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The Honourable Jackie Jacobson, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**Friday, March 7, 2014****Members Present**

Hon. Glen Abernethy, Hon. Tom Beaulieu, Ms. Bisaro, Mr. Blake, Mr. Bouchard, Mr. Bromley, Mr. Dolynny, Mrs. Groenewegen, Mr. Hawkins, Hon. Jackie Jacobson, Hon. Jackson Lafferty, Hon. Bob McLeod, Hon. Robert McLeod, Mr. Menicoche, Hon. Michael Miltenberger, Mr. Moses, Mr. Nadli, Hon. David Ramsay, Mr. Yakeleya

This year's theme for International Women's Day is Inspiring Change. It encourages advocacy for

The House met at 10:03 a.m.

Prayer

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Jackie Jacobson): Good morning, colleagues. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Ms. Bisaro.

Members' Statements**MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tomorrow is the 103rd International Women's Day. International Women's Day is annually held on March 8th to celebrate women's achievements throughout history and across nations. It's also known as the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

On this day we all need to spread the message of women's empowerment to our families, friends and men in our lives. It's a day that connects women around the world and celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. It's a day to celebrate the women in our lives and in our communities, to honour the advances women have made. But at the same time, we need to remember the need for continued action to ensure that the equality fought for and gained by women who have passed before us is maintained in all aspects of our society.

To quote an old advertising slogan, "We've come a long way, baby," but I must echo a quote heard recently, "Much has been accomplished and much is still to be done."

Of the world's 1.3 billion poor people, nearly 70 percent are women. Between 75 percent and 80 percent of the world's 27 million refugees are women and children. And of the world's nearly 130 million children who are not in school, two-thirds are girls.

On average, women earn 30 to 40 percent less than men for the same work. Women also continue to be victims of violence, rape and domestic violence, which are significant causes of disability and death among women worldwide.

women's advancement everywhere in every way. It calls for challenging the status quo for women's equality and vigilance inspiring positive change.

Tomorrow we will honour five NWT wise women, who each in their own way have contributed to changing the world for the better. The 2014 winners are Karen Willy, North Slave; Pamela Faith Gordon, Beaufort-Delta; Patricia Modeste, Sahtu; Sister Margaret Ann Beaudette, South Slave; and Harriet Geddes for the Deh Cho. Congratulations to that formidable group of women, Mr. Speaker. Let's use tomorrow to get fired up about women's rights and empowerment and use the day to promote changes in the lives of women all over the world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. Member for Weledeh, Mr. Bromley.

**MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON
JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN FUNDING
ISSUES IN YELLOWKNIFE**

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The ECE Minister has given us a schedule for rolling out free junior kindergarten service across the NWT. It begins with small communities in '14-15, followed by regional centres next and, finally, Yellowknife in year three.

Unfortunately, the Minister is funding small community programs this coming year by removing funds for our students here in Yellowknife. The Minister will say schools have a surplus, but in fact our schools raise funds through taxes on Yellowknifers to cover costs not covered by government. While the Yellowknife students are funded on a much lower per capita basis than those in small communities, Yellowknifers have recognized the need for that. But now the Minister is penalizing the initiative by the Yellowknife school boards by not only reducing their funding but also requiring that is what is currently a cost-recovery JK service be replaced with a so-called free service.

Yellowknife schools currently use ECE funding and taxpayer dollars to provide education for 12 classes plus kindergarten. As of '16-17, the Minister will require them to do the same plus provide junior kindergarten for about 120 small children in each

school system with no additional support. Without any investment from ECE to support this extra responsibility, this can only be done on the backs of our children, a clearly unacceptable basis for any program.

It's not right to give new responsibilities without new funding. The Minister should provide new funding for junior kindergarten to all communities. This relatively small investment will help ensure the success of this new program and avoid eroding the quality of education we offer our kids.

Once again, the Minister is forcing Yellowknife school boards to struggle without needed funds as he removes them over the next two years. With a weakened system, he will then add the responsibility of 120 wee children for each school board requiring specialized early childhood development programs in junior kindergarten, returning only to the original level of funding. Blood from a stone for our children. Shame!

I will have questions for the Minister. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bromley. Member for Hay River North, Mr. Bouchard.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON HAY RIVER POLAR POND HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

MR. BOUCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I woke up thinking of Stompin' Tom this morning. It's hockey night tonight because tonight we start Polar Pond Hockey in Hay River. It's an annual event, a spring event. The 10 rinks are built on the Hay River. The big blue tent is up and being fitted with facilities for the upcoming event. There are concessions there this weekend. The event was a question mark this year. It was a question because of Arctic Winter Games and because of so many factors going on whether we'd do it this year or we'd skip. But the crew all got together and said, you know what? We're going to do it. And they're doing another great job.

There's currently over 45 teams, four-person teams, teams of ladies, teams of old-timers, teams of mixed open class. So I would like to commend all those people that put together all that work, all the Zamboni workers, all those people that are going to be out in the cold this weekend helping out with the event, and honestly, we're looking forward to a great event again in Hay River. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bouchard. The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Mr. Moses.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON REGIONAL RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

MR. MOSES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had some questions in the House yesterday in regard to some human resources issues. I just wanted to bring to

attention today there was a Minister's statement or a Minister's news release on October 13, 2013, that mentioned the Regional Recruitment Program. I've made reference to it calling it the 80/20 program, where the residents of the NWT who actually try to get into the GNWT workforce get paid 80 percent of their salary and 20 percent of that overall salary goes into training.

I want to ask the Minister of Human Resources some questions later on the implementation of this program because in the press release it did state that the program would be implemented before the end of this calendar year and that was in 2013. He was hoping that trainees are anticipated to be on the job in early 2014. Obviously, we're in the third month right now of 2014, I want to see how that's going.

He also mentioned that this program would help reduce barriers of entering into the workforce where individuals who go into the job would do training on the job. I brought up concerns yesterday in regard to individuals trying to get into the workforce and actually not being able to get in because they have to look for a Commissioner for Oaths to sign something, or else also looking at trying to get a criminal records check or some other things that can happen to them.

This Regional Recruitment Program is a great program. I want to get an update on that and I want people of the Northwest Territories to know that this program is supposed to be in place and we're supposed to get some residents into the workforce this year. I will be asking the Minister, later on today, how this program is coming and whether or not we're actually having a perfect program here to get residents of the Northwest Territories into these jobs that are vacant. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Moses. The Member for Range Lake, Mr. Dolyunny.

MEMBERS' STATEMENT ON NWT HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES SYSTEM 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

MR. DOLYUNNY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My Member's statement today is in reference to the recently tabled Northwest Territories Health and Social Services 2012-2013 Annual Report on the subject of patient no-shows for specialists, family and nurse practitioners.

For the record, the no-show rates for specialists are at 9.1 percent, slightly lower from the target of 10 percent, and a no-show rate for practitioners are at 12.6 percent, slightly higher than the 9 percent target. Keep in mind the 12.6 percent rate is only for Yellowknife and the Sahtu as the disclaimer in the report says the numbers aren't consistently available for other health authorities. This concept

of no-show rate is nothing new as I've spoken on this topic before in the House, as have others.

Alarming, still, is the continued lack of understanding of the true cost this has on our health care system, coupled with the waste of important resources in a system limited by design.

So what is the cost of a no-show? I guess this would depend on the specialty. However, what this report doesn't really address is the issue of our no-show rates for our travel clinics and the no-show rates for our surgical operating rooms. For these numbers, one has to dig a little bit into the archives. In fact, what has been mentioned in the not-so-distant past is the no-show rate for our specialists travel clinics at 16.8 percent and for our operating rooms at 16.5 percent.

How do you begin to quantify the costs of not coming to your own operation? I can't imagine what a team of doctors or an anesthesiologist and a couple of surgical nurses cost to have standing around these days, but I'm sure it's not a pretty invoice.

To the question: Who pays the price of these no-shows? Well, you've guessed it. The taxpayer. How do we protect the taxpayer from having to pay for the arrogance of a few? That's a good question. For some of these answers, I thank the private practice of my dentist. How about a reminder phone call? How about a text message? How about an e-mail? How about doing this for a secondary contact? How about doing all four suggestions at once, or better yet, if you really want to reduce the no-show rates, how about a deposit at the time of booking which is non-refundable if you are a no-show. Now that you've got everyone's attention and, I mean, the wallet does have a way of stimulating the cerebral cortex, doesn't it.

It is clear, we have limited resources in a world begging for more service delivery. I'm not just sure we're giving the proper attention of this no-show rate in the NWT, so I will have questions at the appropriate time for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dolynny. The Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Nadli.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON ENTERPRISE FIRE TOWER

MR. NADLI: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Money is set aside for this year's capital plan for a new fire lookout tower in Enterprise. The tower will replace an existing tower located in an isolated part of the Cameron Hills, 73 kilometres from Kakisa.

Like other fire lookout towers, the Cameron tower is staffed from mid-May to mid-August by a contract employee from Hay River. It is used for fire detection and it is also part of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources'

communication system. However, the tower has limited visibility over Hay River and the Cameron Hills Plateau. It can only be serviced by helicopter, which increases operating costs substantially. Its isolated location raises health and safety concerns for the employee stationed there. Fire detection for Kakisa is primarily from another tower located 15 kilometres west of the community and from aerial detection flights.

We have a strong business case for removing the Cameron tower and relocating its functions to Enterprise. My constituents look forward to that work starting as soon as possible. The new site provides better coverage of high priority values at risk. It will be easier to manage and brings added activity to the community. Tower construction and servicing would ideally involve contractors from the region and, better yet, from the community. This lookout station also makes the community aware of the role we all play in forest fire management as stewards of our land. With a certain amount of commitment, a local person might have the opportunity to work the new fire tower, thereby reducing costs even more.

The new tower in Enterprise makes sense. I'm very pleased to see it in the 2014-15 Capital Plan and look forward to the community of Enterprise being a key piece of our forest fire management system.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nadli. The Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON REFLECTIONS ON THE CURRENT BUDGET SESSION

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to give a few reflections on what has been, well, is almost coming to an end and has been a long budget session. As Michael Miltenberger indicated, this is the 19th budget that he and I have had the pleasure of working on together.

Each of us is sent here by the electors of our constituencies. I respect those decisions that people have made. It's a democratic process. People can put their names forward and the electorate chooses. I'm honored to say that Hay River South has elected me five times. I have had credible, respected, formidable opponents in these election campaigns and that is part of the democratic process, and I also respect those people.

Just for the record, I want to share my appreciation for the hard work of this Assembly and for you, Mr. Speaker, in the challenges that face all of us as we do this kind of work. There is not a day that I walk out of this Assembly, and walk down that long sidewalk out front, if I run into Premier McLeod that he's not toting a big briefcase full of documents that

he's taking home with him. There are Members in this House who have made sacrifices. There are Members with new babies that are away from them for extended periods of time. We all know this when we get into public office. I'm not complaining, but these are the stark realities of serving the public at this capacity.

What is serving the public at this capacity? It is public service. I've been here five terms, and maybe some people think that I should have aspired to do more than be a Regular Member. I'm honoured to be a Regular Member. I'm not the greatest original thinker in the room, that's for sure, but I do think I have an ability to observe what other people are saying and to summarize and collect my thoughts and present those thoughts, and I do love my work at the constituency level as well. There's nothing more gratifying as an MLA than getting a call from a constituent with a problem and being able to use your experience and your skills, whatever they are, to bring to bear on that issue and to help people and see concrete and favourable results from those efforts. It's a very, very rewarding experience.

So to anybody who thinks we're here wallowing in the sense of our own importance and all the money we're making, and again, I look around this room and I see everybody in this room having come from different perspectives but able to do very well for themselves no matter where they are. I am very honoured to serve with this group of MLAs and I just wanted to take a moment this morning to thank them for what they do and contribute to the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Hawkins.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON LIFEGUARDS AT FRED HENNE TERRITORIAL PARK

MR. HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The public expects leadership from this government and many times they just don't see it. They get frustrated when they see the marionettes in the bureaucracy pulling the strings of the political puppets. Many Assemblies have spoken about passion and forcefulness about how they can do things better. Those Assemblies, through them have risen Ministers who try to claim they are the leaders, don't worry, we are the decision-makers, not fence sitters, Mr. Speaker.

The public demand something and when there's a clear choice, some of these Ministers would rather sit by and watch a study tell them what to do and when to decide. As we wait for studies that support to do something or, in some cases, not to do something, the general public gets frustrated by wondering where are those leaders who

passionately and forcefully have said they are deciders. These leaders are waiting for studies to buttress their decisions. May I remind the public that a buttress is something that cannot stand on its own, for goodness sakes.

So when you hear language like "we will do something when the study says so or the expert says so," or "I will support something when the study says so or tells me to do so," the question then arises from the public, where are those leaders?

Last summer Lodune Shelley died in a very terrible event. Could lifeguards have saved his life? I don't know, but I can tell you 100 percent that if a lifeguard was there it would have given him a fighting chance.

