or no matter what the Lottery Commission guarantees, they are still going to insist that the contract be continued, then I must say that under those circumstances, even though this is a hypothetical question, I would be inclined to proceed with the termination clause.

**Mr. Lang:** Let us get our cards on the table here. Is it the position of the government that if these two representative bodies involved — that the Minister has said have done a good job on behalf of the people of the Yukon — that they are publicly here today threatening those organizations and saying they are going to invoke the section of the contract the Minister referred to?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The government is not threatening anybody. I have indicated many times that the Arts Council and the Sports Federation do very well at representing their members. The Members of their organizations have indicated as well that there are good reasons to consider changes to the system by which we manage lotteries. I have indicated many times in the House what those reasons are. I have had meetings with senior people on both the Arts Council and the Sports Federation. Both those bodies recognize that a change is in the works and is desirable. They have expressed concerns to me that they are concerned about the time lines...

**Speaker:** Order please. Would the Member please conclude his answer.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** The time lines are questioned. I have indicated to them that we will be amenable to discussing those things.

<sup>12</sup>  
**Question re: One-Stop Business Shop**

**Mr. Nordling:** I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development. On January 7, the Minister announced a new five-year business incentives sub-agreement. The Minister said that the government would be consulting with the affected private sector groups locally in January as to the final way of delivering the program. Has this consultation taken place, and when will detailed information be available with respect to delivering of the program?

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I assume the consultation took place in January, as I said it would. That does not, of course, assume that I am ready to announce the results of such consultation today. The normal procedure followed in the drafting of regulations is that following the consultation with industry groups a draft will be done and sent up to me for my thoughts. They will eventually go to Cabinet for Cabinet approval, and then they will be made public. It is possible that a further stage could be added at a certain point if I deem it desirable to go back and take a draft regulation and consult with certain interests, the Chambers or whatever; I may do that as well. However, in any case, the regulations will be in place or will be approved certainly before they are due to come into effect on April 1st.

**Mr. Nordling:** The other thing that the Minister mentioned was having good private sector representation on the management committee. Can the Minister tell us if anything has been done in this regard?

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Almost as soon as the decision is made on that question, the facts will be made public. If the House is sitting, I will advise the House first.

**Mr. Nordling:** My concern is that applications for these things are not simple. The One-Stop Business Shop has grown from three people to over 14. I am concerned that this program be in place prior to April 1 when it comes into effect so that people can take advantage of it for this season. Can the Minister assure us that this will be in place by April 1st?

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Yes, it will be in place. I have not had the pleasure of responding to the assertions or allegations frequently made by the other Member for Porter Creek on this subject. The Member should know, because he keeps repeating the misinformation about the growth of the One-Stop Shop, that the core establishment of the One-Stop Shop remains. We have added to it in two respects. One, when we centralized the EDA Secretariat and put it in that location, we brought in person years from a number of other locations. As well, we have, in fact, filled positions. I believe there were something like 19 that were vacant when I took over the ministry. That is the major source of growth in the department. Frankly, it was in a shambles when we took it over.

**Question re: Justice system, sentencing**

**Mr. Phillips:** I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Does

the Minister of Justice not agree that sentencing disparities and too lenient sentences are one of the major factors in creating a lack of public confidence in Yukon's justice system?

<sup>13</sup> **Hon. Mr. Kimmerly:** It is my practice, and will continue to be my practice, to be extremely careful and diplomatic in commenting on the practices of the court.

**Mr. Phillips:** I think the word is not diplomatic; it is evasive. Can the Minister of Justice explain why there are no recommendations in the report by the Justice Committee that adequately deals with this serious problem? The previous question that I asked was almost taken verbatim out of the report. Can the Minister tell us why the Justice Committee did not address this very serious issue?

**Hon. Mr. Kimmerly:** The short answer is no, I cannot. I did not direct the Justice Committee, or the Justice Review, except insofar as to establish their terms of reference.

**Mr. Phillips:** Will the Minister now admit that he was wrong when he did not appoint an independent enquiry? It is very difficult for members of this Justice Committee to criticize their peers and then go back to work under their peers. More than 50 percent of the people who appeared in front of the Justice Committee said there were problems with sentencing, and disparity in sentencing, yet it was not addressed in the report. It is one of the major fundamental reasons why there is a lack of confidence in the justice system.

Will the Minister now admit that he was wrong in appointing a justice enquiry from within in the Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Kimmerly:** The position of the Member asking the question was that a judge from outside the jurisdiction look at the question of sentencing. I have never heard a judge criticize another judge. I would suggest that the procedure that we followed expanded the public debate and focused it in an extremely intelligent way.

**Question re: Flat Creek**

**Mr. Lang:** Approximately two weeks ago, the question was asked with respect to the soil, water and percolation tests with respect to the Flat Creek area, which is becoming an area of controversy, as far as land disposition is concerned. Could the Minister table the recommendations that his department received a number of months ago?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I was not aware that the Flat Creek area was an area of wide controversy. If the Member would not mind expanding on that, I would appreciate hearing more about it.

I was intending to table percolation tests last week, as the Members had requested. I was told that the final report of the engineering company, which is doing the overall analysis, would be ready for this week. In order to provide all the information that the engineering company had come up with, I was waiting for the opportunity to table that report.

<sup>14</sup> **Mr. Lang:** Is it true that the decision has been taken to subdivide that particular area into approximately 15 to 20 acre parcels of property?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I do not know exactly how large the parcels will be. I know the proposal at this stage is that we subdivide the area into approximately 20 to 40 agricultural parcels. The soils tests and various tests have been completed, and I am told that they support that recognition.

**Mr. Lang:** If the final report has not been tabled, how do you know what the final report is going to recommend with respect to that particular area?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** I would assume that because the Member had been a Minister for some time he would realize that the engineering results do come in, and prior to the final dotting of i's and crossing of t's, and the final printing of the report, the information is nevertheless transmitted to the department. That information has been transmitted to the department and it has started seeking this property from the federal government in order to meet the tremendous demand for agricultural land in this area. In so doing, they have undertaken consultations with various bodies, and I would suspect the land would be transferred reasonably soon.

With respect to the final reports, as I have indicated, the final published reports should be ready this week.

**Speaker:** Time for Question Period has now lapsed.

**Response re: One Stop Business Shop**

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Point of order. Lest any time go by before I correct the record, I am advised that I may have inadvertently misled the House a moment ago when I answered a question for the Member for Porter Creek West. I indicated that when I took over the Department of Economic Development there were 19 vacancies. The correct information is that, of the 31 positions, 17 were vacant when I took over.

**Mr. Lang:** Point of order. In view of the fact that we have not been informed with respect to this week's agenda of progress of work through committees, could I ask the Government House Leader the intention for the order of business for next week as far as the package that has been presented to us?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** On the facsimile of a point of order, I would respond as follows: Today our intention is to do third reading of Bill 23 and Bill 52; In Committee this afternoon to continue with the Main Capital Estimates — I believe Bill No. 7 is the correct number — Assent to the Third Reading Bills today at 5 o'clock, and tomorrow, as well, to continue with the Capital Mains.

**Mr. Lang:** Same point of order. I would like to get a clear understanding with respect to the order of business for the week. Is it the intention of the government to proceed with the clause-by-clause debate on the budget that is presently before Committee of the Whole?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** I do not want to take up too much of your time, but with respect to the decision that has been made and now conveyed to the Member opposite, the decision that was made in our caucus is that we have planned for the next two days — that is today and tomorrow — dealing with, as I have indicated to him, the Capital Mains today in Committee and tomorrow in Committee.

Clearly, the rules state that the government has the authority to set the business, and we will continue to do so.

**Mr. Lang:** On the point of order. I would just ask the government, further to this, if there is a very strong possibility, in view of the fact that the government cannot make a decision — we move from one piece of work to another, back and forth — that we may then be, on Wednesday, dealing with the controversial *Human Rights Act*?

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I respectfully submit that that is not a point of order.

**Speaker:** We will now proceed with Orders of the Day. Government Bills.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### GOVERNMENT BILLS

#### Bill No. 23: Third Reading

**Clerk:** Third reading, Bill No. 23, standing in the name of the hon. Mr. Penikett.

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I move that Bill No. 23, entitled *An Act to Amend the Public Service Commission Act*, be now read a third time and do pass.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Government Leader that Bill No. 23, entitled *An Act to Amend the Public Service Commission Act*, be now read a third time and do pass.

