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Debates & Proceedings

**Tuesday, March 15, 1977**

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

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The Yukon Legislative Assembly

Proceedings of the Assembly

Order of Proceedings

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Yukon March 15, 1977

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.  
March 15, 1977.

**Mr. Speaker:** At this time, I will call the House to order.

We will proceed with morning prayers.

*(Prayers)*

**Mr. Speaker:** We will proceed at this time with the Order paper.

#### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any documents for tabling?

#### TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse North Centre.

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** Mr. Speaker, I have for tabling a White Paper on Planning Economic Development of Yukon, and the final draft of the General Development Agreement for the Yukon Territory.

Mr. Speaker, I also have for tabling a Green Paper on the Municipal Ordinance and a Green Paper on the Local Improvement District Ordinance.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse Porter Creek.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I have for tabling a Green Paper on Highway Information Signs and also a report on the Impact and Achievement of the Arctic Winter Games, 1968 - 1976.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further documents for tabling?

Are there any Reports of Committees?  
Petitions? Introduction of Bills?

The Honourable Member from Whitehorse North Centre.

#### BILLS: INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West, that a Bill entitled, "General Development Agreement Ordinance", be now introduced and read the first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse North Centre, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West, that a Bill entitled, "General Development Agreement Ordinance", be introduced and now read a first time.

Are you prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall declare that the Motion is car-

ried.

*(Motion carried)*

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the Bill be read for the second time?

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** At the next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further introduction of Bills?

Are there any Notices of Motion for the Production of Papers?

Are there any Notices of Motion or Resolution?

#### NOTICES OF MOTION

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Ogilvie.

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse Riverdale, that this House supports the concept of teaching Native languages in our schools when a majority of parents of the children to be taught have given consent to the program and that this House urges the Department of Education to implement and support such a program in all communities wishing it immediately.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further Notices of Motion or Resolution?

Are there any Statements by Ministers?

This then brings us to the Question Period.

#### QUESTION PERIOD

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Ogilvie.

#### Question re: Teaching of Native Languages

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Education. I wonder if he could make some comments to this House on the situation which exists in one of the communities today, concerning teaching of Native languages.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, it's indeed unfortunate the situation in one of the communities that has turned into such a major political issue, and I notice that there was Notice of Motion given in relation to the concept of teaching Indian language in schools where the majority of people would like to have that taught and there is an instructor available.

I think that if Members turn to their legislation, the School Ordinance, it states, very specifically, the duties of a school committee, and if there is any adaptations to the curriculum as set down through this Department, the school committee is consulted in relation to those adaptations.

This government believes that local matters should



be resolved at the community level, and unfortunately, this matter has hit the National, which I really do not think it should have, just for the sake of sensational reporting. I just do not believe that it should have hit the National News.

I would also like to point out that in the Yukon at the present time, we are teaching native languages, where the school committees and the majority of people want it taught, in Teslin, in Old Crow, and in Mayo.

Now the situation in Haines Junction is presently under review. I have a departmental official there who is reviewing the situation, and I am sure that the situation will be solved at the local level, and I'm optimistic that we'll have it resolved in very short order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Any further questions?  
The Honourable Member from Ogilvie?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, supplemental to that, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Department of Education has threatened the teacher teaching the languages with his job, if he continues on teaching native languages.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Chairman, and I would like to preface my remark by saying that the information I have received this morning, that full information was not given in the news broadcast that was given this morning.

It came to the Department's attention that there was native language being taught in the school, and it had by-passed the school committee. School committees are there for — to serve a function, to get the wishes of the people at the local level, and subsequently they were apparently by-passed in this case.

Now, the Superintendent was verbally asked by the instructor in question what would happen if he carried on teaching the program.

The Superintendent informed him that it had not gone through the school committee and it should go through the school committee before the concept of native languages be introduced into the school system.

The Superintendent subsequently wrote him a letter pointing out that if he disobeyed an order by the Superintendent, he would be subject to the legislation that was passed by this House in 1974, so it was not a threat, it was an answer to a verbal question of what the consequences are if you disobeyed an order by the Superintendent.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

I'm wondering, in view of the Minister's remarks, what is the policy in his Department regarding the institution of new policies? Is it the school committee that is actually responsible for the policies, or is it the Department itself that institutes the policies?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, in relation to major curriculum changes in the school system, it is up to the Department. Where things are optional, or courses are being — adaptations are being made at the local level, it is done in consultation with the school committee to decide whether or not that program is going to go ahead, and I'm sure that the situation will be resolved.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Was this a major policy?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, it's been the practice of this Department to abide by the wishes of the school committee, where a native language is requested to be taught in the schools by the school committees, who subsequently attempt to give that service, if there's an instructor available.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further questions this morning?

The Honourable Member from Klwane?

#### Question re: Information Regarding L.I.D.'s

**Mrs. Watson:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a written question for the Minister of Local Government. The information from this question will assist us, when we consider the Estimates.

(1) Could the Minister bring forward the population of each of the four L.I.D.'s in Haines Junction; the assessed value of all real property in each of the four L.I.D.'s; the property tax revenue, exclusive of school tax derived by the territorial government from property owners in each of the four L.I.D.'s, and the amount of grants in lieu of taxes which would be paid by the territorial government in each of the four L.I.D.'s.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further questions?  
The Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre?

#### Question re: Discrimination

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, more questions for the Minister of Education.

Is it or is it not the policy of his Department of Education to permit discrimination on a racial basis, to be propagated by a school advisory committee?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I take an offense to that question. This government does not propagate discrimination, as he well knows and school committees are duly elected like anybody else in this House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further questions?  
The Honourable Member from Mayo.



**Question re: Visit by President Carter**

**Mr. McIntyre:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Commissioner, this morning seeing as nobody else has asked him a question. In view of the press reports that President Jimmy Carter may attend the dedication of the Alaskan portion of the Klondike International Gold Rush Park at Skagway in July, has the Yukon Government extended an invitation to Mr. Carter to walk over the Chilkoot Trail to visit the Territory? And, if not, why not, and if the President can't come, perhaps we could get his brother who would fit into the picture better here.

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Commissioner.

**Mr. Commissioner:** Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, we have not issued an invitation to the President of the United States to walk the Chilkoot and visit us. Now that I'm aware that he's going to be in Skagway, I will make a recommendation forthwith that we shall immediately invite him to do so. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there further questions?  
The Honourable Member from Whitehorse West.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Speaker, on March 2nd, 1977, Ms. Millard asked the following question: "Prior to the approval of the civil legal aid program, I understand that there were some problems with the lawyers. Are they now agreeable to the program?"

The answer to the question is as follows. Some problems still exist in carrying out the Civil Legal Aid Program. Only two of the five law firms in Whitehorse have agreed so far to accept Civil Legal Aid certificates. Negotiations with the Bar are still underway and it is hoped that all firms will eventually see their way to accept Legal Aid Certificates.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the answer to written question number 8, relating to resolutions passed at the School Committee Conference in November, 1976.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further questions?  
We will now proceed to Orders of the Day.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY****ITEM NUMBER 1.**

Madam Clerk: Item Number 1, standing in the name of the Honourable Member, Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the Honourable Member prepared to discuss Resolution — I'm not sure what number that is, but Item Number 1 today?

**Mr. Hibberd:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Ogilvie?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask unanimous consent of the House that Standing Order 34 be waived, in order that the Motion of which I gave notice this morning, be dealt with in the House forthwith.

**Mr. Speaker:** Could the Member identify the Motion?

**Ms. Millard:** Would Mr. Speaker like me to read it in the whole?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, please.

**Ms. Millard:** That this House supports the concept of teaching native languages in our schools, when a majority of the parents of the children to be taught have given consent to the program, and that this House urges the Department of Education to implement and support such a program in all communities wishing it, immediately.

**Mr. Speaker:** I should say at the outset that this Motion is not debatable, and would require unanimous consent, however, it is within the bounds of our rules, possible to have the mover of the Motion explain succinctly the reason for the urgency in passage of this, or presentation of this Motion.

Perhaps the Member could give a succinct explanation.

**Ms. Millard:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I think in view of the newscast this morning, and the responses and questions in the Oral Question Period this morning, that this is something that this House has the obligation to discuss today.

I feel that it is of great importance to the Yukon that we recognize native input into our education system, and that this House supports it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you prepared for the question?

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, could not Members have the privilege of at least having the Motion before them before they vote on it? There's no debate allowed on the subject, and we haven't even seen the Motion at this point in time.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, I think the request is quite reasonable. Has the Member copies of this --

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has copies of the Motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Could these please be circulated?

Yes, in effect, it has been brought to my attention by Madam Clerk, that really we're voting on unanimous consent and not the Resolution at this stage.

Are you now prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you agreed?



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any contrary? I shall declare that the Motion is carried.

*(Motion carried)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Would the Honourable Member from Ogilvie kindly proceed?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Speaker, this subject has appeared again and again and again in my career as an M.L.A. in this House. I feel like I'm repeating myself continuously.

I think it is time for the Department of Education to give full support to native participation in our education system. I believe that it can be done, it seems to me that the excuse of a school committee which consists of very few people of the community, is really only an excuse.

I feel that there's a strong support for teaching native languages in our schools, not only by native people but by white people as well.

We have no objections to teaching French, we have support by the federal government to teach French, and I see no reason why native languages can't be treated in the very same way. Native languages are very important, it's the continuing respect of Indian culture in the Yukon. By ignoring native languages, we are ignoring the native culture, and I feel that we have come to the crunch now, with the situation in Haines Junction, that we should show our colours, show whether or not we actually support the notion of native people participating in our government in all levels, in our school system in all levels, and we must make the step towards that.

We can't stand back and say that native people must be making the efforts. They have made the efforts. They have tried desperately to do a lot of things through their remedial tutor program, through several other programs, and what did they get? Nothing but lack of cooperation, and very little implementation of any of their ideas in native education.

I feel that it is urgent at this time that we show the people of the Yukon that we not only represent white people, but we really, truly represent native people in the Yukon, and we're ready to support the feelings that they have about their culture.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Mayo?

**Mr. McIntyre:** Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Motion. I think that it's just as important at this time to pursue the teaching of native languages in our schools as it is to support the teaching of French. I also think that a vote in support of this Motion will be of great assistance in the negotiations going on by our Executive Committee at the present time.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Hootalinqua.

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have no problem at all in supporting this Motion. I have felt that the idea of the committees may be a very good thing in any community, however, in this special case, we must remember that the native children are more or less of the minority and the native people are a minority, although

not by much, possibly a third of us in this Territory maybe.

I find in the small communities, the native children possibly in that school may be a majority in many of the outlying districts. I really don't think it gives the native people a fair shake when you have a small committee deciding their fate.

I think that this Motion stands a much better chance of going somewhere in the Yukon in this system which we have right at the moment. I'm not against the committee entirely, but I think that this Motion says let's get on with it and let's not have any small committee picked by the majority somewhere to overrule that minority group. Let's just get on with the job and teach the education.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse West.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Speaker, I have no problem with this Motion. My only question, when I heard the reports of the meeting in Haines Junction, was why they were teaching Shoshone in the Yukon and I find it's not Shoshone, as pronounced on the air waves, it is a regional language or a small portion of it which is being unveiled for the first time to many children and I think that this is tremendous and I've said so before in this House.

I've no problem at all with that optional course being presented with the approval of the parents. There is one regrettable missing step in the procedure and that was that it should have been approved by the School Committee and I am in no position to tell the School Committee what they should or should not do, but I would assume that they would be listening to the wishes of the majority of parents whose children attend that school.

I think that we're getting a little bit off the intent of this Motion, which asks us to support a concept which this government does support, actively supports, wherever there is a request for such a program in a school in the Yukon. I am informed by the department concerned, every effort is made to provide such a course. The main problem up until now has been to obtain the services of teachers who are willing to go in and do this, native people who are familiar with the dialect.

I think that we will see more and more of this because more and more of them are coming forward. The Motion that I see before me simply urges the Department to continue to do what they are now doing. And I have no problem with supporting policy.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Klondike.

**Mr. Berger:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of the Motion, but there's only one particular point that I really think that the Motion does not cover and this is places where natives are in the minority. And I think it's also just as important in those places that the native language would be given an opportunity to be taught in school, if people so wish.

