



# **NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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**16<sup>th</sup> Assembly**

## **HANSARD**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2010**

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**The Honourable Paul Delorey, Speaker**

# Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories

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**YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES****Tuesday, May 18, 2010****Members Present**

Mr. Abernethy, Ms. Bisaro, Mr. Bromley, Hon. Paul Delorey, Mrs. Groenewegen, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Krutko, Hon. Jackson Lafferty, Hon. Sandy Lee, Hon. Bob McLeod, Hon. Michael McLeod, Hon. Robert McLeod, Mr. Menicoche, Hon. Michael Miltenberger, Mr. Ramsay, Hon. Floyd Roland, Mr. Yakeleya

The House met at 1:36 p.m.

**Prayer**

---Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Paul Delorey):** Good afternoon, colleagues. Welcome back to the Chamber. Welcome to all our guests in the gallery today. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Lafferty.

**Ministers' Statements**

**MINISTER'S STATEMENT 32-16(5):  
EDUCATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

**HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY:** Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to advise this House that a ceremony was held today to celebrate the tremendous contributions that people across this Territory have made to education.

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment launched the Education Hall of Fame some months ago, requesting nominations be put forward for those Northerners who made lasting and selfless contributions to education. Nominations poured in, Mr. Speaker, and 15 people were chosen from across the Territory. The 2010 inductees embody the commitment, diligence, creativity and passion that we want education to inspire in us all.

Of those distinguished people inducted into the Education Hall of Fame this morning, some are with us in the gallery. They are:

Mrs. Sylvia Boyer, a teacher from Hay River. Mrs. Boyer taught in the Northwest Territories for 31 years and describes education as her "life calling." Mrs. Boyer retired in 2001 but still participates in school activities today.

Mr. Brent Kaulback from Fort Smith is the deputy superintendent of the South Slave District Education Council. Mr. Kaulback made an enormous contribution to aboriginal culture and education including as project coordinator of the South Slave Topical Dictionary, which records and preserves the language of the Katl'odeehche people.

Mrs. Toni Harker Auge, a teacher from Yellowknife. Mrs. Harker Auge taught thousands of children during a northern teaching career that began in 1971. Despite having retired in 2006, she remains an active and sought-after volunteer in the education field.

Mr. Chuck Tolley has filled many roles in the education world but is nominated for his contribution as superintendent of schools and for his reputation for integrity and sound judgement. Mr. Tolley spent his forty-year career in many northern communities and was nominated by his former colleagues in Norman Wells.

Mrs. Margo McLeod is a classroom assistant from Aklavik. She began her career at the Moose Kerr School in 1974 and is still there today. Mrs. McLeod participates in on-the-land activities and mentors many students in the aboriginal classes. Her four children and 15 grandchildren have all attended Moose Kerr School.

Ms. Miki O'Kane has been the campus director at the Aurora College in Inuvik since 1994 and has a genuine desire to make a difference to the people of the Beaufort-Delta and Sahtu regions. Ms. O'Kane was the force behind the new student residence and campus classroom expansion projects, as well as the procurement of the Mobile Trades Training Unit.

Mr. Michael Botermans is a teaching assistant and volunteer sports coach at the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in Behchoko. He is much loved by the students he inspires; in fact, nearly 50 students came to the Great Hall today to see him inducted into the Hall of Fame. Mr. Botermans is an energetic and passionate coach devoted to his students.

One other person inducted today but unable to join us is Mrs. Irma Miron from Hay River. Mrs. Miron began teaching in 1943 and never missed a day of school. Her creative and expressive approach to her job enabled her students to take a real enjoyment in her classes. She will receive her award at a ceremony in Hay River later this summer.

We stand on the shoulders of giants. There are many great people who came before us who laid the foundation of good work and dedication upon which we build. We were very pleased to recognize

some of those people today with posthumous inductions into the Hall of Fame, and thank their family and friends for joining us here in the gallery. The posthumous inductees are:

- Mrs. Elizabeth Mackenzie of Behchoko, a pioneer and committed education advocate;
- Ms. Alice Cambridge of Hay River, a respected and innovative teacher and community contributor;
- Mrs. Anne Enge from Yellowknife, a passionate advocate and school board trustee, the first aboriginal woman to complete a Grade 12 diploma;
- Mr. Jerry Ruben from Paulatuk and Fort Smith, an insightful and compassionate teacher and avid sports coach;
- Mr. John Miltenberger from Fort Smith, a forward-thinking and empowering teacher who believed in a community-centred approach and that education is priceless;
- Mr. Cliff King, a teacher and hockey coach from Inuvik whose inclusive approach to teaching ensured that no child was left behind; and
- Mr. John Carroll, a teacher from Hay River, Fort Simpson and Jean Marie River who was a friend and confidante to all his students, remaining so long after he retired.

These are the first inductees into the Education Hall of Fame. They are a truly impressive group of people who inspire thousands of us to do more and believe in ourselves. I hope all Members of this Assembly will join me in honouring the inductees into the Education Hall of Fame and thank them for dedicating their life's work to the students of the Northwest Territories.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Lafferty. The honourable Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Lee.

MINISTER'S STATEMENT 33-16(5):  
JOINT WORKING GROUP ON SUPPLEMENTARY  
HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

**HON. SANDY LEE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 12, 2010, I presented the latest proposal on the Supplementary Health Benefits Program to the Standing Committee on Social Programs. From the beginning this program has been designed to ensure that all residents in the Northwest Territories can access supplementary health benefits. Our first priority has been to develop a range of supports not covered by the Canada Health Act, third-party insurance, or other federal or territorial programs.

Since then, the Members of the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning have presented specific items they would like the

government to consider before this program is implemented. I'm interested in reviewing those items and improving on the program we have presented.

As such, I'd like to announce today the creation of a working group of Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly to assist in this effort. This working group will use our government's consensus approach to finalize the planning for and ensure a smooth transition to a new program. The group will consider, in part:

- personal third-party coverage responsibility;
- approaches to limit employer and/or individuals from dropping third-party insurance; and
- the issue of accumulated high cost and a capped threshold.

This working group will report to Cabinet and the Priorities and Planning committee in June of this year to ensure an implementation date on or before November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Minister responsible for Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Miltenberger.

MINISTER'S STATEMENT 34-16(5):  
GNWT TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE  
ANNUAL REPORT

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later today, on behalf of the Interdepartmental Traditional Knowledge Working Group, I will be tabling the Traditional Knowledge Annual Report for 2009-2010. The report is a collaboration between the departments of Education, Culture and Employment, Environment and Natural Resources, Municipal and Community Affairs, Public Works and Services, Justice, Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, Transportation, Health and Social Services, Industry, Tourism and Investment, and Human Resources.

ENR, as the department responsible for coordinating government-wide traditional knowledge initiatives, worked with the Interdepartmental Traditional Knowledge Working Group to compile each department's traditional knowledge initiatives undertaken during the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Traditional knowledge is an essential component of program management within the Government of the Northwest Territories and we are committed to incorporating TK into the appropriate programs and services.

The GNWT recognizes the need to consider both traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge in the decision-making process and that the inclusion of TK is vital to the development of sound management plans and programs.

The integration of traditional knowledge into government decisions and actions is outlined in our Traditional Knowledge Policy.

The Traditional Knowledge Policy was first established in 1997 to promote and protect traditional knowledge and ensure it played a significant role in government programs and services. The policy defines traditional knowledge and knowledge and values which have been acquired through experience, observations from the land or from spiritual teachings, and handed down from one generation to another.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to recognize the extent to which government departments have strived to include traditional knowledge in various programs and services. Education, Culture and Employment demonstrates its commitment to traditional knowledge by fully supporting culture and language-based education in early childhood education and in the school system. Traditional knowledge plays an integral role in Municipal and Community Affairs' involvement in sport, recreation and community

Public Works and Services incorporated traditional knowledge when developing and updating the 2009 edition of Good Building Practices for Northern Facilities. Wilderness camp programming through the Department of Justice helps renew an offender's connections with the land and their cultural values through various traditional activities.

Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations promotes, protects and uses traditional knowledge through land claim and self-government negotiations and government-to-government relations. Local people and elders provide the Department of Transportation with their traditional knowledge of the freeze/thaw cycle and permafrost locations, which proves invaluable when conducting road maintenance and repairs.

An Aboriginal Wellness Program and language interpretation services are just a few of the traditional knowledge initiatives offered by the Department of Health and Social Services. Industry, Tourism and Investment uses elder's traditional knowledge in the creation of interpretive signs and displays in NWT parks.

Human Resources developed a framework for government-wide cross-cultural training to increase aboriginal cultural awareness and diversity in the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, these are just some of the programs and services provided by this government. Those departments not having direct responsibility for TK implementation supported the working group by providing advice and expertise while tracking the implementation of TK policy across the government.

The GNWT is dedicated to working with all Northerners to build a strong and independent North, taking advantage of the unique experience and knowledge all partners bring to the table.

The Traditional Knowledge Annual Report will update Member on our government's progress in formally implementing traditional knowledge into our programs and services. TK will remain an integral part of government-wide operations. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The honourable Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Bob McLeod.

#### MINISTER'S STATEMENT 35-16(5): SMALL SCALE FOODS PROGRAM

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, the town of Norman Wells is known for many things: friendly people, a rich oilfield, the CANOL Trail and the scenic beauty of a place that lies on the banks of the Mackenzie River and at the foot of the Mackenzie Mountains.

What Norman Wells probably isn't known for is that it was the potato growing capital of the Northwest Territories last year. In 2009 more than 10,000 pounds of potatoes were grown there and then distributed and sold in the Sahtu region.

And how did this come about, Mr. Speaker? Well, thanks to the commitment and efforts of local producers with contributions from programs delivered under the Growing Forward Program, a federal-territorial partnership focused on developing agriculture.

Today I would like to talk about a very successful Growing Forward Program: the Small Scale Foods Program. As the weather warms up and the snow disappears across the Territory, gardening initiatives are sprouting up across the Northwest Territories, from the Alberta/Northwest Territories border to the Beaufort-Delta. The Small Scale Foods Program delivered by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment is a major reason why.

This program is designed to establish market gardens across the Northwest Territories. It is now entering its fifth year in our Territory and 2010 is shaping up to be our busiest season yet. Activities are planned in 26 communities. Some of the work will result in new gardens being established where crops suitable for our northern climate, like carrots, turnips and, yes, potatoes, will be grown and harvested. In other communities, existing gardens will be expanded and in some cases new infrastructure will be added to improve yields and efficiencies.