*Motion agreed to*

#### Bill No. 52: Third Reading

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I move that Bill No. 52, entitled *An Act to Amend the Public Service Staff Relations Act*, be now read a third time and do pass.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Government Leader that Bill No. 52, entitled *An Act to Amend the Public Service Staff Relations Act*, be now read a third time and do pass.

*Motion agreed to*

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

*Motion agreed to*

*Speaker leaves the Chair*

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Chairman:** I will call Committee of the Whole to order. We will now recess for 15 minutes.

*Recess*

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

### Bill No. 7 — First Appropriation Act, 1987-88 — continued

#### On Department of Health and Human Resources

**Chairman:** Any further general debate?

**Mrs. Firth:** When I read over the notes from the previous debate, I still found that I had not received what I felt was a satisfactory answer from the Minister with respect to potential increases to the O&M costs of this Budget. Did the Minister want an opportunity to elaborate somewhat on what kind of analysis has been done with respect to the impact of the \$6 million Capital Budget on the future O&M Budget of her department?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I was able to gather some information, not specific numbers or anything like that. The Member was asking me for information on how we established the need for day care, and did we have any statistics. We do not have those kind of statistics. A need has been indicated through meetings that our day care coordinator has had with the Child Care Association and with the number of people who have contacted myself. There is a continuing lobby by the Yukon Child Care Association with respect to the presentation they made to the Special Committee on Childcare. Their findings and information are quite up to date, because they have been involved with that issue for a great deal of time.

Because of the poor condition of the Pelly Crossing health centre, which is a trailer, the information that I have is that it would probably cost a little less to heat it. There will be no extra costs for any other kind of work that is being done there.

With respect to our home for young offenders in secure custody, there will probably be a small cost to run the place. It is going to be a bigger place, but we will be closing down the assessment centre. We do have staff right now in place who are looking after that group home. They will be transferred. There will be other staff members who will be moved around. We will be keeping our young offenders in the Yukon. We have had a bit of a vacancy rate in that area for child care workers. Those will be filled when necessary. The cost of that will go up, although that has already been budgeted for.

<sup>17</sup> With regard to Extended Health, the need was established through three studies and reports that were done. The preliminary O&M estimate we have of the functional programming now being undertaken is \$816,000 for 30 person years providing 10,950 patient days of care. Those are the up-to-date figures we have.

I cannot think of any other questions I may have missed.

**Mrs. Firth:** This is my concern when governments make decisions about health care facilities and the direction that health care is going to go in. I know that in other provinces and other areas of Canada, and here too, health costs are high and are getting higher each day. There is no such thing as the cost of health care going down. In Yukon we do have a requirement for some extension of services in some areas. My concern is that we do not overextend ourselves. I am not just talking about O&M costs for the next budget, but when the projects are completed what we could be looking at for O&M costs compared to what we are spending today. For example, for the extended care facility for the provision of

long-term care services for the chronically ill, I recognize those costs are very expensive and escalate every day, and that a new hospital will be built one day. I recognize what the O&M costs are for the present hospital and that there may be some potential for cost savings. However, it never seems to work that way.

I want to know what the government's priorities are. Obviously they are day care, the young offenders' facility — and we really do not have any choice, we have to provide some service because of the *Young Offenders' Act*. What are the government's priorities, other than the day care and the chronic care facility that is going to be an extension of the hospital? I would like to know what impact the government is anticipating that this whole direction of capital building is going to have on the O&M costs for the next budget, and for the next five years in accordance with the capital plan. Is this territory going to be able to accommodate its costs in the event the health care transfer takes place, and we are in a position where we are responsible for our health care costs? It is my concern that we do not get too sophisticated in our health care services and one day we cannot meet the costs. It has happened all across Canada.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** In the Department of Health and Human Resources, we always have to look at the problems that face Yukoners in terms of health. We would like to be able to say that, within the next five years, the medical sciences are going to be more sophisticated so that we will not require anything like that, and that the situations are going to get better so we would not require day cares. Those things are a fact.

As was indicated when we had to turn Macaulay Lodge into a semi-nursing home, that was not the original intention. When we look at what this department does, we are looking at what those needs are out there. We cannot say, in a five-year plan, that this is what we are going to do. We do not know what is going to happen within the next five years. We have a bit of five-year plan to look at it, but we do know that we need an extended care. The Member knows we need an extended care, because we have been caring, for sometimes months, for some patients in the Whitehorse General Hospital. That has not been equipped for that purpose. If that is not done, then we also know that we are sending some of these individuals outside to get the care that they need that they are not able to get here.

We also have members of the families coming to us and asking why the Yukon does not have this kind of facility to deal with these patients. We do not have that, so we have to look at something in the future. As the Member knows, it was under consideration at that time. There were reports being done. They have been done for the last three years or longer. We do know that the need is there. I cannot stand here and say that, in the Health and Human Resources field, we are going to have all these great plans, because it is that kind of a department. It is not a department where we can go and say, for instance, that we have been able to achieve some kind of statistic that tells us that our department is working toward economic development, because it is not a part of our mandate.

However, we do have some good things that are happening in terms of individuals on social assistance who are being put to work, or who are going into training. Our social assistance rate has gone down. We do have those kinds of good things that are happening.

We do know that we do need these new facilities that are being built. We cannot operate in the existing facilities that we have. People are always encouraging us and telling us that certain things are needed. We do not just go ahead and decide to build them because people tell us they are needed. The Member knows that there are always studies done. There is all kinds of information that has to be gathered before a big decision like that is made.

**Mrs. Firth:** So far, I gather that the decisions are being spaced off based on the need. We have an opportunity here in the Yukon to avoid some of the pitfalls that some of the provinces have run into. I want some reassurances from the Minister, on behalf of the constituents I represent, and on behalf of all Yukon taxpayers, who are, one day, going to be responsible for their health care costs. I would like some reassurances that there are priorities, where those priorities lie, that when we make decisions as to what facilities we are going to build that there is some very thorough analysis done as to the implications of building a facility; that we are not going to

re-invent the wheel, as everyone always says; we are not going to make the same mistakes that other areas have made.

Every province in Canada is looking at cutting back on medical costs, but here in the Yukon we have an O&M budget that was increased last year by \$5 million; we have abolished medicare premiums to the amount of \$3 million; we have expanded on the Chronic Disease List; we are going to offer to day cares program assistance; we are going to build new facilities. We are in a position in the Yukon where we can say "just a minute, we do not have to make all these mistakes that other areas made", and let us take a really close look at what we are doing; let us identify the areas where our priorities are and, most of all, let us be cautious that we do not overextend ourselves.

That is my concern, because I get the feeling that we are not taking into account all those very important matters. The areas today of the new medicine are in home care programs, and preventative medicine instead of always identifying monies for the problems and continually fighting all the problems. Nobody seems to sit down and take a look at where the problems came from. Maybe we should be directing our energies and some financial resources to where the problems came from and spending more in the area of preventative medicine.

I would like to have some assurances from the Minister, and so far all I have seen from her government are increases and abolishment of premiums, which is increase in service, I guess, and a decrease in revenues that can come into the government, and moving on to these very expensive projects. I do not want to come back in five years and find that we, too, have to start cutting costs and have major surgery for medicare and a possibility of patient fees, like they are doing in Manitoba right now.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I have no problem standing up here and identifying day care and extended care as a priority; I really do not. I think that has been well-established. It has been established that those things are necessary. I also recognize what the Member is saying when she talks about prevention because we are looking at those areas as well. We are looking at certain other things that would certainly make our statistics look better in terms of the kinds of programs that we have to offer when you have something like social assistance going down because there are more jobs available or because our department has a program to help those individuals who are on social assistance get into the economic field, to find jobs or training.

We are also looking at the area of alcohol and drugs, which is under my department, as well, and prevention areas in those. There are all sorts of other things that are being done on balance. I stand here and I say that day care to us is a priority.

<sup>20</sup> The Member knows that Home Care is a good program. It costs a little bit of money, but it does not cost as much as it would if we had to send those people into the hospital for the care that they may need if the Home Care Program is not available. The other thing we are doing too. I do recognize what she is saying, and I agree with her. We are looking towards the future and looking towards a future that we hope will change.

**Mrs. Firth:** The issue is not just day care or just extended care. I remember debating in the O&M Budget with the Minister last year the whole fact of social assistance, whether it was or was not going down. The statistics are all going up. A question I asked was why costs and statistics were going up if we were in better economic times.