I think that we should actually urge the Department of Education to take a look at the whole school program and see if it's possible to implement a language course



for all the schools where it's needed and where people wish to have it, not only in the majority cases.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, I am in full support of this Motion. I do take some issue with some of the remarks made by the mover of the Motion, in that I do think that the Members of this Assembly have been very willing and eager to help native participation in programs wherever they've had the opportunity to do so.

I think that this Motion in itself simply does not go far enough. I cannot believe that any Department of this government permits discrimination in any way, and I think in support of this Motion, it is merely — it is pointing out, it is reaffirming that there should be no discrimination under any form whatsoever. The instance here being a native language, but the whole principle, I'm sure, is most important.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there any further debate?  
The Honourable Member from Kluane?

**Mrs. Watson:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I think the Members of the House realize that if this Motion is adopted today, it will require amendments to the School Ordinance, because as the School Ordinance is written now, this Motion cannot, by law, be brought into force, and I find it a very difficult task this morning to speak on this Motion, because of the fact of the sensationalism that this whole situation has been blown out of proportion, and the only correct statement, and I say correct statement, that was made by the people who were reporting the meeting, was the fact that there are deep scars in the community. That is the only, the only correct statement that went across the National.

News must be broadcasted, it must be interesting, but you don't make it sensational by implying prejudice, by implying racism. In a sensitive area such as this, you do a little bit of investigative reporting, and I think there's a great deal of discredit today in this House, being heaped upon a democratically elected body, who attempted to resolve a situation.

Unfortunately, we have some professional people, some, who are working for the Department of Education, both at the Regional Superintendent's level, and at the teaching level, who in their zeal to implement this type of thing, destroy what they are trying to do. They fail to follow the procedure defined in legislation. They fail to do the necessary preparation, and I should also, and I'm saying professional people, refer to the professional people who are working in education within the C.Y.I.

There are certain ethics, and there is legislation, and a procedure. The necessary preparation and outline of the course should have been made; the method of introducing it, whether it would be compulsory, whether it would be elective.

This type of thing should have been prepared and submitted to the school committee for their consideration. This was never done, and one of the Honourable Members automatically assumed discrimination and prejudice.

Then the decision to make, when the right to make the decision, based on proper homework was never —

proper homework by the professions, was never given to the elected body.

I'm sure that if the proper procedure such as this would have been embarked upon by the professional people who seem to think they know best, would have been done, the situation would never have evolved, a compromise position could have been accommodated, and a minority group of students would have had the opportunity to get instruction in the Indian language.

But, Mr. Speaker, this was not done. Your Motion today is not going to solve the issue at Hines Junction, or hereafter. Your Motion today puts the decision-making in the hands of the professional people, who feel that they know best.

Unfortunately, a true interpretation of a community's feelings cannot be arrived at, if an individual puts their job on the line. The whole thing has been ridiculous.

I think that the legislation we have now, knowing full well that the professional people do their share of preparation before they embark upon something on an *ad hoc* basis, and thumb their nose at the local elected body and say like it or lump it, I am going to by-pass you and go around to the parents with a petition, is something that we can't disregard either.

I still feel quite strongly that if the various people who are responsible, and who are involved in this procedure at the local level, accept their own responsibilities and approach it in a sensible manner, that this type of Motion is not required, and regardless of what happened last night or is going to happen in the future, because you're not going to prevent it and we're not going to prevent it when we have reporting — the kind of reporting that we have, and some of the professional people that we have, it's going to be repeated again.

But I'm still going to put my money at the local level, and you people here are constantly saying decisions must be allowed at the local level. The Honourable Member who brought the Motion in, decisions to be made at the local level. She is interfering with the Motion, everyone of you is interfering with this Motion, for a decision being made at the local level. They can make that decision. I'm sure they can make a decision that will accommodate everyone, but they don't need professional do-gooders and sensational reporters interfering with the process.

**Mr. Speaker,** I am going to vote nay and ask for division on this Motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Any further debate?

The Honourable Member from Whitehorse Riverdale?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In seconding the Motion, I just want to point out, Mr. Speaker, that I was not reacting to the Haines Junction situation at all, and I can only say that I think it's very unfortunate that it takes a situation of this kind of adverse reaction to make us support a Motion like this, that asks for certain concepts.

I believe the Motion just really reaffirms, as one of the Honourable Members indicated, a policy already in existence, and I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that it's because we have a number of do-gooders here or anything else, I think it's just a very basic concept that has to be realized that we all realize.

There are decisions that will be made at a local level,



that is exactly what the Motion supports, and it's one of a positive one, in my estimation.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Chairman, I think there's been a couple of points raised in this debate up until this time that deserve possibly reiterating. And the first thing that I would like to make a few comments about is the reporting, as I said earlier in Oral Question Period, I think the reporting that was done on the incident in question was complete and utter sensationalism. I had a report this morning from my departmental official who was there and he said that everything that was on the air was taken out of context.

Now, in my view, when we get reporting like that, throughout the Yukon, and I wonder, I ask you this, I ask all Members this, I wonder if what is being said in this House in relation to what is, we are getting for reporting in the Legislature and in the Yukon in totality is going to be reported on the news media at noon hour? I suggest all Members listen. But I think it has been specifically designed to bring out the sensationalism of an incident that can be resolved at the local level. Not Big Brother from Whitehorse, but at the community level, where the people affected will make the decisions.

Apparently at the meeting last night, there was an influx of people from Whitehorse, in the area of twenty or thirty people, apparently, attended that meeting. Now, I ask you, why are people from Whitehorse going out to Haines Junction on a matter like that? It is a local matter, and it should be discussed at the local level and decided at the local level.

Now, I want to point a few things out in relation to the department. The department has a policy of abiding by the wishes of the School Committee in any adaptation to a course offered by the department. And we abide by that when we get the request. You have a school committee that has been duly elected to serve the wishes of the people, and if people want to change their curriculum they can go and see the school committee who subsequently, I believe, in all cases across the Territory are reasonable, hard-working people, who are parents, who have their kids in school.

I disagree with one of the statements that this would mean amendment to the legislation, the School Ordinance, because this department works through the school committees and I am sure the school committees will abide by the majority wishes of the people of that particular community, no matter where it is in the Yukon.

This particular incident, as I said earlier in Oral Question Period, that the situation will be resolved, it will be resolved shortly, at the local level. I am sure it will, I have faith in all parties involved and I am sure that the situation will be resolved.

I'd like to point out that the department does support the concept of studying the history of the Yukon, whether it be Native, whether it be mining, whether it be transportation, to let the children of the Yukon know what the Yukon is all about.

For an example, two years ago this House voted in the area of \$20,000.00 for curriculum development. Consequently, we went into the area referred to as Early Yukon Culture, so it's developed in the Yukon, printed in

the Yukon, and subsequently it was put in the school system. It came to the department's attention that it was being used optionally in some schools. It was being used. In other schools, it wasn't. We made the decision that that particular course, Early Yukon Culture, which is the history of the Yukon prior to the Klondike, should be mandatory.

In this particular case, it went a little bit further; they initiated the concept of Native languages without going through the channel of the school committee. And it's essential that they go through the school committee at the local level. These people have been duly elected. I want to stand here and firmly state that any adaptation to the curriculum in any area will go through the school committee. These people are there representing the people of a particular community and it's affecting our children as well as everyone else's.

So I disagree, Mr. Speaker, that this needs an amendment in the Legislation; it just reaffirms a policy that the department has had for many years, for many years, in the area of five or ten years. And all I can say, and I reiterate once again, that the situation at one of our communities in the Yukon hopefully will be resolved in very short order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there any further debate?

The Honourable Member from Whitehorse North Centre?

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** Mr. Speaker, I will be voting in favour of the motion and I've listened with very great interest to the points made by all Honourable Members and I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that it's contradictory to support this motion and also support the concept of the school committees and the method of the implementation of Native language curriculums in the schools.

I hope my arguments can sway the Honourable Member from Kluane, because I think it would be a very favourable reaction nationally for unanimous support of this motion, and which I think that we all do agree.

I have very great sympathy with the Honourable Member from Kluane when she says that the results of what has happened in her community will leave scars on that community for years to come. I know that it will; I know that there's been a malignment of some very good people in the community that she represents. I know the people involved; I know they're good people, they're intelligent people, they're rational people, and it's just that some bigger umbrella has been unfolded for some reasons that probably the Honourable Member doesn't know of, and I don't know of either, that has come to create such great problems over this issue in her area.

We all know the way the School Ordinance reads. We know that there was a major decision made in policy that we would be introducing a curriculum of Indian culture into the Yukon system, and make it mandatory at all levels in Grade 3 or 4 throughout the Yukon. I think that was a major policy decision to make a mandatory curriculum study of Yukon cultures and it is, as I understand, an enjoyable course and an effective course throughout all of the Yukon schools at a certain grade level.

We had the problem of the, both the professionalism of language teachers and finding people who were willing to teach the native language in different school areas



throughout the Yukon, and it's been a policy of this government and the Department of Education through the Education Ordinance, that this would be a matter more properly decided at the local level, and it's worked wonderfully in those areas, where parents have decided that this should be a part of the curriculum, and I've attended classes in Teslin, in the Tlingit language, where the parents have said to the school committee that we would like, in certain classes, the Tlingit language taught.

There's been a para-professional, if that's the word, from the native community brought into the class, who teaches the Tlingit language.

I think the Honourable Member from Mayo is well aware of the situation in Mayo where exactly the same situation arose, that parents approached the school committee and the school committee added the language to the curriculum in certain areas, and also there it's working effectively, and the Honourable Member from Ogilvie certainly knows that this is the situation in the Old Crow school.

So it's obvious that something got out of hand in the Haines Junction area, and I happen to be in agreement that if the school committee had not been by-passed, and if the proper procedures had been used, then there would have been a fair and a rational solution, through the local people, to this problem, the same way that problems are handled in the municipalities and in the Local Improvement Districts, if people like Big Brother Government from Ottawa and other sources just keep their cotton-pickin' fingers out of the situation.

I think we all know, case and case over and over, where this has happened, and you only have to go to the problem of the dissolution of the Carmacks L.I.D., to the formation of the Ross River L.I.D., and these situations, where local people just plead with you, go home, all of you, just let us solve our problems, which we can do and all you're doing is just causing emotionalism and sensationalism which is going to leave our community divided and scarred for years to come.

Fortunately, that confrontative method of politics has been used to the detriment of all of us in the Yukon in the last little while, and I can only hear from the Honourable Member from Kluane and from other people that I know from that area, saying how the community over the last ten years has just been divided, and divided because it seems that other people want to use these communities for their political advantages, and I don't agree with that type of situation.

So I think that reaffirming the concept of the legislation and the school committees, of the concept of teaching native languages with this motion, does nothing to take away from the workings of the school committees at the present time, and I believe that the school committees are the ones who know the local issues, and I believe that the parents will put the pressures on the school committees if they want something done that the majority of the parents agree with in the community, and if the school committee doesn't agree with the majority of the parents and duly elected members, and that the same applies when their term of office is over, the feeling of the majority of parents will result in a change of the school committee at the next election, the same way that each one of us will be replaced if we don't do the work for our constituents while we are in this office.

So I have no problem at all in supporting the motion as

it stands, and also giving a vote of support to the school committees, who do an onerous job with very little reward, and in all instances that I am aware of do a very good job on behalf of the people who have elected them in the local communities, and I find no contradiction at all in supporting this motion and at the same time lending my support to school committees in all the areas of the Yukon, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Any further debate?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to move an amendment to the Motion and I also would like to have an opportunity to prepare the amendment, and my reasons for not supporting the motion as it is is the fact that this motion, again, with the School Ordinance written the way it is, could cause problems and if the motion had an amendment in there, which would also reaffirm the whole of the school committee, I think it would be quite clear on what we support. I would like that opportunity, Mr. Chairman, so that I would be able to support the motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Honourable Member has an amendment to propose at this time, the Chair would receive the amendment, but I don't believe that it would be proper for me to call a recess at this time to provide for ...

Is there any further debate?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, a point of privilege: surely you could call a few minutes recess so that the amendment could be prepared. Is it not important enough?

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Member has not as yet an amendment to present to the House, it is not the Chair's intention to call a recess at this time.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I had the motion given to me now. How could I prepare an amendment? Mr. Speaker, don't forget we waived Standing Orders so that we could debate the Motion. It's not that there was Notice of Motion given.