Mr. Speaker, in the past our communities have relied on community gardens to provide nutritious, locally grown produce. The Small Scale Foods Program is reviving that practice.

The program is also in line with the vision of the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. It is more than just gardening we are doing here. The Small Scale Foods Program is about promoting self-sufficiency and self-reliance. And it also aims to create economic diversity and to reduce the cost of living.

The success of the Small Scale Foods Program shows our work is producing dividends. By revitalizing community gardens in the Territory, Small Scale Foods Program staff and local gardeners are helping make our communities healthier, more vibrant and sustainable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Ms. Bisaro.

### Members' Statements

#### MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON EDUCATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE MRS. TONI AUGE

**MS. BISARO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning I had the opportunity to attend the very first NWT Education Hall of Fame ceremony. I would like to credit the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment for taking the initiative of developing an idea and establishing an NWT Education Hall of Fame. I am more than pleased to be able to use my statement today to acknowledge one of the 15 inaugural inductees, someone who is also a personal friend, Mrs. Toni Auge.

---Applause

Mrs. Auge, now retired, had a teaching career which spanned 40-plus years and included teaching in her home country of New Zealand, at the Yellowknife Play School and at three Yellowknife Education District No. 1 schools: Mildred Hall School, J.H. Sissons School and Range Lake North School. Toni was the kindergarten teacher of Yellowknife. Parents would drive their kids across town to school because they wanted their child to have the wonderful experience of Mrs. Auge's kindergarten class.

Over years of teaching, Toni has taught two and sometimes three generations of the same family. She has a great work ethic and she was and still is known for her empathetic character. Her teaching style has been described by colleagues as a very firm but fair policy in her classroom while making learning fun.

She was an education pioneer in many respects, someone ahead of her time. She taught by way of real life learning long before authentic learning was the buzz word in education. Learning in Toni's class is all about making connections with the kids, with her colleagues, and with the parents. She had the respect of her peers and she was an inspiration to

teachers young and old. She, as well, formally mentored several beginning teachers.

Outside the classroom, Toni was always dedicated to her students and her profession. No matter where she worked, Toni was an integral part of the school and its activities. Since her retirement in 2006, she stays in touch with former students and teachers and has continued to be an integral part of the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 through any number of activities.

These days, Toni maintains her interest in young children through her grandchildren and their friends. Mrs. Auge is most deserving of the honour bestowed on her as an inaugural member of the NWT Education Hall of Fame. I offer my heartfelt congratulations and ask Members to join me in saying well done, Toni. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. The honourable Member for Hay River South, Mrs. Groenewegen.

#### MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON GREAT SLAVE LAKE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a long time that I stood in this House and talked about the commercial fishing industry on Great Slave Lake. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that our government, our Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment has seen fit to hold that consultation with the Fisherman's Federation that resulted in the vote to begin the actions required to remove the Great Slave Fishery in the Northwest Territories from the purview of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, it took a long time to get consensus amongst the fishers themselves. Unfortunately, we have seen this industry deteriorate from when about two million pounds of whitefish per year were being harvested from Great Slave Lake to now where we are lucky if we pull out 200,000 pounds of whitefish from Great Slave Lake.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, this was such a viable part of the economy of Hay River for so many years and we are looking forward to returning to that. This is healthy food on our doorstep. I don't think there is enough market in the Northwest Territories, though, to absorb all of the fish. So of course the issue of marketing and the cross-border implications of exporting our fish are all matters that will need to be dealt with as we come up with a new plan for marketing the fish from the Northwest Territories.

But I would like to commend this Minister. As I said, this has been an ongoing area of concern for a number of years. It has hit rock bottom in terms of the amount of people who are participating in the fishery and the benefit we realize from this sustainable excellent food source, and I would like to commend this Minister of ITI for being the one



who put the vote to the fishermen and then the fishermen finding the courage to decide to withdraw even though they aren't entirely sure and that it's not clearly spelled out yet what the alternative is for them to harvest and market their fish from Great Slave Lake. I'm referring to Great Slave Lake, obviously, because I am from Hay River, but I know the fishery expands beyond Hay River. So I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Minister and I will have further questions about next steps going forward during question period. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Member for Nahendeh, Mr. Menicoche.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE  
PUBLIC HOUSING RENTAL SUBSIDY

**MR. MENICOCHÉ:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I will be speaking about the return of the administration of the public housing rental subsidy to local housing organizations. Responsibility for the public housing rental subsidy was transferred to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment in 2006 in an attempt at a one-window service. Some program improvements were made in terms of accountability and fairness across the NWT, but residents of small communities did not see themselves better served. I'm very pleased that the responsibility for the public housing rental subsidy will be returned to the NWT Housing Corporation.

No longer will tenants have to wait up to three weeks to have their assessments done. They will only have to speak directly to their local housing staff and this is very important to the people. I believe this approach is much more client friendly, it separates the subsidy from any link with social assistance, it also makes the subsidy more acceptable. This change is good news.

I respect the government's willingness to listen to Regular Members and revisit their decision. Members' input was a product of listening to their constituents and this is most important. I am confident that the transition from ECE back to the NWT Housing Corporation will be seamless and our clients will be well served. Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker.

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

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
GREENHOUSE GASES REDUCTION

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The most urgent challenge facing our people, economy and our environment is the impact of climate change and the critical need to reduce our production of greenhouse gases. Even since the last time I spoke on this topic, new information has

shown that things are getting rampantly worse. Sea ice melt is accelerating toward the prediction of an ice-free Arctic by 2030, 2020 or even sooner now. Global precipitation on land is down 40 percent. Alberta's rivers are running at 20 to 80 percent of their normal flow. In the NWT, melting permafrost is causing higher levels of toxins in the fish our people depend upon and the damage to public infrastructure has begun. Our springs are weeks earlier, with a dry winter leading into a potentially costly fire season here and across much of Canada.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly has made positive moves internally, replacing some of our fossil fuel systems with biomass, and with transparent costing and accounting of greenhouse gas reductions achieved. But, unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we're still not thinking across the board. Results of our electrical reviews contain nothing to show we're taking a systemic approach to controlling carbon outputs and getting off oil onto renewable.

We have a new Biomass Strategy, comprehensive in its intentions, but bereft of any targets or schedules to achieve them. I'll be looking for resolution to this gap in the upcoming business plans.

Climate change is an urgent global problem, but we're not helpless. Proven solutions and approaches are in our hands that make sense not only for our environment but for growing local businesses, employment and investment, sheltering our economy from world oil markets and dramatically cutting our costs of living, as evidenced by the statement from our Minister McLeod just now.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Environment has previously committed to developing a greenhouse gas reduction strategy by April 2011, yet we are well into the fiscal year and we are still awaiting the first steps in this significant undertaking. A meaningful plan will include science-based targets for reduction and a means to achieve them in ways that add to our local economies. This is a major undertaking requiring sufficient time and public consultation so that we can move to action in a timely way. We need assurance that progress is well in hand.

As the Premier has said, Copenhagen showed that when federal governments will not lead, regional governments must act. We can't lecture the world without following our own advice. We need to recognize the urgency of today and start real action on this goal that will take years to achieve.

I will continue to ask for the support of all Members on the major task of getting a good plan in place and shifting our energy systems to approaches that make economic, social and environmental sense.

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

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
HOUSING NEEDS AND  
HIGH EVICTION RATES IN DELINE

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today in Deline about 5 percent of the population are living in warehouses, shacks and tents. Why? Because this government tries hard to make housing available but falls short of the mark. The Deline Housing Association has issued 30 eviction notices in the past few months; mostly, if not entirely, for unpaid rent. We are left with people living in cold and dangerous conditions; conditions that lead to disease from lack of proper sanitation and other problems.

Years ago the government decided it must do something to get people off their land, so they built housing units to bring them into the community. There was no follow through or perhaps only half-hearted attempts at teaching people that the houses they were given by the government were not free, or that the \$2 rent may increase in the future to \$5, and that the land that they had was not really the land that they thought they owned and that it was up for grabs. Now many people learn on their own that they have serious responsibilities to pay rent. Some fall through the cracks. The Housing Corporation today works with some of these people, but many still fall through the cracks. So when they get far behind in their rent, they get the sharp end of the boot: eviction.

It is the job of this government to protect our people. We care about them and do not want them getting sick from living in shacks or tents. I have to say yes. Or is this government any different from the government of 30 or 40 years ago that started the whole thing with public housing? There are no easy solutions, but there may be some solutions if we turn our minds to it. Let's keep the door open and see for ourselves what we can do to keep these people in their homes.

I'm going to close my statement today with the same words I closed yesterday. This is where government can and must stand up for the people. It's time we got this sorted out.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. The honourable Member for Kam Lake, Mr. Ramsay.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
COST OF INTERNATIONAL  
CALLING CARDS IN THE NWT

**MR. RAMSAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to bring up an issue today that has been brought up to me by constituents. Yellowknife is a very culturally diverse city. Our population of Filipinos, Japanese, Somalis, Chinese and other immigrant populations

continues to flourish. I like to refer to Yellowknife as a cultural mosaic when describing it to those unfamiliar with our capital city. In my travels to communities like Hay River and Inuvik, you can also see the changes in the cultural dynamics of those two towns.

When making the decision to move to Canada, families can, and do, get separated by thousands of miles. Keeping in touch with loved ones is something very important to people. For most people the telephone is still the way this communication takes place.

Most people calling family and friends, whether in Southeast Asia, Europe, Africa, or the Caribbean, like to buy the prepaid calling cards which are sold around our Territory. They come in a variety of names and denominations. The problem is that a card which is sold here, which is identical to ones sold in Edmonton, does not translate into the same number of minutes available. For some reason, NorthwesTel charges those using the calling cards 25 cents a minute just because the call originates in the Northwest Territories. A \$20 card purchased and used here in Yellowknife would yield 14 minutes for a call to the Philippines. The same card used in Edmonton would bear more than 100 minutes. Where is the fairness in this? Why is this charge of 25 cents being put on our residents using these cards? The supposed toll-free access numbers are being subjected to this surcharge and I'm having trouble understanding why this is allowed to happen.

Customers using these calling cards should have equal and fair access to services. It is obvious that our residents are being gouged by someone for doing their best to stay in touch with their loved ones back home, which is shameful.