It was my understanding that those costs went down traditionally. If they are going down because more people are employed and economic times are better, why do we need all these increases in dollars in Health and Human Resources. That is something that will be delayed for the O&M Budget when we have it in the spring.

I look at what is happening in Manitoba and what the Minister of Health is saying in Manitoba. He is quoted in a newspaper as saying, "The bottom line is we cannot afford to keep on going the way we are going. The people were getting spoiled because they did not realize there was no end to it." That is exactly what the potential is for the Yukon. Right now it is fine for us to have infinite costs for medical services when the federal government is assisting us with those costs. The day may come when we are



responsible for our own medical costs. My concern is that we do not move ahead, and make all the same mistakes as the other provinces have made, when there is no need to. We will wake up one day two, four or five years from now and find out that we, too, are in a position where we cannot afford our medical costs anymore.

My profession is with the medical profession and I realize how expensive medical costs are getting. I bring it forward as a legitimate concern. I do that on behalf of all my colleagues because we have discussed it in caucus. I have had many constituents and people in the health and medical profession express this concern to me. There is never any end to the demand, and sometimes the Minister is in the position where she will have to say, "No, we will have to take a closer look at that before we move ahead."

I am simply trying to see that the Minister is doing her job and asking all the questions so I can feel satisfied that this analysis is being done. People do get spoiled and we have excellent medical services in the Yukon right now. I would submit they are never going to be good enough for everybody and there is always going to be more that we could do.

I look at some of the detailed things we are doing, some of the facility and planning: for example, the residential treatment and detoxification services in Yukon.

<sup>21</sup> We are looking at \$50,000 for facility planning. I do not deny we have a tremendous problem in that area of the Yukon Territory, but here we are looking at another facility for it. Have we assessed and identified what the problem is, and why the problem is not being alleviated with the methods that we are presently using?

Fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money. I know what we are going to get from it. We are going to get a big consultative report that recommends that we build another facility and staff another facility. I would like to see a report that came back and said that maybe some of the facilities we have now could be combined into one that would cost less, that would serve the function better, and so on. I do not get any indication from the Minister that that kind of analysis is being looked at in some of these Capital projects that we are pursuing.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The Member is asking all sorts of good questions. I do agree with the manner in which she is asking them. I think there could be fear that we are following in the footsteps of Manitoba, but we are our own government. Just because we both happen to be NDP governments does not mean that we are going to follow in each other's footsteps.

We do have some very forward and clear-thinking people who are on this side of the House, as they do on the other side of the House. We also have individuals in our departments who know their jobs and who do them well.

I do not like to think about all the bad things that other governments are doing and scare people and say that that may happen to us here. I would hope that would not happen.

She talked about the detoxification centre. She was the Minister, not too long ago, for that department. I am sure she is aware of the situation of the detox centre, as we were when we were in the Opposition. I had a tour through that when I was in the Opposition and another one when I became a Member. The facilities are not adequate. They are not very efficient, and there are a lot of problems there. I think last year, alone, we had to turn away 71 people. We do have a great problem here with alcohol, as we all know. Somehow or other, we are going to have to look at, possibly, not a great big fancy building, but at other ways of trying to deal with the alcohol problem.

It is not something that has just happened as a result of this government being here. The problem has been there for a number of years, and other Ministers have looked at trying to improve the system, possibly through a different kind of facility or other kinds of programs. We know right now that the facility is inadequate and something has to be done about it.

<sup>22</sup> **Mrs. Firth:** I just want to make one thing clear right now. I am getting so tired of being accused of trying to raise some kind of fear quotient in the public every time I ask a question in this House.

I have a job, as a critic of an area, to ask questions to see that the government is responsibly identifying money that the taxpayers are

having spent on their behalf. It is absolutely inappropriate. If the Minister does not have an answer, she can tell me she does not have an answer, but I do not want to hear any accusations about fear coming from that side of the House any more; I am fed up with it. I would rather they stood up and said, "I have no answer to your question; I will go back and find out and come back with it."

I know the Minister would like me to throw my hands up in frustration and say, "To hell with it. Let us just approve this budget." I am not going to do that. I have done that with the two previous budget debates on Health and Human Resources, and I am not going to do it this time, because I want some answers. This is a very critical area of government that we are dealing with, because it is a very expensive area of government. We want some responsible answers, and we are not getting them.

I just asked the Minister if the department was looking at the possibility of combining some of the services that are provided now. That means Crossroads, the Detoxification Centre. I recognize the need for all the services. The Minister does not have to try to make out like I am lacking in compassion. I recognize what we need in the Yukon; I am just trying to find the most efficient way for us to do it, and the most dignified way, for all the people involved, particularly those who are recipients of the programs.

Before we ask for some fancy \$50,000 facility planning, has the department looked at the services that are presently being provided and where there is a shortfall they can be combined. How are they basing their analysis? Do they have any ideas of their own? Have they talked to people in the medical profession, or are they just hiring some fancy consultant to come along and give a report as to what would be the best for the Yukon Territory?

I want to see health services planned in a way that is Yukon-oriented, which means involving the people who are presently working within the system now. I hear many different opinions as to how we should be proceeding, and some of them are not always consistent with what this government is doing; therefore, it is incumbent upon me to raise questions about it.

<sup>23</sup> **Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I have no problem standing here answering questions for the Member. I did not realize she was going to get upset. She was the one who mentioned Manitoba. I did not realize she was going to get so upset about it. I did not come in here today thinking or hoping that I would not get any questions; I expected questions. I did. I spent three or four days last year dealing with a \$4,000 item. I knew I was going to get questions from the Member. I am prepared to answer them if I can. I am answering the questions, and if the Member is not satisfied with the answers, or if there is anything I can do to make them more to her liking, I will try to do it. I appreciate any suggestions she comes up with. If there is a possibility that resources can be joined for a facility, we will look at that. We are not a group of people who are sitting back just reading papers and saying, "Hey, that is a good idea, let us try it."

There is a lot of work that goes into planning something new. The detox facility has not been that great a facility for a long, long time. We are looking at planning one. When you look at planning one, you have to look at all other areas as well. We will be looking at those areas and if she suggests to us that we look at Crossroads and see how that could fit in, we will do it. There are other things we can ask: where will we build it; will we move it from where it is and buy another building or build a new building? Those are all things we have to find out before we make a decision. If the Member has good suggestions to offer us, fine, I will accept those as well.

I am prepared to stand here as long as she is to answer her questions. I have no problem doing that. If I do not have the answers, I will get them and bring them back.

**Mrs. Firth:** Perhaps the Minister could tell me what kind of direction they are giving these consultants, because she is not indicating to me if there is any. What is their mandate: just to plan a facility? What kind of direction is being given when these consultants contracts are going out?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The review of the current detoxification centre has identified significant inadequacies with the facility that limit program effectiveness. For example, there are only four intake beds. The Crossroads Society, which operates the only residential

treatment program for alcohol and drug abuse, has expressed some concern about the facility they use through a lease from the government. A major review of policy and program direction is underway in the department and through the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse. The project will include the expected address, but is not limited to the following considerations: general role and program content; statement for residential treatment and detoxification facilities; verification of program requirements and bed needs; evaluation of existing facilities; nature of construction of renovation requirements; site analysis, including size and location; alternative development schemes; estimated project cost and time frames. A planning committee chaired by a departmental representative will be established, including participation from the board of the Crossroads Society.

**Mrs. Firth:** When does the Minister anticipate that this report will be completed?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Possibly by the end of the summer.

**Mrs. Firth:** I would like the same information on all the projects that are identified in the Capital Budget. Instead of jumping around, I suppose it would be more consistent if we go through line-by-line. Does the Minister have that detail on the other projects before we do that?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I have the information in front of me. If she requires more than I have, I can get it.

**Mrs. Firth:** Then I would suggest that we could proceed to the line items, and I can ask for the particular details in the line items.

Just to finish off general debate, I raise a concern again that the planning that is done is done in consultation with those people working in the health field — not just the ones who are working in the Department of Health and Human Resources, but with all the people who are working in the health field, so we feel we are getting an input from the people who have the hands-on, day-to-day, night-to-night, evening-to-evening experience, also to extend that to the communities where I know a whole different situation exists for the people operating in the health fields in the communities.

#### *On Community and Family Services*

**Chairman:** Expenditure details are on page 51. For all four programs in this department, there is supplementary information on page 55.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** On page 55, I would like to include under Renovations for Senior Facilities, Agencies Development - \$80,000. Under Placement and Support Services Equipment, I would like to put Group Home Renovations for \$63,000.