**Mr. Speaker:** The request that the Honourable Member has made is not keeping with our procedures at this time. If the Honourable Member has an amendment to present at this time, then the amendment ...

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, I would then move that we adjourn this debate.

**Mr. Speaker:** That motion would be quite in order. Are you prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Chairman, when you adjourn the debate, does that mean the whole issue dies, or ...

**Mr. Speaker:** No, it means that the matter will be taken up again on, perhaps, another sitting day. Is there a seconder? Then the motion is denied.

*(Motion denied)*



**Mr. Speaker:** Is there any further debate on the motion by the Honourable Member from Ogilvie?

It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Ogilvie, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse Riverdale, that this House supports the concept of teaching Native languages in our schools when a majority of the parents of the children to be taught have given consent to the program, and that this House urges the Department of Education to implement and support such a program in all communities wishing it, immediately.

Are you prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall declare that the motion is carried.

*(Motion carried)*

**Mr. Speaker:** This brings us to the end of motions. Inasmuch as there are no Bills, may I have your pleasure at this time?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of privilege, I would like ...

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

**Mrs. Watson:** ... my disagreement with that vote recorded.

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

**Mrs. Watson:** Point of privilege, Mr. Chairman. I was denied a right to bring an amendment ...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.  
The Honourable Member from Pelly River.

**Mr. McCall:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would move that Mr. Speaker leave the Chair and the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. Fleming:** I second that.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Pelly River, seconded by the Honourable Member from Hootalinqua, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Are you prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall declare that the motion is carried.

*(Motion carried)*

*(Mr. Speaker leaves Chair)*

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Mr. Chairman:** I now call this Committee to order and declare a brief recess.

*(Recess)*

**Mr. Chairman:** I now call this Committee to order. We will proceed with debate on Vote 5. At 5:00 o'clock yesterday, we were still in consideration of Establishment 500.

Mr. Lang?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Chairman, I don't know what the wish of Committee is, but I was wondering if we could possibly discuss the concept of the Yukon Teacher Training program, so that we can decide whether or not we want professional expertise here as witness, because his time frame is 'til the 18th when he is available and after that will not be available 'til after the 25th, unless you think that we could discuss it after the 25th of March.

**Mr. Chairman:** What you really want is whether he should appear

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** That's right.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is it Committee's wish that this man should appear?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, are we agreeing to the witness, or are we agreeing to discuss the teacher training program?

**Mr. Chairman:** No, we are agreeing to the witness appearing.

**Ms. Millard:** The witness, I agree.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, on what date?

**Mr. Chairman:** Well, it will be before the 18th, I presume. It has to be negotiated, that's why he needs the decision now. If Committee is in agreement.

Good, okay.

Establishment 500. Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I have some additional information this morning referring to the control of communicable diseases which we were discussing under 500, with the assistance of the Regional Director of the Federal Health Services, I have been informed that previously under this program of communicable disease control, which is primarily V.D. control in the Yukon, the unit in Edmonton directed this program for Yukon, working through the public health nurses.

In 1976-77, the unit had one position in Whitehorse. If



now has two, as I explained yesterday. The estimates for 1977-78 allows for both those positions.

I've also been provided with some statistics on the number of cases hospitalized with tuberculosis, but I believe it was the wish of members to know where they came from and I do not have that information. There were three new cases hospitalized with TB in 1976 and those are white status patients. I will be receiving information regarding the status Indian patients separately.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member wasn't able to answer the question I asked yesterday regarding whether the program of education in VD was being carried out, particularly in our secondary school, junior secondary school, in the Yukon. I'm rather interested in that, I think this is one place where this type of education should begin. I would like to know whether, in fact, this is being done or are they planning on doing it.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I undertook to bring in that information.

**Mr. Chairman:** We will be returning to it when the information is available.

**Mrs. Watson:** Oh, you will bring it in. I thought you were saying you brought it in now and it's before us.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman? I am bringing you additional information on other points. I have not got the information that the Honourable Member requested. I don't know whether it's necessary to hold up this vote for that type of educational reply.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is there further debate on Establishment 500?  
Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to know if we've spent any money on the Swine Flu program?

**Mr. Chairman:** I think you asked for that information yesterday.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** No, I don't have it today, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Could the information be brought to us?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I made that commitment yesterday.

Mr. Chairman, once again --

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** -- I point out that this information is not in our, under our aegis. We must go to another government to find out this information when these questions are asked, and I do not have that answer this

morning.

**Mr. Chairman:** Establishment 501, Mental Health, \$292,100.00.

Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** In our supplementary considerations, I mentioned the increase in the daily costs charged to this government for patients committed to care in mental institutions, and that is one of the main reasons for the increase in this year's Estimates.

The daily rate, for example, in one place has gone from 43 to \$56.00. Also, I am pleased to be able to tell the Honourable Members that we have every hope that the position of Community Mental Health Nurse will be filled with the implementation of this new financial year. The man year, or woman year, or whatever you want to call it, is on the other side, on the federal side, because it is still their staff, but I might say that it was at the urging of this government that that position is being activated, and we will be paying our share of the costs.

This I think, is a very encouraging move because it means that we will be able to assist patients who have mental health problems outside of hospital care and psychiatric interviews here in Whitehorse only, and the position is actually that of a psychiatric nurse, who will be able to do, I am certainly hoping, quite a bit of home visiting

**Mr. Chairman:** Very commendable move.

Mrs. Whyard, does this Mental Health Establishment include the costs of the care of the mentally ill patients in our hospitals here in the Territory?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, my information would be to say yes, I need some backup on that.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, it's my understanding that this is only to pay the charges for those Yukon people who are in hospitals outside of the Territory.

**Mr. Chairman:** I realize, Mrs. Whyard, that this is not under your jurisdiction.

Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:**

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I believe that it's under the Criminal Code, where there's a requirement for a reassessment on a yearly basis for patients who have been committed to mental institutions. Is this being done now by the territorial government?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, and this government avails itself of the expertise on a review board in the Province of Alberta where our patients are there, and elsewhere, rather than establish an in-isolation up here, a professional board to sit on this. It has worked very competently up until now and we appreciate being allowed to use those services.



**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister if it is ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** ...a yearly basis that the assessment is done, or is it two or three years?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'm under the impression that it's an annual requirement.

**Mr. Chairman:** Clear?

502. General Health Services, \$686,800.00. I refer you to the Appendix, Page 14 and 15.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I have endeavoured to obtain some additional information from the federal side regarding the changes upwards or downwards in our share of costs in the various health centres. And if it's of interest to Members, I could go quickly down this list and give you that information.

**Mr. Chairman:** Please do, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, under Dawson Health Centre, let me say in preface, Mr. Chairman, that the changes, if they are within 10 per cent of the amount of the Estimates last year, would be considered reasonably acceptable in the rising costs of everything involved in operating such a health centre.

I have only queried those which seem to be above or below the norm, but if there are any other questions, I would endeavour to find out what the answers are.

The first one that seems an obvious question was the reduction in cost for the Dawson Health Centre to 10,000, from 17.5, and the information I have obtained on that question is that the forecast for 1976-77 were prepared on the basis that the equivalent of one full man year would be spent on the cost-shared public health program.

It was found that during 1976-77, the nurses in Dawson were able to cover the public health work, while in fact, spending only the equivalent of one half man year on it. The forecast for '77-78 have been adjusted downwards, to provide for one-half man year in the year '77-78 also.

However, it should also be pointed out that while that explains the actual dollar decrease in the Estimates, that is a financial management decision, and it does not affect the policy and intention of the Yukon region management of the federal department, to eliminate or decrease in any way the public health effort in Dawson, and we are assured that they will use up to one man year, if it is required in that public health area.

At the Watson Lake Health Centre, where there is a reduction of — a small reduction from 10 to 9.8 thousand, for our share, the explanation there is that the costs for '76-77 were forecast to be high, because it was known that that year would be a year in which the health centre would move into the new hospital, and there would be higher than usual costs for purchasing new minor equipment, and for bringing stocks of supplies, which had been allowed to run down, up to normal levels.

But the forecast for this year, '77-78 are back to the normal yearly requirements.

At the Teslin station, which goes from 21.3 in '76-77 up to 30, which is an increase of 9.5, the explanation is that in '76-77, relatively little part-time clerical assistance was required by the public health nurse in charge, but in '77-78, allowance is being made for the standard 10 hours a week of clerical assistance, and allowances made to hire a community health representative on a part time basis, and that accounts for the increase there.

At Faro, which is down slightly the expenditures for '76-77 were forecast at a relatively high level, and in practice, it was found that the expenditures were somewhat less than estimated, therefore, the forecast for this subsequent year has been adjusted slightly downwards.

At Destruction Bay Health Centre, which has gone from 17.3 to 24.1, as our share of the costs there, in 1976-77, the public health nurse had only basic registered nurse qualifications. The public health nurse subsequently took subsidized training and qualified for a higher classification with a higher pay rate. The forecast for '77-78 allow for the recruitment of a Community Health representative for Destruction Bay and Burwash. The salaries of this part time employment is included under the Burwash item here.

I think that is the information that is detailed for those particular areas. Across the board, there is an overall allowance for 10 hours per week of housekeeping services and 10 hours per week of secretarial. Some centres have not been using that much. Some have been using more and there has now been a policy implemented of using that much at each station, to make it acceptable, I suppose, for the financial management. It's a simpler matter that way.

**Mr. Berger:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister that since the three nurses in Dawson actually do the public health nurse duties in rotation, and I note that they have been, the position has been reduced to half a man year, does this also mean that the nurses in Dawson will now be considered two and a half instead of three nurses in the situation where they need five nurses, not two and a half. Will that half man year be placed into the general duty of the nurses?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I must make it clear that these are not my staff and I'm not in charge of their working conditions. But it is my understanding that one of the nurses in the Dawson hospital has the responsibility of carrying out public health nurse duties. Whether it's always the same one or one of the three rotating.

As I've just explained, in the past year we've found that there was not a full time nurse requirement for public health duties. They used about half of one job on public health, but it was also explained that if more time



is required for public health, it will be paid for.

I think that the — it's a matter of assigning the cost to the program, rather than the individual. There's public health work to be done there and it is broken down as public health, although they use a portion of the hospital to operate from, when doing their community public health. It varies from one place to another. They use one room, a section of the office space in the Mayo Hospital to operate from as a public health nurse, but in other areas, they're in a public health centre. It's a matter of charging back the costs of the public health program, I think, Mr. Chairman, not really a nurse getting paid to do this or that.

**Ms. Millard:** So, Mr. Chairman, we have the assurance that a half a man year is not lost in this Vote.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, it seems pretty clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have just about the same question that the Honourable Member from Ogilvie. And I'm still not clear about it because I'm still afraid that we're going to be cut back in health services in Dawson.

Just going strictly on money speaking, you take the smaller communities like Destruction Bay and Mayo and everything like this, has way more money on hand than Dawson City has. And I cannot see the logic of this, once you haven't got the money, you haven't got the money, that's it. I'm afraid that there's either going to be a reduction in staff there or it's going to be a reduction of service. Either one is no good.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, could I just read into the record again, my undertaking from the regional, I have to find his proper title, I'm sorry, Regional Director of the Yukon Region of the federal department of Health, who has said, it is not the intention of Yukon Region management to hold down the public health effort to one half man year in Dawson City. We will use up to one man year, as required. And it seems pretty clear, Mr. Chairman, that they're not going to cut back on the public health services.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard, this Manpower summary, I think must be deceptive. I realize again, it's not your Department, but this certainly is not all the federal employees in the Department of Health, that are employed in the Yukon at the present time. This lists 37 people.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I was replying to a question regarding Dawson City.

**Mr. Chairman:** I am bringing up the whole thing. We were talking about Manpower, and this is a Manpower summary that we're presented with here. It has 37 people, and I think probably there's closer to 250 federal government employees in the Department of

Health here now.

This seems to me a little deceptive. Even the Director is not even listed here.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'm afraid I'm completely confused. What do you mean, we're discussing the whole manpower -

**Mr. Chairman:** We're discussing Establishment 502.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, we're discussing 502, which is General Health Services, and it covers health centres, health stations, the dental program, mental health program, environmental health, health education, special and chronic programs, and these are all items which are cost-shared by this government with the Federal Department, and it does not include many other areas, which account for the majority of manpower in that Department.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Fleming?