I will have questions for the Minister responsible for consumer protection at the appropriate time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Abernethy.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
NEED FOR COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS  
BETWEEN GNWT DEPARTMENTS

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Government silos continue to live and thrive within the GNWT. Breaking down these silos and finding ways for departments to work together and collaborate has been an issue since day one of the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. Collaboration between and understanding what different departments are doing at different times will help us find efficiencies within the system and improve the services to our residents. It will also help reduce the duplication of activities and help avoid embarrassment that occurs within our system from time to time when

one department says one thing and another department says the exact opposite. Here's a recent example of what I'm talking about.

On April 8, 2010, the Department of ITI released a new campaign to encourage people to come make their mark in the Northwest Territories. It included an excellent website which outlined a significant number of reasons why people should consider moving to and/or remaining in the Northwest Territories. It's a great website and the department should definitely be proud of all of their hard work.

In the original release of the website, ITI promoted our existing supplementary health benefits as a reason to come to the Northwest Territories. Meanwhile, the day prior to the release of Come Make Your Mark, April 7, 2010, the Department of Health and Social Services conducted a public information session veiled as public consultation on the changing of the existing Supplementary Health Benefits Program; a program which is a clear incentive for people to move to and remain in the Northwest Territories. One hand clearly didn't have any idea what the other hand was doing. This makes the government look pretty foolish.

As a note to ITI's credit, when I, members of the public and some of my colleagues pointed out the contradiction to ITI, they immediately modified their website and removed the reference to the Supplementary Health Benefits Program until changes to the program are official. Hopefully the changes will be positive and supp health benefits will continue to be an incentive for people to move to and continue to live in the Northwest Territories.

Early in the life of this government the Premier identified the creation of strategic initiative committees which he indicated would help the government break down these silos. These committees consisted of the Ministers and deputy ministers and were designed to put those individuals in areas outside of their normal day-to-day business. For example, Managing This Land had a deputy head lead from Education, Culture and Employment. This was intended to force individuals outside of their comfort zone and to think outside of the box. In principal this sounds like a great idea.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Abernethy, your time for Member's statement has expired.

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

---Unanimous consent granted

**MR. ABERNETHY:** On face value it sounds like something that could work. However, we're two and a half years into the life of this 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly and the silos continue to exist.

Do these committees continue to exist? What is the Premier doing to ensure that these committees are working? Is the Premier trying to find ways to break down government silos and ensure that the departments share information and work together? At the appropriate time I will be asking the Premier these and other questions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. The honourable Member for Nunakput, Mr. Jacobson.

#### MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON INUVIK-TUKTOYAKTUK ALL-WEATHER ROAD

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my Member's statement is on the Mackenzie Valley Highway. Two years ago we embarked on the very important project of the construction of Access Road 177. This \$12 million three-year project involves local contractors and local suppliers and employs 75 to 80 people. The majority of the locals are all Inuvialuit. The project is an excellent start to what will one day become the Mackenzie Valley Highway, but it is only the start.

Recently the Tuktoyaktuk to Inuvik road project required \$975,000 towards the project description report and preliminary design. Currently the projects are being evaluated by the Environmental Impact Review Board. Once the project is finished this phase and gets the required funding, then hopefully we can get the shovels in the ground. All of these pieces are part of the Mackenzie Valley construction project.

This project would inject \$1.2 billion to \$2 billion of infrastructure of spending in the Northwest Territories, especially when the area is not currently benefitting by the large mining programs. These would push the Mackenzie Pipeline one step closer to reality. This would only generate huge employment in our region, would provide attractive infrastructure to industry.

This project is seriously to reduce the cost of living in the communities that I represent in Nunakput. This project would generate \$35 million annually in the highway operations and maintenance contracts up and down the valley to create 181,000 person years of employment.

This government must lobby the federal government and must show the commitment. They must allocate multi-year funding. Even though this government is currently financially stretched, there are ways the parties could work together to get this going. Currently the Gwich'in and the Denendeh Development Corporation have majority shares of the Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation who has initiated a P3 leaseback arrangement for the Mackenzie Highway Project. I know this government is well versed in P3 leasebacks. Currently there are many similar arrangements

across the Territory. The Inuvik-Tuk working groups.

Lastly, this project would generate \$250 million.

I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

---Unanimous consent granted

**MR. JACOBSON:** Lastly, this project would generate \$140 million to the \$250 million worth of construction activity in the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk portion alone. It would be a huge shot in our economic environment in the region and in our Territory. Only with the completion of the highway, the federal government and the territorial government must say that Canada is truly linked coast to coast to coast.

I will have questions for the Minister of Transportation and Industry, Tourism and Investment at the appropriate time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Jacobson. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
REVISIONS TO NWT HOUSING CORPORATION  
CONTRACTING PROCEDURES TO ASSIST  
LOCAL CONTRACTORS

**MR. KRUTKO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the last number of days I've received several phone calls and e-mails from local contractors in my riding who feel there is a total disadvantage regarding the contracting practices of this Government of the Northwest Territories. Especially the housing corporation when it comes to housing...(inaudible)...in local communities.

What I'm talking about are the advantages of large regional contractors to be able to supply, ship and erect contracts in the communities by way of having the purchase power, the means of moving the materials into the communities, and very little for local tender. Yet a local contractor has to make the local investment, have a local business, have a shop and also sustain his manpower.

Contractors such as plumbers in the communities have a disadvantage. Prior to these contracts being changed there used to be a local contracting process which allowed for labour-only contracts so that the contractors in the communities were able to take advantage, provide the labour responsibilities for those contracts, and find new initiatives for those contractors.

There has also been opportunities such as invitational tenders, allowing for tenders to be negotiated in those communities and bid on in those communities so the communities can take advantage of those construction opportunities which are very slim and very limited regarding the Inuvik region, especially in the communities where

they have seen the downturn in the oil and gas industry.

There is a negotiating contracting policy that this government has. I've submitted several letters to the Minister of Housing regarding negotiated contracts, with nothing being mentioned to me of the status of those contractors and when it is going to Cabinet.

The rebundling of contractors is something that has been suggested on this side of the House to the government so that local contractors can take advantage of those contract opportunities. Nothing has been done in that area.

I think it's important that we ensure that we have sustainable communities so that they can put the people to work, give them job opportunities during the summer months, and not have outsiders -- the fly-by-nighters -- come in and take advantage of these opportunities and not allow the local communities to take advantage.

I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

---Unanimous consent granted

**MR. KRUTKO:** Again, in regard to the opportunities for communities to take advantage of these tendering processes but ensuring that the benefits are derived in the communities where these capital dollars are expended and the capital investment is being made.

Again, we have high pockets of unemployment in most of our smaller communities exceeding over 45 to 50 percent unemployment, not compared to 23 or 24 percent in the larger regional centres. I think this government has to seriously take a look at this issue, go back to the drawing board and take a look at your contracting policies and procedures and the practices that are being done on the ground and ensure that your people are not advantaging the people at the regional centres because they're buddies and help people in the communities to find work for the people who are unemployed. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Hawkins.

MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON  
REBATE PROGRAM FOR  
RESIDENTIAL OIL TANKS

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're all too familiar with the devastating effects of oil spills and millions of dollars that are needed to clean them up. An oil spill does not have to be as big as the Gulf of Mexico or, certainly, the Exxon Valdez to have serious financial and long-lasting environmental implications. Mr. Speaker, similar small scale catastrophes happen in our own

backyard. Anyone who has experienced a fuel spill as a result of a leaky oil tank knows exactly what I'm talking about.

I'm aware of a recent resident who has paid over \$200,000 to excavate contaminated soil in their very own backyard. In many cases, neighbouring properties are contaminated as well and this is such a case. Even with insurance, Mr. Speaker, they still pay only a pittance of the coverage of what that expense actually is.

Mr. Speaker, while we are making progress on alternative forms of energy, most people still heat their homes with oil stored in tanks on their properties. We pay a lot to heat our homes in the North and at least this government could do things such as assistance for fuel tank replacement.

Mr. Speaker, generally it costs anywhere between \$1,800 and \$3,600 to replace an oil tank here in Yellowknife. I can only imagine what it would cost in a community. Mr. Speaker, you also have to pay additional fees to return your tank to the dump because there is a disposal fee. Mr. Speaker, if you're a low income family, replacing a fuel tank is certainly probably a low priority or a non-existent priority when you compare that issue with food, rent or perhaps child care.

Mr. Speaker, we already provide rebates for things such as retrofit of old appliances such as fridges, pellet stoves and low-flow toilets, to name a few. A simple rebate program for double walled or fibreglass oil tanks could help people go a long way to make sure that they're taking the responsible choices of updating their tanks.

Mr. Speaker, I don't have to tell you, if you're selling your home today, one of the first things the person looks at is when was the last time that oil tank was changed.

Mr. Speaker, this is a serious problem out there in industry and should be a serious problem recognized by this government. Mr. Speaker, a rebate program could go a long way to helping people. Mr. Speaker, with the quality problems of steel tanks and, of course, things like the low sulphur, these oil tanks have problems surviving.

So, Mr. Speaker, we need a program to help our average person here in the Northwest Territories, to show that the government does care about the programs. If anyone thinks a replacement of an oil tank is cheap, they've got that wrong. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. The honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Mr. Robert McLeod.

#### MEMBER'S STATEMENT ON RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FRED CARMICHAEL

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as one of four Members in here from the Beaufort-Delta, we're very fortunate up there that we have a whole wealth of knowledge that we can draw on to help as we represent the people of the Beaufort-Delta. One of the people that I do talk to quite a bit, Mr. Speaker, is with us here in the gallery. Mr. Fred Carmichael has been involved in politics in the Delta for a long time. He's a recent recipient of the Order of Canada and also just recently celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

---Applause

So we were very fortunate up there, as all people are across the Northwest Territories, that they have a lot of veterans that we can count on and they can pass their knowledge along to us and let us know if we're doing our job properly and let us know how we can improve doing our job. That's something they're always willing to share with us.

Fred is actually here today with Miki who was today inducted into the Education Hall of Fame, and I think I speak for the residents of Inuvik when I say that you're really not supposed to leave Aurora College. We should pass legislation that prevents you from doing so.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure today to really acknowledge two hall of famers, in my book. Of all the acknowledgements and the recognitions and the milestones that Fred has received, I think the one that I want the most is to be able to celebrate my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and still look as young as he does. Thank you.