**Mrs. Firth:** Those are the errors? I was going to ask the Minister about the balance of funds. I think the record should show that they have been added in as an omission from the original Budget.

If you notice, the figures did not balance: the Detail with the Total Activity line. The Minister has just clarified that for us now. The Agencies Development for \$80,000 would be added to the Detail line, to give the total activity of \$580,000. The Placement and Equipment Support Services under Community and Family is \$63,000.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Under the Community and Family Services under Family and Children Services, we have identified in that area the Day Care Centre Development for \$300,000; the Community Agency Development for \$80,000; and, the McDonald Home for Seniors planning and renovations, \$200,000.

I would like to give a brief outline about what the Day Care Centre Development is. This program will provide start-up grants to enable the establishment of licensed day care centres in communities or residential areas not presently served, and provide enhancement grants for the improvement of existing licensed day care centres. For background on the day care, presently there are four communities with licensed day care centres; specifically Whitehorse, Watson Lake, Dawson City and Old Crow. There are a total of 9 licensed centres in Whitehorse and one in each of the other three communities.

Capital assistance will support the establishment of new viable licensed centres throughout the territory and ensure that facilities

meet the necessary standards required for licensing. Our objective is quality, accessible and affordable child care services for all Yukoners. This program will complement the Day Care Subsidy Program, the Direct Grants to Day Care Centres Program and the Activities of the Day Care Services Board. The funds will cover the capital start-up grants, will contribute to building construction, acquisition or renovations to meet standards, major play equipment and furnishing for children — for example, small toilets — and grounds development for a centre which can be licensed.

The Capital Enhancement Grants will contribute to facility renovations and upgrading, major play equipment and furnishings for children and grounds improvements for already licensed day care centres. Details, terms and conditions will be made available prior to April 1st. People who would be eligible at this point in time are non-profit organizations, bands or municipalities, and private enterprise are eligible for assistance. Applicants on behalf of existing day care centres must operate licensed facilities and applicants for start-up grants must be intending to establish a licensed centre.

**Mrs. Firth:** When the government made this decision regarding day care capital assistance, what considerations were taken into account, such as any competition that was going to be created with the existing day cares? Do I understand that this is not for a new day care to start up, or it is for a new day care? If someone wanted to start a new day care facility, they could come to the government and get assistance to start that?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** They would have to qualify to get any of the funding that we have. The Yukon has been, and is presently, consulting with the Day Care Association to develop the terms and conditions of those grants that are available. We just do not have the money waiting for someone to want it. There are certain criteria. If there was not a need for it, for instance, in Old Crow, because they already have one, we possibly would not consider any kind of a grant to that community. But, if there was not a day care in that community, then we would look very favorably at it, if the need was there.

**Mrs. Firth:** My concern is for communities where there are day cares. For example, if someone wanted to start up another day care in Whitehorse, would they be able to get assistance from the government. I understand, from what the Minister has said, that they would be able to in order to start up a brand new day care, which is a problem that we have when we encourage small businesses. Some day cares are operating on the basis that they are a business, and there is some profit-oriented motive there. Whether they are making a huge profit or not is something else to be debated. What is taken into account is that they are not given government funding to create a competitive day care with one that is already existing and has put in their own money as a small business. There could be the potential of creating unfair competition.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Those things would all be taken into consideration. For instance, if there was a need for day care spaces in Whitehorse, and somebody did approach us for start-up grants to fix an existing building or part of their home, we would take that into consideration. The Day Care Association is in contact with all of the day cares that exist in Whitehorse right now so if there was no need there, we would not look very favourably at funding such a group or individual, but if the need was there, we would.

**Mrs. Firth:** I guess it comes down to the details of the terms and conditions of the start-up and enhancement grants. I see that they are going to be finalized following consultation. Can the Minister tell me who is going to be making the final decision on this?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The department will be making that final decision, but we will not be doing it until they have consulted with the Day Care Association as we did with the new regulations. They had input into that, and they made changes that we accepted. The terms and conditions will be done in the same way. They will help us put those terms and conditions together. They are familiar with the day cares in Whitehorse, and the existing day cares outside of Whitehorse are familiar with what is needed in the communities.

**Mrs. Firth:** Who is going to be administering the program?

who would people go to if they wanted a grant? Would they go to the Day Care Services Board, the Operators Association, or who would they go to? Who allocates the \$300,000?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The people who are interested in start-up funds for a day care will have to come to our department. They will have to go to the day care coordinator. The day care coordinator will meet with them to find out what it is that they want. By that time, the terms, conditions and terms of reference will be in place, and we will be able to go by what those terms and conditions are.

<sup>27</sup> **Mrs. Firth:** We will need the day care coordinator to tell those people that they are eligible or that they have their grant. Who makes that final decision?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The day care coordinator, with the help of the Day Care Association, would decide who would be eligible for those grants. That is what will happen.

**Mrs. Firth:** The Day Care Operators Association is bound to have members on it who operate day cares. Are they going to be restricted from applying for these grants? Would the Minister not agree that would put them in somewhat of a position of conflict, if they were on the Operators Assistance Board?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The terms and conditions, when they are put together, will be shown to the Day Care Association. Hopefully, they will agree, as they did with the regulations, that that is what they want. They are very specific in their needs, and are very able to come to us and say, this is what we want. We do listen to them very carefully, because they are the people who know about day cares.

**Mrs. Firth:** The Minister has still not identified the concern that I am sure the Day Care Operators Association is going to have. That is that if they are part of the Association and responsible for determining where the grant money goes, that they are, in some way, going to be excluded from applying because they will have a conflict.

That is what the problem is. Is something going to be identified in the terms and conditions? Is it the Minister's position that these people should not be excluded, or should they be allowed to apply anyway?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The terms and conditions will be in place. I think that, if one of those individuals who is on the Day Care Board wanted to apply for the start-up funds, that person would possibly have to resign from that position. I do not know. I think that we have to be able to determine just exactly what those are going to be before we put the terms and conditions together.

If there is a concern and, as the Member has mentioned, it was something that had not been mentioned to me, but if that problem is there, I am sure it can be dealt with and stipulated in the terms and conditions whether or not that person could apply. There is always a chance that that person may want to resign and then do it. I do not know.

<sup>28</sup> **Mrs. Firth:** I would submit to the Minister that we better get that issue cleared up because I am not quite clear now. If someone comes to the government and wants one of these day care grants, they go to the Day Care Coordinator with their presentation. After that the Day Care Coordinator submits it to — and this is where I lose the Minister — she said the Operators Association once and the Services Board the next time. Who is going to sit and make the final decision as to whether the grant is eligible or not and whether the money will be given or not?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** After all of that is done and the Day Care Coordinator has received all of that information and finds out whether or not it has met with the criteria set down, then it would come to the department. The Day Care Coordinator would not make that decision by herself; it would be done by the administration of the department.

**Mrs. Firth:** Okay, then I understand it is the administration that is going to make it and so the Day Care Operators Association and the Day Care Services Board will not be involved in the decision at all. Therefore, I do not perceive any conflict to present itself. If they are involved in the decision and they are going to be required to resign from the Operators Association or the Services Board if they have their own Day Care, then I would submit to the Minister that she is pretty soon going to find herself without those two

boards because people will be wanting to come and apply for assistance. I am trying to follow the Minister and understand what the procedure is going to be to apply for these grants. I understand that the Day Care Coordinator would take the submission and the decision would be made by the administrative department of the Department of Health and Human Resources.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** That is right, but, as I mentioned before, there will be consultation done. There will be a lot of talk going back and forth as we did with the regulations. We got a lot of very good input from the people who knew and understood the issue. It helped us a lot, and we will do the same with this.

**Mrs. Firth:** I do not want to be picky, but who is the consultation going to be with? This is the example I can give to make myself a little clearer: if there are people on the Day Care Operators Association and Services Board who already own Day Cares and someone comes forward with a request for a grant and want to start up a new day care that is obviously going to be in conflict with one of the present operators, I do not think they are going to proceed in too positive a light. I would not, if I was the owner of a day care and someone was going to get money to start up a day care in competition with me. I guess I am concerned about that whole process and whether the process is going to be perceived to be fair or not, and yet not exclude those who may be eligible for the assistance.

<sup>29</sup> **Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The Minister is a little concerned about the number of things that are going to happen. When you consult with the Day Care Operators Association and the Day Care Services Board, you are dealing with two bodies that know exactly what is required. We do have regulations. There is the question of whether another day care in Whitehorse is necessary. When the Pioneer Utility Grant was set up, it was done in the same way. It was done with the consultation of the seniors, and they followed those rules and criteria on how they were eligible.