When Mr. Dolynny asked questions to the Minister on October 24th, his response was, "If it's going to make the beach and Fred Henne safer, there will be lifeguards next summer." Well, the budget came and the budget is gone, no lifeguards. More studies, more sitting on the fence.

On February 25th the Minister goes on and says, "If the study recommends to do so, there will be." What if the study says no lifeguards? That's not leadership. That's sitting on the fence, hiding behind the study. I'd say if there was real leadership over there, they'd say there's lifeguards, we are going to consult the experts and those experts are going to tell us how to do it, not if we do it. That is the problem with this government and that's the particular problem.

I spoke to the grandfather on the weekend and he's burning upset that this government still drags its heels. We expect leadership. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. The honourable Member for Sahtu, Mr. Yakeleya.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON 2014 TRADITIONAL GAMES CHAMPIONSHIP

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to name off some community schools: Lutselk'e, Chief Jimmy Bruneau, Fort Providence, Hay River Reserve, St. Joe's, Weledeh, Norman Wells, Fort McPherson, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Fort Simpson, Fort Good Hope, Elizabeth Mackenzie School, K'alemi Dene School, Fort Resolution, JBT, Mildred Hall, Colville Lake, East 3 High, Ulukhaktok and William Mac School. These are 21 schools that are participating in the Traditional Games Championship this week.

Yesterday at the opening ceremonies, there was excitement in the kids. They did their ceremony outside and they had one of the speakers come and talk to the kids. They were out there at 7:00 last night with a fire ceremony and Dene drumming and the prayers from the song to the land, we come

from the land and we flow from the land, as I've been told at one time this morning.

Then an Inuvialuit elder came up and spoke about the traditional games. He talked about tradition and the discipline of these games. These young people are being trained and learning from the elders, doing the traditional games.

I want to thank this government and the Department of MACA for putting all their energy and efforts to start developing these young leaders in these traditional sports. This goes a long way. We may not see it because we're in the House and we're busy with stuff, but this morning, being out there at 8 o'clock, seeing the young kids doing the push pull, I thought, gee, that would be good to have Cabinet and Regular Members doing that at 8 o'clock in the morning, practising these traditional games. I wonder who's going to do the high kick over there, or the finger pull.

It's good because the kids were excited; it brings them all together from across the Northwest Territories. They are practising the traditional championship games. I'm hoping that one day these traditional games will be world championship games where we can all celebrate all schools, no matter where you come from in the Northwest Territories.

A hand to the coaches from William Mac School for putting this up, and to Yellowknife for hosting them, and for all the officials over this weekend. Let's give the kids the boost they need today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Blake.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

MR. BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two of our Pages gathered with us here today from Aklavik: Ethan Hartley and Grace Illasiak, and their chaperone Crystal Koe. I'd also like to recognize, up in the gallery with us today, the mayor of Aklavik and former chief, Charlie Furlong, and his partner, Joanne Deneron, and her daughter Kimberly Mabbitt. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mrs. Groenewegen.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the Pages from Hay River South that have been serving us in the Chamber this week: Brittney Crosman and Kiera Boulanger-Rowe. I'd also like to thank Catherine Boulanger for her work as the chaperone for these young ladies, and thank them very much for their good work. I'd also like to recognize a constituent, Kim Deneron-Mabbitt, in the visitors gallery today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. Mr. Bouchard.

MR. BOUCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd also like to recognize Kim Mabbitt from Hay River. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bouchard. Honourable Premier, Mr. McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize the Pages that have been here all week, especially two Pages from Yellowknife South: Benjamin Karstad and Brittney Bessette. I also want to recognize Charlie Furlong and Joanne Deneron. Welcome to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Mr. Ramsay.

HON. DAVID RAMSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize a couple of visitors from out of town. I've got Mike Pearson from London, England, and Jack Bertini from Toronto. Welcome to the House. I also want to recognize Mr. Mark Salvor. He's a senior policy analyst with ITI and I know Mark has done a great deal of work on devolution and getting us closer to April 1st. Thanks, Mark, for all your good work on devolution. Also, I'd like to recognize Mr. Charlie Furlong and Joanne Deneron. I've got a Page that I wanted to recognize, Gianna Debogorski from the good riding of Kam Lake. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. Mr. Abernethy.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize a few people, as well, and I'd like to start by recognizing a couple of the Pages here from the Great Slave riding: Isabel Wilson and Joseph Cameron. I'd like to thank you both for everything that you've done for us over the last couple of weeks. We truly appreciate what all the Pages do for us. I'd also like to recognize a constituent, Mark Salvor. Nice to see you in the gallery.

Yesterday I made a statement in the House about a cancer video that will be premiered in the Great Hall later today and I'd like to recognize Charlie Furlong, who is in the video and is here to participate in that presentation, and Joanne Deneron as well. Wonderful to see you. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize a young Page that was serving us. His name is Ben Karstad. Ben and my son Chase practice karate together, so I want to recognize him. I would also like to recognize the chief from Aklavik, Charlie Furlong, and his partner, Joanne Deneron. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. I'd like to welcome everybody here in the gallery today and thank you for taking in our proceedings.

Item 6, acknowledgements. Item 7, oral questions. The Member for Range Lake, Mr. Dolynny.

Oral Questions

QUESTION 241-17(5): NO-SHOW RATES FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today I spoke of the recently tabled statistical data of no-show rates for our various specialists, practitioners, travel clinics and our operating rooms.

Alarming information shows that health care no-show rates have not really resolved themselves in the Northwest Territories. This begs to ask some questions today of the Minister responsible, which is the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Before we begin to get into the details of these no-show rates and what can be done about them, I think committee found that the recently tabled Health annual report to be rather limited in information on this topic.

Can the Minister indicate why the department could not report the no-show rates for practitioners outside of Yellowknife and the Sahtu? What were the barriers of this reporting?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dolynny. Minister of Health, Mr. Abernethy.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will certainly get some more detailed information for the Member on this, but one of the challenges we face getting data from other authorities is the fact that every authority in the Northwest Territories is operated on different IT/IS/IM systems, they have different accounting systems, but we will continue to work with the authorities to get that information and I will provide some more detail to the Member once I get it from the department. Thank you.

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you. I appreciate the Minister's response to that. Having a more complete picture of our no-show rates begins with expanding the scope of the performance measures.

Can the Minister indicate why the no-show rates for travel clinics and operating rooms were not included in the department's Health and Social Services Annual Report, and is he able to maybe offer some statistics on that in the House today? Thank you.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you. I don't have any of those statistics in front of me today, but I'll certainly get that information from the department and share with the Member.

As far as the travel clinics and whatnot, we have the same problem that we do here in Yellowknife. This is a big issue for us. We know there are significant costs on the system. I do know that the Member had a life previous to government where he was in health care outside of the public service, so I'd really be interested in his ideas and concepts for helping us improve the no-show rates. A number of things need to happen, we get that, and I'm certainly looking forward to the Member's input as we move forward.

MR. DOLYNNY: I appreciate that and I will definitely work with the Minister if he's asking for it.

As to the question of what the department is actually doing to mitigate these no-show rates, can the Minister clearly articulate what his department's policy on addressing this issue is? Thank you.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you. Recognizing that we have eight health and social services authorities in the Northwest Territories, each with their own unique challenges and their own unique realities, some being all community-based, some being more regional centre-based, some being hospital-based, like Stanton, each one of them has developed their own policy or their own procedures around trying to encourage people to attend their appointment. One thing we do, and all the authorities do, is I know that they do encourage people to let the authorities know, or the practitioners know, when they're not going to be able to make it. That way appointments can be rebooked, but when people just don't show up, that is a big problem and that's something that, I agree with the Member, more work needs to be done. Each of the authorities has their own plan to deal with that because each authority is unique with their own unique challenges. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Dolynny.

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For my final question, everything we do or don't do has a cost to the taxpayer.

Can the Minister quantify and indicate to the House what is the potential financial impact on the entire health care system with these no-shows? Thank you.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you. It would be very difficult to give an exact dollar figure for that because the reason an individual might not attend an appointment or, rather, the appointment the individual misses may have a significantly different cost than an appointment that another individual misses. So, just having a number of missed appointments doesn't really help us quantify it. We would have to dig in for each appointment, figure out what the procedures that were supposed to be done would have been and work from there. This

would take a significant amount of work. We do believe it's significant.

I do agree with the Member that this is something that we need to continue to work on, and once again, I'm very interested in the Member's opinions and thoughts on this with respect to his previous experience as a health provider outside of the public service. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. The Member for Sahtu, Mr. Yakeleya.

QUESTION 242-17(5):
MONITORING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
IN SAHTU

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to ask a question to the Minister of ITI. This morning on CBC we heard representatives from the Fort Nelson First Nation Band talk about the impacts of hydraulic fracking in the area. Certainly they have their challenges and it's good to hear their stories for the Sahtu.

I want to ask the Minister, in regards to the activity that is happening up in the Sahtu region, has this department been calculating or analyzing some of the benefits that are going on with the recent economic development activities?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. The honourable Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Ramsay.

HON. DAVID RAMSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, there's been some significant advancement in the Sahtu because of the activity that's taking place there. In Tulita, for example, we've seen a number of Aboriginal-owned businesses in Tulita, be it six in 2010. Last year we had 28 Aboriginal-owned businesses in Tulita and I think that says a lot.

We've seen grocery sales go up 200 percent, vacancy rate at the hotels in Norman Wells are up around the 90 percent mark. We've seen a number of people be employed. You can also look at a figure like 150 percent in the amount of gas that's been purchased. Grocery sales are up 300 percent. There is obviously a lot happening. There is a lot of money being spent in the Sahtu. A lot of people are working, and some other telling statistics are we've seen the amount of income support – and I know this question came up in the House the other day on income support – in the Sahtu drop by \$1 million in the last two years. I think that's a great figure to put out there. Thank you.

MR. YAKELEYA: Mr. Speaker, going back to the two ladies, the chief and the lands director from Fort Nelson, they talked about striking a balance. Certainly we hear the benefits that Mr. Ramsay indicated. Now we are talking about striking a balance of the economic benefits plus looking at the sustainability of our land, water and animals. Mr.

Ramsay communicated with the Minister of ITI. We are actually on the verge of a huge turning point in the Northwest Territories.

Is there some type of discussion with his department and ENR, saying we need to look at balance with the land and with the economic development that is happening in the Sahtu?

HON. DAVID RAMSAY: Mr. Speaker, certainly that is our goal going forward, is to have an integrated approach to resource management here in the Northwest Territories involving the departments of ITI, ENR and also the new Lands department. That's something that we're very excited about. We believe we can strike a balance. We believe we can protect the environment, have sustainable development and also see the economy grow, providing the much needed jobs and opportunities for the people that live in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

MR. YAKELEYA: That's good to know. Would the Minister then look at some type of forum so that people in the Sahtu, people in the Northwest Territories could have that discussion as to the types of regulations we have with the Land and Water Board and environmental types of agreements in place with the economic development activity, have that forum or summit in the Sahtu so that we can properly negotiate our way through this type of activity that is happening in our region?

HON. DAVID RAMSAY: Mr. Speaker, I have committed to looking at a readiness session in the Sahtu sometime in the very near future. Perhaps as part of that readiness session, we could also look at an information session on devolution, what it means, how things are going to work, and that would be perhaps very beneficial for residents in the Sahtu.

I know our government has done a tremendous amount of communications, getting word out in newspapers, on radio and through town hall meetings that we've had. Certainly, if there is more of an appetite out there for information on devolution and how it works, that's something we could certainly look at. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the amount of dollars going into the Sahtu and people having that type of opportunity, those are some good things that people are doing with the money. There are also some things that people are not doing so well. With this type of readiness session sometime in the future, hopefully it will be in the next five months, we want to look at the social impacts.

Recently, we've seen lots of liquor being confiscated by the RCMP. We need to talk about

some of the social issues. Will that be part of the forum?

HON. DAVID RAMSAY: If we were to expand that type of discussion, that certainly would involve other departments. I know when we've had the readiness session in the Sahtu in the past, other departments were involved. From the social side of things, we could look at including other departments again in discussions in the readiness session that will be held in the Sahtu again in the near future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Blake.

QUESTION 243-17(5):
GRAVEL STOCKPILING IN AKLAVIK

MR. BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I was asking questions to the Minister of Public Works yesterday, he mentioned that if the community was in support of building the parking lot for Moose Kerr School, he would look towards that. The community does have a motion that they would like to see action taken on that.

I would like to ask the Minister of Public Works, will the Minister ensure they stockpile gravel to build a pad at the school in Aklavik before the spring is over? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Blake. The honourable Minister of Public Works, Mr. Beaulieu.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the Department of Public Works ensures that the community has a stockpile in each community for the work that's required during that year. In 2013, the haul this year, we had a plan to put a stockpile in Aklavik and we were advised by the community that there was a local contractor that had sufficient stockpile of granular material that we could use, so we didn't stockpile any further, but we think there's enough material there for us to do our work.