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

#### Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Colleagues, it gives me great pleasure and it's not too often that I get to recognize a few constituents of Hay River North in the gallery here, but I'd like to recognize Ms. Sylvia Boyer and Ms. Irma Miron for joining us here today. They're both recipients of the Education Hall of Fame. I want to congratulate them on that and welcome them to the Legislative Assembly.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Monfwi, Mr. Lafferty.

**HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY:** Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to recognize some of the people who are in the gallery who are inducted into the Hall of Fame and also people who are accepting on behalf of posthumous

inductees, as well, and their supporters: Sylvia Boyer, Brent Kaulback, Irma Miron, Miki O'Kane, Chuck Tolley, and also Audrey Enge, who's here with us, and Marc Miltenberger, Debbie Reid, Vicky Ruben, Ashley Ruben, Fred Carmichael, of course, and Marilyn Kaulback and Jeri Miltenberger. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

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

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize Marilyn Carroll in the visitor's gallery. She's here today to receive a reward on behalf of her late husband, John Carroll. Mr. Speaker, Ms. Carroll is also a very noted educator in Hay River in her own right, as well. I'd like to recognize her today. Also, I'd like to recognize Shirley Hancock, who was kind enough today to travel with our inductees and come over from Hay River with them. I'd like to recognize Shirley. I'd also like to recognize another constituent, Marc Miltenberger. I might be beating his brother to the punch here, but Marc is here today receiving the recognition for his father, John Miltenberger, a man who I never had the privilege of meeting but I know from the way his sons speak of him he must have been a very, very fine person and a fine educator. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Member for Thebacha, Mr. Miltenberger.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, as well, would like to take this opportunity to first recognize and thank all the inductees for all the work they've done, those that are with us and those that are not, and all the people that are here with them. But specifically, I'd like to acknowledge and recognize my wife, Jeri; Vicky Ruben, the wife of Jerry Ruben who was just inducted into the Hall of Fame today; his lovely daughter Ashley Ruben; my baby brother Jean-Marc; and Brent Kaulback and his wife, Marilyn, from Fort Smith. Thank you for coming.

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

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize Miki O'Kane and also congratulate her. I agree with Mr. Robert C. McLeod that we should keep her with Aurora College. I want to congratulate her on being an inductee, and also Mr. Fred Carmichael for his endless...(inaudible)...of working with the Gwich'in people. I also want to recognize an inductee, in memory of Mr. Cliff King, one of my best high school teachers. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. The honourable Member for Range Lake, Ms. Lee.

**HON. SANDY LEE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know there are lots of people in the gallery but I'd

just like to make a special mention of the Enge family, Audrey Enge, Arnie Enge and Charlie White, who are here to receive an award on behalf of Anne Enge who left us recently. I think everyone here knows not only Anne Enge, the first aboriginal woman to receive Grade 12, but she was also the first aboriginal woman to receive a four-year degree, and she did that as an adult student taking all of her children to Calgary and putting herself through school. And all of her children are university educated so she lived the importance of education. I would like to recognize the family and Anne Enge. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms. Lee. The honourable Member for Nunakput, Mr. Jacobson.

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am happy to recognize my wife, Jenny, my daughter Chelsey, my daughters Kirstin and Mikayla and my son Matthew. I am really happy to have you here this week. I also would like to congratulate Ms. Miki O'Kane and Mr. Fred Carmichael who used to work up in Tuk when I was just a young guy, probably about 14 years old pumping floats off his float planes all the time and getting free rides from him. I want to congratulate everybody and welcome to the House. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Jacobson. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

**MR. KRUTKO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to recognize Fred Carmichael, a Canada recipient and, more importantly, the president of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. Our presidents, they don't fade away, we just keep making them work a little harder; that's all after they leave office. And also Miki O'Kane, I would like to congratulate you also for the hard work you do in the Inuvik region and, more importantly, for the people in the Mackenzie Delta/Beaufort Sea. Also Margo McLeod in regards to the recommendation in regards to being inducted into the Education Hall of Fame. Mahsi and thank you for everything.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Hawkins.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a few people that I would like to recognize. The first would be Chuck and Muriel Tolley. Mr. Tolley is being recognized for his accomplishments in education today. I should say, as well, that the Tolley name is a strong spirit in the North so if you mention the Tolley name to anyone here, the first thing they will think is volunteering in community spirit. That speaks well of their family. As well at this time I would like to continue to recognize Anne Enge and her family being here for this special day. Her accomplishments were spoken of very well by Ms. Lee. Mr. Speaker, finally, I would like to recognize Doug McKeon. He is visiting Yellowknife

from Oshawa, Ontario. He is here to see his daughter and soon-to-be son-in-law which is our very own Andrew Livingstone in the reporters' group today. He just ducked out. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. If we have missed anyone in the gallery today, welcome to the gallery. I hope you are enjoying the proceedings. It is always nice to have an audience in here.

Item 6, acknowledgements. Item 7, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Hawkins.

### Oral Questions

#### QUESTION 149-16(5): REBATE PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTIAL OIL TANK REPLACEMENT

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my Member's statement today I talked about the issue of oil tanks and the way that we should come up with a rebate program to help people with that expensive cost to replace them and certainly making sure that a good upkeep is kept on those tanks before an environmental problem comes. As I said in my Member's statement today, an environmental problem with a leaky oil tank could lead to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr. Speaker, my first question to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources is: does the Minister agree that helping people make responsible choices should be an attitude, an action that this government should take? Thank you.

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

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree that personal responsibility is a critical issue and that the government has a role to support people, where possible, in providing the training, the skills and education to eventually make the right choices. Thank you.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Mr. Speaker, in the last few months even my colleague Mr. Abernethy has raised the issue of public awareness about tank safety. I give him credit for that, Mr. Speaker. Well, it is time for this government to take words a little further and let's start putting them to action. Would the Minister be interested in the idea or concept of developing a rebate program that could meet this need to help protect our citizens, protect our environment and show them that we care as a government and we do play a role in their lives? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Mr. Speaker, we have committed, as a government, \$60 million to look at alternative energy. We have worked with communities. We have worked with individuals to

put out notices to make sure people check their tanks, make sure they check the fittings so they are not leaking, check the age, and make sure they are located properly. We are focusing all of our attention on moving to alternate energy. This type of rebate program could possibly be considered, but it wouldn't strike me as an alternative energy initiative. Thank you.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Mr. Speaker, as the Minister said, this government has a role in helping people. Would the government consider analyzing this situation to see if we could view it from what it could cost to help people change their tanks again to protect the environment and to save the bottom line where it is a very expensive process when they have to replace a tank after an oil spill? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Mr. Speaker, I would also like to point out that the Housing Corporation as well assists with low income families that are in public housing. I will commit to look at the issue. This is an issue that clearly would be an income tested kind of arrangement where depending on how much you make and could afford to pay would depend, if possible, if there was a program where we do what you may be eligible for. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Final supplementary, Mr. Hawkins.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no guarantee that new tanks have a full life. What I am hearing in the public from people as well as industry folks who change these tanks is that the new tanks don't seem to last very long, as I said earlier, due to low sulphur and quality of steel as being problems. Mr. Speaker, can the Minister commit today to this House that he will engage this issue immediately and see if he can have something we can bring back and discuss and review maybe by this fall? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Mr. Speaker, I will discuss this issue with the departmental officials and we will be able to have a position paper on what we think is possible, if anything, and the issue of options if there is a plan to proceed. But I will commit by this fall that we will have something on this item. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The honourable Member for Nahendeh, Mr. Menicoche.

#### QUESTION 150-16(5): TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING RENTAL SUBSIDY

**MR. MENICOCHÉ:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today I spoke about return of the public housing rental subsidy to the local housing organizations. I would like to ask the Minister of Housing about the implementation date. I think there was June 1<sup>st</sup>. Is the target on track and will

they be able to meet that implementation date? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Menicoche. The honourable Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, Mr. Robert McLeod.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can assure the Member and all Members of this House that the implementation date is June 1<sup>st</sup>. We are on target to meet that. All LHOs have received the training that they need to implement the PHRS, so it is on track for June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.

**MR. MENICOCHÉ:** Mr. Speaker, does the department anticipate any challenges for the tenants as the transfer back to the local housing organization? I know it took several months when we went to ECE. What kind of strategy or communications plan do they have to ensure that all the tenants do not fall off track and make the transition as seamless as possible? Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, we have communicated our plan to the LHOs and to the tenants. There is also a public campaign that is going to be starting, advising them that as of June 1<sup>st</sup> they will be able to get their rental assessments done by the local housing authorities. We don't anticipate much of a transition challenge right now because, as we all know, they were doing it quite seamlessly before and I think with the additional training that they have received, it should be a seamless transition. Thank you.

**MR. MENICOCHÉ:** Mr. Speaker, I think that when the program went to ECE there were additional resources given to ECE. Is there some similar plan to return extra resources to the Housing Corporation as to uptake the program once again? Mahsi.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, we are in discussions with ECE on that particular part of it. Those discussions are all ongoing. We are hoping to come up with a resolution quite soon. We didn't want that to delay our implementation of the June 1<sup>st</sup> start-up date so we are continuing with that and we continue to have discussions with ECE on the rest of it. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Your final supplementary, Mr. Menicoche.

**MR. MENICOCHÉ:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Will the maximum rents be looked at at this time during the transition phase? Will there be any adjustments made to the amount that's being charged as rent? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you. As of the implementation date, we are using the existing rent scales. However, it is our plan to review the whole rent scale and when the whole transfer is complete

April 1<sup>st</sup> of next year, then we're looking at having some changes that may be needed to the rent scale. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Nunakput, Mr. Jacobson.

QUESTION 151-16(5):

INUVIK-TUKTOYAKTUK ALL-WEATHER ROAD

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my Member's statement was regarding the Mackenzie Valley Highway in between Tuk and Inuvik and right down to Wrigley. Mr. Speaker, due to the pipeline being delayed, I think this is a good go for it to keep our people busy in the region and up and down the Valley. So will the government lobby the federal government to show the serious commitment by elevating options such as the P3 leaseback arrangement, not just internally but to local government leadership, aboriginal groups and corporate leaders? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Jacobson. The honourable Minister of Transportation, Mr. Michael McLeod.