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. I just notice that there's not a substantial change in the Carcross Health Services, and I'm wondering if, for '77 and for '78, and I'm just wondering if they - if they are contemplating having a full time nurse over there within the next year or two.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't visualize any full time increase there because they haven't budgeted for it.

As the Honourable Member knows, there is an alternation from Teslin to Carcross by the public health staff.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think I - I don't very often stand up and request specifically something for my area specifically, but I think in this regard, I think I can feel quite free to do so.

I think we have a fairly good argument in that area. We have a health nurse, a health centre and a health nurse at Haines Junction, and one at Destruction Bay, but the area that's being covered is quite extensive, and when I think of our health nurse, at the health centre at Haines Junction, who travels from the B.C. border south, right almost into Whitehorse, and the community of Haines Junction itself is growing, and I look at hospitals and staffing of three, four nurses in other centres, plus doctors, I realize how challenging or almost over-worked the nurse is at the centre, if one wants to be conscientious and carry out all the requirements of the functions of the position, she's on the go often 24 hours a day.

They are the only medical people in the area, and they also are required in case of accidents, and until very recently, nurses accompanied ambulance cases into Whitehorse. I don't think they do on a routine basis at the present time, but if it's a serious accident, they do.

There's a great deal of travel, and I would certainly request that in the case of Haines Junction, that some provision be made for some assistance, further assis-



tance, for the health nurse at the health centre, and I would also, I am very pleased to hear that they have - or you are proposing to put a health representative in the community of Burwash to work with the health nurse at Destruction Bay. But there always has been a big void at our most northern community at Beaver Creek, where we have the customs, and during the summer we have an awful lot of accidents.

The people at Beaver Creek, if they're evacuated for medical attention, because the nurse is stationed at Destruction Bay but covers Beaver Creek, 300 miles is a long distance for evacuation, and when there's no medical attention, the place where you leave, it makes quite a problem. And I would have hoped that Northern Health Services looked at the possibility of increased activity at Beaver Creek, because of the going ahead with the paving of the Alaska Highway.

I would have hoped they would at least have considered putting someone in there on a full time basis during the summer months.

Now, it could be possible that maybe we should be looking at utilizing or bringing in a program of para-professionals, because fortunately they have a para-professional living at Beaver Creek, but because of the restrictions in what the lay dispensers can do, there are limitations to what this person is able to do medically, yet they're capable and trained.

So it becomes a very frustrating situation, that for years this community has been asking for more specific medical attention or medical assistance, based at the community and we never have sort of faced the situation. And I would hope that our government recommends to Northern Health Services that they look at the health coverage that is given in that whole area, because the population may be relatively small, anybody who is working there has so much travelling to do, and in some of the areas, there's a great deal of public health work that needs to be done.

So, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister has any forecasts beyond long term forecasts from Northern Health Services in regards to this area.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, no, I'm afraid I don't have any information on the long range forecasts on the federal side. I would hope that, perhaps that one of the reasons for that is that there won't be any more and that there will be long range forecasts coming from the Territorial side very soon, but, I have every sympathy for the amount of work involved at the Junction and the large area that one person is responsible for, with no spell-off, actually you're on 24 hour duty.

I wonder if the Honourable Member or the community people responsible have ever made any attempt, perhaps to attract a medical practitioner to that area to establish a practice, to be there when the population burgeons forth as we all expect it will when the new national park opens. I would think it would be a very attractive area for a medical practitioner, but it is not this department's responsibility to induce doctors to come and practice in the Yukon. It's up to the communities who want them to do that. That's one suggestion.

The other suggestion made by the Honourable Member that there should be additional staffing there, I

would be happy to pass on to the Regional Director. And I also agree that summertime at Beaver Creek, in my opinion, justifies a full time public health worker.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard.

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to be on record as stating that I'm still very concerned about the situation in the Father Judge Memorial Nursing Station with simply three nurses covering a lot of overtime work each week. They cover 24 hours a day on call and their compensation is, as I understand it, \$50.00 a month and one and half days extra holiday a month, which is really, insignificant compared to the amount of time and energy that they put in.

I'd like to state that I have written to the Department of Labour on this, complaining, because the Department of Labour, of course, is responsible for federal employees. However, I've heard from them and they've said that public servants do not come under the Labour Code, which seems to me, really, rather ludicrous. I'm hoping that, once the Territory takes over the health services, that they will come under our Labour Standards Ordinance, and that this kind of slave labour in the Father Judge Memorial Hospital, will not be tolerated.

However, I still want some assurance that this half a man year is not lost. Also I would like to know whether the Minister has any statistics which proves to us that Dawson only warrants a half a man year in public health. Up to this point, I feel they've been overworked in Public Health, and I don't know how the three nurses in Dawson can cover a full public health program anyway, simply because there's only three of them, and to reduce that time that they're allowed to work in Public Health to a half time, really seems to me is not getting the public Health services out into that community of 800 people.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not competent to answer all the questions the Honourable Member has raised. My first observation would be that I don't think the nurses would care to be called slave labourers. They do have a professional association which negotiates a contract for them and that is the procedure through which they should be working if the conditions are not satisfactory, I would think. That's one of the things that a professional association is supposed to do for them, to take up the cudgels on their behalf, if working conditions are not acceptable.

As far as the general question of staffing at the Father Judge Hospital goes, as I've said in this House before, we have approached the Federal Department, urging that that hospital be completely staffed, and our requests have not been accepted nor filled.

It seems to me it's a situation of the chicken and the egg. The reason that more cases are not accepted at that hospital is that there are not sufficient nurses to staff the place 24 hours a day, if there is active nursing care required, and because they're not accepting those cases, then there are statistics at the end of the year show that there are not enough cases there to justify more nursing staff, and how do you break that barrier, Mr. Chairman, I don't know. I've tried.



But I hate to keep saying that if we were running the place it would be run better, but that is my hope, that it would be, and that if this Department were in control of that particular institution, we have a number of adjustments and adaptations we would like to implement, and the Honourable Member is aware of some of them.

At this point, Mr. Chairman, I cannot make changes in the staffing in that hospital.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Fleming?

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

I would hope in the area of Teslin and Carcross, that in next year's budget, at least, I would hope to see a substantial rise in the Carcross health station, because it has been somewhat of a problem in the last few years, and if the Skagway Highway is once completed, and possibly some pipeline activity becomes evident in the country, that the Teslin health nurse would no longer be able to have the time to go to Carcross and involve herself there.

You will notice the R.C.M.P. for one department, has already put a station there for this very reason, and I would hope that the Territorial Government, or the Federal Government, whoever is in charge of the program next year, really look into the situation and hopefully we'll get a nurse there.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I would certainly suggest that the Honourable Member undertake to approach the Federal Department, and point out that an increase of activity must be expected with the completion of that Skagway Road, and ask the Department if they are planning to add to the staff in the area, which I'm sure they must be.

There are bound to be highway accidents and traffic, which will require assistance, if not of a medical practitioner, at least of someone full time in Carcross in the nursing centre, the health station, so I would think he'd have a very sound case.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, further on Establishment 502, under Environmental, the Environmental section, I wonder if we could have some expansion on what that includes?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I was going to go down these topics in order, but if you wish to jump to Environmental Health?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** I have another question before we go on to that, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is it concerning the health stations, Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, it concerns a health station. What - it's very difficult for me to phrase it, but do have a para-professional person stationed at Beaver Creek, as a Customs officer. What things can he

do, can he perform the same functions as a health nurse in the community?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I can't answer that question. I would have to go and get his terms of reference and bring them back to the House. I will try to do that.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I realize that this again is an area between health nurse and Medical Professions Ordinance, I believe, but I think that maybe this is the type of thing we should be looking into in the north, utilizing para-professional people. Apparently he is trained, in the United States, and has the certification as a para-professional to perform certain medical functions, but under our laws is not able to perform these functions, and finds it very frustrating and very difficult, when there is no one else, medical person in the community, at the time of an emergency or at the time of an accident.

I think that, you know, it puts the individual in an extremely difficult position, when he is asked to do things because it is an emergency, and because of the laws which exist in the Territory, professionally he can't do them.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I didn't realize there was any American background involved here. My understanding was that the individual had been trained and had been operating as a para-professional in Toronto, under the Ontario jurisdiction, and he may well have had American as well, and I realize that he has certainly exceptional qualifications which you don't find in the average citizen in small communities throughout the Yukon. Mr. Chairman, as I said before, I will have to bring back his terms of reference, I can't speak to that point.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether there, whether the Honourable Member agrees that there may be some room for a role of a para-professional in the Yukon? Whether some work would be undertaken by the National Health people, or by the Government of the Territory to see whether it would be advisable, feasible and to our advantage to try to go into the role of medical para-professionals in the Yukon?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, are you going to rise to the bait?

**Mr. Chairman:** No, I'm not.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I know that there are a number of opinions on this subject and I am not qualified to state any of them at this moment. I would certainly think the Yukon Medical Association would have some input into such a discussion.

I would like to remind all members that many years



ago our problem was that we were making do with people who had any little bit of medical or nursing background in most of our small communities and we have advanced from that to the point where we have professional people wherever we can place them in a nursing centre or station. And I really think it's a most intriguing suggestion, but there would have to be an awful lot of decisions made about what their qualifications would be and how far they could go and the Honourable Member is well aware of all those.

I really don't know whether we've got to the point where we can jump into the emergency squad television type of service at Beaver Creek and/or Haines Junction. It would be fun. We also would need that beautiful nurse back at head office, answering the phone and taking all the vital signs. I would hope seriously, Mr. Chairman, that we can continue to provide fully trained professional staff gradually to all these places and make sure that the highest standard of health care is available everywhere, no matter how small the population may be.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Well, Mr. Chairman, it's just that I am not familiar with the qualifications of para-professional people versus professional people. I just wondered whether an assessment had been made of the situation, because I believe that the Yukon and Canada took some leadership in the role of the dental therapist or the North did, and it's been followed in other jurisdictions. I don't know whether it's just as clear cut and dried with dental therapists as it would be with medical para-professionals, but it was just a thought that I had.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, as the next item, do you wish to move on to dental health program?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, if you would like to, Mrs. Whyard.

Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions to ask in relation to the health centres, but perhaps in light of the time, will it be possible to discuss this after lunch?

**Mr. Chairman:** Very well, Committee will recess until 1:30.

recess)

**Mr. Chairman:** I now call this Committee to order. We will continue with the debate of Establishment 502.

Mr. Taylor. I'm sorry, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, earlier today I gave partial response to a question regarding a number of hospitalized T.B. patients in the Yukon and I can give the rest of it now, if Committee would like to finish that off.

**Mr. Chairman:** Proceed, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** The information I have been given is ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Unfortunately, the Members who inquired are not here.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** How very unfortunate.

**Mr. Chairman:** Carry on.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** What does Mr. Chairman wish me to do?

**Mr. Chairman:** I wish you to carry on; it's their responsibility to be here if they want the information.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Unfortunately, this is broken down to white and status Indian, which I object to once again, but that is the way these figures come. And if I may read three years, '74, '75, '76, the figures go as follows: The white tubercular patients in '74 were four, the following year three, '76 three. Status Indians hospitalized with tuberculosis in '74 numbered four patients, in '75 seven patients, in '76 eight patients. For a total, Mr. Chairman, of eleven patients in '76.

I am unable to provide the Members with the areas from which these patients come. It has been discussed with the Regional Director, and I quite agree with him, that in such small numbers we are actually identifying patients personally and I do not think that we could divulge that information.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard, are these new cases that are hospitalized, you are referring to new cases at any one time. I think you probably are referring to new cases.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I hope so. I think so.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think probably, yes.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, before we leave the item on health centres and health stations and so forth, I am wondering if perhaps the Honourable Minister can tell me if she knows, or if she could learn from the people that operate these facilities, to which we pay a substantial amount of money in respect of, as to whether in the case of Mayo Hospital, Dawson Hospital and Faro Hospital it will be the intention of the Health Department to insist that medical practitioners practising in these hospitals will have to sign the same equivalent type forms as in the case of Whitehorse and Watson Lake?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I would cer-



tainly expect so.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, if I might say that it is not the case, and has never been the case up to this point in time, and it would appear, as the Watson Lake Nursing Station has been singled out for this particular policy, where it is not being applied anywhere else in the Territory, and it would seem to me that it would be only fair that the — you know, the program outside of Whitehorse, of course, that the program be extended to these other nursing stations.