I really do not think that there will be a problem, if you have already consulted with the two groups that are involved with day care already. If there is a problem, we will have to deal with it at that time. Hopefully, there will not.

We have to establish that there is a need in that area, that somebody may apply for. If we find out that there is a need, then we have to look favourably at accepting an application, and saying, fine, go ahead with renovations, or whatever. Hopefully, we will not have a problem. Maybe there will be. We would have to deal with it, but I would hope that, with these two organizations consulting with us, we will have the best kind of terms and conditions that we can live with.

**Mrs. Firth:** I should ask if any of the terms and conditions have been written up yet, or are we just making them on the floor of the House?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We are already consulting with those two groups. We are putting together the terms and conditions. We will have them in place by the first of April when this program becomes available.

**Mrs. Firth:** How does the Minister want to see it work? How does the Minister see this program working and, particularly, the approval process? I guess she would say how she feels it could work and look for input from the groups. How does the Minister see this approval process working? Does she feel that day cares that may be faced with the position of conflict should have to resign? Can the Minister tell me how she feels about it?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I do not know whether or not the Member is asking me for a personal opinion. In the past, when individuals have approached the department with respect to a need for a day care centre, I have met with some of those people, and they have, in turn, met with the coordinator and the coordinator has met with them to find out whether the need for a day care was there. If it was, then we had to make sure that they fit all the standards of a day care. Then, it was up to the administration to decide whether or not they could be licensed.

I would not want to start interfering with the administration of my department. I cannot tell the Member right now whether or not there is going to be some kind of a conflict, because I do not know. If it happens, then I guess we will have to deal with it at that time.

Hopefully, we will have developed terms and conditions that will meet all those requirements and possible conflicts that may occur.

**Mrs. Firth:** I am not asking the Minister to interfere in the administration of a department, but she is responsible for setting the rules, so to speak, and giving the direction. I mean: that is the way it is; it happens to be her job. I am not asking in Question Period for a personal opinion of the Minister; I am asking in Committee of the Whole how the Minister sees this program working. It was her program for \$300,000 in the Budget, and I expected that she thought out how the approval process was going to work, and so on. I guess we will just have to wait because I am not going to get an answer to that question.

I would like to know if there is going to be any money given out of this program for O&M costs or salaries, or it is strictly for Capital?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** It is strictly for Capital.

**Chairman:** Is there any further general debate on the first program. Before we go to the first line item, we will recess for 15 minutes.

#### *Recess*

**Chairman:** Committee of the Whole will now come to order. Family and Children Services, \$580,000

#### *On Family and Children Services*

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I have already explained the day care centre development. Does the Member have any other questions with regard to that? I could then go on to the Community Agency Development Program.

**Mrs. Firth:** The Minister has listed the organizations that benefit from the \$80,000 Community Agency Development for me. I gather it is for facility or equipment materials, so it is to purchase things that they ordinarily depended on volunteers to donate, and that kind of thing? Is that what that money is for?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Up until this time, the money that they have received from government has only been for operating and maintenance costs, and they have always had to, as the Member said, look for equipment or whatever from fund-raising or from some private agency. I believe the Child Development Centre needs a ramp, and stuff like that, or if the stove at the Transition Home becomes in such bad shape that it cannot operate anymore, and things like that. We are hoping that this \$80,000 will be able to cover some of their needs.

**Mrs. Firth:** Were the requests put in by the agencies for particular items?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The department has been meeting with all of these agencies for a number of months, possibly longer than a year. They have established some of the needs that they have. This was established among other things. So, they are well aware of the plan that we have here. They are also, as is being done with the Child Care Capital funding, establishing the terms and conditions of how we would operate this money and who and how those agencies would get it.

**Mrs. Firth:** So, I understand from the Minister, then, that they have identified one block of money, and we do not know what it is going to be for yet. For example, the Transition Home could come and put a request in to get a new washer and dryer or a new stove, and then the Department is going to approve the funding? Who will be approving the funding under these circumstances?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** It will be done through the administration of the department. They will determine whether or not that request is necessary. In most cases, as I said before, it would be because they were either having a bake sale or raffle to buy a new stove or furniture, or asking for donations. The need had been identified by all of these resource groups through meetings that we have had. If it is a stove that they need, or a washer and a dryer, we would look at that if they could not get it through some other avenue.

**Mrs. Firth:** This amount of money is quite large: \$80,000. Can the Minister tell me how they arrived at that figure?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We recognized that we did have a number of people whom we funded, and we looked at the needs of what they

had needed in the past. We came up with \$80,000. It may not be enough or it may be too much.

**Mrs. Firth:** If there has been some ongoing discussions, I am still not quite sure at how the figure was arrived at. Obviously there have been no requests now; each association has not said, "We need this". The Child Development Centre needed a ramp, the Minister said. I do not know how much that is going to cost. It is always interesting to know how the figure was arrived at, whether it was only a percentage or pulled out of the air; how was the figure arrived at?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We were able to come to a figure because of the established needs from those organizations in the past that requested certain things in the past, and we have been able to do it. I was up at the Transition Home and realized they were having difficulty getting bed linen. There are things they come and ask us for: a stove or fridge is not working and they wonder if they could get a new one through the funding they get.

We do not have anything identified, such as "so and so needs a washer and dryer" or "The Child Development Centre needs a ramp", although we know that they do. There are certain things that have been brought to our attention in the past, and we just have not been able to accommodate them.

**Mrs. Firth:** Again, I express a concern about the established need. I know there is always a need for more. I know it is very difficult for these organizations to get people to donate items to them, particularly large items. I remember discussing this with the Transition Home and the Development Centre. I talked to the Seniors Information Centre operated by the Yukon Council on Aging. It is very difficult to go out into the community and ask for contributions and donations, but when the organization does that it does give the community a better awareness that an organization does exist and that the organization is providing some very beneficial service to some Yukoners.

My concern is that if the government just buys these things for them, the associations that are providing a service to the communities are getting farther away from the community. I express that as a concern because I would still encourage these organizations to go out and solicit from businesses, companies and private individuals donations for their organizations so the community is constantly being made aware of them. People will say, "Hey, did you know there was a Transition Home and this is the service they provide, these are the articles we need, and can we count on you to give any of those articles?"

I raise that as a concern with the Minister and hope the money will not just be passed out and become a common practice for the government to start housing all the facilities.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I thank the Member for her observation. The intent was not to forget about those agencies. The agencies that we deal with know that. The \$80,000 that we are providing is only a small amount of what they need. The community agencies that donate certain things will certainly still be involved and will continue to be involved. We cannot provide everything. It is only certain things that they would not be able to get through the agencies that already help them.

**Mrs. Firth:** Just before we leave the Family and Children's Services, I noticed in last year's O&M Budget that there was quite a marked change — a 39 percent increase — from the 1985/86 to the 1986/87 Estimates. Does the Minister anticipate these costs that we are going to be voting on now — the \$580,000 — to increase that percentage markedly?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I can only tell the Member that our increase is not more than four percent in our budget.

**Chairman:** Anything further on Family and Children's Services?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I still have \$200,000 for the McDonald Home and Seniors Planning and Renovations. I would just like to give a brief description of what that \$200,000 is going to do.

It will enable completion of a comprehensive facility assessment to determine the integrity of the structure design, feasible renovations; to achieve energy efficiency, address problems with the facility's foundation and implement solutions.

A comprehensive energy audit study was completed for McDo-

nald Home for Seniors in May of this year. It suggested that energy efficiencies could be achieved with changes in the design and maintenance of the heating system, together with improvements in the structure of the home. The building has been added to the critical maintenance list by the Department of Government Services. A preliminary appraisal of the foundation by engineers with Government Services suggests the need for major repairs in order to stabilize and reinforce the foundation, which is in a permafrost zone.

The project will include facility planning and design, a determination of the extent of the problem with the foundation and implementation of a feasible solution, other renovations to address existing deficiencies and measures to improve energy efficiency.

The work is estimated at \$200,000; however, it is possible that, following detailed technical assessments of the foundation and building structure, this estimate would be modified and changes identified in future supplementary estimates.

The project will be administered by the Public Works Branch of the Department of Government Services. It is anticipated that the technical assessment will proceed early in the 1987-88 fiscal year to enable renovation work to proceed during the summer construction season.