**HON. MICHAEL MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Transportation is always looking for unique ways to move forward on large infrastructure projects. This Mackenzie Valley Highway is no different and we'd certainly commit to moving forward with all the people involved and interested in seeing this as a project that would provide economic benefit to people in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you. Will the government devote lobbying resources and attention to the mega project of this size that it deserves, and will the government involve MLAs up and down the delta or in the valley, community leaders and corporate leaders to push forward the true form of an inclusive campaign group to head to Ottawa? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MCLEOD:** We have put a lot of effort in moving this project forward. We've had many meetings with our federal counterparts regarding federal infrastructure, investment in our road. We all acknowledge that that's a requirement and I will continue to work with all stakeholders and all partners in efforts to fund the construction of a project such as this. Thank you.

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you. Will the government commit to pushing the all-season road from Inuvik to Tuk with funding sources such as with the federal government? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MCLEOD:** Thank you. That has been our challenge for many years to move forward on infrastructure in all the parts of the Territories. The road from Inuvik to Tuk has been pretty progressive, very progressive in terms of having the project description report done and submitted, and I



certainly will commit to doing the same for this section as we plan to involve all parcels and all projects for the whole Mackenzie Valley road forward. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Final supplementary, Mr. Jacobson.

**MR. JACOBSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government, in regard to the all-season road from Tuk to Inuvik, the federal government must see the potential, not the potential, but the resources there in the community and for a deep sea port for the Western Arctic, I think the Western Arctic, and my point has been left out. Everything that's driven by the federal government that's been given out to any sort of funding has been going to the Eastern Arctic. Mr. Speaker, we have to step up to the plate and get something done in regard to this highway. Not only the highway but for the pipeline and to get the federal government onside to push forward these initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**HON. MICHAEL MCLEOD:** Thank you. I'd like to reassure the Member that we have taken every opportunity from all Members of Cabinet, including the Premier, to bring our projects forward. We feel there is a lot of potential in the Northwest Territories. There have been meetings with federal officials, there have been meetings with the Ministers, there also have been meetings with the Prime Minister. They are aware of our projects and we will continue to lobby and to meet with them to put our positions forward. Thank you.

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

QUESTION 152-16(5):  
HOUSING NEEDS AND HIGH  
EVICTION RATES IN DELINE

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of the NWT Housing Corporation. I want to ask the Minister what type of solutions the corporation will be looking at in decreasing the number of evictions in Deline and probably other communities in the Northwest Territories, but I wanted to ask about Deline in regard to the evictions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. The honourable Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, Mr. Robert McLeod.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is correct; there have been some eviction notices that were given out in Deline. Some of these tenants have gone through the rental officer. There were some conditions that were laid out. Most of these tenants did not meet the conditions of those. They didn't meet the conditions so the eviction process was underway. Thank you.

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you. I want to ask the Minister about solutions. I know there's probably going to be other eviction notices to residents in the Sahtu, in the Northwest Territories. Can the Housing Corporation work with the people in the communities to see if they could work out some arrangements so that these eviction notices are not hanging out in huge, large numbers?

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you. There are a lot of solutions that we can come up with. One of the first solutions is have all tenants pay their rent and for those that do fall into arrears, it's not something that just happens on the spur of the moment. It's usually a year-long process. They're given many opportunities to address their arrears. They can speak to the boards, then they go to the rental officer and he'll lay out some conditions. If they meet the terms of those conditions, then the termination won't go ahead.

The trouble we have is a lot of times we get to the rental officer, he does put some conditions on, tenants do not meet them; therefore, they have to be terminate. But we do try to work with the tenants. There are repayment plans that they can enter into to help clear off their arrears and that's a message that we as a Housing Corp are trying to get out there so the folks know that they can work out a repayment plan and continue to occupy their units. Thank you.

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you. I've been reading the latest NWT survey, the housing component. The result and the adequacy are unacceptable in terms of housing in the Northwest Territories. I think if you were to do that in Deline right now in terms of the survey, the adequacy percentage would go right up. I guess in terms of working out an arrangement with the Housing Corporation around eviction, you know, in our small communities unemployment is very, very high. There's not very much economic activity happening there. Can the Minister look within his department to look at arrangements where tenants can work off these arrears rather than pay out of their pocket? Can that be looked at?

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you. That is one of the options that we looked at, one of the options that was discussed at the Ministers' forum that I held recently attended by the Housing Corporation employees from across the NWT along with a couple of MLAs and there were a lot of ideas floating around. That was one of them. There is a liability issue, but it would be something I think that would have to be initiated by the LHOs and if everything falls in place as far as insurance and liability go, I think it's something that they'd be willing to explore. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Your final supplementary, Mr. Yakeleya.

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister work with the LHOs and the

corporation in terms of direct, maybe -- I'm not sure if that's the proper word -- the LHOs to work out some final arrangements as to tenants working off the arrears rather than have the eviction notice follow through? People right now are living in shacks, warehouses and tents in Deline. We need to get them back into units, for safety reasons and many other reasons I do not want to elaborate on. Would the Minister do that as soon as possible?

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** The LHOs basically operate or are run by a board. We do have some involvement in the financing that we provide to them. The Minister doesn't normally give direction or orders to the LHOs. We can raise concerns with them, but we'll continue to try and do what we can as a corporation to help tenants across the Northwest Territories deal with the arrears issue.

We're \$10 million in public housing arrears right now and with the money from the federal government declining, it's important more than ever to start collecting on some of these arrears. It is something that's on our radar and something that we're following up on and hoping to have some options that we can discuss with the committee.

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

QUESTION 153-16(5):  
FOSTERING DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
NWT FILM INDUSTRY

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of ITI -- Industry, Tourism and Investment -- on the film industry. I'm pleased to see that the Minister has met with representatives of the multi-media and film industry to discuss development opportunities and report the status of the promised review of the industry development and support requirements. I'm also pleased that the Minister committed to develop the terms of reference in consultation with the public. These are great moves, great progress. Can the Minister indicate yet when those draft terms of reference will be available for review?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Bromley. The honourable Minister responsible for Industry, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Bob McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was quite pleased to be able to work with some of the Members from the other side to help organize a meeting with some of the northern filmmakers. I thought we had a very productive meeting and we shared concerns from all sides. I think we found a way to go forward.

We're currently drafting terms of reference that we will share with everybody that attended and anybody else that's interested. My expectation is that we'll be able to get them out within a month.

**MR. BROMLEY:** I appreciate that. I also appreciate that the Minister indicated that he would work hard to incorporate the findings of this review into the business plans. That's my interest in the time frame. Obviously those draft business plans are due in just a few short months. Timelines for the inclusion are, therefore, pretty tight. Can the Minister say what schedule he has set or will be setting for the review to be completed and allow that to happen?

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** At the meeting we talked about trying to dovetail with the Government of the Northwest Territories business planning process and the call has gone out already. As you know, working with the new initiatives we've put in place a marker already. In the discussions that we had in our meeting it became quite obvious that there are different parts to filmmaking and there are different parts to it. I think as part of the terms of reference, we will be looking at all the different sectors of filmmaking. My expectation is that through a combination of existing programs and using the business planning process and concluding the review in time, that we'll have something that has some meat that we can work together to expand the Northwest Territories film industry.

**MR. BROMLEY:** I appreciate, then, that the review would likely be moving towards completion by the fall so that things might move forward in the plans. I understand from industry reps that the current requirements for ITI support programs, such as the need to file three-year business forecasts, don't recognize the reality of this industry that moves from project to project. This obviously points out the need for industry-specific programs as our sister territories have recognized. Will the Minister ensure that the unique operating conditions of this industry are, therefore, addressed in the terms of reference and any recommendations for targeted support programs?

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** It was pointed out to us a number of examples where the approach that we're taking is resulting in missed opportunities. Certainly we've taken their input very seriously. We would look at expanding a film commission so that it really works and also to having people that are very familiar and have worked in the industry. Hopefully we'll have a chance to collect an Oscar one of these years.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Final supplementary, Mr. Bromley.

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think there's any question that we'll be collecting those. We've already had people down at the big...or the Juno awards or the Oscar awards, filmmakers down there from Yellowknife. We're well on our way, and with the Minister's support I have no doubt we'll achieve that.

ITI's annual publication -- my last question -- the economic review does not contain, currently, information on the value and activity of the arts and culture industry such as film and media production. I'd like to conclude here by asking the Minister if he will take steps to begin to collect the data essential to monitoring the value and development of the industry and include that in that annual publication.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** I'll work very closely with my colleague, the Minister of ECE, and make sure that we do provide for this coverage in the appropriate places.

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

QUESTION 154-16(5):

GREAT SLAVE LAKE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my Member's statement today I talked about the commercial fishery as it relates to Great Slave Lake. I have questions for the Minister of ITI.

In my Member's statement I failed to mention, actually, the collaborative work done by the Economic Development and Infrastructure committee as well with the Minister of ITI on this. I want to recognize them for their understanding of this situation as well.

We are now embarking on something that will be a new process for the marketing of the fish from Great Slave Lake. During this transition phase I would like to ask the Minister what the plan is for this year's summer fishery.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mrs. Groenewegen. The honourable Minister responsible for Industry, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Bob McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The plan for this summer's fishing industry is unchanged. We've just started the process of consultation in the Northwest Territories to make sure that we have input from all of the stakeholders before we make the next move, which is to formally request that we be allowed to exit the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** The documents I have indicate that this consultation process should be concluded by June 11<sup>th</sup> and then there is a requirement of us to repeal some legislation which makes us part of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. I'd like to ask the Minister if he would anticipate that the repealing of that legislation could come as early as this fall.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** I don't expect that we'll be able to do it by as early as this fall. We still have to work out the exit arrangements from the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. We still have to go through due diligence with this Legislative

Assembly and we still have to work with the fishermen to set up alternative processes. It's not our expectation to replace FFMC with a son of FFMC. We would take a brand new approach which would focus on developing northern markets.

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** I think that the capacity for production of fish and harvest of fish from Great Slave Lake quite far exceeds what could be absorbed by the market here in the North, although that would be a really good place to start. But going forward, one of the requirements, if our fishermen did want to export their fish beyond our NWT borders, would be a place where that fish could be inspected and processed, which would have to meet the Canadian Food Inspection Agency standards.