**Mr. Chairman:** You're referring to a hospital admitting privileges, not a nursing station, Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, that is the point I was going to bring to the Honourable Member's attention; it is the Watson Lake Cottage Hospital, and the Honourable Member should certainly know that; it should be written on his heart.

He stood on the floor of these Chambers for many years imploring the government to give them a hospital at Watson Lake, and did it very well. He was most eloquent on the subject, and if he had been present at the formal opening of the Watson Lake Cottage Hospital last year, which unfortunately he wasn't, he would have heard me praising his efforts on behalf of his constituency to obtain the full-fledged medical services provided in a hospital. That is one point I wish to make, Mr. Chairman.

The other is that there should be such requirements of any practitioners using any hospital facilities and I would hope that the sooner these are applied, the better.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would beg to differ. This could be a play on semantics, but we certainly do not have a hospital in Watson Lake. It may be termed as such by the government, of either the Territory or of Canada, to be such but I would point out to the Honourable Minister that it does not have the facilities of a hospital. It is in fact a one point two or one point three or one point four million dollar first aid post, but I think we properly refer to it as a nursing station because it does provide residence for nurses and facilities that surround nursing.

I would point out to the Honourable Member that it does not, in fact, for instance have blood in storage as hospitals do. It doesn't have x-ray equipment for instance, to x-ray certain types of injuries such as back injuries. It does not have lab facilities. It is in fact not a hospital. It's a nursing station being called a hospital.

I'm not speaking in any disgratitude to government for having built the facility; it's my hope to continue to stand in this House as I have for many, many years to press and pry and do everything I can within reasonable limits to improve the facilities in Watson Lake. And perhaps, in other areas of the Territory, where it can be shown that the need arises.

But I am concerned -- Mr. Chairman, I am concerned in debating this particular matter, that there are other nursing stations or hospitals, whatever they want to call them, that provide the same services throughout the Territory, particularly, specifically Mayo, Dawson and Faro, and I'm concerned that the same rules of operation of these important functions should apply to those three communities or those three facilities as they do in Watson Lake.

I further, Mr. Chairman, would like to know from the Honourable Minister if it is the intention to retain in Watson Lake contract doctors at that facility, or is it indeed the intention to drop the contract doctor concept and make the head nurse a para-medical in these facilities?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, first may I ask the Honourable Member if he would care to present to me what his criteria are for defining a hospital, as opposed to a nursing station?

I would like very much to compare his point of view with that of the Federal Department which provides these facilities, and see if we have any common ground at all.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, regarding the matter of contract doctors, as the Honourable Member has referred to them, these are qualified medical practitioners in the employ of the Federal Department of Health, who are assigned to specific areas in the north, where medical practitioners are not normally available, and they are there to protect the health requirements of the citizens of the area.

I have no comments to make on how many there will be, or how long they will serve, or where they will serve, because they are not in my employ.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the Honourable Member could get that information for me, because it is a matter of concern, certainly in the community I represent, and if it is to function, you know, in the best interests of the community, I think we're entitled to know whether or not a nurse, who has been trained as some sort of para-medical, is going to run these facilities or if it's the intention to maintain doctors at this facility, or just what their intentions are.

I cite for instance, I know one night there were as many as four doctors in Watson Lake; when the two northern health doctors could not cope with the problem, they called upon a third from Whitehorse to fly down with blood, and expertise, to aid the two that were there in the nursing station at the time — just in one instance.

We're just wondering now if it's the intention, or just what the intentions are of the Health Department, and I think I properly and reasonably and rationally ask these questions at this particular point in our budget, and obviously the Honourable Minister will have to get this information from perhaps the Federal Government but I would be -- and I'm sure the other Members, or some of



the other Members, would be interested in knowing what the answers to these questions are.

**Mr. Chairman:** For clarification, Mr. Taylor, you — one moment you say “use” and the other moment you say “run” the facilities. Which do you mean?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** That might have slipped by me, Mr. Chairman. When I’m talking about running the facility, that would lead to my next question. But I’m talking about — apparently these facilities are run by a Board which has just been established in Watson Lake, or a short time ago was established in Watson Lake, of doctors. And I’m wondering if it’s the intention of the Federal Government to maintain doctors, contract doctors, in this facility or is it their intention to turn the whole thing over to a nurse?

**Mr. Chairman:** That begs the question, Mr. Taylor. Are these contract doctors practising medicine or are they running a hospital? Which are you after?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, Mr. Chairman, it’s not too clear. And if it was clear to me, I may not be asking the questions, Mr. Chairman. These doctors, apparently, we are told — and I have a two-hour tape recording if anybody wishes to transcribe it which deals with this question — but at the end of this two-hour meeting with principals of the Northern Health people, that is Dr. Dimitroff and a Mr. Avison, we’re still left in the blue as to who runs the hospital and who doesn’t run it. But we kind of were left with the conclusion that a Board, consisting of doctors, run the hospital and that a nurse administrates it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I would like to assist in clarification of this subject. There is no doubt at all in my mind or anyone else’s that that hospital is a federal facility operated by a federal department. There are bodies called Hospital Advisory Boards, and I understand from the Regional Director that they are now in the process of formulating such a Board in Watson Lake, of citizens, but they are an Advisory Board to the Administrator and/or staff of the hospital. They are not running the hospital and they are not in charge of the hospital any more than the Whitehorse Hospital Board was when it was active as an Advisory Board, any more than any hospital board is.

And as for a Board of doctors operating the hospital, I have never heard of any such body having such authority. If the Honourable Member is referring to the fact that a practitioner coming into any area is and/or will be required to abide by the bylaws of a hospital prior to being given practice, the privilege of using that facility, that’s another body entirely and has nothing to do with being a hospital advisory board.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, then the information we received from the gentleman from Northern Health would then, perhaps, not be accurate, because they informed us that it was in fact these people who wrote the bylaws and in other words they obviously

influence the administration of the hospital; but if this be incorrect, perhaps we’ll get the tape and I will attempt to get a transcript.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, with respect ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** ... the Minister never said any such thing and you have been implying that a group of doctors were charged with the authority of operating a hospital. If I am misunderstanding that statement, I would like some clarification. You may certainly have been told that doctors do up the bylaws for that hospital, and of course they do because it’s medical people who have to be consulted on such bylaws, it’s medical people who are going to be required to be bound by them.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, this is indeed what we were told, was that this was the case. There are, I believe, two dentists presently on this Board from Whitehorse and more than one or more doctors. Dr. Dimitroff is one; perhaps he could enlighten the Honourable Member as to what he stated at this public meeting in Watson Lake in attempting to explain the situation I am still trying to clarify.

My second question, anyway, in relation to the administration of the hospital, would be: is it the intention of the government, and perhaps the Honourable Member cannot give me this information right now without talking with Northern Health, but is it their intention to appoint an administrator to run the facility in Watson Lake, or is it the intention to allow the nurse to run the facility in Watson Lake, the Head Nurse?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, surely this must have been one of the questions addressed in a reasonable manner by the Honourable Member when he met with the Regional Director. Could he tell us what answer he received?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, I can respond to that by saying no, there was no answer given, no response given from Northern Health at that meeting.

There was a resolution of the community at that meeting, which insisted that an administrator be appointed, but there was no response.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Can I ask a question of the Minister or possibly Mr. Chairman might even be able to answer this one. Does it make a difference, does it accredit a hospital any better if it’s run by an administrator, or if it’s operated by a hospital board?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Any difference to who?

**Mr. Lengerke:** To the function of a hospital, the class



of a hospital.

We have hospitals that are administered by an administrator, we have hospitals that are operated under the jurisdiction of a hospital board. What I'm asking here, is you know, does it make any difference to the quality of those facilities?

**Mr. Chairman:** The usual practice in running a hospital is that it is run by an administrator or a group of administrators, who may or may not be M.D.'s.

They usually have advisory boards attached to them, but they, as the Minister has pointed out, function in an advisory capacity. The owner of the hospital is running the hospital, as in Whitehorse, as in Watson Lake, the owner of the hospital is the Federal Government, they own it they run it.

**Mr. Lengerke:** Supplementary, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Do hospitals in the Yukon receive accreditation, as I understand they do in all parts of Canada? Have we got an accredited hospital in Whitehorse?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, we certainly do.

**Mr. Lengerke:** Would that also then be the case with Watson Lake?

**Mr. Chairman:** It would not be accredited at this stage, and I don't know whether a hospital of that size, if there is accreditation on that basis, I really don't know. I have never heard of it on that basis.

It's not that easy to acquire accreditation.

**Mr. Lengerke:** No, I realize that.

**Mr. Chairman:** There are several major hospitals, even teaching hospitals, that have lost their accreditation in the past.

I'm still not clear, as far as the direction that the -- Mr. Taylor, what you're asking for, whether you're asking about the administration of a hospital. The two issues seem to be clouded. You talk about four doctors. Those four doctors, I would presume were there to practice medicine, to take care of the medical needs of the community, nothing to do with the administration of the hospital. Which are you after?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, perhaps it may be somewhat confusing, Mr. Chairman, but we have gone through a very interesting experience in both the practice and administration of the hospital, and perhaps the two have a tendency to intertwine.

What I'm trying to get at first is that, you know, will medical practitioners in other hospitals, and I specifically referred to Faro, Dawson and Mayo, that was my first question, will they be required, in those hospitals, any medical practitioner or person practicing there, be required to become members of the staff of that hospital?

That was my first question, and this is what we'll have to find an answer for, and will they be required to sign the same forms as is the case with the Watson Lake

Hospital?

My second question related to the authority:

Who in fact is in charge in these nursing stations or hospitals? If it's a hospital, obviously a doctor ought to take precedence over a nurse, but in fact, obviously there should be an administrator. If it's a nursing station, a nurse is in charge, and as I say, it becomes very confusing, and it becomes very, very confusing, and I would like to know what the situation -- what it's intended to be in Watson Lake.

There are lots of rumours on the subject. Will there be an administrator appointed to run, if it is a hospital, the hospital? Is it to remain in a nursing station status where a nurse would run the hospital? These are questions I would like answers to.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard:.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member keeps referring to the hospital at Faro, and, with respect, I must remind him that it is the Faro Nursing Station.

The Watson Lake Cottage Hospital has had a chief nurse with special training and courses in administration, hospital administration, acting in the position of administrator. And I would think in the interests of economics and practical common sense, you would not append a position of administrator in a hospital with such a small staff, where you had a trained person competent to undertake those duties.

Before the Honourable Member gets carried any further away, I would like to point out that the largest hospital in the Yukon Territory, the Whitehorse General Hospital, had for some months in the past year, an administrator who was also the head of the nursing department in the Whitehorse General Hospital, and who performed most competently in the absence of, and in the vacancy of, the position of administrator, which took some time to fill. It doesn't matter. As long as the person is competent, and has had the proper training I am sure that they are going to be doing the job where it needs to be done.

I would certainly not expect the federal department to appoint an administrator for Faro, where there is a competent nurse in charge. And being a competent nurse in charge means that you are on top of many administrative duties. I cannot tell the Honourable Member at what stage a hospital gets so big that it requires a full time administrator, it's a matter of business and administration.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that the owner of the hospital, it's entirely at his discretion how the hospital is run and if he wishes to appoint a nurse as the administrator of the hospital or the local dog catcher, it's still their responsibility if they own the structure. They're running it and therefore it is up to them to make the decisions.

But I do think that there has been some confusion emanating from the questions that have been forthcoming regarding licence to practice in the Territory and the hospital privileges to use a particular institution.



And, as the member should well know, licence to practice is under the jurisdiction of this government, but the hospital accreditation on it, to use the hospital facilities is entirely incumbent on the owner who sets down those, the criteria by which he may use that institution. And I would also like to point out --

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I think at this point I'm honour bound to state that I have raised no question and I intend on raising no questions in this debate respecting licence to practice. I have not raised it and it's not my intention to.

**Mr. Chairman:** Proceed, Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Well, I was merely trying to point out that the fact that there was four doctors there had, it was nothing to do with the hospital, they were there to practice medicine.