MR. BLAKE: Is the Minister saying that they do have enough gravel at the moment to build a pad for Moose Kerr School for the parking lot? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: What I'm saying is that for all the capital plan activities that require granular material, there was sufficient granular material for that. I'm not sure if part of that plan included construction of a parking lot for Moose Kerr School. If the community is wishing to do that, that becomes part of the capital, but I do know that at the beginning of the year all the capital that was planned and the need for granular material, we had enough in Aklavik to do that. Thank you.

MR. BLAKE: For sure the parking lot isn't in the capital plan because this issue just came up in the

last couple of weeks. The Minister did state that if it was a major concern for the community that they would pursue that.

With the emotion in place from the hamlet, will the Minister ensure that the department acts on this issue as soon as possible? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: The requirement for granular material in Aklavik was 23,300 cubic metres of granular material, which was about 3,250 cubic metres for the GNWT and the balance of it being needed by the hamlet. So the hamlet had indicated that the projects they would like to run during the year and had indicated that they had sufficient granular material. If the hamlet is going to move some of the material, assuming that they had only that amount, that they don't have a surplus, and they need to move off another project, I guess that's a discussion that will occur with the hamlet locally.

We were advised that with the projects we were running, there is certainly sufficient granular material. So, hopefully there is enough to do all of the projects, plus the parking lot. That is our hope today, but I don't have a very recent update as of today whether or not all of these projects, plus the parking lot, is what we have granular material for. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Blake.

MR. BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to be on the safe side, the community is planning to make a road up to the gravel source at Willow River.

Will the Minister ensure that they do have sufficient gravel in the community for all the projects, including the parking lot at Moose Kerr School? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Part of the 18,000 cubic metres of granular material that the hamlet is to use this summer is also material for Willow River, so there is a plan to start using some of this granular material to build to that gravel source. Aside from that, we can work with the community to make sure there is sufficient granular material to do all the projects, including the parking lot. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. The honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Mr. Moses.

QUESTION 244-17(5):
REGIONAL RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

MR. MOSES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to follow up on my Member's statement today in terms of the Regional Recruitment Program. There was a press release that went out on October 23, 2013. I just want to get an update. In the statement

it said training is anticipated to start to be on the job in early 2014.

I would like to ask the Minister of Human Resources, what is the update on that program and do we have actual full-time government employees who went through this program? If so, how many?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Moses. The honourable Minister of Human Resources, Mr. Beaulieu.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we do not have people on the ground yet as part of the Regional Recruitment Strategy that the Member speaks of. We have done the program design. We have finalized all of the documentation necessary. We have completed the approach that the trainer is going to use in training individuals. We have talked about the training allowance specific to that. We have met with the UNW. We have negotiated a memorandum of understanding, so we're ready to roll. We have all of the regional meetings in place. Individuals have come forward and we are now seeing the targeted positions that we're hoping to fill with this strategy. Thank you.

MR. MOSES: I want to ask the Minister, has he changed any policies or do any policies need to be changed in order to get individuals into the job? Like I said yesterday, there were some challenges for some individuals in Inuvik who were just trying to get casual employment and had to go through all the hoops to get their application on the desk.

So, have any policies changed within the government system that allows residents of the Northwest Territories to actually get into these jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Any policy change that would occur would have been to try to accommodate the Regional Recruitment Strategy. As I indicated, we have discussed this and signed an MOU with the Union of Northern Workers. So, there hasn't been anything put in place to make it difficult for individuals to apply. In fact, it's been the other way around. We are trying to accommodate this. Now that interest is starting, we are hoping we will have our first employee underneath the Regional Recruitment Strategy this month and more in April. We're going to get some employees in March and April through the strategy and hopefully expanding that beyond the communities that have shown interest now, which are at this time coming from Inuvik, Fort Simpson and Fort Providence.

MR. MOSES: In the news release that was sent out on October 23, 2013, it mentioned that the program would help reduce barriers in entering the workforce. Yesterday I got a call from a constituent having some issues with them getting into the job system and this was just for a casual position.

Would the Minister consider, or is his department looking at some of the lower level job positions or entry level job positions such as administrative assistants or jobs on the front line, working with individuals who have been in the job for five, 10 or 20 years? We have those statistics. Would he look at trying to get individuals who have been in an entry level job for 10 years-plus and give them the support to become a supervisor, a manager or take another position within the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Yes, we do plan to look at that. Right now we do have two strategies developing our employees. One is a strategy of the positions of associate superintendent positions that we've created. Now we're looking at creating some associate manager positions, moving officers up to that level. The recommendation from the Member, taking people who have been long term in administrative positions and moving them up a level to officer level, is something that we would certainly take a look at seriously, and I will talk to the Department of Human Resources who go on to talk to the other hiring departments to see what is possible here. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Moses.

MR. MOSES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we've looked at the 20/20 strategy and we do understand that a lot of our employees are going to be retiring. They are coming to that age where they're going to retire and we will need people to fill those positions. A lot of them will be in senior management, so I think it's a great opportunity to look at our long-term service employees and give them the tools.

The Minister did mention that this month we're going to have one of our recruitments in place, so I wonder what his targets are for this year in terms of getting individuals into this program.

Does he have a target set for getting our NWT residents into these jobs, these vacant positions and these higher level positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: We have not set targets as a department. We are asking all of the departments to come forward with the positions that we are hoping to fill with the Regional Recruitment Strategy. Once we have all the departments who have identified their positions, then we, as the Department of Human Resources, will go back and engage those departments to make sure that there aren't more positions that can go under this strategy. At that point, we will set targets of how many positions we hope to fill using the Regional Recruitment Strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. The honourable Member for Weledeh, Mr. Bromley.

QUESTION 245-17(5):
FUNDING REDUCTIONS TO
YELLOWKNIFE SCHOOL BOARDS

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are following up on my Member's statement directed to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. The Minister is reducing annual funding to Yellowknife school boards by hundreds of thousands of dollars each, starting in a few months.

What will be the total reductions for the next two years and what will be the amount reinstated in year three when Yellowknife's junior kindergarten must begin? Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bromley. The honourable Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Lafferty.

HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Part of the process is, of course, rolling out the program in a three-phase approach. There will be 29 communities and the second year will be on to Hay River and the third year will be Yellowknife.

There's Detah, Ndilo. So Detah will be \$14,000 surplus for year one, they will be given the funding to operate. For Ndilo, \$91,000 in year one to operate. YCS, the first year will be minus \$434,000, year two will be minus \$264,000, and year three will be plus \$484,000. So a slight decrease of 1.2 percent of their overall budget, Mr. Speaker.

YK1, year one, \$569,000 in the minus. Year two will be \$322,000 minus. Year three will be \$829,000 in the plus. That's a difference of 0.3 percent of the overall budget decrease. So those are just the minor decreases that are happening over the three-year phased approach. Mahsi.

MR. BROMLEY: So, essentially they'll be slightly less at the end of this time and, of course, the Minister forgot about the cost recovery programs that are in place that he's requiring that they drop. So a net substantial loss. In the third year, obviously, with 120 extra people, small children to look after, they'll be expected to provide junior kindergarten with no new funding in year three. This will be on the backs of services currently provided to our children, as I've mentioned.

What is the Minister's assessment of the impact students will have to bear from this failure to provide new support for these new responsibilities? Mahsi.

HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY: Mahsi. The Yellowknife school boards have been offering the monthly fee-for-service four-year-old pre-kindergarten spaces beginning in 2008. So it has been operating for the past six years now, which has grown over the years. Currently, it would include approximately 163 licenced four-year-old spaces. So YK1 with a possible 90 fee-based four-

year-old preschool space, bringing in revenue of approximately \$600,000 per school year. Same with YCS, approximately \$500,000 per school year on fee for service. So that will continue for the next two years and in the third year we will be providing them funding at that level.

As I stated, it is 1.2 percent for YCS, a decrease, and YK1 is 0.3 percent of their overall budget when you look at the territorial-wide budget and their budget as far as our contribution agreement. So there is a decrease, but we have to think long term as well. Mahsi.

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you. Indeed, we do need to think long term and I don't believe the Minister is doing that. Obviously, these school boards are losing over \$1.5 million over the next two years and then they'll lose all of the revenue that they have from junior kindergarten currently in the third year, so they will be in a net deficit and yet huge new responsibilities that the Minister is asking them to take on. What collaboration and support has the Minister experienced for this plan from our school boards? Mahsi.

HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY: Mahsi. I did mention in this House that there have been various meetings that took place since August 21st of 2013, September 18 and 19, 2013. These are with the superintendents of the school. November 27, 28, 2013, January 2014. These are ongoing discussions that we are currently having. There has been a recommendation brought forward by a superintendent to make adjustment to our approach of the PTR and we took that into consideration and instead of using 10 to Grade 12, they indicated that maybe we should try K to 12. So it does balance it out, all of the communities throughout the Northwest Territories.

We are listening to the school boards, we are listening to the superintendents and there are a lot of supports out there as well. Especially the small communities, the 29 communities, as I highlighted, there are 10 communities without any licenced programming for early childhood development. So, those are just some of the discussions we've been having. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Bromley.

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're talking about Yellowknife here. I asked, what's the Minister's assessment of the impacts of this on the services to the students? No answer. He went off in a different direction. I asked what collaboration and support. I didn't hear any collaboration and support. They've had meetings, dictatorial results.

Will the Minister commit to working with our school boards to provide the new investments required with these new responsibilities that he is asking of them? Mahsi.

HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY: Mahsi. When I highlighted all the dates, those are interactions that we are currently having in coordination with the school boards, with the superintendents. We'll continue to do so because we have to work with the early childhood educators, as well, and the operators, the daycare operators. This is beneficial to all 33 communities. Yes, the Member is referring to Yellowknife, but we, as a government, are responsible for 33 communities. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The Member for Frame Lake, Ms. Bisaro.

QUESTION 246-17(5):
ADVERTISING GNWT
POSITION VACANCIES

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions this morning are addressed to the Minister for Human Resources. I'd like to follow up on some of the conversation that has been happening in the House and during the budget and during questions and statements in the last little while. I'm going to ask him some questions about jobs.

The Minister has advised us that some 15 to 20 percent of GNWT jobs are empty at any one time. So that is as of October of 2013, it was about 571 jobs that were apparently vacant. I've spoken before about the difficulty that I see people are going to encounter because they can only access jobs on-line. Jobs won't be advertised in the paper anymore. So I think the Minister can appreciate why Members want to see jobs advertised on-line and jobs available to our constituents, especially if on-line is the only way to go.

My first question to the Minister is this: When it's determined that a job is either going to be open or it's a new job, how long does it take that job to get posted to the on-line program? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. The Minister of Human Resources, Mr. Beaulieu.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've indicated in the House previously that we're also going to be posting jobs at the community level. I'd indicated in the small communities exactly where the jobs would be posted and so on.

To answer the Member's question, if the department has a vacant position that they wish to fill, then they indicate their desire to fill the position by ensuring that the job description, the ad and everything is ready, then they start working with the department. My understanding is that from the time the department advises HR that they wish to fill the position, that position would be advertised in about four weeks.

MS. BISARO: Thanks to the Minister. Four weeks seems like an inordinately long time to go from when you know that you need a body to when it is

posted. I appreciate that that's bureaucracy and my concern is bureaucracy moves awfully slowly.

It's fairly common knowledge, I think, and I don't think it's something that the government really wants to admit, but I think it's out there that there are jobs that are not posted because they're being held back for a particular person and I'd like to ask the Minister what he knows about this practice. Certainly I feel, and I think many of the residents of the NWT feel, that people, constituents, residents should have the opportunity to apply on any vacancy, and if jobs are held back then, obviously, that's not available for them to know about the job.

So, to the Minister, how many jobs are held back? Does he have that number and could he comment on the practice? Thank you.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Thank you. I don't think we have a category in PeopleSoft, in our system totally at all that are a category that our jobs are held back for someone else. We have vacancies, yes. There are vacancies that can be held for an individual that's on a transfer assignment that is going to come back to their home position and then there's also, on the other side of the coin, there would be vacancies where the department sees that it would be a good opportunity for someone to come into the department on a transfer assignment, those vacancies filled by casuals because they're having positions that are difficult to recruit.

I know that last year, in 2013, the departments had 1,818 staffing actions, 1,265 were either hires, transfers or promotions and 553 separations. So I think things are moving through the system, but I'm not aware of positions that are being specifically held back. At least the deputy minister doesn't come to me and say, I decided to hold these positions back because I have someone in mind. That is not just a category that we entertain. Thank you.

MS. BISARO: Thanks to the Minister. I don't think the Minister understood where I was going. I'm not talking about a category in PeopleSoft; I'm talking about something that happens before the job ever gets to PeopleSoft. It certainly, I think, is well known within the government service that a job may be coming vacant and it's not put into PeopleSoft, it's not advertised because there's somebody either within the department or, I hate to say it, somebody's friend who they may want to get that job.

The Minister kind of led me into my next question and that's the use of casuals. Casuals are a very common practice for us in terms of filling vacancies, but casuals are often extended many, many times. I know any number of people who have had their casual position extended five times, a year at a time, six months at a time.