**34 Mrs. Firth:** How much of that \$200,000 is for planning, and how much is for actual renovations?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I am informed that about \$20,000 is for the planning.

*Family and Children's Services in the amount of \$580,000 agreed to*

*On Placement and Support Services*

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** In that section, I have \$100,000 for the child welfare group home equipment, replacement, or acquisition, and \$63,000 for the child welfare group home renovations.

The child welfare group home equipment replacement or acquisition includes funds to maintain equipment levels at the required standards in accordance with the replacement schedule established on one through six year cycles, and service requirements corresponding with the ages and needs of the children in the group home.

The department operates five homes for children in temporary and permanent care. The group homes are all owned by the government. We have four in Whitehorse and one in Watson Lake. We have the Liard Group Home, the Klondike Group Home, the Lowe Street Group Home, the Whitehorse Receiving Centre, and, in Watson Lake, one group home. The expenditures are for one, two, three, four, five and six year cycles, and they would include mattresses, recreation equipment, beds, night tables, dressers, living room furniture, appliances and grounds maintenance equipment.

**Mrs. Firth:** Renovations is kind of an interesting amount of money, \$63,000. I have no difficulty with the \$100,000. When the Minister gave us some information about the renovations in the previous budget, she listed off the three groups homes that were going to be having some energy audits done and some work done. I believe the Liard Home was \$19,000, the Lowe Home was \$19,000, and the Klondike Home was \$14,000.

In the budget that the Minister of Government Services presented, he had also mentioned that there was \$35,000 identified there for some energy audits, and energy work to be done on the Liard, Lowe and Klondike Street Homes. I have a total for the project now: there was \$52,000 in the supps, there was \$35,000 in Government Services, and there is \$63,000 here for those same three homes, which totals \$158,000. I want to know if that is all the money, and why does it have to be put in three different places?

**35 Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The energy audit that we did under the supplementary was for three of the homes. The retrofit under the Government Services Program was an entirely different program that was done through that department. It was also in addition to the \$52,000 in the supplementary and in addition to what I have here for \$63,000.

**Mrs. Firth:** Perhaps the Minister could tell me if this is going to cover the whole cost for completing exterior and interior renovations and grounds improvements for these three welfare group homes located in Whitehorse — plus the costs that the Minister for Government Services has?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Yes. We identified in the supplementary that we would be continuing with the next budget for next year and that would complete the work that is being done.

**Mrs. Firth:** So this finishes the whole project; I just want to get that clear so we are not coming back for more money for these three houses. That completes the three houses?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Yes, it does.

*Placement and Support Services in the amount of \$163,000 agreed to*

*Community and Family Services in the total amount of \$743,000 agreed to*

**Mrs. Firth:** If I may just go back for a minute to the Placement and Support Services. The amount of money that is being identified, this \$158,000, to do the energy efficiency studies to complete the renovations and so on, in the last O&M budget for placement and support services there was a 32 percent increase for that line item. Can the Minister tell me if, as a result of doing these, which I feel are cost-saving measures, there is any expectation that perhaps the O&M costs would go down for the heating and maintenance of those group homes?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The utility costs would go down as a result of the energy audit.

**Mrs. Firth:** So I would anticipate that there could be some reduction in the costs of maintaining those homes and maybe we will get something for our money for a change.

*On Social Services*

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Under the Alcohol and Drug Services we have \$77,000 budgeted. It would include the alcohol facility planning for Detox, which was already mentioned in general debate, for \$50,000, and \$27,000 for equipment replacement for Crossroads and the Detox Centre and the offices of Alcohol and Drug Services. I can expand on that if the Member wishes me to.

**36 Mrs. Firth:** I would like to have the Minister do that, please.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Under the Alcohol Facility Planning, I have already indicated to her what that was going to do, and I gave her the information that I have. I do not know if she wants me to give it to her again.

**Mrs. Firth:** This is my concern: there is \$50,000 identified here to develop this long-term facility strategy for the residential treatment and detoxification services. I am assuming this is going to be the first step in more lengthy processes. Is that correct?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Yes, it will be.

**Mrs. Firth:** I will just have to wait until we see the study that is done and the strategy, and question further costs later. I am prepared to clear that.

*On Alcohol and Drug Services*

*Alcohol and Drug Services in the amount of \$77,000 agreed to*

*On Seniors*

*Seniors in the amount of \$87,000 agreed to*

*Social Services in the amount of \$164,000 agreed to*

*On Health Services*

*On Health Care, Hospital Services and Community Health*

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Health Care, Hospital Services and Community Health is \$1,556,000. That includes the construction, renovations and equipment for health centres, health stations, hospitals, excepting the Whitehorse General Hospital and nursing stations. It includes equipment for the community health program, environmental health program, school dental program, health education program.

In all, we would be looking at a health station for Pelly Crossing for \$875,000; a staff residence in Faro for \$227,000; minor construction and renovations for \$288,000; major and minor equipment for \$611,000; and vehicles \$197,000.

**Mrs. Firth:** My main concern about this area is that the federal government is still making these decisions on our behalf. We are unable to decide where we are going to build our next health care station or what kind of services we are going to deliver.

Could the Minister tell me when some of the decision-making and the priority-setting with the individual projects are going to rest with the Government of the Yukon, Health and Human Resources?

**37** When does she see Health and Human Resources responsibility being transferred completely to this government?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I cannot give the Member a specific date on when we would hope to have the transfer. We have had many meetings with Medical Services in regard to that very issue. We have had meetings with them to talk about their five year plan, to talk about the plans they have for us, because we do share some of the costs for the things that they do. In turn, they have consultations with community groups and Bands. If they intend to build a health centre, for instance, in Carcross or Pelly, they have consulted with them. They are doing that a lot more often now, especially since the latest administrator has taken over. There has been a lot more consultation in regard to what they are going to do.

At one point in time, they just did it, and we found out about it quite some time later, but now we ask for their consultation. We ask them to meet with us to tell them what our plans are, even to make some suggestions to them in regard to some of the plans that they have. It is certainly not the best way to do things, but it is getting better than it was. I do appreciate what is happening.

I cannot give the Member a specific date on the transfer, but that is all in the workings.

**Mrs. Firth:** I am of the position that we would be more pleased to see the Government of the Yukon making these decisions, and not the federal government, no matter how much they consult. It just so happens they have a nice guy who is the Minister of Health and Welfare right now. He is probably very approachable, and I do not expect that those kinds of conditions will last forever. It would be my position to request the transfer of the medical services to the Government of Yukon as soon as possible.

I would like to know what the Minister sees as a potential timeframe for the transfer of health services to the Government of Yukon?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I just said twice that I cannot give her a specific date. There is a possibility that the transfers will take place bit by bit, because it is a big department. There is a possibility that we will take over dental services first. There is a possibility that we could take over contract janitorial staff and things like that. Those things are all being talked about right now. I cannot give her a date and say that it is going to happen one and a half years down the road, because it is not the only transfer that is being planned.

**Mrs. Firth:** I am not looking for a specific date, and the Minister knows that. Obviously if there is planning being done, does the Minister see this happening in two years? In four years? Is it never going to happen? We are just going to take whatever the federal government feels like giving us responsibility for. What position is this government putting forward to the federal government? What is their plan? What is their determination for the transfer of health services?

<sup>38</sup> **Hon. Mrs. Joe:** There have been negotiations going back and forth for a long, long time. There have been discussions in our own Cabinet. We would hope that we would have a transfer within three years.

**Chairman:** Anything further?

**Mrs. Firth:** Three years is too long. Our position is that three years is too long; I would like to see it before that. That means three or four nursing stations that someone else is going to make a decision on; that means the hospital that someone else is going to make a decision on. I just wanted to state for the record that our position is that we would like to see it much sooner than three years.

*On Health Care, Hospital Services and Community Health*

**Mrs. Firth:** Can the Minister tell me where the Pelly Crossing Health Centre is going to be located?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** In Pelly Crossing. Actually, I do not know the exact location, but I can certainly come back and let her know.

**Mrs. Firth:** I gather, then, that there has been no determination made as to where it is going to go? Who knows what they want there? Has it just come up on the agenda that we need a nursing station at Pelly Crossing? Is it going to be of the same plan as the one at Carcross? I understand that it is going to have apartments for staff, which that one has. It is going to cost \$875,000, and that is all the information I have about it. I guess I would like a bit of an explanation.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The health centre will include a warm

entrance, waiting area, nurse's office, reception, administrative space, examination and emergency treatment room, x-ray and darkrooms, handicapped washroom, dental operatory, security laboratory and pharmacy area, storage space, classroom and self-contained two- and one-bedroom apartments for staff.