I would also like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that these are federally owned hospitals and they have regulations that are consistent throughout their jurisdiction, depending on the caliber of the hospital that is involved and we have the same privileges that are applied here, would be applied to a similar hospital elsewhere in this country.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, Mr. Chairman, they may be federally owned hospitals, and I certainly would agree with the Honourable Member, much of what he said, except that this is still the Yukon Territory and we're still talking about the general well-being and health and medical services applicable to the people of the Yukon Territory. And I'm sure that the Honourable Member would agree that the Government of the Yukon as this Legislature, are more than concerned about the facilities and the treatment that is made available to our public, notwithstanding who gives it to us, or who provides it for us.

I did have a question that arises out of the remarks made by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West, when she stated that Faro is a Nursing Station and Watson Lake is a hospital. And I would be more than interested to know what the difference is between the two. What establishes one from the other? Does one possess a facility greater than the other? Are there more patient beds in one or are there no patient beds in the other? Perhaps I could be shown the difference, or is it in fact a play on semantics, as I have suggested earlier?

In the case of the nurse Administrator, the Honourable Member alluded to the fact that there is going to be, or there is presently, a nurse administrator at Watson Lake. My information that that nurse has turned in her resignation. Now I don't know if this is true or not. But if that be the case, Mr. Chairman, and if the present nurse administrator was to disappear, who would replace this nurse? Would it be administrator or would it be a nurse?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman --

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, please.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** -- I would be very happy to provide the Honourable Member with all the official terms of reference for hospital, nursing station and health centre, if he in turn will provide me with his terms of reference as to what they should be, as I asked a little earlier, and in response to his remarks, Mr. Chairman, I have been given permission to read to this House, a copy of a news release which will be released today by the Regional Director.

"The Regional Director of Medical Services has announced today that Miss S.K. Wong, nurse in charge at the Watson Lake Hospital, has asked to be transferred out of Watson Lake. Miss Wong is to be nurse in charge at the nursing station in Faro, while waiting for a position as Director of Nursing to become available elsewhere within the Medical Services Branch.

Mr. Avison paid tribute to Miss Wong's high professional standards, and excellent work. He stated that prior to coming to Watson Lake, Miss Wong had specialist training in obstetrical nursing and in hospital administration. Mr. Avison noted that Miss Wong arrived in Watson Lake in early July, 1975 at a time when six nurses were transferring out of the hospital within a two month period.

Subsequently, when additional nurses were recruited, Miss Wong co-ordinated all the hospital staff into an effective working group.

In January of 1976, Miss Wong postponed previously arranged study plans when requested, and stayed on to co-ordinate the move into the new hospital, again doing excellent work.

In the autumn of 1976, Miss Wong took up further specialized training at the Clinical Training of Nurses Course in Edmonton. Shortly after returning from that course, Miss Wong indicated her desire to transfer out of Watson Lake.

Mr. James Connington, nurse in charge at the Faro Nursing Station, has arrived at the Watson Lake Hospital to take up his duties there as nurse in charge."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** I may add Mrs. Whyard, you got a good man down there.

Mr. Fleming.

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm really interested in all this jousting going on. I don't know who is going to be unsaddled or unseated, but I think the Honourable Member from Watson did ask one or two questions that were just questions, and I would like an answer myself to one question.

It possibly can't be brought here today, but would the Minister agree to get the information as to who is going to be in charge at the Watson Lake Hospital, from the authorities?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I have just announced who is going to be in charge at the -- "Mr. James Connington has arrived at the Watson Lake Hospital to take up his duties there as nurse in charge."



**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to go on record in concurrence with what the Minister has said, as commending the nursing staff of the Watson Lake Hospital, who have done an excellent job under very adverse circumstances that have been imposed on them.

I think they have done an excellent job, I think they should be commended for what they have had to face and in performing their professional duties.

I would also, in answer to one of the questions from the Member from Watson Lake, he mentioned about the recruitment of doctors. The policy, I believe, of Northern Health Services, has been that because of the uncertain situation in Watson Lake, they have filled the need of having medical personnel available during these times of uncertainty, and when things have settled down, they intend to withdraw such a service and it goes back on the same free enterprise basis that it was before.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, that gives rise to the question that everybody is wondering now, is these time of uncertainty. Obviously, it's been shown to have as many as two contract doctors of government in that community, for what purpose, I'm not too sure, other than to provide of course, to the needs of the community, and would it not then be the intention of Northern Health to continue this service, if it be required?

You know, to tell me that they are going to withdraw kind of tells me that something may be rotten in Denmark here, so to speak.

We've been through quite a traumatic experience in our community, with problems which have arisen. We have tried for a public inquiry into it, no way. Government go immediately under the rug whenever the subject came up --

**Hon. Mr. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, point of order, Mr. Chairman.

This government has never gone under any rug and it "ain't gonna". This government has gone by the book in this matter, has leaned over backwards to go by the book. We have used the Ordinance which this House approved, to establish a Board of Inquiry at a professional level, and Mr. Chairman, I refuse to have this government accused of going under the rug on this issue.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard, I appreciate your comments.

**Mr. Taylor.**

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, to continue, I don't know why, every time — this has become such a sensitive area to this government, every time I rise to discuss anything related to Watson Lake, its medical services or anything else, I seem to get — everybody gets right uptight.

The Honourable Member just rose on a point of order, talking about a medical inquiry. I pointed out in this debate quite earlier, I'm not talking about licensing, I'm not talking about the medical inquiry into a prac-

itioner.

What I am talking about is a public inquiry into the total operation of the facility in Watson Lake, and this is what — and I've been refused this by this government, by the Commissioner of this government, and I've been refused too — I've been refused by the federal government.

As a matter of fact, I find it impossible to get any kind of a reply at all from people right to the Minister, the Honourable Marc Lalonde.

Now, I still say the government go under the rug whenever this subject comes up, and they have given no reason to show me otherwise, or the community otherwise. I've asked some very basic questions here, I would like to know again, is Mayo, Dawson and Faro going to have to abide by the same regulations as Watson Lake?

It was pointed out to me that there may be a difference between Faro and Watson Lake in facility. I've asked what the difference is between the two facilities. In Watson Lake, we've got more nurses, beds in the building than you've got for patients. You've got four general patient beds, and you have a maternity ward and some room for children. There's more nurses' accommodation in that than — in the nursing station.

We find that we have got a beautiful facility there for out-patient care and this type of thing, but it seems to me it has the same facilities as Faro, and I'd just like to know the difference, or was I right when I said that we're talking about a play on semantics in terms of facilities?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Hold it.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Oh, have you not finished your question, Mr. --

**Mr. Chairman:** Would you like the Minister to --

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Is the Honourable Member concerned, Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** -- answer the question, Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I'm trying to answer your question, Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** I have asked questions about the administrator. The community itself have, by firm resolution, asked that an administrator be appointed to run that facility. I would like a response, in this House, to that question raised not by me in this Legislature until now, but by the people of Watson Lake, in session assembled in their bailiwick, and that is by public meeting.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, he answered the question.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member has two points he is raising here. The matter of a public inquiry into the operation of the Watson Lake Hospital, and the health services dispensed from there,



is not a matter for this government's jurisdiction.

We cannot have a public inquiry from this government level into the federal department's hospital. It is up to the federal officials to be approached and asked that question if he wishes to ask that question.

The other matter to which I referred earlier, was a professional Board of Inquiry, established and constituted by this government under this government's rules and regulations, and I fail to see why the Honourable Member continues to ask questions here which he knows must be addressed to another government.

It is not embarrassing me, Mr. Chairman, if that is the point of the exercise, it is failing, and on the subject of public meetings, Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Member from Watson Lake wishes to have another public meeting in Watson Lake, at which he is Chairman, to discuss such topics, I would strongly advise him to permit all who attend such public meetings to speak, because it is my information, which I do not doubt for one moment, that a number of members of the hospital staff appeared at that famous public meeting and were not allowed to speak on the subject of health services in Watson Lake.

So the Honourable Member cannot have it both ways. If he has some specific questions for which I can provide assistance in obtaining the answers, I will be happy to do so.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard. Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** You're welcome.

**Mr. Berger:** The Honourable Member from Watson Lake just solved Dawson City's problem. He has too many nurses in Watson Lake; Dawson City is crying for years and years to get two more nurses, and I would suggest to the Honourable Minister of Health and Welfare, to get the two nurses from out of Watson Lake and put them in the Dawson City Hospital.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the inquiry that was asked for at that meeting was under the Inquiries Ordinance of the Yukon Territory, and I find it hard to believe that the remarks of the Minister, when she states that you know, that we have no right to inquire into the operation of that facility.

I say, in this legislature today, that we do have the right to have a public inquiry into the total health services provided to our community, and we have every right, and it would be my hope that someone in either this government or the federal government, will listen to the legitimate demands of the people of Watson Lake in having that inquiry granted.

Today, the Commissioner still says no to the question. You know, the people don't count around here. People come, they build empires, they do things, notwithstanding if the people want them or not, and it will still be my intention, and that of the community, to keep pressing for an Inquiries Ordinance, when this may be possible to do so.

They've done this, they've stated what their opinions

are. In relation to the public meeting that was held in Watson Lake for this matter, this was held by the Health Board, who were quickly informed when the smoke started to gather, that they weren't a health board any more, they were instructed that they weren't to have anything to do with anything related to the health board by the government, not even so much as to make a phone call on the subject.

And so they have also asked that our local improvement district people be reconstituted as a health board, which I have documents to show, acted as a health board --

**Mr. Chairman:** Did you say a Health Board, Mr. Taylor, or health --

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** And were acknowledged by the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory as being a Health Board and in fact it was constituted by a man named Chamberlist, when he was in the position of Minister of Health and Welfare.

So, in answer to the Honourable Member's question, I was asked to chair that meeting, but those were the rules set down by those people.

I would still like the answers to the questions I asked.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** What are the questions, please, Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** You mean the questions of Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** I would like to know if it is the intention to have medical practitioners practicing in the facilities at Mayo, Dawson and Faro, to have them register and sign the same forms as is the case in Watson Lake.

I would like to know if it is the intention of the federal government, perhaps, of appointing an administrator in place of the nurse-in-charge system in Watson Lake Hospital.

I would like to know more particularly, what the intentions generally are of Northern Health towards this hospital in relation to the resolutions passed by that public meeting in Watson Lake. Among other things.

**Mr. Chairman:** Did you get the questions, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** I also — one further other point, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** I would like to know what the difference is between the Watson Lake facility and the Faro facility.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think you've already asked that question, and I think the Minister has already taken note of that.

**Mrs. Watson?**

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask



the Honourable Member from Watson Lake a question?

**Mr. Chairman:** By all means.

**Mrs. Watson:** What does the Honourable Member from Watson Lake and the community of Watson Lake, why and what would they hope to gain by having a public inquiry into the operation of the Watson Lake Hospital? Why are you so hellbent on having a public inquiry?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, the matter would be to disclose to all the people of the Yukon and to many people within our own community the situation that has prevailed in Watson Lake for the last short while --

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Ten years.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** ...in respect to the provision of medical services in the community. And Northern Health Services will tell you, as they continue to tell you today, how wonderful things are in Watson Lake. Those poor people don't appreciate what we're doing in terms of medical services. And with all the conflicts that have erupted over the past several years, Northern Health Services has yet to admit to anybody, media, this government, this Legislature, one per cent, one whit of any responsibility for any of the things that we've had to endure in our community.

Now, it is the intention, in answer to the Honourable Member's question, that a public inquiry be held and if the public inquiry is held that it be held in public, that anybody who has any thing knowledgeable to say on the subject have an opportunity to get up and say it, and I may say that perhaps, as a result of the press release today, maybe some of our problem has already been resolved. But I still think that public inquiry has got to continue and has got to be had under the Inquiries Ordinance of the Yukon Territory.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Honourable Member from Watson Lake could tell me, I'm interested, what have you had to endure over the last ten years that has deprived you of all the medical services that you're expounding to --

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, it would give me nothing but great pleasure to start spelling some of these things out but I do not feel that this is the forum to raise it. More particularly, at a time, perhaps in the very near future, an inquiry under another ordinance may be coming into being again, which would make my remarks somewhat inappropriate at this time.