I would like to know from the Minister, when a job is filled by a casual, is it advertised in PeopleSoft as a vacancy? Thank you.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Mr. Speaker, as of October 31, 2013, of the 1,150 vacancies, 208 of those categorized as vacancies were filled by casuals. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. Final, short supplementary, Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister, I can appreciate they were filled by casuals, but were they advertised in PeopleSoft as vacancies? They should be. If it's a casual position and not permanent, if there's not a permanent person in there, it should be advertised.

The Minister mentioned, in one of his answers earlier, that jobs are not necessarily advertised as vacant because they can be in various stages. They could be in the advertising stage, the interview stage or offer pending stage. It seems to me that we should have all of our jobs posted and if there is a stage, it's in a certain stage, like an offer stage; for instance, flag that job as it's in the offer stage. People would then know that the job may or may not be available in the next period of time. It may be filled; it may not. I think that certainly the more information we can provide to our residents the better.

I would ask the Minister if he would consider whether or not PeopleSoft would start reflecting all jobs at whatever stage they're in. Thank you.

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Mr. Speaker, I'm going to have a discussion with the deputy on this because I'm not quite understanding how we would be able to do that. When someone leaves the employ of the GNWT then that position becomes vacant. That vacant position, if there's an immediate requirement, then that position could be filled with a casual. That gives an opportunity for the department to maybe evaluate what they wish to do with that position. As an example, it could be a position that's hard to recruit. I'm not quite understanding clearly how we would be able to let the public know that we have this many vacancies but only this many of them can be advertised at one time because this many positions are in the appeal process, this many people are in the hiring process, this many are in the offering process and this many are in the interviewing process. I'm not sure that there would be any value in that to start with, but I'm not even sure how we would be able to advertise that whole thing on the website. It would be something that's difficult to do, but something that we would like to look at. I can promise the Member that I will talk to the deputy, like I said, and see if that is a possibility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Nadli.

QUESTION 247-17(5):
ENTERPRISE FIRE TOWER

MR. NADLI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Following up on my Member's statement on the Enterprise fire tower, my question is to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. I think we are all aware of the potential for each season to be fairly unpredictable in terms of forest fire activity throughout the summer. We look towards, especially in the small communities, government infrastructure projects as an opportunity to create employment and also to try and invigorate business opportunities wherever we can.

What are the department's plans for the construction of the tower in Enterprise? Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The plan is to proceed with the construction of a fire tower at Enterprise in 2014 and look at the decommissioning of the one that is currently in the Cameron Hills that is accessible only by helicopter as a fire tower. It still has a role to play with our communication system, but the intent is to look at the construction of the fire tower this year. Thank you.

MR. NADLI: The Minister has indicated that the construction will start. Has a site and contractor for the construction been selected? Mahsi.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Speaker, I believe a site has been identified, but I don't have the information as to whether they have proceeded to the point where they have actually picked the contractor for the construction. Thank you.

MR. NADLI: I would like to ask the Minister how can local businesses benefit from tower construction and operation if a contractor hasn't been selected yet. Mahsi.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Speaker, I will commit to the Member to check where this is in the process, but it would be a case of following and looking for whatever tender documents may come out in the paper and looking for those opportunities. It's a relatively small contract of roughly \$400,000 or somewhere in that range. There will be some opportunity, some of that may be somewhat specialized, but it would be best to check and follow through the public tendering process. I will commit to get back to the Member with details and the status of the project. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Final, short supplementary, Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: I would like to thank the Minister for committing to following up on details of the construction and so forth.

What would a person from Enterprise need to do in order to work at the tower, notwithstanding that there's a public process in terms of the tendering, but there's an interest in terms of the local community being employed. What would a person from Enterprise need to do in order to work at the tower? Mahsi.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Currently, there is an arrangement made with Evergreen Forestry to have the tower that is in the Cameron Hills looked after by one of their members. Once again, I'd have to check the length of that agreement. If there were other interests other than through Evergreen when the current arrangement lapsed, there would be potential opportunity there; or members from Enterprise can talk to the folks from Evergreen to see what their options are. But it's just one person and it's through that current contract. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Hawkins.

QUESTION 248-17(5):
GIANT MINE REMEDIATION

MR. HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 1990 the founder of Gold Corp – his name is Rob McEwen – knew he was sitting on a fortune of gold but just didn't know how to get at it. So he changed the world in an extraordinary way by putting the question about how could he get help from the world to find his gold in the ground. It drew out, I think, 110 quality submissions, but it drew out over 1,000 submissions at large. In essence, Mr. McEwen of Gold Corp was saying, I have a problem; can the world help me to find my solution? It was all based on innovation and how he was inspired by a product called Linux software where they went to the world for ideas on how to deal with it.

I have raised the issue of Giant Mine and how we have the arsenic trioxide trapped there and possibly left forever.

The question that now goes to Minister Miltenberger is: Would he be willing to look at the Gold Corp innovation challenge, which they put to the world with a prize dollar out there to draw out innovative solutions on how to deal with the arsenic trioxide that's being left in the ground at Giant Mine for what is seen as forever?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Michael Miltenberger.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to thank the Member for sharing the information on Gold Corp. It is a very fascinating read about thinking outside the box and what happened and how successful that particular initiative was. But keeping in mind that this is

ultimately a federal site and they are the major payer, I would be prepared to commit to take that information to the table through the deputy and through the folks that we have working as part of the project remediation to see what the interest is and look at trying to see if there are opportunities here to build off of the success of that example and other ones the Member mentioned like the Linux development where they went to people at large and got very many successful and very good ideas that they hadn't contemplated.

MR. HAWKINS: Publicly, I've spoken about numbers of value of prize. It's not for me to say per se what is the right prize amount, but I think the federal government needs to be a partner in this solution, because as I pointed out, and it's even been cited by the federal government that it costs \$1.9 million to run that Giant Mine site in perpetuity to protect that arsenic trioxide so it doesn't spill into the environment.

My question now to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources is: Does he see an opportunity here to engage in this broader discussion about a possible solution on innovation with our partners in the federal government, because they're the ones that will be paying so I think they should be the ones that should be helping to support us on this endeavour that can help the people of the Northwest Territories to deal with this horrible site.

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Yes, that would be the whole intent of taking that information and the Gold Corp example forward to the appropriate tables, is to initiate that type of discussion, engender debate and look at options of is there a potential application here in the Giant Mine remediation site.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Mr. Yakeleya.

QUESTION 249-17(5):
2014 TRADITIONAL GAMES CHAMPIONSHIP

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of MACA. I spoke earlier in my Member's statement about the excitement of all the young children that are gathered at William McDonald School and the coaches and the officials and the wonderful opening ceremonies last night. Certainly, this indicates to me that these traditional games are getting support by this government and by this Minister.

I want to ask the Minister – it would be nice if we had some of these traditional games – is there a manual out there, a book on the different types of games that are going to be played over the weekend and the meaning of these games? As the Inuvialuit elder said, this was for our survival, and he said teaching behind these games. Is there

something like that for people who want to know more about these games? Is there something out there for us to get?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. McLeod.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're proud of our involvement in the Traditional Games. They had the first Traditional Games last year and there was an excellent turnout, from my understanding. I apologize for missing the opening ceremonies yesterday, but my understanding was that this year's turnout was just as good as last year. The kids had a fantastic time, and this is a great opportunity for them to interact with kids from the other communities.

As far as the Member's question about a handbook of some sort, I'm not aware of one. I will do some checking and see if one exists. As part of our culture, a lot of our games and that are just orally handed down from one generation to the next. I'm not sure if they've been put on paper and maybe it's about time that was given some consideration. I will find out and communicate that to the Member.

MR. YAKELEYA: It was duly noted last night at the opening ceremonies that the Minister was preoccupied, and so that was understandable by the participants.

I guess what I wanted to say was there were so many people out there – coaches and athletes and volunteers – that it would be nice to have some type of a book so that we could start reading about the traditional games, because that's kind of where things are going nowadays even though they're handed down orally. We kind of understand that in our smaller communities.

I want to ask the Minister, for the support of these traditional games, is there is long-term funding for supporting these 21 schools that are attending the second, I guess, Traditional Games Championships?

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Starting from the 16th Assembly and then Assemblies before, the funding contribution that we make to the youth across the Northwest Territories, I think, is unmatched anywhere in the country. We go a long ways to try and develop our youth, and I think we've seen in this last budget that we just debated there was an additional \$500,000 that's earmarked for youth development.

Our youth in the Northwest Territories have a fantastic opportunity. We have some great sporting partners such as the Aboriginal Sport Circle, who I believe are the ones that are putting this event on, and they receive a lot of their funding through the Sport and Rec Council of the Northwest Territories. There is a fantastic partnership here in the Northwest Territories amongst our sporting

community. Our regional folks do a lot of regional games with some of the schools within their regions.

Again, I will maybe have a discussion with the Aboriginal Sport Circle and see if there is any type of manual that exists, and if not, maybe we should start working on one and take advantage of the fact that we have a lot of pioneers, as far as the traditional games go, that are still with us. It's a good opportunity to put their thoughts on paper and the history of the games.

MR. YAKELEYA: The Aboriginal Sport Circle should be getting all our support we can give, even to increase their funding to support all these small communities, communities around the Northwest Territories that bring kids together to learn about the traditional games and, more importantly, to practice them and to get the best out of themselves and for their schools.

I want to ask the Minister, is there a review process, once these games are finished, to say what went well, what we need to do next time, and is there any way that Members on this side could be part of that review, because I have small communities from the Sahtu that are participating in these games this year.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: As far as a review, I'm sure the Aboriginal Sport Circle, when they did the initial games last year, I'm sure when the games were over they had a bit of a debrief amongst their own organization to see what worked well, what could be improved, and I'm sure, as a result of that, there was probably some improvements made for the event this year. An official review, I'm not sure one exists. I don't know, but I'm sure the Aboriginal Sport Circle has their own internal debrief, and if there's information that we can gather from that, I can share that with the Members.

As far as the Member's question on the booklet, there was somewhat of a book, I think, that was made a few years ago on the Arctic Winter Games and the history and that, so again, I will commit to trying to gather that information and share it with the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Final, short supplementary. Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These Aboriginal games come from our ancestors, and basically, they come from the land and their survival. Now they have a different meaning but they're very, very, very important. This is the foundation of our culture and our people.

I want to ask the Minister, in regard to these new Aboriginal games that are being out here, if he can work with this Department Education, Culture and Employment Minister. Is that part of the curriculum for physical education in our schools? This should

be, actually, a mandatory part of the curriculum in our schools with our young people.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: I can't speak for the Minister of Education. I can have a discussion with him. We're fortunate that we have elders that are willing to share their vast knowledge of the traditional games and their beginnings. As far as making it mandatory in the schools, again, that's a conversation we'd have with the Education Minister and the district education councils.

There's another traditional game, I think, among the old traditional games that we don't hear much anymore, and it's called the lip pull. We may have to start practising that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I hear a challenge there.

---Laughter

Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

QUESTION 250-17(5):
EMERGENCY FUND FOR
PERSONS IN NEED

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a long, cold and difficult winter for a lot of people and occasionally people fall on hard times and sometimes tragedies beset people in the North. We are really one big family here. We know most of the people in our constituencies.

I've recently had a situation where a family that has been struggling has just been pushed over the edge, I suppose, financially by the cost of maintaining a home during this very long, cold winter. This family is supporting an adult with disabilities in their own home at a very, very minimal level of support from this government.

If this family were not caring for their son who is disabled, and if he was in assisted living or in a southern institution, our government would not think twice to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to support this individual, but he's being cared for by his own family. His family is in distress.

Have we ever or do we have any kind of a benevolent emergency compassionate fund whereby if Members and Ministers agreed that there was a candidate that was a case where someone needed a little support to carry on and not lose their home or have their power turned off or in some way have something catastrophic happen, is there such a fund in this government?

I attend a church in Hay River and it's just a small church with a \$200,000 a year budget. We even have a benevolent fund for if somebody shows up on our doorstep and is in serious trouble.

I'd like to know, has the government ever had something like this? Is there anything like this available? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. Minister of Health, Mr. Abernethy.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't currently have a fund that I think exactly matches the type of situation that the Member is talking about, but I think that goes a lot to the types of questions that Mr. Bromley was asking yesterday about the poverty trap and trying to find ways to support families so we don't drive them into that area.

I have committed to working with the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and the other social envelope members to start working to see if we could find some ways to address this to make sure this type of thing doesn't happen and we could provide supports where possible. But right now there is no fund that clearly fits the type of situation the Member is describing.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: Sometimes it is a very small amount of money and it is a very small amount of support that a family or an individual needs to get over a rough patch due to circumstances beyond their control. Usually time is of the essence in these instances as well.