Mr. Speaker, right now, the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation plant in Hay River has been that facility. It is large. It is inefficient. It is hugely expensive to operate. Does the Minister foresee an opportunity for the GNWT to become involved in providing capital funding for a much smaller, more efficient place where fish could be processed to some extent and inspected for export beyond our borders? Thank you.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** My expectation is that we would have to meet with the fishermen to see where their interests lie. Obviously they don't want to be involved with the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, so we would have to meet with them to see what their interests are. If they're going to operate as independent businessmen, we'd have to see what their business plans would entail. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Your final supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, has the Minister given any consideration to lifting the border or export restriction to at least as far as Alberta? Would it be possible, in this transition phase while we're trying to establish markets further afield, would a dialogue with the Alberta government, because they don't have the big freshwater lakes that we have here in the Northwest Territories and that is quite a large market on our doorstep, would it be possible to have any discussion with the Alberta government Minister responsible about the potential for exporting our fish at least to Alberta on the interim basis? Thank you.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** By all means, we'd certainly be interested in talking to the Alberta government about exporting of fish from the Northwest Territories to Alberta. We would be quite prepared to move on this fairly quickly to have those discussions. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Abernethy.

QUESTION 155-16(5):  
NEED FOR COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS  
BETWEEN GNWT DEPARTMENTS

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Premier and are in follow up to my Member's statement from earlier today.

The Premier established five strategic initiative committees early in the life of this government: Building Our Future, Managing This Land, Reducing the Cost of Living, Maximizing Opportunities, and Refocusing Government. Some of the reasons that these committees were created was to help the departments work together to create awareness of initiatives happening across government and in individual departments, to provide an opportunity to share information across departments and, ultimately, break down departmental silos.

Mr. Speaker, could the Premier please tell me if these five strategic initiatives committees established by the Premier continue to exist and, if so, has the membership on these committees changed, how recently, and which Members lead each of these committees? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. There are a number of questions there, two or three. The Premier may answer one or all of them. The honourable Premier, Mr. Roland.

**HON. FLOYD ROLAND:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The strategic initiatives committees are still used by all departments. The formats and the memberships have not changed. Thank you.

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Could the Premier tell me how often, by committee, each of these committees meet and when was the last time each met? Thank you.

**HON. FLOYD ROLAND:** Mr. Speaker, the strategic initiatives committees meet on a regular basis and, in fact, I believe last week every one of those initiatives committees had a meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming year. Thank you.

**MR. ABERNETHY:** I'd like to thank the Premier for that. I'm happy to hear the committees still exist and I'm happy to hear that they meet. Where my frustration lies is that the silos obviously continue to exist. I gave an example earlier, but I'd be happy to sit down with the Premier and give him a number of examples that I've received over the last couple of months. What is the Premier doing with respect with these committees to help break down some of these silos? I mean, what we want is an efficient government and I acknowledge that the committees have done an awful lot of good work, but these silos

continue to exist. So what is the Premier doing to help break down these silos? Thank you.

**HON. FLOYD ROLAND:** Mr. Speaker, not only do the strategic initiatives committees meet on a regular basis to discuss... And those strategic initiatives committees will be going towards more policy orientation as we fine tune the work they do. But we also have deputy minister committees who meet on a regular basis throughout the government. Those have been in place for some time. Of course, our challenge has always been and the reason we got these strategic initiatives committees in place was to break down those silos. I must say that at times it is a slow process. It's frustrating at times. And I must say that some of the debate that happens around those strategic initiatives committees in this Assembly just helps slow things down because nobody wants to move if we're not all happy with the direction we're all paddling, even if it's in a circle. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Roland. The honourable Member for Kam Lake, Mr. Ramsay.

QUESTION 156-16(5):  
COST OF INTERNATIONAL  
CALLING CARDS IN THE NWT

**MR. RAMSAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Getting back to my Member's statement, I have questions for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, who happens to be the Minister responsible for consumer protection.

It's come to my attention from a constituent about calling cards which are sold in the Northwest Territories that do not allow the same level of service for a similar card, an exact same card sold in southern Canada. In fact, there's a 25 cent surcharge tacked on to the minutes for using these cards. I'd like to ask the Minister if he knows why calling cards in the Northwest Territories sold at retail outlets around the Territory are subject to this surcharge of 25 cents a minute. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. The honourable Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Robert McLeod.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Consumer Affairs has received a few complaints regarding some of the telephone services across the Northwest Territories and they were told that they had no regulatory role in this area. However, we will follow up on that and maybe communicate to the CRTC our concern with how the phone cards and the charges are made. Thank you.

**MR. RAMSAY:** I think if there's one company charging a 25 cent surcharge on any call originating in the Northwest Territories, to me that's called a monopoly. I don't know what other word to use. Doesn't our government have an obligation to go to bat for our residents when it comes to one company

charging 25 cents a minute for people to call their loved ones overseas? I'd like to ask the Minister -- I know he said his officials are looking into this -- when might we be able to hear back from consumer protection on what the government's next move might be? Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, I will follow up with the department immediately and I'll look to have some kind of response back to the Member and Members by the end of session. Thank you.

**MR. RAMSAY:** Mr. Speaker, I've got no reason to believe that this isn't happening. I've used these cards myself and there is a discrepancy between the minutes you get in the Northwest Territories when you dial the supposed toll-free number and what you get when you're in southern Canada. I'd like to ask the Minister if the government, I guess it would depend on the findings of consumer protection, but would the government or can the government write a letter to the CRTC suggesting that the CRTC have a look at the ongoing issue with the surcharge to calling cards here in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, as a government we would be willing to communicate to the CRTC our concerns with how the charges are made against the people of the Northwest Territories. So I'll commit to the Member that we will follow through with that. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Frame Lake, Ms. Bisaro.

QUESTION 157-16(5):  
VOLUNTEER SUPPORT INITIATIVE  
ACTION PLAN

**MS. BISARO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are addressed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Some years ago, Volunteer NWT was established. It's, unfortunately, an organization which is now defunct. When the federal funding which we received to establish the organization went the way of the dodo birds, so, unfortunately, did the organization because GNWT did not follow through and replace the funding.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs held a Volunteer Summit last March and published a report in September of 2009. The intent of that report apparently was to gather input for use in revising the Volunteer Support Initiative Action Plan. We received correspondence in September of 2009 that indicated that a revised action plan would be out for consultation in the winter of 2010. Well, I believe, Mr. Speaker, that winter is over and I would like to ask the Minister when we can expect a revised volunteer support initiative action plan. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms. Bisaro. The honourable Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Robert McLeod.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is correct; we were out consulting on a new initiative. I can assure the Member that the new Volunteer Support Initiative will be completed by this fall. Thank you.

**MS. BISARO:** Mr. Speaker, thanks to the Minister for that information. I guess better late than never. I feel, and I think many Members on this side of the House agree, that volunteers are the backbone of our communities and, in our view, the government should be providing strong support, both moral support and financial support, to enable our volunteers. In the last couple of years that I have been here, we have talked about multi-year funding for NGOs, non-government organizations, to ensure better treatment with them, better communications and operations between government and NGOs. I know a program manager guide has been done, but I know there was also another document that was presumably being worked on that wasn't just for GNWT employees but was for NGOs to put some parameters in place. I would like to ask the Minister how close to a usable workable document are we, one that is comprehensive and guides the dealings of NGOs with government and government with NGOs. Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, I will consult with the appropriate department and get a timeline as to the concerns that the Member is raising and communicate those back to her. Thank you.

**MS. BISARO:** Mr. Speaker, thanks to the Minister for that commitment. I will look forward to that. I would ask the Minister to copy other Members because I believe that everybody is interested in this document which is presumably coming.

The Minister talked about a report being available in the fall. I know in May of this year we received another letter from the Minister which talked about Volunteer Support Initiative consultations which apparently are going to be ongoing in the next couple of months, I guess. The letter talked about some of the focus of the questions for these consultations as being promotion of volunteers, recognition of volunteers. I found the questions quite superficial. I don't feel that they are going to get to the real needs of our volunteers and the support that they need. I would like to know if the Minister can advise in terms of these consultations. We are supposed to have a revised plan, but what is the focus? What is the goal of these consultations coming up? Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, we are hoping to develop an updated NWT Volunteer Support Initiative and use this as an opportunity to

listen to the organizations out there and see what is the best way that we can support our volunteer sector. We do provide some support right now to some of the volunteer groups, but we are hoping to enhance or expand on this program through questions there. We are looking at this as an opportunity as we did with the Volunteer Summit using that as an opportunity to listen to those that are most affected by this. We took some of that information and took the next step. We are hoping to use this as a document to expand on the funding if the need is there, which I think we all believe the need is there, so that is our plan. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Final supplementary, Ms. Bisaro.

**MS. BISARO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am really glad to hear the Minister say that we are going to expand the funding. That is great. I take that commitment. I look forward to that in the 2011-12 Business Plans. In order to effect any real change, I think that we have to go beyond sort of the questions that are out in this round of consultations. We have to get deeper into sort of the meat of the matter. I would like to know from the Minister whether or not there will be consideration within the government to reorganize it so that all the volunteer initiatives, all the volunteer programs fall under one department; preferably, in my view, the Executive. Thank you.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, we will have that discussion with the Executive. If Members and the public feel that this is the proper place to have the volunteer initiative, then that is a discussion that we will have to have. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

QUESTION 158-16(5):

REVISIONS TO NWT HOUSING CORPORATION  
CONTRACTING PRACTICES TO ASSIST  
LOCAL CONTRACTORS

**MR. KRUTKO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are in regards to my Member's statement, but also this issue I have raised in the last setting of this Legislature but it looks like nothing has been done with it. Again, these contracts that are being let in our communities are not being taken advantage of by local contractors. If anything, it is benefitting the regional contractors who have an opportunity because the way the contracts are being let, which are basically supply, ship and erect contracts, are an advantage to the larger regional contractors in regards to having to bid in multiple contracts versus the local contractors in most cases bid only at the local level.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Housing in regards to the tendering process. I gave

the Minister a copy of the e-mail that I am talking about and he is aware of the issue. There are other avenues to be able to meet the same objective by way of invitational tenders in affected communities where those contracts are going to be let, have a negotiating contracting policy and also consider labour-only contracts which was the practice in the past which was helpful to communities. I would like to ask the Minister, why has this government not changed the practice that is being used today and knowing that this was raised in the House previously and that committee members have raised and have looked at those other options that would benefit small communities?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Krutko. The honourable Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, Mr. Robert McLeod.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a concern that we heard and a particular example was a material contract for supplying material. There was some belief from some of the district suppliers that they were unfairly treated because they were looking for a territorial-wide issue. That has been resolved. A lot of local material supply tenders are going out. As far as the Member is concerned, there was a time when there were a lot of labour-only tenders that were let and it benefitted the small communities. Some of them have built up their capacity and are able to compete on the supply, ship and erect. Obviously, it is still a concern. This is a discussion that I will have to have with the corporation and see if we can find a way to resolve it so the local supplier would benefit from the tenders that are let by the NWT Housing Corporation. Thank you.