I can say it has not been good, it is disturbing and I say again, in answer to the Honourable Member's question, in order to get the answer, let's have the public inquiry. Tomorrow, if possible.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I would submit that he already has his answers, he doesn't need the inquiry.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** I also have a question for the Honourable Member from Watson Lake. I would like to know what is the difference between a nurse administrator, an administrator, what's the difference between a male administrator and a female administrator?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, Mr. Chairman, it's not a matter for levity, but I might say that when you have experienced the type of situation that we have experienced in Watson Lake in the operation of this facility, it becomes very apparent that somebody around there has to be boss. Now is the doctor boss, whoever the doctor is of the day? Does the nurse tell the doctor what to do?

Does the nurse say, 'Well, doc, you know, I agree with what you're telling me but I'm running this operation, so what I say goes, and you just go, you know, you just kind of ...'

This has in fact happened in Watson Lake, and this inquiry could well bring this type of thing out.

I'm saying that in order, as the people of Watson Lake said that evening, at that public meeting when this matter was discussed for over two hours with Northern Health, that we feel that there ought to be, and must be, an independent administrator.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, please.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Who will administrate the hospital, and clearly, the way it stacks right now, the nurse is the boss. The doctor, whoever it may be, has no authority over the nurse, and what I'm saying, settle it, put an administrator in. That's what you have in Whitehorse.

The one who professes to be running the show in Watson Lake lives in Whitehorse. I'm talking about a resident, I should have made that clear, and I'm sorry, maybe perhaps that might have -- I'm talking about a resident administrator, someone who looks after that whole hospital.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre, isn't it a usual practice in the hospital that the administrator runs the hospital, the everyday happenings in the hospital?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Berger, I had asked to speak for this, on that very point. The analogy that the Honourable Member from Watson Lake has brought up is very, very appropriate.

There is an administrator at the hospital here in Whitehorse. He runs the hospital and I work in that hospital, and I take care of my patients in that hospital -- a very simple difference.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, then, my question I would



direct to the Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre. Do the nurses tell you what to do — or do the nurses tell the Honourable Member what to do in the following of his practice of medicine, or does the doctor make the instructions in that hospital?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** The administrator worries about ordering the garbage bags and how the laundry is arranged and how the beds are made, and things like this. The nurse takes care of making the beds, and takes -- dispenses the pills for the patient, and I order the pills for the patient.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if the Honourable Member from Watson Lake could give me his definition of an independent administrator.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm talking about a person who is neither on the nursing staff of that facility, or a doctor on the doctor staff of it, whatever you want to term it.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry if I interrupted the Honourable Member, but independent to me means independent, and the hospital administrator that we're all familiar with is an employee of the owner of the hospital. I don't know how that could mean independent.

He is going to carry out the instructions given him by the Federal Department, which owns and operates the resource. He cannot be independent of federal health policies, and it seems to me the Honourable Member is objecting to certain federal health policies, which his independent administrator would be duty-bound to carry out.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Chairman, it wasn't my intention to ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** ... I perhaps, I was thinking of a resident administrator. Maybe we've got a little change in terminology here, but I'm — yes, if I did, I mistakenly used the term independent, but I meant a resident administrator who was neither on the nursing staff or a doctor.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, a question for the Minister of Health.

Does Northern Health, or any government, build a hospital for a doctor, or do they build a hospital for it to

serve the people in the community, and the doctor is allowed the privileges of the hospital under certain terms and conditions?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Well, my experience in this field is limited, Mr. Chairman, but the only hospital I've ever heard of that was built for a doctor might be Dr. Schweitzer's clinic in Lamborena.

I know of no doctors who have hospitals built for them in Canada, and as I have referred to once or twice before in the last day or so, it is not the government who brings medical practitioners to the Yukon.

Medical practitioners come and establish a practice, if they wish to do so. The government does provide health care facilities for their patients and for the people of the Yukon, but we are not in the business of providing doctors, and we are in the business of ensuring that their qualifications meet our standards and that the people on whom they will be practising their profession are protected by those standards, and we have a statutory responsibility to do so.

The use of a hospital facility by a medical practitioner has been discussed here quite fully today. There are procedures through which a doctor must go in order to obtain the privilege of using those facilities. It is a well-known fact in jurisdictions across this country that these privileges can be removed for good and valid reasons, and are, every day, across Canada. This is nothing unique.

I would reiterate, Mr. Chairman, to borrow one of the Honourable Member's words, that no, we do not build hospitals for doctors to use. The hospitals are there for the purpose of providing health care for the people in this country.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Taylor.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** Well, this is where I -- yes, Mr. Chairman, this is where I have difficulty though. Is, for instance does Mayo have a hospital or has Mayo got a nursing station? And if it no longer has a hospital, I've been working on the assumption that it had a hospital, and I was under the assumption that Dawson had a hospital, but perhaps they've reduced them to something else, I don't know. But I just cannot understand why one set of rules apply for one place, another set of rules apply somewhere else, and in other places, no rules apply. This, in that context, baffles me.

I agree that hospitals and nursing stations and health centres are built for people, for patients and those people in trouble, not built simply for doctors or nurses. However, I think that all Members must agree that there are times when we've got to take a pretty close look at the operation of some of these facilities and not just take the government's word that everything is hunky-dory and everything is fine.

I think it behooves us, as elected representatives and interested people in what goes on in the Territory, to take a look at this. And when people tend to say, well, you know, really everything is going fine, you don't have to bother with this, I get a little concerned and a little worried about what direction we're travelling. I've raised these questions this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, with the deepest interest of getting answers.



I've made an attempt to get answers by other methods, I've been unable to get those answers, so this is why I've asked them today. And perhaps the Honourable Member, as she stated, would be kind enough to bring in these answers — go to the Northern Health people and find out just exactly what their intentions are and the answers to the questions I've raised.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I've already given that assurance.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think Committee's already aware of that, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could go to another item in Primary 510. Regarding the administration, the overall administration of Hospital Insurance?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson, we're on 502.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, Primary 510 is the hospital. How did you get there? From 502?

**Mr. Chairman:** We'll complete 502, Mrs. Watson, before we stampede on to 510. There must be other areas that need questioning.  
Yes, Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I would suggest the Health Education probably applies to the air brakes course now administered in the Watson Lake Hospital.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** I would ask the Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre if the mining inspector has anything to do with that, too.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, if you wish to proceed to, under Vote 502, the Dental Program ...

**Mr. Chairman:** Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Proceed.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** There will be, in this coming year, additional dental therapists carrying out our Yukon project of dental care in our schools, which is still leading the whole nation, I think. I know of no other jurisdiction which has such a program. I have some additional information here from the Regional Director, if Members would wish me to read it into the record?

"Our present official commitment in the School Dental Program is to the pre-school children, kindergarten and Grades one through six inclusive. It is the desire of Medical Services to expand this program to include all children up to Grade twelve as soon as possible, in accordance with the long-range plans of both the Yukon Territorial and Federal Governments.

During 1976, a large number of children on the program were very mobile, moving into and out of the Ter-

ritory. This meant that many children who were treated were subsequently lost to the Plan and were replaced by a large number of new patients who then had to be taken into the Plan and brought up to date as far as their dental health is concerned.

"The result has been that we do not feel that we can expand the program this school term to officially include Grade seven children."

Mr. Chairman, if I may interject, this is in reply to our request that it include at least Grade eight with the current number of therapists on the staff.

"At present, we have eight full-time therapists. One therapist who is expected to graduate this summer will increase the complement if we retain all the therapists who are now with us.

"If such is the case this fall, we can reconsider and perhaps include Grade seven. Dr. Fraser, who is the Director of the Dental Program, and myself, feel strongly that to prematurely expand the program would dilute its quality and decrease its acceptance as a valid treatment resource.

"In summary, we do not believe it is a sound idea to expand the Dental Program this school term. We would propose that the situation be reassessed in August, and if the full complement of nine therapists is then on strength, would expect to extend the program to include Grade seven students."

I'm sorry that it's been impossible to include Grade eight at this stage, because in our planned development of the dental program we would have reached that point by now, but this is the explanation from the people in charge of the program and there is a valid point there. It looks as if we, in the Yukon, are sending some pretty good mouthfulls of teeth out to the rest of Canada, and getting some bad ones back as new people arrive here. But there is no way we can discriminate and say to new registrations in our schools, 'you can't get in on this program because you weren't here in Grade one, two or three'.

I am sure that, eventually, we will see this workload tapering off because we must soon reap the rewards of our early investment at the lower levels, the lower grades in school. Those children, I would expect, in their Grade seven and eight and on will show the benefits of our investment in their dental care, and so there should be less and less required for them, but at this point we haven't reached that happy stage.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could supply us with information regarding precisely what this program does cover, and if there is any intention to extend the program to other areas of dental care?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** No, Mr. Chairman, I can't give you the technical details of the program. I would have to get them from Dr. Fraser, but I will, if you wish it.

**Mr. Hibberd:** I think that would be of some value, Mrs. Whyard.



**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Berger?

**Mr. Berger:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. I just would like to rise and be recorded, and elect to compliment the Minister on a job well done in the Dental Therapy Program. I think it's a real plus for all the outlying communities and for the children in the communities.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I certainly appreciate those words, and I cannot take the credit for this program. As we all know, it was established prior to my arrival here, but I think that we must give credit really to two local practitioners, Dr. Pugh and Dr. Banks, who were involved in the planning and concept, with the assistance of a remarkable dental hygienist from New Zealand whom we were very fortunate to have here at the time, and it just jelled at the right time and at the stage with the right people, and we have been fortunate enough to be able to inherit what they planned, and it's going on very well.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I just have a few questions. I also think this is one of the plus programs of the government, and maybe we don't recognize all the benefits after the, what is it, six years that we've had the program now? The Honourable Minister said we don't really see the benefits, but on the other hand, had we not had the program, it probably would have been very obvious that the program is benefitting the children in the Territory, and particularly in the smaller communities, and particularly now when dental care is also rising.

Inflation has had its effect on dental care, and whereas it was difficult for families to get dental care for their children a few years ago, I think now, without this program, it would even be more difficult.

My question, the Yukon has sent trainees to take the therapist program in the Northwest Territories. I'm wondering how many of those eight people, therapists, that are now on staff, are Yukoners who've been sent away to take the training?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have the exact details of how many at present are with us. I know that a number of them have returned from Fort Smith to work with us in the Yukon, but then there have been drop-outs for the usual reasons. They get married or they go elsewhere to work.

I would have to ask exactly how many of the eight are local graduates, but we have, are always happy to see Yukon students apply for that training and return to the Yukon. It isn't always what they want to do, however.

I would like to add, while I'm on my feet, Mr. Chairman, that the increase in cost for that item; under Dental Program, includes not only the additional therapist and possibly a second one by next fall, but also the updating of equipment, which has now been in use for

some years and is mobile and travels quite a lot, and we are trying to update the standards for that equipment in each area where it's being used. It also includes a percentage increase, the normal increase in costs.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I would certainly concur with Dr. Fraser's recommendations that we not dilute the program by trying to cover more students before we are sure that we have the adequate staff, because I think we are maintaining a fairly good quality of service and it would be a shame to lose that in order to cover more students.

So, I think that I would like to go on record and concur with the recommendations that he's making.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Watson.  
Mrs. Whyard, do you wish to go further?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mental Health Program, Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Proceed.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I remarked earlier, Mr. Chairman, today we are happy that we will now be able to provide a full-time community mental health nurse, the first time we've had one in the Yukon. We are sharing costs with the federal government on this position and this person, who is trained as a psychiatric nurse, will of course be on the staff of the resident psychiatrist and will make it possible for the first time to extend psychiatric nursing out of an office in the hospital complex.

We hope that this will mean that there will be time to deal with some cases in outlying communities through the travels of this community mental health nurse. That's about the only new item covered by this Vote under Mental Health Programs.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Yes, Mr. Lengerke.

**Mr. Lengerke:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The costs, or the estimates costs this year is what, 78.9? What was the cost last year for that program?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** In the Appendix, which you may be using, on Page 14, you will notice that Dental, Mental and Environmental Health and Special Chronic are all lumped under one total for '76-'77, because they are federal figures.

I have asked for additional information, but I was told that it would be very confusing if I brought in the estimates for that year to compare with this because, in fact, some were used entirely, some were not, some were under and some were over. I can get the original estimates for each of those items, if it will assist you, but I doubt that it would.



**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Mr. Chairman, in particular, and I should have got up earlier on the Dental Program, and the Honourable Minister said that there was an increase, a substantial increase, and that it's 191,600, and I was really wondering, I was kind of curious as to what it was last year.