I'd like to ask the Minister, is he aware if there ever has been such a thing? I remember, years ago there used to be some kind of a compassionate fund where, say, if a family was indigent or was falling on hard times that our government would pay to help family members go to a funeral or to the bedside of a dying family member or to purchase a casket if they had lost a loved one. There used to be a fund like that. I'd like to ask the Minister if he's aware of it. Thank you.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: I am aware of a situation that has come up recently very similar to the one the Member is describing and it was referenced in that discussion that there used to be a fund that provided supports very similar to the type that the Member is talking about. That fund no longer exists. But it is one of the items that I've put on the agenda for the Ministers' Social Envelope Committee and we will be having further discussions, and I look forward from committee as we move forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN: We are a small government but big in the fact that we have a fairly large budget. We have a small constituency overall in the Northwest Territories. I would certainly support something like that. Not something to be dipped into on a regular basis, but when there is an agreed emergency I think that we should have something like that. It's very difficult for us, as MLAs, to get back to our constituents and say, sorry, there's nothing that this government can do for you. We all know these people. Often they're people who have grown up here in the North and are well known to all us.

I'd just like to ask the Minister if he will work with Regular Members, like myself, to come up with something so that these kinds of disasters can be avoided, which are going to end up costing this government a whole lot more money when these people fail to be able to carry on. Thank you.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Mr. Speaker, I like working with committee, I am committed to working with committee, and I will work with committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. Time for oral questions has expired. Item 8, written questions. Item 9, returns to written questions. Item 10, replies to opening address. Item 11, petitions. Mr. Hawkins.

Petitions

PETITION 1-17(5):
LIFEGUARD SERVICES AT
FRED HENNE PARK BEACH

MR. HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to present a petition dealing with the matter of lifeguard services at Fred Henne Park beach.

The petition contains 412 handwritten signatures and 312 electronic signatures of Northwest Territories, Canadian and American residents. The petitioners request that the Government of the Northwest Territories act responsibly by providing lifeguard services at Fred Henne Park beach in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Bromley.

PETITION 2-17(5):
CLIMATE AND ENERGY ACTION PLAN

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to present a petition dealing with the matter of Climate and Energy Action Plan.

The petition contains 73 handwritten signatures and 80 electronic signatures of Northwest Territories residents. The petitioners request that the Government of the Northwest Territories:

1. Collect a \$3.50 tonne (co2eq) levy on carbon pollution from all fossil fuels sales in order to finance a new fund that would provide financial assistance to:
 - a) Homeowners and businesses to assist them to take action to reduce carbon pollution and fossil fuel use; and
 - b) Aboriginal governments and community governments to undertake community energy planning and climate adaptation projects.
2. Collect a \$3.50 tonne (co2eq) levy on carbon pollution stemming from the oil and gas

exploration and production activity in order to contribute to the existing NWT Heritage Fund.

Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Bromley. Item 12, reports of standing and special committees. Item 13, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 14, tabling of documents. Mr. Beaulieu.

Tabling of Documents

TABLED DOCUMENT 65-17(5):
2012 GNWT EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT
AND SATISFACTION SURVEY

HON. TOM BEAULIEU: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document, entitled "2012 GNWT Employee Engagement and Satisfaction Survey, Summary Report." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Beaulieu. Ms. Bisaro.

TABLED DOCUMENT 66-17(5):
HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION
POSITION STATEMENT:
PUBLIC ACCESS TO AUTOMATED
EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDS)

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document, a position statement from the Heart and Stroke Foundation, titled "Public Access to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)." Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. Item 15, notices of motion. Mr. Nadli.

Notices of Motion

MOTION 17-17(5):
INTERIM MEASURES FOR THE
COMMERCIAL HARVEST OF
WILD MUSHROOMS

MR. NADLI: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, March 10, 2014, I will move the following motion: now therefore I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that the Government of the Northwest Territories, prior to summer 2014, honour its commitments and work with those Northwest Territories First Nations and entrepreneurs that have an interest in harvesting morels and other mushrooms, to implement interim measures that regulate and manage the commercial harvest of wild mushrooms; and further, that the Government of the Northwest Territories immediately begin drafting legislation to provide for the responsible management of the wild mushroom resource and provide a comprehensive response to this motion within 60 days. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Item 16, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 17, motions. Ms. Bisaro.

Motions

MOTION 15-17(5):
PUBLIC ACCESS TO AUTOMATED
EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS,
CARRIED

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. WHEREAS every 26 minutes a Canadian suffers a sudden cardiac arrest;

AND WHEREAS more Canadians die each year from cardiac arrest than from car accidents, diabetes, breast and prostate cancers combined;

AND WHEREAS each minute that passes decreases the chance of survival from cardiac arrest by nearly 10 percent;

AND WHEREAS almost 80 percent of all cardiac arrests in Canada occur in homes and in public places;

AND WHEREAS a defibrillator can dramatically improve cardiac arrest survival rates by more than 50 percent;

AND WHEREAS automated external defibrillators can be installed at any location throughout any community, such as recreation centres, arenas and schools;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that this Legislative Assembly strongly recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories take the steps necessary to ensure widespread access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs);

AND FURTHER, that the government work with the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the NWT Association of Communities, the NWT fire marshal's office and the NWT fire chiefs, and the RCMP to ensure access to defibrillators across the NWT by designating locations where AEDs must be made available, and require mandatory registration of all installed AEDs;

AND FURTHER, that the government develop protocols to ensure the monitoring and maintenance of all defibrillators in NWT communities;

AND FURTHER, that the government make funding available to NWT communities for training of staff in public buildings where defibrillators are placed;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the government provide a response to this motion within 120 days.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. The motion is in order. To the motion. Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the outset I would like to thank Mr. Yakeleya for seconding the motion and I bring this motion forward in the interest of safety of our residents and the preservation of lives.

It's a fact that defibrillators can make a life and death difference in the same way that a fire extinguisher can make a significant difference between life and death. AEDs are portable, easy to use, and modern technology, with some defibrillators, now provides voice prompt instructions and requires virtually no training whatsoever. That's not to say that training is not required. It is required. If AEDs are combined with CPR, the use of a defibrillator can increase the likelihood of saving a person's life by 75 percent or more.

The defibrillator works by assessing the heart of a person in cardiac arrest for what's called a shockable rhythm. If such a rhythm is detected, the defibrillator requests the shock or a series of shocks to the victim's heart. If no shockable rhythm is detected, no shock can be given.

Concerns and questions of safety have been raised in other jurisdictions about the public using defibrillators. Experts in the field say that in fact the technology is now so advanced that elementary school children can be equipped with the skills to successfully use a modern defibrillator simply through reading and writing and listening.

So why do I feel the government needs to get involved with the provision of AEDs? We talk a lot about prevention and how important prevention is. Having an AED readily available for a cardiac arrest situation is preventative and I feel it's common sense for us to be prepared.

I want to tell a story that occurred last December when the Yellowknife MLAs held a tea for the Yellowknife seniors here in the Great Hall. I was appointed to be the emcee this particular year. So at the outset of the tea I mentioned a number of safety things, I advised where the washrooms were, I advised where the doors were for people to exit and so on, and one of the CAs came up to me after that brief introduction while the seniors were enjoying their tea and goodies and leaned over and whispered in my ear and said, where's your first aid kit and do we have a defibrillator and where is it? And I went, um, I have no idea. I know where the safety kit is, but I have no idea whether or not we have a defibrillator.

So that got me started, and as the motion states, cardiac arrests can happen frequently and they can happen without warning. Unfortunately, as I'm well aware, our population is aging and we are going to get a more aged population every year. It's a fact of life here and it's a fact of life in Canada.

Luckily, we have AEDs in many of our buildings in the North already. It's not that we don't have any, we do have quite a few, but it's a hit and miss situation and my goal is to try and make it a much less hit and miss.

The motion asks the government to determine where AEDs should be located. It also asks that this will allow the government to determine that they are as widely placed as possible and in as many buildings as possible. The closer an AED is to the person undergoing a cardiac arrest, the higher their chance of survival, and they say that three minutes, if you can get the AED and return to the person in three minutes, then there's a very good chance of survival. So that means we need to have defibrillators in fairly close locations to people, wherever they are taking part in activities.

I mentioned, during the budget debate, that we have an opportunity to provide funding for communities in acquiring AEDs for their public buildings, when I was speaking to the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. We currently have an unused emergency fund. The Minister advised that there's only one application before that fund in the '13-14 year. It would seem to me that we could put that fund to a much better use by advising communities that they can apply for funding to put AEDs into their communities and their public spaces and in their public buildings. It could also be used for training for those staff who happen to work in those buildings. I reiterate again that we shouldn't be installing AEDs without also having training for the people who are close to them and need to know how to use them if a cardiac arrest situation occurs.

So, why have I referenced the Heart and Stroke Foundation and a number of other organizations? I don't feel the government needs to do this on their own and we certainly have organizations that are out there. The Heart and Stroke Foundation, for sure, is very involved with heart conditions and cardiac arrests. They can provide valuable advice on what we should be doing and where we need AEDs and how many we need. They can identify the public places where people are and the public places where people are going to be at greatest risk for cardiac arrest. Certainly, they can tell us that those places, whatever is identified, would be the best ones where we can place a defibrillator. I say that we consult with them because there needs to be a review of the level of risk that is out there in terms of buildings and people and cardiac arrest.

I don't believe that we have to do this all in one fell swoop. I think we can start with buildings and public places where we determine that people are at the greatest risk and start with those and make sure we have defibrillators in those places – and we may have some in many places already – then, in

stages, work our way outwards until we have defibrillators in as many places as we need.

The motion asks for some regulation, for some consistency around where we can find AEDs in the NWT and that's what I'm after. We don't need to blanket the NWT, but we certainly need to have more than we do now.

The other aspect of the motion is to ask for a registry, and that may seem like an onerous task, but I think that the locations of defibrillators, if known, can certainly aid somebody who is in a strange place. If we ever get 911, for instance, if I'm in a situation where I see a cardiac arrest happening and I don't know where the defibrillator is, I could call 911, they could check the registry, they can tell me where it is, it can be gotten and applied to the person.

So I think a registry certainly will assist communities in knowing whether or not they've got defibrillators, whether they need to get more and it could potentially assist in a lifesaving situation.

I think this is a chance to improve circumstances in the NWT for all of our residents. I don't think it will cost us much money, I don't think it will cost us much time to get the work done required to accede to what's requested in the motion.

I would hope that all Members would support the motion. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. To the motion. I'll allow the seconder to the motion, Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the honourable Member for bringing this motion forward. I was very pleased to second it because I believe this motion is giving the communities and the people in the Northwest Territories a greater chance of saving lives. No guarantees, if the big guy wants you up there he'll take you no matter what, but this gives us a fighting chance. It's a possibility for our community members, as Ms. Bisaro has indicated, giving our communities a fighting chance if we had these defibrillators situated in parts of our communities. I know this was an issue a couple of years ago when I talked about this and we had them in hockey rec centres and sporting centres and I do see them there. It would be good training now for people to start recognizing them if they walk into a hotel, if there's a sign there that says or indicates that there's a defibrillator there, then people will know, at least consciously. They might not use it, but at least they know if something happens.

Even in our small communities, there's a lot of people in our small communities go out in great numbers as their own community to bush camps. Why can't they have a defibrillator when they go to these bush camps and stay for a week or two weeks on the spring hunt? There are actually

families out there, 20 or 30 people in these bush camps in the springtime. It would be nice to have a defibrillator out there. We have progressed; however, we still go back to the old training of our manual, but it's good to have the defibrillators also with us there.

Ms. Bisaro talked about partnership. This government is all about partnership, so I'd like to continue that discussion and work with the different partnerships that can help us. Again, when coming to the communities, it should be like in our phone book and people know where the defibrillators are located, just like the RCMP or there's a nurse or there's the mail. Those types of things are important for our visitors to know that there are designated sites. Start looking at this, as it needs to be put into our operations in the Northwest Territories.

Training is also very important. Of course, the government would have to consider, if we do this, what's the liability of putting this program into action. I say, what's the liability of not having it? We would have a greater chance of saving lives in our communities, even at the airport. I don't know if we even have a defibrillator at the airports in the Northwest Territories. We need to do an assessment, look at things, see where they're going, and let's give our communities a greater chance of saving a life if we had some of these defibrillators in our communities.

Once again, I say in closing that, really, if the big guy upstairs wants you, he'll take you no matter what you do. However, he's also made it known that if there are things that could save a life, then we should also be using that type of smarts in our operations as a government. I support this motion 100 percent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. To the motion. I will allow Mr. McLeod to speak.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very important topic across the Northwest Territories. We have heard that in many of our public places they would like to have automatic external defibrillators, AEDs, in their facilities.

Working with the communities, there is an opportunity there for the communities to use the funding that we provide to purchase the defibrillators and then, as we debated in the budget in the House just recently, we had some extra money in there for emergency training and ground ambulance training. That pot of money could also be used for training on the use of defibrillators. We feel that is very important. I think communities are starting to recognize the importance of having these.

As far as I know, all the health centres across the Northwest Territories do have them in the health

centres. We have to expand that. We have to expand that to the communities.