**MR. KRUTKO:** Mr. Speaker, I think this is all in with the Housing Corporation but other government contracts. I think we have to debundle these contracts in such a way that people have advantages of taking the segments of the contract that meet their particular needs regardless if you are a plumber, carpenter, electrician, and I think that we have to support those local sustainable contractors in the community so that they can remain in our communities. I would like to ask the Minister in regards to the whole idea. I talked to the mayor of Aklavik. He mentioned that they had a meeting with Housing. They talked about the invitational tenders for the community of Aklavik for contracts for that community. Is that something that this government is considering looking at?

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, we are willing to look at all options. We have to recognize, though, that cost could be a factor. If it proves feasible to do, as the Member suggested, and go to some invitational tenders, that is something we will have to look at. But the bottom line is trying to control costs and trying to do economies of scale so we can put more units into the communities and

more maintenance work and repair work in some of the units. Thank you.

**MR. KRUTKO:** Mr. Speaker, in regards to the contracting processes that I would like to ask the Minister, I know I mentioned negotiating contractors in my statement but also I have supported negotiating contracts for projects in McPherson and Aklavik which were submitted to the regional office which I gave to the Minister. It was supposed to go to Cabinet in April. I would like to ask the Minister what is the status of those contracts. Again, that is another avenue that has to be used but again we are not hearing anything back from Cabinet on that. I would like to get an update from the Minister. Why is that practice not being used?

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** My understanding is the applications are complete. We have had a few requests from negotiated contracts and that is something that we're reviewing at the moment. The negotiated contract, we have used quite a few of them over the past few years in some of the communities and negotiated contracts are there to help communities build up capacity, contracted book capacity so they can compete in an open market, understanding that we still have an MOU that we try to follow as closely as possible. So to answer the Member's question, and I'm just going on here, but we have received the applications, the applications are complete and we're just reviewing them before we take our next steps. Thank you.

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

**MR. KRUTKO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also in my statement I talked about sustainable communities and the importance of this government to look at the social and economic benefits of these types of projects in our communities and ensure that the maximum benefit goes to the local communities because we are hurting in our communities with high unemployment, but more importantly we have to find jobs and sustain those jobs. So I'd like to ask the Minister exactly what the government is doing to ensure that we are sustaining communities with these projects and not seeing the money leave the communities and go to the regional centres.

**HON. ROBERT MCLEOD:** Thank you. The government is making, the Housing Corp in particular is making more investment in the local housing building scene. We have, with the MNIs and the amount of repair work, we've got almost \$50 million in repair work. I was talking to some of the local contractors in some of the other communities, they're grateful for work, they've been very busy. I think more so now than ever with a lot of the training that the communities have had we're seeing them start to take advantage and being competitive in the whole process and being able to get all the work that comes to the community, because we do have a lot of folks out in the

community who are well qualified now and are starting to take advantage of some of these. So we continue to invest in the communities as far as putting homes on the ground and doing repairs. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Hawkins.

QUESTION 159-16(5):  
SUMMER STUDENTS  
PRIORITY HIRING STATUS

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all know, summer students have been returning to the Northwest Territories and certainly the summer student hiring window is very short. Many of the summer students strive and work as hard as they can to get an opportunity so they can bank enough money so that when they go back to the school in the fall they'll have enough funds to get them through the year without any hiccups. But, Mr. Speaker, a parent brought forward a concern to me the other day and they were concerned about how the hiring process goes for summer students. In short, they said that they have found out that summer students are sometimes set aside for casuals. So in other words, the list goes from hiring a P1 summer student over to the casual list and they go to the P1 casuals and back to the summer student list, the P2s, then back to the casual list of P2s, and so on all the way down to P3 from thereon.

Mr. Speaker, the concern is quite simply this: why aren't summer students put as a hiring priority by this government to ensure that they have the best opportunity to make some money so when they return to school they'll be put on the best foot forward as we can certainly hope for them? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. The honourable Minister of Human Resources, Mr. Bob McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Summer students are given that priority. Thank you.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you. Well, I've been to the Minister's office and it's the process as I described before just earlier here today. So maybe the Minister can clarify for the record that summer students hired in the priority 1, 2 and 3 are priority over casuals whether they're P1s, P2s or P3s. Thank you.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you. P1 and P2 summer students are a priority. We then go to aboriginal casuals and then we go to P3s. There's really no issue here because every summer there is less than a 5 percent likelihood of an aboriginal casual employee being hired between the summer

because we do give direction that all departments should be hiring summer students. Thank you.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you. I appreciate the Minister for clearing that up on the record, especially because of the confusion both brought forward to me by the parent as well as the information I received from the department. Mr. Speaker, would the Minister commit to this House that he'll make sure that all departments are clear on the hiring process to make sure that we follow the priority process he described here today to make sure we give our P1 and P2 summer students the best chance at getting a job? We want to make sure it's clear to these departments. Thank you.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you. The Department of Human Resources endeavour to make sure exactly that happened. We have Human Resources staff meet with all departmental staff on a regular basis to review their requirements for summer student hiring, and every department is aware of the process and also the priorities for hiring students. We will be continuing to monitor the summer student hiring as we go forward. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hawkins.

**MR. HAWKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't hear the Minister would make sure that he sent out an e-mail or an information blast to departments who do manage this file. I mean, the point I'm trying to make is the information I got even from his department seems confusing and perhaps wrong, and he's cleared it up for the record and I appreciate that. I just want to make sure that that information gets out to all the departments to make sure they're hiring in the same manner the Minister has described today, because if that confusion is out there, people will be missing opportunities that they rightly deserve. Thank you.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you. We have sent an e-mail to every department, we've sent it to every Cabinet Minister and we've sent it to every MLA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. The honourable Member for Great Slave, Mr. Abernethy.

QUESTION 160-16(5):  
REBATE PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTIAL  
OIL TANK REPLACEMENT

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to follow up on some comments and some questions asked by my colleague Mr. Hawkins on the rebate, a possible rebate for oil tanks. Before I do that I just want to applaud the Minister of ENR and his department for putting in the public awareness campaign on oil leaks. I think it's quite a good campaign and I think they did a wonderful job.

I also want to mention that in his response to Mr. Hawkins, the Minister indicated that we are investing a lot of money in alternative energy as a way to get off of oil, which I also think is great, but I think it's important to remember that a lot of people have bought boilers or furnaces that operate on oil and they all have a lifecycle and the lifecycle for an oil furnace or an oil burner is significantly longer than that for an oil tank and these oil tanks are leaking on a more regular basis. We really want people who haven't lived through the lifecycle of their furnaces to keep their oil tanks new and fresh so that we don't experience leaks. So I think it's important that we follow Mr. Hawkins' recommendation and put in some rebate, but I'd like to encourage the Minister to consider, in doing that, rather than providing a rebate for replacing a single walled tank with a single walled tank, which is exasperating the problem, to consider looking at rebates for the higher quality tanks, the double walled tanks or the tanks with alarms, those type of things rather than just a rebate for putting in the same problem again and again and again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Abernethy. The honourable Minister responsible for Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Miltenberger.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the Member that we want people to have the best failsafe products that are out there. I understand in Europe they do things considerably in a more advanced fashion than we do. The issue of double wall tanks, tanks with alarms to me only make good sense. I agree we don't want to just replace a cheesy single walled tank with a new cheesy single walled tank. Thank you.

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you. So I don't think we heard the Minister say yes, I think we heard the Minister say that he is going to explore the possibilities. I just want to suggest to the Minister that right now if he was to do some pricing to go get a double walled tank or a tank with one of the alarms in it installed, it's going to cost you over \$4,000 to install, whereas if you want to put in one of the bad tanks and replace one of the bad tanks with a bad tank it's going to cost you about \$1,000. So I'd like to encourage the Minister to have his department go out and do some additional research into the costing of these options and, once again, to not only suggest that they look into it, but possibly agree to put in some level of a rebate to encourage those individuals to consider the quality tanks that are going to avoid leaks in the future.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you. I committed to the Member for Yellowknife Centre that we'd look at this and the timeline he suggested we agreed to, which is this coming fall to have something that would lay out and put a frame



around this issue. I'd also point out that if we're going to be spending that many thousands of dollars to replace a tank to keep a boiler going and then the boiler goes but you've bought this brand new \$4,000 tank so you spend another \$10,000 to replace the boiler, that we'll be in a cycle that we'll never get out of. We're going to have to look at the cost comparison across the type of appliances and if we're serious about looking at alternative energy, that will be part of our consideration so that we're not just investing money because we're in a cycle we can't get out of with diesel equipment. Thank you.

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

QUESTION 161-16(5):  
GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTIONS

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. I'd like to follow up on my Member's statement and ask what work has been done to get the process on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy, the new one we're expecting for next April, started. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Bromley. The honourable Minister responsible for Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Miltenberger.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been work done. Initially, our Climate Change Committee has been pushing on this. The departments have met. ENR has pulled together the initial discussions to lay out the plan for consultation that will occur in the coming months. I'd also point out that there's some related work that's going on that could have a bearing, given some of the topics of discussion.

As we look at the paper on the tax system and tax shifting, in that particular document we talk about and raise a number of issues that are tied to this particular Greenhouse Gas Strategy as well, or could be, and that's the whole area of what level of involvement are we prepared to contemplate if we look at tax shifting with targets, carbon taxes, that whole debate and discussion. So there is a significant amount of work that's going on in this area. Thank you.

**MR. BROMLEY:** Appreciation to the Minister for those comments. Obviously he's been thinking about this. How does the Minister see this unfolding so that the public is aware of what's going on and the process for consultation? Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Both of those initiatives I talked about will be put through a process where the documents will be prepared and put out for discussion, initially, and feedback. We'll be working with committees, of course, and we'll be looking for that feedback in a timely way, making

sure that we link all the different initiatives that we do have in regard to the renewal, and I would assume expansion and enhancement of the Greenhouse Gas Strategy so that it looks outside of the internal look at government. Thank you.