We do have a location for it. I just cannot tell the Member exactly where it is going to be. If my official here has that information, I can certainly give it to you. If not, I can come back with it. There have already been meetings with the members of the Pelly Band to talk to them about the health centre. As a matter of fact, we have sat down with them and they have suggested some changes in the building. Some of those changes have been accepted.

**Mrs. Firth:** Obviously, it was not the Minister who sat down with the people in Pelly; it was the official. The Minister is nodding her head saying that she did, but she cannot tell me where the centre is going to be. Anyway, I would like her to bring that information back so that she could tell all the Members of the Legislature where the Pelly Crossing Health Centre is going to be located.

We have come to this acquisition of staff accommodation in Faro for nursing staff, visiting medical and dental practitioners, for \$227,000. I can remember more than a year ago talking with the Minister about staffing accommodations in Faro or health staffing accommodations. At one point, we were talking about \$1.5 million. I gather that none of that was spent. Did it lapse, or was that spent and this is in addition to that? What is this for? Perhaps the Minister could answer those two questions first?

<sup>39</sup> **Hon. Mrs. Joe:** It is obvious that the money lapsed if it was not spent. This money, \$875,000, would be used to buy an existing building; nothing has to be built. With regard to the location in Pelly Crossing, the site was approved in 1983. You were the Health Minister, and you let us know.

**Mrs. Firth:** I was the Health Minister for six weeks, not two years. I did not approve the Pelly facility. If the Minister would just find out I would appreciate it. My being the former Minister of Health has to be a record as one of the shortest terms for a Minister of Health in Canadian History. I have not had that verified, but it is a fact it was short.

On the acquisition of the staff accommodation in Faro for the nursing staff, was any of that \$1.5 million we debated previously spent on staff housing for medical staff in Faro?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I do not have that information, and I cannot see any problem in bringing it back tomorrow.

**Mrs. Firth:** Before I agree to another \$227,000 for the acquisition of staff accommodation in Faro, I want to know about the previous funds that were identified and what happened to them, because I can recall having a very active debate in the Legislature about staff accommodation in Faro for nursing staff. At that time, I suggested to the Minister they look at purchasing some of the houses that were vacant. Can the Minister tell me if that is the direction they are going in now with the \$227,000 they are requesting?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** The information I have is that we will be buying existing buildings there, and we did listen to her suggestion. I will find out what happened to the rest of the money and whether or not it has lapsed.

**Mrs. Firth:** I look to you for your counsel. Perhaps we could just leave that until tomorrow when the Minister brings back the relevant information regarding the staff accommodation in Faro.

**Chairman:** We can stand this aside, is that agreed?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I have one other item and that is Northern Health Services. That is \$16,000.

*Health Care, Hospital Services and Community Health stood over On Extended Health*

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** On Extended Health, I have \$1,894,000 budgetted.

The amount of money set aside for the Extended Health Care Facility planning and design is \$1,834,000, to be undertaken under the auspices of the Whitehorse General Hospital Replacement Project to ensure full advantage is taken of shared services and multi-unit management.

<sup>40</sup> The Yukon has no extended or long-term care level three or level four care facilities, necessitating outside placements or inappropri-



ate use of acute care facilities.

The proposed facility is currently in its first year of formal planning. Functional programming and block schematics will be completed by March 1987. That may be a little bit late. The proposal for the construction of a facility dates to the Proposal for the Construction of an Extended Care Facility, Whitehorse, 1976-78, prepared on behalf of the Yukon government in 1975.

The need has been verified in two major studies commissioned by Health and Human Resources since that time. Specifically, the Rehabilitation and Geriatric Review, 1984, and a report by Donald Orr, 1985. The facility will provide long-term care services for the chronically ill and severely disabled. It will also include long-term psychiatric care services for persons with severe brain injury or organic brain disease. A small palliative care unit will also be included. The first phase of construction will provide 30 beds, with future phases allowing for it to add up to 40 more.

The funding will provide for the completion of detailed architectural and engineering specifications for an extended care facility. The construction of an extended care facility is directly linked to the anticipated replacement of the Whitehorse General Hospital by the federal government. Facility planning is proceeding under the steering and technical committees established to oversee the Whitehorse General Hospital Replacement Project to ensure maximum advantage, coordination and potential savings.

The project is currently in the second phase of a four-phase project. The first phase involving a needs and feasibility study yielded the master development plan in 1985. The second involves functional planning, which began in September of 1986 and will be completed by March of 1987. The third would involve detailed designing schedules, to commence in 1987-88, and the final phase would be construction.

To proceed with phase three, detailed design, Health and Welfare Canada must obtain federal Treasury Board approval, as it would also entail moving onto construction. The functional plan, scheduled for completion in March, will provide all the information, including the detailed costing necessary to make a Treasury Board submission.

While the submission should be ready by May or June of 1987, normal process would suggest that it would not be heard by the federal Treasury Board until late 1987 or early 1988. The Government of Yukon will be lobbying hard for approval by September, 1987, so that planning for the extended care facility can proceed in the fall, as well.

While federal support has taken the project through phase two, no firm commitment to capital financing of this construction project has been established. The planning and design phase of the Whitehorse General Hospital Replacement Project, including the extended care facility, are being managed by a technical committee, co-sponsored by National Health and Welfare and the Yukon government, including representation from the Council for Yukon Indians.

“Mrs. Firth: I am not sure, from the Minister’s comments, whether this facility is bound by the hospital going ahead before we can start anything. Is that what the Minister is saying? We cannot proceed with any construction on this extended care facility until the hospital has started its construction?”

Hon. Mrs. Joe: The planning and design does go hand in hand with the hospital.

Mrs. Firth: My concern is that it has been announced in the budget that we are going to have this extended care facility built and a lot of people are of the impression that it is going to be built tomorrow, that construction is going to start right away. The Minister is telling me now that construction is not due to start until 1988, and that is all hinged on whether they get Treasury Board approval from the federal government. Is that correct?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: Yes, like everything else we do, there always has to be a submission that goes to Treasury Board, and of course it does depend on that.

Mrs. Firth: So we are going to spend \$1.834 million on planning and design.

Hon. Mrs. Joe: You have to have that in order to make a submission to Treasury Board.

Mrs. Firth: It is a lot of money. I recognize what you have to have to make a presentation to Treasury Board, but almost \$2 million for architectural design and engineering specifications? If an architect was going to get 10 percent of a project, that is quite a hefty fee for architectural design. Is that how this is based? Is that how the allotment of money was identified? Perhaps the Minister could tell us how it was identified.

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I am informed that it is an indication of the total cost of the design phase.

Mrs. Firth: Can the Minister tell us what that total cost is?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: Along with the other information I have promised to bring back to the Member, I could also bring that information back. We do not have it here.

Mrs. Firth: Yes, I would like that information. Also, I would like some indication of whether that extended care facility, in total cost, is going to include the hospital itself. If not, I would like to know the expected cost of that facility.

Hon. Mrs. Joe: I can do that.

Chairman: So this line item will stand as well?

*Extended Health stood over*

*On Juvenile Justice*

Mrs. Firth: From the notes the Minister has given me, there is also \$60,000 included in this item for some equipment for Macaulay Lodge. Can the Minister tell me what that equipment is?

Hon. Mrs. Joe: The purpose is to upgrade and replace equipment and furniture at Macaulay Lodge in Whitehorse, to meet emerging program requirements of health safety and other standards. Funding will allow replacement of items in accordance with one-to-five year replacement schedules and an added position of necessary health care, recreational and living equipment and furniture, including beds and mattresses, chesterfields, chairs, major appliances, kitchen equipment, bedroom and dining room furniture and recreational equipment.

Hon. Mrs. Joe: The purpose of this money, \$1,610,000, is to fulfill the Yukon Government’s responsibility pursuant to the *Young Offenders Act* and implement the residential strategy for open and secure custody services approved by the government following community consultation.

The secure custody facility would be of frame construction with a residential living area and program delivery space. Security would be provided by the program staff and the facility layout would be designed to facilitate supervision. The facility is being constructed as a 12 bed facility to meet current and projected needs for secure custody and temporary detention. These projected needs are based on two reports including, “Young Offenders Secure Facility Functional and Space Program, Demand for Youth Services Facilities”, by Westbrook Consulting, April 1985, and updated analysis based on the report, “Young Offenders in Yukon, Profile and Trends”, Department of Health and Human Resources, May 1985.