We have a meeting coming up with the NWT Association of Communities up in Inuvik. I'm sure this is an issue that will be discussed, because I think we are starting to see more and more the benefits of having devices such as these in a lot of our public places, in community halls especially where there are always large gatherings. There are opportunities there to improve on this.

Again, I say that because of the fact that we give the money to communities and they determine how they want to use it, there will be an opportunity there for them to purchase these. We have to ensure that the training goes along with it. We have to also do some research with our other jurisdictions to see if there is any type of liability, how we, as a government, can legislate or regulate liabilities. So we'll do the work. We will work with the communities again.

I think this is an important motion. I think it's important to people across the Northwest Territories. As this is a recommendation, Cabinet will be abstaining from the vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLeod. I will allow closing remarks and then close debate on this motion. Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank Mr. Yakeleya for his remarks and thank the Minister, as well, for sounding very positive. I really look forward to working with the Minister to get this done.

One of the things that are available is funding from the federal government for communities to apply to get funding for defibrillators. I just want to put that out there. Lastly, I would like to ask for a recorded vote. Thank you.

RECORDED VOTE

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. The Member has asked for a recorded vote. All those in favour, please rise.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Ms. Langlois): Ms. Bisaro, Mr. Moses, Mr. Bromley, Mr. Yakeleya, Mr. Blake, Mrs. Groenewegen, Mr. Dolynny, Mr. Bouchard, Mr. Nadli, Mr. Hawkins.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed, please rise. All those abstaining, please rise.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Ms. Langlois): Mr. Beaulieu, Mr. Abernethy, Mr. Miltenberger, Mr. McLeod – Yellowknife South, Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. McLeod – Inuvik Twin Lakes.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. In favour, 10; opposed, zero; seven abstentions. The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 18, first reading of bills. Mr. Miltenberger.

First Reading of Bills

BILL 19:
 APPROPRIATION ACT
 (OPERATIONS EXPENDITURES), 2014-2015

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 19, Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2014-2015, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Bill 19 has had first reading.

---Carried

Item 19, second reading of bills. Mr. Miltenberger.

Second Reading of Bills

BILL 19:
 APPROPRIATION ACT
 (OPERATIONS EXPENDITURES), 2014-2015

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 19, Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2014-2015, be read for the second time.

This bill authorizes the Government of the Northwest Territories to make appropriations for operations expenditures for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. Bill 19 has had second reading and is deemed ready for third reading.

---Carried

Mr. Blake.

BILL 18-17(5):
 AN ACT TO AMEND THE
 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND
 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT

MR. BLAKE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kam Lake, that Bill 18, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the second time.

Bill 18 amends the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act to revise electoral districts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Blake. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. Bill 18 has had second reading.

---Carried

Mr. Blake.

MR. BLAKE: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 69(2) and have Bill 18, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Unanimous consent granted

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 18 is moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

Item 20, consideration in Committee of the Whole of bills and other matters, with Mrs. Groenewegen in the chair.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): I will call Committee of the Whole to order. There are a number of matters before us. What is the wish of committee? Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Committee would like to consider Bill 1, Bill 2 and Bill 3.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Is committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you. We will commence with that after a brief break. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): I'd like to call Committee of the Whole back to over. We have before us today Bills 1, 2 and 3, starting with Bill 1, Reindeer Act. I'd like to ask Premier McLeod if he would like to deliver his opening comments. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the Bill 1, the Reindeer Act. The passage of this legislation is an important step towards implementing the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources will administer the Government of the Northwest Territories' new authorities under the Reindeer Act.

Under the Devolution Agreement, the GNWT is committed to "substantially mirror" Canada's statutes and regulations that are being repealed or made inapplicable to all land, except federally

retained land, transferring to the GNWT through devolution.

The mirroring exercise means that the new GNWT laws will address the same matters, in substantially the same way, as federal laws do now. Mirroring principles limited changes to addressing issues such as outdated language and applying GNWT drafting standards.

Mirrored legislation is a practical first step to ensure a continued delivery of services on April 1, 2014. Mirrored legislation also ensures that there are no legislative gaps or overlaps between the GNWT and Canada.

The parties to the Devolution Agreement entered into a Protocol for Review of Devolution Legislation Agreement. Under this protocol, all parties have had the opportunity to review and comment on this legislation before it was introduced in the Legislative Assembly. We have considered these comments carefully in the preparation of the bill before you.

The Reindeer Act will provide the Government of the Northwest Territories with the authority to make regulations governing the management and protection of reindeer. The bill also provides the GNWT with the authority to enter into agreements for herding of reindeer.

I would be pleased to answer any questions Members may have. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. I will now ask the chair of the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning if she could please deliver the committee's remarks. Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning has reviewed Bill 1, Reindeer Act.

Pursuant to the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement, Bill 1 mirrors the Government of Canada's Northwest Territories Reindeer Regulations as provided for in the Northwest Territories Act.

This act applies to all matters respecting reindeer that were previously governed by the federal Northwest Territories Act and Northwest Territories Reindeer Regulations.

Following the clause-by-clause review, a motion was carried to report Bill 1 to the Assembly as ready for further consideration in Committee of the Whole.

This concludes the committee's general comments on Bill 1. Individual Members may have additional questions or comments as we proceed. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. I'd like to ask Premier McLeod if he would like to bring witnesses into the Chamber.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Yes, I would, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you. Does committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Agreed. Thank you. I'll ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the witnesses to the table.

Premier McLeod, for the record could you please introduce your witnesses.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. On my right I have Kelly McLaughlin, the director of legislation for the Department of Justice; and to my left I have Jamie Fulford, legal counsel with the Department of Justice.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. General comments. Mr. Dolynny.

MR. DOLYNNY: Great. Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to welcome the Premier and staff here today.

With this first bill, this marks the beginning of 10 potential legislations, or 10 legislations that we know of with respect to mirror legislation that will assist in our implementation of devolution. We know that during the clause-by-clause review the question that was asked by a number of Members was why did we not see any type of triggering mechanism formally embedded within this legislation that would force a review of these legislations in due course. An example of what I'm asking is: What prevents us from putting a triggering mechanism for a formal review within a specific time period within all these 10 bills, starting with Bill 1 here, Reindeer Act? Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Dolynny. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't believe anything prevents this Assembly from putting a triggering mechanism in place. I think there would be some issues if the triggering mechanism would fetter future governments. I think that, as a government, we have committed to undertaking a process of educating and making information available on all of the legislation and all the responsibilities that have been devolved, and it was also committed, as I've said many times, we will devolve and evolve and we have committed to establishing a process to review throughout the Territories and to look at all of the legislation.

With that, I'll ask, through you, Madam Chair, the director to go into the legal aspects of the question. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Ms. McLaughlin.

MS. MCLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Madam Chair. The mirroring of the legislation was done in strict terms, so the federal legislation that is mirrored here did not include a review clause in it in this particular case or in any other case. So, in executing the substantial mirroring requirement of the Devolution Agreement, no provisions were inserted that were not required to address the implementation of the legislation in the territorial context. So, a provision such as a review provision was not inserted at that time. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Ms. McLaughlin. Mr. Dolyunny.

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you, Madam Chair. So, what we're hearing here is that there's nothing preventing us from discussing that here today, which I think is important. I think this is what we've heard from a number of stakeholders in the Northwest Territories.

I guess I'll ask another question here. What safeguards do we, as the Legislature, or do we, as the public that we represent, have that there will be a review of this legislation, let's say, within the next five years? Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Dolyunny. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I can only commit to the life of this 17th Assembly. We, as a government, have committed to undertaking that review. A future government would have to undertake a review to address the five-year window that the federal government has indicated they would be prepared to review the MVRMA in five years. Thank you, Madam Chair.

MR. DOLYNNY: Again, I appreciate the Premier's response, which is also what leads me to some concern that this is basically left in the hands of a future Assembly with a potential review. We're not guaranteed a review and that's why I am questioning that here today.

I guess my question is: Is there any opposition, perceived opposition with the government that is proposing this bill, of actually including a review triggering mechanism in this bill and in all other nine subsequent mirror legislation bills? Is there an opposition if an amendment was to be brought to the floor of the House?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: What we all agreed to was following the mirroring principles that have been in place and have been followed. There are precedents and also we've adhered to the mirroring principles. So through you, Madam Chair, I'll ask Jamie Fulford to go into those details. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Mr. Fulford.

MR. FULFORD: Thank you, Madam Chair. When the GNWT approved the Devolution Agreement-in-Principle there was a commitment in the agreement-in-principle to arrive at a protocol for the review of the mirror legislation. So the parties to the Devolution Agreement came up with a protocol that allowed for consultation of each of the parties on whether the GNWT had met the obligation to substantially mirror the legislation. All the mirror legislation has been subject to consultation under that protocol, so all the other parties have agreed that the GNWT has substantially mirrored the legislation that is before you now. So, I guess, it raises the question of whether further consultations would then become necessary. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Fulford. Mr. Dolyunny.

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you, Madam Chair. We are now introducing another leg of this tool here, which is this protocol. So my question is: The protocol that is being discussed here today, is that protocol itself legally binding for a formal review of legislation to take place? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: No, the protocol is not legally binding.

MR. DOLYNNY: So, do we have anything legally binding that will force a review of this legislation within a specific time period? Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Dolyunny. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. We've already committed to doing a review. We committed to that to the Members. We've always said we are going to devolve and evolve and we can start reviewing as April 1, 2014, if this transfer goes through and these legislations are passed. Thank you, Madam Chair.

MR. DOLYNNY: Madam Chair, I think the Premier knows fairly well that many Members on this side of the House support what has taken place, support devolution. There's support where we're moving forward here with mirror legislation. The concern we have is whether or not we're actually able to have a wholesome and consultative debate with stakeholders after devolution within a meaningful period of time.

It's clear today, with the information that's provided, there is no mechanism whatsoever, there's no protocol that's legally binding, and so I'll ask one final time: Is there anything that would give this Member or Members on this side of the House and the public reasonable assurance that a formal review will happen within a specific period of time after devolution date?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: I've already committed to working with committee and with participating Aboriginal government partners and whomever else that committee would see fit to involve in the review process, and I committed that we could start soon, as of April 1st, and we would develop a process and a plan that would be acceptable to all parties.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Next I have Mr. Bouchard.

MR. BOUCHARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. Again, following in the footsteps of the other Members and the fact that this being the first bill of 10 to come forward, I thought it would be a good point to make some comments about the whole process and the fact that there is very limited debate and discussion on the mirror legislation. I'm not that critical of that issue because I know when we were discussing devolution that mirror legislation was one of those requirements of devolution. I was supportive of devolution. Most of my constituents were supportive of devolution, so I think, for the most part, I'm very comfortable with the process of us providing this mirror legislation.

I agree with some of the Members' statements about us doing reviews of some of these once we have control of them and when we are able to make some changes and go to the public on public consultation. I think that is a process and something that we should implement once we have control after April 1st. I'm very confident that the Members on this side are very passionate about this and we will look at these amendments and these new responsibilities of the government.

I don't want to say that we're circumventing any system. We actually knew this going into this process of devolution that this was the way it was going to be. This was part of the whole realm of devolution. We accepted that and I think I expressed that to most of my constituents, so I feel they're comfortable with this process. I would like to indicate to them that we are looking and reviewing where required. Some of this legislation, some of it may not be necessary. Some of it, we definitely feel on this side, and I'm assuming some of the other Members of Cabinet feel that as well, and even the GNWT, that we want to tweak some of this stuff once we own it. That's the whole concept behind devolution, being able to put the decisions in the hands of the Northerners, so some of this process and some of this whole system will have to become NWT systems, not a mirror legislation of the federal government. Going forward, I'm confident that as a Legislative Assembly we're going to look at these and put it out to the public what our concerns are, what the issues are out there, once we have it all established and get it going.

I just wanted to make those comments that we are not, you know, from my constituents, we're not circumventing their opinion. This is something that

was part of devolution that we had to agree to when we took it on, but going forward, we're putting it back in the hands of Northerners. We're going to have a look at this in the future, I'm very confident of that.

I have no questions, really.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Bouchard. Premier McLeod, anything in response?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: I just want to thank the Member for his comments. That's the approach that we're taking exactly and we will undertake a review soon. We'll start working on that so that we can start working to that effect as of April 1st after we devolve and evolve.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. General comments. I have Mr. Bromley then Mr. Nadli. Mr. Bromley.

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. I appreciate this opportunity to comment and ask a couple of questions. Several times now I have heard a clear commitment from the Premier to conduct a review, and basically, as soon as possible starting or immediately after April 1st, and I appreciate that. I think the Premier would agree that there are plenty of good reasons to do this, not the least of which is, really, including the opportunity for the public to become familiar with this legislation and to provide their comments on it and also to assist in their role of providing oversight and input based on their understanding of the legislation, and I suspect the government itself would appreciate some quiet, focused opportunity for an internal review of the legislation. Things have been happening very rapidly here. I appreciate the Premier's commitment.