**MR. BROMLEY:** Again, thanks for those remarks. I'd like to, sort of like the Biomass Strategy, a great strategy, I agree with it, but there are no targets, there is no schedule for implementation. So I'm wondering if the Minister would commit to putting this process down on paper with the targets, the time targets and achievements that we can expect through the years so that we're, indeed, coming in on schedule and bringing that to committee, say, when we meet at the end of June or sometime that's convenient and not too far down in the year. Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** We can talk about the process. I would suggest that we have set a whole host of targets in terms of actual conversions to biomass, both within government and outside of government. We've targeted money, we've targeted resources, and we're looking at projects across the land as it pertains to biomass and a host of other alternative energy ways mainly through the annual business planning process. Now, if there's a need to put those numbers into a different form and possibly add to them, of course, we would be willing to have that discussion with committee. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The time for question period has expired; however, I will allow the Member one final supplementary question. Mr. Bromley.

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks again for that commitment. I think it would be good and I'm speaking, really, here, of the development of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy to have a specific timeline laid out for this process. I know public consultation is difficult, especially on an issue like this. It's important to everyone. So I think that would be helpful and highlighting where and how MLAs could have early input into the process and so on. So I think that would be useful. Thank you.

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** I concur with the Member. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Item 8, written questions. The honourable Member for Sahtu, Mr. Yakeleya.

### Written Questions

QUESTION 11-16(5):  
HEALTH CARE PLAN REGISTRATION  
IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**MR. YAKELEYA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

1. How many people are currently registered with the NWT Health Care Plan?
2. How many of those people registered temporarily reside outside of the Northwest Territories?

QUESTION 12-16(5):  
HEALTH CANADA FUNDING TO NWT  
RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS

My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

How much money has the Government of Canada provided to Health and Social Services for residential school survivors over the last five years?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Yakeleya. Item 9, returns to written questions. Item 10, replies to opening address. Item 11, petitions. Item 12, reports of standing and special committees. Item 13, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 14, tabling of documents. The honourable Minister responsible for Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Miltenberger.

### Tabling of Documents

TABLED DOCUMENT 46-16(5):  
GNWT TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE  
ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

TABLED DOCUMENT 47-16(5):  
GEOGRAPHIC TRACKING OF EXPENDITURES:  
EXPENDITURE DATA FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
MARCH 31, 2007

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following two documents: GNWT Traditional Knowledge Annual Report 2009-2010 as well as the GNWT Geographic Tracking of Expenditures: Expenditure Data for the Year Ended March 31, 2007. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The honourable Minister responsible for Industry, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Bob McLeod.

TABLED DOCUMENT 48-16(5):  
AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS MARKETING  
COUNCIL 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLED DOCUMENT 49-16(5):  
AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS MARKETING  
COUNCIL 2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLED DOCUMENT 50-16(5):  
GROWING FORWARD: CANADA/NORTHWEST  
TERRITORIES SMALL SCALE FOODS  
PROGRAM COMMUNITY GARDEN INITIATIVE  
2009-10 ANNUAL REPORT

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following two documents entitled Agriculture Products Marketing Council 2008-2009 Annual Report and Agriculture Products Marketing Council 2009-2010 Annual Report.

As well, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document entitled Growing Forward: Small Scale Foods Program Community Gardening Initiative 2009-2010 Annual Report. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. McLeod. Item 15, notices of motion. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Krutko.

### Notices of Motion

MOTION 10-16(5):  
REINSTATEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR  
THE ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

**MR. KRUTKO:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 20, 2010, I will move the following motion: now therefore I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories calls on the Government of Canada to fully reinstate the funding previously provided to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation; and further, that the Speaker formally transmit this motion and the content of our proceedings today to the federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs for his consideration and action. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Krutko. Item 16, notices of motion for first reading of bills. The honourable Minister responsible for Finance, Mr. Miltenberger.

### Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills

BILL 10:  
SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT  
(OPERATIONS EXPENDITURES), NO. 1, 2010-  
2011

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 20, 2010, I will move that Bill 10, Supplementary Appropriation Act

(Operations Expenditures), No. 1, 2010-2011, be read for the first time. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. The honourable Minister responsible for Finance, Mr. Miltenberger.

BILL 11:  
SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT  
(INFRASTRUCTURE EXPENDITURES), NO. 3,  
2010-2011

**HON. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 20, 2010, I will move that Bill 11, Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures) No. 3, 2010-2011, be read for the first time. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Item 17, motions. Item 18, first reading of bills. Item 19, second reading of bills. The honourable Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Lee.

### Second Reading of Bills

BILL 8:  
SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION ACT

**HON. SANDY LEE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha, that Bill 8, Social Work Profession Act, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for the regulation of the profession of social work in the Northwest Territories. It sets out requirements for registration as a registered social worker or a licensed social worker and provides for application procedures.

A process for the review of conduct of registered and licensed social workers is established, including a complaints mechanism, a description of unprofessional conduct, an option for alternative dispute resolution and a hearing process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Bill 8 has had second reading and is referred to committee.

---Carried

Item 20, consideration in Committee of the Whole of bills and other matters: Tabled Document 4-16(5), Executive Summary of the Report of the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project; Tabled Document 30-16(5), 2010 Review of Members' Compensation and Benefits; Tabled Document 38-16(5), Supplementary Health Benefits – What We Heard; and Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act, No. 3, with Mr. Bromley in the Chair.

### Consideration in Committee the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, I call Committee of the Whole to order. We have before us today the four items including Tabled Document 4-16(5), Executive Summary of the Report of the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project; Tabled Document 30-16(5), 2010 Review of Members' Compensation and Benefits; Tabled Document 38-16(5), Supplementary Health Benefits – What We Heard; and Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act, No. 3. What is the wish of committee? Mrs. Groenewegen.

**MRS. GROENEWEGEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee would like to deal with Bill 7 first and then return to Executive Summary of the Report of the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project for today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Does committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, committee. We'll be dealing with Bill 7 first and then Tabled Document 4-16(5), but first a short break.

---SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** I call Committee of the Whole to order. We have before us consideration of Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act and I would like to start by calling on Mr. Ramsay, as a Member of the Board of Management, for his introduction of the bill with opening remarks. Mr. Ramsay.

**MR. RAMSAY:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I am pleased to be here to represent this bill. This bill proposes various amendments to the Elections and Plebiscites Act.

These amendments are the result of considerable discussion. We started with a review of the CEO's report on the administration of the general election of 2007. That report was reviewed by the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures. During that review, all the candidates, their official agents and the returning officers were asked for their views and concerns about changes for the next general election. In addition to their consideration of the recommendations from the CEO, the committee also developed some of their own recommendations. The results of these reviews were considered by all Members of the Legislative Assembly and the recommendations were passed as motions in this Assembly.

Those recommendations have served as the basis for the preparation of this bill. Additional discussions at several Caucus meetings finalized the preparation of the bill.

This bill makes some important changes:

- It establishes a new voting opportunity: multi-district polls. This will be another advance opportunity for voters at remote worksites such as the diamond mines and in communities where many residents may be temporarily located, such as an Aurora College campus. It will be up to the CEO to determine where multi-district polls are to be held.
- It also establishes a new identification process at the polls. This closely follows the process for identification during federal elections. Everyone has to show ID establishing residency and identity. If you don't have ID, another elector can vouch for you only if they have ID.
- It supports the collection of information from Health and Social Services and Education, Culture and Employment. This will permit the CEO to obtain and use the health care plan info from Health and Social Services. That information is likely more accurate than enumerations and post-secondary student financial assistance information. This means we can provide special ballot information to university students while they are here in the summer.
- It also centralizes special ballots. An election official in Yellowknife will manage the special ballot process. This means special ballots should be able to get out faster and be returned to a central address more readily.

I will be pleased to respond to any questions that Members have about these amendments as we go through the bill. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. I would like to ask if you will be bringing in any witnesses.

**MR. RAMSAY:** Yes, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. Does committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, committee. I would like to ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the witnesses into the Chamber.

Thank you. Mr. Ramsay, I would like to ask you to introduce your witnesses, please.

**MR. RAMSAY:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. To my right is Gay Kennedy, acting Chief Electoral Officer for the Northwest Territories; and, to my left is Mr Mark Aitken, director, legislation division, Department of Justice. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, Mr. Ramsay. Welcome, witnesses. Now I would like to say that we are open for general comments on the bill by Members. General comments on Bill 7.

Hearing none, does committee agree that we move to clause-by-clause review of the bill?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, committee. We will start on page 1 with clause 1. Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act, clause 1.

---Clauses 1 through 53 inclusive approved

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** To the bill as a whole?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Thank you, committee. Does committee agree that Bill 7 is ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act is now ready for third reading.

Thank you, Mr. Ramsay, and thank you to the witnesses. Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses from the House.

Okay, thank you, committee. I believe the wish of committee is to move next to Tabled Document 4-16(5), Executive Summary of the Joint Review Panel Report. We had started but not concluded general comments. So does committee agree that we will continue with general comments? Agreed? First on the list, Mr. Abernethy.

**MR. ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move that we report progress.

---Carried

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bromley):** I will now rise and report progress. Thank you, committee.

### Report of Committee of the Whole

**MR. SPEAKER:** Can I have the report of Committee of the Whole, please, Mr. Bromley?

**MR. BROMLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act, and Tabled Document 4-16(5), Executive Summary of the Report of the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project, and would like to report that Bill 7 is ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of Committee of the Whole be concurred with.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Bromley. A motion is on the floor. Do we have a seconder for that? The honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Mr. Robert McLeod.

---Carried

Item 22, third reading of bills.

### Third Reading of Bills

BILL 3:

#### MISCELLANEOUS STATUTE LAW AMENDMENT ACT, 2010

**HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY:** Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Range Lake, that Bill 3, Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010, be read for the third time. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Bill 3 has had third reading.

---Carried

Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

### Orders of the Day

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Mercer):** Orders of the day for Wednesday, May 19, 2010, 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 9-16(5), P3 Canada Funding Support for Bear River Bridge Construction
18. First Reading of Bills
  - Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Tourism Act
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Tabled Document 4-16(5), Executive Summary of the Report of the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project
  - Tabled Document 30-16(5), 2010 Review of Members' Compensation and Benefits

- Tabled Document 38-16(5), Supplementary Health Benefits – What We Heard

- Bill 5, Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupation Certification Act

21. Report of Committee of the Whole

22. Third Reading of Bills

- Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Elections and Plebiscites Act

23. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 1:30 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

The House adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