The design is expected to incorporate bedrooms, bathrooms, lounge, dining room, laundry and linen storage, kitchen and pantry, admission, visitation and reading room, health care room, interview room, staff room and washroom, workshop, classroom, recreational area, garage and outdoor garage and required mechanical and heating facilities. Initial estimates are for a building of approximately 8,000 square feet. Provision will be made for expansion of residential space. The proposed site is on an approximately 5 acre parcel of land adjacent to the Whitehorse Correctional Centre on Range Road. It is zoned for public use and services are readily accessible. It meets the criteria established by the department.

A total of \$1,610,000 has been allocated for 1987-88 pending completion of detailed facility designs. At that time, new estimates of capital costs can be determined. If changes are required, they will be brought to the Legislative Assembly for consideration in the form of Supplementary Estimates.

It is anticipated that the federal government will cover the full cost of constructing secure custody facilities in the Yukon. The position of the government is that the federal government should pay for the implementation costs of the federal *Young Offenders Act*. A submission has been made to Federal Treasury Board, following lengthy negotiations with the Solicitor General. When the

outcome is known the Assembly will be advised.

Facility planning and design has been initiated. Construction is expected to commence in the spring of 1987, with completion scheduled for the winter. The facility is forecast to require a total of 15.6 person years, and costs estimated at \$1 million per fiscal year to operate, including personnel, facility and program expenditures. The operating budget will be refined following completion of the design. Existing person years and O&M funding will be reallocated from the assessment centre and expenditures for purchase of service for secure custody from British Columbia.

**3 Mrs. Firth:** How many young offenders do we have out of the territory in secure custody right now?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We have seven right now. I believe we had three in Willingdon, and we have three who are in a wilderness camp that is part of Willingdon, and we have one in Nanaimo. We have three who are coming back very shortly.

**Mrs. Firth:** When they come back, do they come back in open custody?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** It just depends. Sometimes, if you are sentenced to secure custody, that can change. There could be a recommendation from the courts that secure custody can be changed to open, and that person can come home. I think that the people who are coming back are finishing their secure custody sentence and will be returning to their homes.

**Mrs. Firth:** I just was wondering why we were going to construct a 12-bed facility. I would imagine that seven is quite a remarkable number in light of the debates that we have in the Legislature, where there has usually been a few, between one and three.

Can the Minister tell what it costs on the average to send one of the young offenders out to Willingdon for an average term of sentencing? I recognize that it is going to be variable. Certainly there must be some average figures of the length of stay and the cost to the government?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I do not have those figures, and I apologize. In regard to the comments made before about the amount of young offenders we have in secure custody, we would also be holding those young people who are on remand or sentenced by the court to be in custody awaiting trial. It would not be only the kids who were sentenced to secure custody, but other children on remand.

**Mrs. Firth:** And those are the young people who are presently going to the Assessment Centre, is that correct?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** Yes.

**Mrs. Firth:** Can the Minister tell us what the fate of the Assessment Centre is to be?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We will be closing it down as the Assessment Centre, and our department will not be using it for young offenders anymore. After that, I do not know what it will be used for.

**Mrs. Firth:** How many person years are allocated to the Assessment Centre? I am trying to get a determination of how many extra person years we are going to have with the 50.6 and O&M costs of \$1 million, which are associated with the 12-bed secure custody facility.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We have an established a number of 20 person years that are working with all of our facilities: 5030 Fifth Avenue Group Home, 501 Taylor, and the Assessment Centre. I think we have six vacancies right now.

**4 Mrs. Firth:** We are looking at an increase of 30-some person years and O&M costs of \$1 million.

I am particularly interested to know comparative costs for the young people we are sending outside, as opposed to what it is going to cost us to look after these young people here in the Yukon, which is the \$1 million figure. I believe the Minister has said she would bring that information back to me.

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** I will bring that information back. I did have it, but I do not have it with me right now. I can bring it back tomorrow.

**Mrs. Firth:** Could the Minister briefly tell me what kind of construction she sees this secure custody facility as being. I recognize she said it is going to be a frame construction with a residential living area and program delivery space. What kind of units are the young people going to be housed in? Perhaps she could

elaborate a bit on just what kind of facility it is going to be. Are there going to be bars on the windows? What does she have in mind?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We are not going to have bars on the windows. There will be security by the staff. There will be no way that an individual can get out, because there will be staff there. We are not making it into a jail. It is a place to hold young people in secure custody.

**Mr. Phillips:** I do have a bit of concern. How is it going to be secure? There are some young offenders who are 16 or 17 years old and who have committed some very serious offences. I am sure that people in that area would like to know that these people are going to be in a secure custody facility and kept secure. How is the Minister going to maintain that facility as secure?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** People working in Youth Services can pretty well determine beforehand whether or not those individuals are going to be dangerous to the public. What could happen very often is that they could be raised to adult court if they are old enough. That does happen, and they are treated as an adult. If that happens, they will identify a person whom they believe is too dangerous to keep in a secure facility, and they will be sent out to Willingdon or to other such places that do have bars. They are very careful. We have explained to a number of individuals who have come to us about that concern — individuals who live around 501 Taylor Street. We have looked very carefully at that, and so do the people who work in juvenile justice.

**Mr. Phillips:** The Minister has not really answered the question. How is the Minister going to make that facility secure? I know you can have a guard person. I suppose that is one way to do it. How is it going to be secure. Someone could crawl out of the window in the middle of the night or walk out the front door?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** We could build a facility that is absolutely secure that nobody could get out of. We could do that, but we are not going to. We have looked at different programs across Canada. We went and visited a secure facility in Manitoba that housed over 100 young offenders in secure custody. They never had a fence around the place; they never had a lock on the door; they never had a bar on the window. Their success rate was very good. Included in that facility was a program that the young offenders worked with. We are looking toward that kind of thing. We do not want to build a place where you encourage the people to try and leave. You try to encourage them to be better people while they are there. There are a number of programs that have been successful. I believe that we have looked very seriously at some of those.

**5 Mr. Phillips:** What is going to be the staff/young offenders ratio in the building? Is it going to be one-to-one? Two-to-one?

**Hon. Mrs. Joe:** It depends on how many individuals are there at that time. If you have a certain amount, you are going to have a certain amount of people working there. At night, there would probably be less than there would be in the afternoon. I gave some ratios here once before in Question Period or in a debate for another budget or something. There will be more people working in that facility than there would be in a facility for open custody.

**Mrs. Firth:** I do not want to clear this line. Are we supposed to be receiving the Commissioner or reporting progress or something?

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** I move that you report progress on Bill No. 7.

*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 will now call the House to order. May the House have a report from the Chairman of Committee of the Whole?

**Mr. Webster:** Committee of the Whole has considered Bill No. 7, *First Appropriation Act, 1987-88*, and directed me to report progress on same.

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



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** I declare the report carried.

I wish to inform the Assembly that we will now receive the Administrator to grant Assent to Bills that have passed this House.

<sup>46</sup> **Mr. Administrator enters announced by the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms**

**Speaker:** Mr. Administrator, the Assembly, at its present Session, passed a number of Bills to which, in the name of and on behalf of the Assembly, I respectfully request your Assent.

**Clerk:** *Fourth Appropriation Act, 1986-87, An Act to Amend the Public Service Commission Act, An Act to Amend the Public Service Staff Relations Act.*

**Mr. Administrator:** I hereby give Assent to the Bills as enumerated by the Clerk.

**Mr. Administrator leaves the Chamber escorted by the Sergeant-at-Arms**

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

**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 p.m. tomorrow.

*The House adjourned at 5:05 p.m.*

**The following Sessional Paper was tabled February 2, 1987:**

87-3-100

Letter dated January 29, 1987, from Hon. Harvie Andre, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, in response to Speaker's letter to the Prime Minister re Motion No. 56 on proposed amendments to the *Patent Act* (pharmaceuticals)

**The following Legislative Returns were tabled February 2, 1987:**

87-3-39

Applications for position of Deputy Minister of Education  
Oral, Hansard, p. 414 (Penikett)

87-3-40

Security of income tax records  
Oral, Hansard, p. 116 (Penikett)

87-3-41

Changes to SEAL program re loans for more efficient woodstoves  
Oral, Hansard, p. 377 (Penikett)

87-3-42

Distinction between line authority and appropriation authority  
Oral, Hansard, p. 268 (Penikett)