Just on that, would the Premier agree that if the review indicates that the public or the Members would like to see a clause inserted in this legislation requiring an interval period for review, would the Premier support such a thing?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Bromley. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I've always said from the start of this process that we will devolve and evolve, and I think I've indicated to the Member several times now that we can start evolving as of April 1st, and if that's following due process that we can make those changes.

MR. BROMLEY: I think the Premier basically repeated what I just said. I guess I was asking for confirmation that he would put such a clause for review in the legislation, if indeed that was indicated from a review, but I will assume that that general statement was agreement with that but welcome any additional comments.

I guess when we're going forward with this review, we have a new policy, the Land Use and Sustainability Framework that has come in just recently at the same time that we've received this legislation. Would the Premier ensure sort of a sustainability review in that process combined with Members and public input in which we would consider such guiding principles, as I've mentioned previously, as transparency, accountability and consistency with co-management of resources, and finally, equity amongst regions, social class and future generations?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: As I've indicated, I will be pleased to work with committee to come up with a process that would be acceptable to all.

MR. BROMLEY: That's really all I had on the general comments. I think, obviously, we and the general public would be interested if there was a schedule available as of April 1st or whenever the Premier could come up with it to help the public and Members prepare. I think that's just a notice that that would be appreciated as soon as that was available.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Mr. Bromley. More of a comment. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. We'd be pleased to make sure that the public is aware of what we are doing so that they will have adequate time for input.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Next, general comments, I have Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: Thank you, Madam Chair. I, too, had some comments. This is the first of a series of legislation that are going to be mirrored to move the devolution forward. I just wanted to highlight a couple of comments and end off with a question.

Throughout this process as we contemplate this mirror legislation, what got us here was the negotiations process towards devolution. Usually in a negotiation process you have parties, and each party that's represented at the table reports to their principals. Of course, in the negotiations process, parties agree to the subject matter that needs to be negotiated and, at the same time, consider at least the parameters or the framework of just the scope of perhaps the subjects to be negotiated. Then after that, as the parties roll up their sleeves and hopefully come to the point of an agreement-in-principle, which we will witness. Beyond that, it's basically the final stretch towards the final agreement. Where we're at, at this point, is we're poised to move towards April 1, 2014, and we're going to be implementing or operating the provisions in terms of how the Devolution Agreement is supposed to work.

The key in that, for me, is understanding the role of the principles, the role of the principals of the

GNWT and the parties, of course. In that role in the relationship is how the whole devolution process came about. I don't really want to dwell on the "should have beens" but the fact of the reality is we're here today.

In saying that, as legislators, our role, as I understand it, we represent our constituents on very important and pressing matters we raise in the House. If there is enough common support amongst our colleagues, we work in consensus and arrive at a point where we can move towards legislating actions to remedy concerns. That's the role I believe we have.

The comfort in this process at this point is, indeed, the Premier has committed that at some point there will be a review process and perhaps an amending mechanism in terms of some legislation in what is before us.

We also have to reflect on what brought us here. For a long time, being a student of politics and First Nations, especially at the community level, seeing my grandparents and my parents and my uncles in leadership roles, what the struggle was all about was the land in terms of lifestyle. We are a nomadic people, the Dene, who roamed throughout this land and developed their culture around the seasons, springtime, summer, fall and winter, and moving to where the fish were, the inlands of big land masses. We moved to the shores of bigger lakes where moose were more plentiful. That became the fundamental basis of the First Nations and ensuring their lifestyles were maintained. Their very innate relationship with the land or the environment was connected all the time. We try to maintain that culture for as long as we can. That became the premise of the movement of First Nations towards protecting the land and our culture.

So this is where we're at. It's basically about the land. Some people say that perhaps the land has changed. Some people would also say we've changed, the land hasn't changed; it's us. So, in that respect, we look forward to the dawning reality of April 1st, a new age of the NWT, of perhaps looking back and ensuring that what we have learned from the past, we'll put in our pockets like our elders did, that rock on the trail of going very courageously into the future and making the best possible place in the world for future generations to come.

I feel comfortable today that that plateau has been reached by the leaders of the day. Of course, the parties that were involved in the process were the government, the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories. As we move forward, there are still outstanding issues that need to be resolved. Fundamentally, there is still a strong stand in terms of the relationship that became what is the treaty of 1921 and 1899, that puts into relationship First Nations and the federal

government. That is still strongly standing. Some groups have gone to modernize those treaties and called them land claims. In modernizing their treaties, those land claims were put into the constitution, Section 35. That's where we're at today.

For the most part, a lot of the key initiatives were based on a lot of the accomplishments of land claim agreements, some benchmarks, the Dene/Metis Agreement-in-Principle, some discussions on constitutional advancement, the Bourque Commission, those laid pillars of discussions that will signal to the parties that we need to define the framework of this House so we can all sit at the table equally, not one sitting below another.

I would like to, at some point, witness the day when that time will come. Many of the leaders who have passed before me, many elders who have walked this path, I am hoping to witness that at some point.

In saying that, my question the other day was to the Premier. A lot of the key initiatives that government has reached are based on co-management and collaboration. As we make changes to the devolution process, key pending agreements and major initiatives, we're trying to improve things, make things better. One of the key things that we've pushed forward is we're going to set up a new structure that supposedly is to be very effective and timely in terms of decision-making processes.

I would like to know, once again, what kind of land management regime should we expect after April 1, 2014? Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. What we have been working on, we've been working on for over six years and that's to develop a Land Use Sustainability Framework. We've also been working with Aboriginal government partners so we can together manage all of the land in the Northwest Territories. Obviously, as the Member knows, Aboriginal governments are the largest land holders in the Northwest Territories through land claim agreements. What we've agreed on is we will work together so we can manage all of the land under their respective jurisdictions and try to have a land management process that is coordinated, collaborative and provides for interests of all of the people that we all represent. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Is the committee prepared to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, committee. We'll defer the first page of Bill 1. Clause 1.

---Clauses 1 through 9 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Bill as a whole.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Does committee agree that Bill 1, Reindeer Act, is ready for third reading?

---Bill 1 as a whole approved for third reading

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, committee. Bill 1 is now ready for third reading.

We'll move on to Bill 2, Archaeological Sites Act. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you for the opportunity to speak to Bill 2, Archaeological Sites Act. The passage of this legislation is an important step towards implementing the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement.

The Archaeological Sites Act will provide the Northwest Territories with the authority to mirror the Northwest Territories Archaeological Sites Regulations under the Northwest Territories Act. The mirroring of these regulations is a requirement of the Devolution Agreement.

Under the Devolution Agreement, the GNWT is committed to "substantially mirror" Canada's statutes and regulations that are being repealed or made inapplicable to public lands transferring to the GNWT through devolution.

The mirroring exercise means that the new GNWT laws will address the same matters, in substantially the same way, as federal laws do now. Mirroring principles limited changes to addressing issues such as correcting outdated language and applying GNWT drafting standards.

Mirrored legislation is a practical first step to ensure a continued delivery of services on April 1, 2014. Mirrored legislation also ensures that there are no legislative gaps or overlaps between the GNWT and Canada.

The parties to the Devolution Agreement entered into a Protocol for Review of Devolution Legislation. Under this protocol, all parties have had the opportunity to review and comment on this legislation before it was introduced in the Legislative Assembly. We have considered these comments carefully in preparation of the bill before you.

The Archaeological Sites Act mirrors the provisions of the present Northwest Territories Act respecting archaeological, ethnological and historical resources, and provides authority to make regulations concerning the protection, care and preservation of these resources, archaeological permitting, and seizure of inappropriately obtained items.

As required in the Devolution Agreement, the Government of the Northwest Territories will also mirror the Northwest Territories Archaeological

Sites Regulations that are currently under the Northwest Territories Act.

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment will administer the new mirrored Archaeological Sites Act and the regulations under that act, consistent with its responsibilities for the existing territorial Historical Resources Act.

I would be pleased to answer any questions Members may have.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Committee will allow the chairperson of the standing committee, Ms. Bisaro, to review comments on the bill.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning has reviewed Bill 2, Archaeological Sites Act.

Pursuant to the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement, Bill 2 substantially mirrors the Government of Canada's Archaeological Sites Regulations as provided for in the Northwest Territories Act.

This act applies to all matters respecting archaeological sites and artifacts that were previously governed by the federal Northwest Territories Act and Northwest Territories Archaeological Sites Regulations.

Following the clause-by-clause review, a motion was carried to report Bill 2 to the Assembly as ready for further consideration in Committee of the Whole.

This concludes the committee's general comments on Bill 2. Individual Members may have additional questions or comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. Would the Premier like to take the witness table now? Thank you.

Premier McLeod, if you could reintroduce your witnesses to the House, please.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On my right I have Kelly McLaughlin, director of legislation for the Department of Justice; to my left I have Jamie Fulford, legal counsel with the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Fulford, welcome again to the House.

Committee, general comments? Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Just for clarification with this new responsibility that we're going to receive under Bill 2 and the passing of this legislation, certainly it will bring the control mechanism of making decisions and having protection of our heritage sites, our archeological sites closer to the North. I just wanted to ask the Premier for a clarification on the modern

land claims and modern treaties, comprehensive land claims. In chapter 26 we speak to the heritage resources and provisions in these chapters would be respected and that is inconsistent with the existing legislation. Our Constitution document supersedes what we have now. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. For that we'll go to Mr. Fulford.

MR. FULFORD: Mr. Chair, yes, I can advise of that as correct that each of the land claims contains a provision that ensures that it is paramount to the extent of any conflict with either federal or territorial legislation. So that would include not only this act but the full suite of mirror legislation and in fact any other GNWT law. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Fulford. General comments. Is committee prepared to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you. Committee, we'll defer the first page. Committee, clause 1.

---Clauses 1 through 9 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): To the bill as a whole.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Does committee agree that Bill 2, Archeological Sites Act, is ready for third reading?

---Bill 2 as a whole approved for third reading

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): We'll turn your attention to discussions on review of Bill 3. With that, we'll go to the proponent of Bill 3, Premier McLeod, for the opening comments.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you for the opportunity to speak to Bill 3, Surface Rights Board Act. The passage of this legislation is an important step towards implementing the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement.

The new Department of Lands will administer the Government of the Northwest Territories' new authorities under the Surface Rights Board Act.

Under the Devolution Agreement, the GNWT is committed to "substantially mirror" Canada's legislation that is repealed or made inapplicable to public lands transferring to the GNWT through devolution.

Mirrored legislation means that the GNWT's laws will address the same matters, in substantially the same way, as federal laws do now.

Mirrored legislation also means that changes have been limited to addressing issues such as outdated language and to match the legislation with GNWT drafting standards.

Mirrored legislation is a practical first step to ensure a continued delivery of services on April 1, 2014. Mirrored legislation also ensures that there are no legislative gaps or overlaps between the GNWT and Canada.

The parties to the Devolution Agreement entered into a Protocol for Review of Devolution Legislation Agreement. Under this protocol, all parties have been able to review and comment on this legislation before it was introduced in the Legislative Assembly. We have considered these comments carefully in preparation of the bill before you.

The Surface Rights Board Act will establish a Surface Rights Board as an institution of public government that will resolve disputes related to land access and related compensation when a negotiated agreement cannot be reached.

The Surface Rights Board will be made up of five to nine members and five alternate members. These members will be appointed for a term of five years and must include members from the Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, Sahtu and Tlicho areas.

To meet its obligations, the Surface Rights Board will be able to grant binding access orders and the terms and conditions of that access, including where, when, who that access can be exercised as well as what activities can be exercised as part of that access.

The Surface Rights Board will also be able to determine the appropriate amount of compensation to be paid for the right of access, will be able to terminate access orders and award costs related to its proceedings.

The establishment of the Surface Rights Board and this legislation reflects an obligation of the comprehensive land claim agreements in the Northwest Territories.

The territorial mirrored Surface Rights Board Act will come into force in two phases:

- those provisions related to the establishment of the Surface Rights Board and regulation-making authority come into force on April 1, 2014, while
- the board will start its substantive functions on April 1, 2016.

The Government of the Northwest Territories is already taking steps to ensure that the Surface Rights Board can assume these functions, including the appointment of members to the board.

I would be pleased to answer any questions Members may have. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Committee, we'll go to the chairperson of the Priorities and Planning standing committee that reviewed the bill for general comments. Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning has reviewed Bill 3, Surface Rights Board Act.

The Surface Rights Board Act mirrors federal legislation, pursuant to the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement. The act provides for a Surface Rights Board to resolve disputes relating to terms and conditions of access to lands and waters, chiefly for commercial purposes. This includes disputes over compensation for access.

The act covers Gwich'in, Sahtu and Tlicho lands and waters as well as Inuvialuit lands and other lands in the NWT.

Alternatives North provided comments on Bill 3 related to the future board's powers and jurisdiction. The committee carefully considered these comments and thanks Alternatives North for their participation and thorough critique.

During the clause-by-clause review with the Premier, a minor amendment was made to correct the French version of the bill. The Premier concurred with the amendment. A motion was subsequently carried to report Bill 3 to the Assembly as ready for further consideration in Committee of the Whole as amended and reprinted.

This concludes the committee's general comments on Bill 3. Individual Members may have additional questions or comments as we proceed. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. Premier McLeod, if you can join us at the witness table, please. Premier McLeod, if you can once again reintroduce your witnesses to the House.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. To my right I have Kelly McLaughlin, the director of Legislation with the Department of Justice. To my left I have Jamie Fulford, legal counsel with the Department of Justice. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Again, Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Fulford, thank you for joining. General comments. I'll go to Mr. Bromley.

MR. BROMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Welcome to the Premier and staff on Bill 3 here. I have a few questions here, generated through our call for comments from the public. The first is by way of comment really. The questioning of the need for this legislation as there are provisions in existing legislation and land claims agreements for dispute resolution related to surface rights, not to mention that I'm not aware of any disputes in the settled land claim areas. But obviously a Surface Rights Board, it's an added inefficiency and expense, but it seems to be required here, been deemed necessary. Given that it should have the authority to deny access when conditions indicate that such a denial would

be appropriate, does this legislation provide for that potential? Thank you,

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Bromley. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On occasion, especially in the discussion with the proposed Mackenzie Valley pipeline there was an indication there that a surface rights board would have facilitated some discussions, because without a Surface Rights Board Act, the only tool available to deal with disputes would be arbitration. But with regards to the specific question, Mr. Chair, through you I'll ask Mr. Fulford to respond. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Mr. Fulford.

MR. FULFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This act relates just to relating disputes as to access. So it doesn't create any new priority for who can access. If you, for example, have a right under the mining regulations to access, a subsurface right, this doesn't take that right away from you. What it does is it gives the board the ability to determine the terms and conditions of that access. So the board, when it's reached that stage where there is no agreement from the surface holder, is obligated to make an access order and the only question is the terms of access. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Fulford. Mr. Bromley.

MR. BROMLEY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. So, when an exploration company, for example, wants to stake mineral claims inside a community, which has happened inside some of the Tlicho communities, obviously, and understandably, people were very upset, and a clear basis for denial of access, but I believe there is archaic legislation related to a free entry system that does provide a right to exploration companies to do that. Am I correct in saying this legislation does not correct that injustice and would not be able to deny access in that case? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: In that case, it would be the mining regulations that speak to whether or not the land can be accessed. There's a list of areas, for example, that can be staked. Staking can't occur, for example, in lands that are set aside for conservation purposes under an approved land use plan. So, there's a mechanism there for taking lands out of the free entry process, but this legislation doesn't serve that function.

MR. BROMLEY: I think the suggestion from the public is that it should, but I appreciate that clarity. I would urge all municipalities to declare themselves conservation zones.

Another comment is the board should have the ability to acquire financial security to ensure compliance with board orders and to shift the

burden of proof and risks to the developer rather than the surface rights holder. Does this legislation, in fact, do that? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: The policy behind this legislation is that the regulatory process determines the security that's held for developments and it's not the role of the board, under this legislation, to establish a security requirement. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: The board should reflect a co-management model where Aboriginal and public governments each appoint half of the members. Is that the case in the board created by this legislation? Mahsi.

MR. FULFORD: The model that's established for this legislation and for this board is different than the model for other institutions of public government set up under the land claim agreements. For those boards, the Environmental Impact Review Board and the land and water boards, the Aboriginal parties to the land claim agreements nominate members for appointment to that board. In this case, the land claim agreements do not establish such a requirement, but the members of the board are selected from each of the settlement areas, so there's a regional representation achieved in that way. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: Somewhat colonial comes to mind there, Mr. Chair, but again I think this is the sort of thing that will come out once there's a thorough opportunity for review. Thanks for that response.

The board should have the ability to set its own rules of procedure rather than excluding the public interest. Is that currently the case? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. This legislation gives the board the ability to establish its own rules and it does so through a public process in which it's required to publish the rules that it proposes to make. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: That sounds good. Thank you for that. Sorry, I had one more. The regime should not apply in those regions where Aboriginal land rights have not been recognized or settled. Is that the case currently? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: This legislation applies differently in areas where there are unsettled land claims. The legislation distinguishes between what are called designated lands or Tlicho lands, which are settlement lands and non-designated lands which are essentially public lands. So, in areas that don't have settled land claim agreements, it would all be treated as non-designated lands. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: Just perhaps a little expansion there. How are the two treated differently, or at least how is it treated within the unsettled regions, non-designated lands? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: The essential difference is that in a non-settled area there wouldn't be any designated lands, there would only be non-designated lands. The board still has the ability to set conditions of access in a similar manner, but it's not governed by all the unique land claim provisions that apply to designated lands. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: Are there additional obligations, though, to check in with the Aboriginal governments who have not settled but on whose land access is being completed? Thank you.

MR. FULFORD: I'm uncertain whether there's a specific obligation under this act, but if there's a proposal for development in any non-settled area, it would also be subject to the duty to consult where the matter might have the potential to adversely affect an Aboriginal right. So, at some point in the process, there must be consultation before activity is undertaken. When we're talking about access to subsurface rights, I can't imagine a case where there wouldn't be consultation because of what is required to access subsurface rights. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. BROMLEY: I appreciate all those clarifications and responses. Those are all the questions I had. I think there were some heads-up and pointers that could be considered as we work towards a review of the legislation. I appreciate this information. That's all I had. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Bromley. Continuing on, Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm certainly interested in the questions and exchange with Mr. Bromley. A lot of questions have to be thought out. Certainly, when we negotiated and settled the Sahtu Dene/Metis Comprehensive Land Claim, chapter 27 spoke to the Surface Rights Board. Because that legislation hasn't happened until today and a few months ago we had a Surface Rights Board, we had an arbitration panel that was before us. The arbitration panel, under chapter 6 of our land claim, was like the Maytag repair person, very quiet. The agreement was already negotiated and settled, put together, and we had an arbitration panel but it was never called upon or needed. I met with them every year at our annual Sahtu General Assembly and they were very quiet. So we know we have a value in working things out.

The Sahtu, again under chapter 27, we have the Surface Rights Board. As Mr. Bromley stated clearly, it gets quite complex and confusing. You have settled land claims and land claims being negotiated, so you have different access to lands and different interpretations to lands. In our land claims it's set out very clearly on the roles and responsibilities of the Surface Rights Board and what we negotiated in 1992, 1993 and 1994 and received assent to this document.

The point I want to make, for clarification, is this act will take in the agreement that we settled here and just to clarify that all members of the board must live in the Northwest Territories. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. I'll just give them a second to get to the page. We'll go to Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Our government policy or rule of thumb is that in every instance we will appoint members from the Northwest Territories. I'll ask, through you, Mr. Chair, Ms. McLaughlin to point out the exact clause and confirm that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Ms. McLaughlin.

MS. MCLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Clause 11 of the bill sets out qualifications and residency requirements respecting the composition of the board, starting with a requirement that members and alternate members have knowledge and experience that will assist the board in fulfilling the obligations under the act, and then among the members of the board will be specific appointees from certain regions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Ms. McLaughlin. Mr. Yakeleya.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thanks, Mr. Chair. Just for clarification, I hope that she means the regions within the Northwest Territories. Is that my understanding?

MS. MCLAUGHLIN: In my effort to summarize, I lost the precision that I had intended to convey. There needs to be at least one member from the area that's described in an appendix to the Gwich'in Agreement, one in respect of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and the area described in the Sahtu Agreement, and the area described in the Tlicho Agreement.

MR. YAKELEYA: Thank you for the clarification. I'll close the book on that now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. General comments. Is committee prepared to do a clause by clause. Sorry. Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Perhaps it could be a very simplistic question, but perhaps I'll pose it to the Premier; if not, maybe the staff that are with him. I know the whole intention of this whole exercise is to, of course, bear the responsibility of the GNWT with more responsibilities on the public lands and resources and we're at that point.

My question is: What role would the Department of Aboriginal Affairs have in terms of the Surface Rights Board Act? Plus, this is rather significant in terms of setting the course for perhaps more decision-making here in the North, but it stems from mirror legislation that goes back to the federal government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The federal government, or AANDC, still has responsibility with regard to some specific lands, so through you, I'll ask Mr. Fulford to go into more detail, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. Mr. Fulford.

MR. FULFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd just add that this bill is unique in the suite of devolution mirror legislation in that it will apply to federal lands. Bill C-15 that's before the federal Parliament actually augments the power of the GNWT to allow GNWT laws to apply on federal lands, and that was necessary because the land claims said that you'd have a single board that could resolve these issues with respect to all lands, federal, territorial, Aboriginal and private, so this legislation actually applies to federal lands.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Fulford. Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: A final question. It's very clear that we still have a few outstanding regions that don't have a land claim or a settled land claim per se. I wanted to know, if any, what role would they have in terms of the Surface Rights Board? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. There are provisions in the bill so that as land claims are settled they'll be added on to the Surface Rights Board. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: Thank you. If I could ask the Premier just to perhaps further elaborate with a formal meeting to acknowledge indeed they have a settled land claim and they'll be welcomed to the board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Nadli. We'll actually go to Mr. Fulford for that.

MR. FULFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Section 5 of the bill obligates the Minister responsible for the act to review the legislation each time a new land claim is settled. If that land claim, as it might be reasonable to expect, includes the requirements in the same way that the current ones do, then those requirements for someone from that region to be on the board would also need to be incorporated into the act. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Fulford. Mr. Nadli.

MR. NADLI: Could you be clearer? Which Minister are you talking about? Is it the Indian Affairs Minister or is it the territorial Minister?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Mr. Nadli. Premier McLeod.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. It would be, in this case, the territorial Minister responsible for lands. That will come into effect on April 1, 2014. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, Premier McLeod. General comments. Committee, are we prepared to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Is committee prepared to allow the Chair to do clauses in groups of 10?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, committee. Committee, we'll start clauses 1 to 10.

---Clauses 1 through 10 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you. Clauses 11 to 20.

---Clauses 11 through 20 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 21 to 30.

---Clauses 21 through 30 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 31 to 40.

---Clauses 31 through 40 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 41 to 50.

---Clauses 41 through 50 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 51 to 60.

---Clauses 51 through 60 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 61 to 70.

---Clauses 61 through 70 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 71 to 80.

---Clauses 71 through 80 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 81 to 90.

---Clauses 81 through 90 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Clauses 91 to 100.

---Clauses 91 through 100 inclusive approved

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): To the bill as a whole.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): Thank you, committee. Does committee agree that Bill 3, Surface Rights Board Act, is ready for third reading?

---Bill 3 as a whole approved for third reading

Thank you, committee. I'd like to thank Ms. McLaughlin and Mr. Fulford for joining us here this afternoon. I know a lot of hard work went into these bills. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could please escort the witnesses, and also thanks to the Premier.

What is the wish of committee? Ms. Bisaro.

MS. BISARO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move that we report progress.

---Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dolynny): I will now rise and report progress.

Report of Committee of the Whole

MR. SPEAKER: Can I have the report of Committee of the Whole, Mr. Dolynny.

MR. DOLYNNY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1, Reindeer Act; Bill 2, Archaeological Sites Act; and Bill 3, Surface Rights Board Act, and would like to report progress and that Bills 1, 2 and 3 are ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Dolynny. Do we have a seconder to the motion? Mr. Beaulieu.

---Carried

Item 22, third reading of bills. Mr. Miltenberger.

Third Reading of Bills

BILL 19: APPROPRIATION ACT (OPERATIONS EXPENDITURES), 2014-2015

HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 19, Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2014-2015, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 19, Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2014-2015, has had third reading.

---Carried

Madam Clerk, orders of the day.

Orders of the Day

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Ms. Langlois): Orders of the day for Monday, March 10, 2014, at 1:30 p.m.:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Acknowledgements
7. Oral Questions
8. Written Questions

9. Returns to Written Questions
10. Replies to Opening Address
11. Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
13. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
14. Tabling of Documents
15. Notices of Motion
16. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
17. Motions
 - Motion 16, Request to the Government of Canada to Extend Maximum Term of 17th Legislative Assembly
 - Motion 17, Interim Measures for the Commercial Harvest of Wild Mushrooms
18. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 20, Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 4, 2013-2014
 - Bill 21, Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2014-2015
 - Bill 22, Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 4, 2012-2014
 - Bill 23, Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 4, 2013-2014
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Tabled Document 4-17(5), Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission 2013 Final Report
 - Bill 10, Northwest Territories Lands Act
 - Bill 11, Petroleum Resources Act
 - Bill 13, Devolution Measures Act
 - Bill 14, Waters Act
 - Bill 15, Oil and Gas Operations Act
 - Bill 16, NWT Intergovernmental Agreement on Lands and Resources Management Act
 - Bill 17, NWT Intergovernmental Resource Revenue Sharing Agreement Act
 - Bill 18, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act
21. Report of Committee of the Whole
22. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 1, Reindeer Act
 - Bill 2, Archaeological Sites Act

- Bill 3, Surface Rights Board Act

23. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until Monday, March 10th, at 1:30 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

The House adjourned at 1:52 p.m.