I certainly wouldn't hold up the Vote, if, in your travels you do get that information, I'd be kind of interested to know.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd be happy to obtain that figure. When I said increase, I meant in the number of people. We're increasing Dental therapists in numbers, but I will bring in that figure.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard. Is that okay, Mr. Lengerke.

**Mr. Lengerke:** That would satisfy me, I think.

**Mr. Chairman:** At this point, I'll declare a brief recess.

#### RECESS

**Mr. Chairman:** I now call this Committee to order.

**Hon. Mrs. Whard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, there was a question asked prior to our recess on the dental program item, regarding how many Yukon graduates of the dental therapy course are working in the Yukon, and if I could, Mr. Chairman -- the Honourable Member who asked the question is not with us, but for the record, I have been provided with the reply to a question asked by the same Member, the Honourable Member from Kluane, on Thursday, March the 10th, how many Yukon graduates are now working in the Yukon as dental therapists, and the answer has been provided, Mr. Chairman, by the Superintendent of Education.

The first group of Yukon students enrolled in the dental therapist program at Fort Smith in September, 1972, and following is the present status of the trainees:

September, 1972 group, four students, one working in the Yukon as dental therapist, two working in the Northwest Territories as dental therapists, and there's a note here that parents of those individuals transferred to the Northwest Territories, which is why they're there, and one dropped the program.

September, 1973 group of three students, all three graduated and are working in the Yukon.

September, 1974 group of four students, one graduated and working in the Yukon and three dropped the program.

September, 1975 group, three students, one dropped the program, three still in training, and September, 1976 group, three students from the Yukon. All three students are still training.

Of the total of 17 students from the Yukon who have taken this program, 5 are still training, 5 have dropped the course, and 7 graduated. Five of those graduates are

employed in the Yukon.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate Mr. Ferbey's assistance on it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.

Is there any further questions on Mental Health Program? Do I have Committee's concurrence to move on to then the Environmental Health?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** On the subject of environmental health, I am also pleased to be able to tell the Honourable Members that this area will be fully staffed in the coming year with three health inspectors, as we call them. The Federal Department refers to this area as problems of human health, to distinguish environmental health in this sense from environmental inspections at the Federal Departmental environment sense.

In other words, these inspectors who assist us by enforcing our Public Health Ordinance in other areas of concern, are not to be confused with the Federal Department of Environment, but they are called environmental health inspectors.

So, they are concerned with problems of human health, in food handling, sanitation and so on. Those are the areas of their concern, and they do serve this government, although they are on the federal side.

There were two for most of 1976 and '7. At one point, there was one man alone, and it's good to see that they will now be up to the three man years, which is, I would think, basic and required, and will now be able to travel and get out to the areas which require their services.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mr. McIntyre?

**Mr. McIntyre:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, would the inspectors under this item be responsible for any monitoring of asbestos fibres in the atmosphere, outside of the mining area, because this is supposedly tightly controlled by mining inspectors within the mine, but once the asbestos product is outside the mine, there are various areas which could be of danger, the truck drivers, the warehouse at White Pass and so on.

Another place they could investigate would be about 15 years ago, a number of buildings in the Territory were insulated with asbestos flack, and it seems to me that this would pose an environmental hazard too, because some of the buildings that were treated this way were community clubs, and the asbestos fibres were continually raining down on people who were playing badminton and dancing and so on.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, in answer to the first part of the Honourable Member's question, these inspectors have not been charged with the responsibility of checking on the presence of asbestos fibres in certain areas.

The reports I have seen, and which I believe I sent on



to the Honourable Member from Ogilvie, were from the environmental -- the Department of Environment, who have indeed been monitoring the situation ever since they were requested to do so, they have been adding that information to our side as well, but they have been monitoring on the mining side, as a result of the task force which studied the situation in the Yukon, and particularly as a result of the Honourable Member from Klondike, whose concern extended to areas where other employees than mining employees are handling shipments of asbestos or by-products, and so some of the reports that I have seen, Mr. Chairman, deal with the amount of asbestos fibres, the count, in the air, for example, at the White Pass freight shed, where the shipment is trans-loaded for export.

These are matters which are within the federal environment inspection jurisdiction. I think the Honourable Member has raised a very interesting question regarding the insulation. I would be very happy to see that pursued. I don't know whether anyone has ever asked for such a check, and I think it would make a very interesting examination.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, isn't this again the unique situation that we were talking about yesterday, where we had federal inspectors enforcing our legislation and the Minister can correct me, the function of the Environmental Health Officers are to enforce our Public Health Ordinance. Am I correct?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Under this General Health Services, in this context, yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, and it makes it a very, very difficult situation and this is one of the most sensitive areas in the fact that the federal people, one of the more sensitive areas, that the federal people are involved in delivering health services because the environmental officers report to their immediate superiors and the Territorial Government, who's legislation it is, and who ultimately have to enforce the orders that these people give and who have to withstand the political results of some of the actions that some of these people take. These people do not even have to report to the Territorial Government people.

This is a very, very sensitive area and I know that efforts have been made to try to have these people come directly under the control of the territorial government, but because the whole package is supposed to be turned over, I don't think such aggressive strides were taken, however, should this package transfer fall through, and I think we should really dig in this area.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member is quite correct. It is a very untenable position, really, for those inspectors who are carrying out and trying to enforce the terms of our jurisdiction, but are not permitted to report to us.

They have been most co-operative and we appreciate their services. As I've said, I'm happy to see they're getting the full staff complement required. But, there is an administrative block there because they're working for another block. They do us the courtesy of sending copies of their reports monthly. No names or particulars, but numbers of inspections in what areas of control and what offences and what -- and so on, but the Honourable Member is quite right.

There's an area, for example, which may be indicative of the kind of situation we get into here with two government jurisdictions trying to control the same subjects for the same people. If I could just take a moment, Mr. Chairman, I'd appreciate advice and assistance from the Honourable Members if they have any idea as to how to solve one of these little problems. One of them is the matter of food handlers who are taken off work by the inspector because there is an infectious disease within their home.

Now, you have for example, Mr. Chairman, an outbreak of shigellosis, which is a fairly common and very infectious communicable disease, in fact what, a virus or a bacteria, I don't know, Mr. Chairman, bacteria. This kind of a thing is an outbreak, for instance, if food has not been properly handled at a large community supper. You may have a number of people afterwards suffering from this kind of thing.

Any food handler who has a disease like that, or someone in their family has a positive test for such a disease, is taken off the job by the inspector. This is quite correct. And no one argues about this. But the situation in which the food handlers finds themselves is, I think, unjust. They are off work through no fault of their own, they themselves may not be sick, therefore they are not entitled to compensation as being off sick. They are not permitted to go to work until every member of their family has been cleared with a negative test, three negative tests? Three negative tests, Mr. Chairman, I am told. Anyway, all members of the family definitely must be cleared by the Health Inspectors before that one food handler can go back to work.

Now, in the case that I had drawn to my attention recently, this is now 12 weeks off work, where the food handler herself was not ill, but a child in her family was, and then another child has contacted the disease. You can see the permutations of this kind of situation.

During that time, there is no compensation for the food handler. You have the case, for example, of a butcher, who may be taken off the job because there is such a situation in his family. He is without any pay for the period of time between being taken off work, and being -- if it's going to be a long period, the recipient of unemployment insurance.

But there is a two week period which is not covered by unemployment insurance, for any reason, so you are saying to food handlers, we are going to enforce the Public Health Ordinance of this government, and it is going to cost you two weeks pay if you have to be taken off work. I think that's an injustice.

The health inspectors are in the spot of having to remove these people, and they do, to enforce our legisla-



tion, knowing that some of them may have to make a financial sacrifice as a result. Whose responsibility do you think it is to compensate that food handler?

Should this government be paying their wages because we have taken them off work? The anomaly here again, Mr. Chairman, is that if you are a federal employee taken off work as a food handler, whether you're working in a hospital kitchen or in any other area, you do get compensation. Once again, we have a most unacceptable situation, as far as I'm concerned, and I am in the throes, at the moment, of trying to come up with a policy which the Executive Committee of this government will approve in order to remove that anomaly, because I do not think it is just.

But this again is a situation where we have federal employees enforcing what we say should be the law, and in the middle, there are some Yukon citizens. It's just a little side track, Mr. Chairman, it's not really pertinent to the discussion before us, but I would appreciate any suggestions that Honourable Members have to make later at any time, because I have to come up with something very soon.

I am not going to see people kept off work for 12 weeks and more, with a two week period in there, that they are never compensated for.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Honourable Member from Kluane asked or referred to the question I was going to ask, but it's very interesting, the Honourable Minister. I just wonder, could you explain a little further to me, the situation?

You say that the federal employees, we're talking about the food handler, gets paid, gets compensation by virtue of how, you know, how do they get paid, where, from what? Can you just explain that a little further, and I think then we might --

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, they get compensated because they're on sick leave. If the Members would bear with me, I have a paper with the figures of how many were federal and how many weren't, and who got compensation and who didn't, whether that's material or not.

The point I'm delayed at, in order to come to some kind of solution, is that I have not yet been provided, I may have got it today, I'm sorry, I don't have it with me, I may have got it today, the total number of food handlers taken off work during the past year. I need a ballpark figure on which to try to assess some kind of costs which would be involved, if we decided to undertake this kind of compensation.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** That was -- she answered the question anyway. I wanted to know by what authority they were getting paid, and it was the sick leave situation, but why cannot a territorial, say employee, get sick leave, or why can't sick leave be extended -- sick leave benefits be extended under a private employer in this case?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Well, the problem I was determining a solution for is not the person who is sick. That's what we can handle, it is the food handler who is not sick herself, or himself, but who is taken off work because of sickness in the family.

Now we have adjusted that situation and the chief medical officer is providing certificates saying, I am off work through illness in the family, but that still doesn't cover the two week unemployment insurance requirement.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the Minister's problem, because I've had to deal with it myself and it just does seem to be blind end situation and I would submit that the only way around this situation is you are going to have to deal with it in specific legislation that names the problem and names a solution to it.

As you say, it can't be covered by compensation, it doesn't qualify for sick benefits under this legislation you now have existing and I think that you would simply have to deal with it. If people are off work because of this specific situation will receive benefits, such as under compensation, only it would have to be specifically named and it would cover this instance.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd be very pleased to see it included somehow under Workers' Compensation, if we could work this through, because there are funds there into which people contribute to cover themselves, but I don't know how to get through into Workers' Compensation, I will still continue to try.

We did ask the advice of other jurisdictions regarding how they handle this and Alberta and B.C. have no answers either. Where the food handler is covered by Union regulations, they still don't get 100 per cent compensation unless they are the ill person. It's a gray area, but if anyone can assist me in getting this through Workmen's Compensation, I'd certainly be delighted.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mr. Fleming?

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm quite interested too. Do I understand the Minister to say that the federal employee actually does get that pay, even though he or she is not sick themselves. There is someone in the family that is sick, they do get compensated for wages for the two weeks.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, they do, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Fleming.

**Mr. Fleming:** As to the drawing of pay of any kind in that family, I would say also though that they, if you had some system of payment to that person, you would also



have to remember that there is the Unemployment Insurance Act later. If they were getting some type of pay in that two weeks, they would also have to have another two weeks very likely even if you did come up with a solution.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the remarks from the Honourable Member. One of the things that we're trying to avoid is putting any burden on the small business person who may have such an employee. They cannot be expected to pay someone who isn't there working, either.

You have so many factors between large government employers and a small business with maybe one or two food handlers. There's no common denominator here. It may take us a little time to work this one out, but I certainly want to do it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard. Is there any further discussion on Environmental Health.

May we go on to the next item? Indication?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard, would you care to comment?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I'm informed by the Regional Director that the position of health educator will be filled in the coming year. This is a specialist in the area of health education. I inquired regarding what his duties would be and I am told that he will be here rather than a unit in Edmonton again, providing such material to the public health nurses throughout the Territory. They specialize in the preparation of audio-visual aids, based on regional requirements at the local level, instead of importing films which don't have particular application. Yet they carry out a complete and total health education program through the public health nurses.

Before the Honourable Member from Kluane arises to ask me, I don't know whether they're going to do that in the schools in such a program as Family Life.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, we alluded to this item earlier, the fact that this one had been on staff before and, indeed at that time, when we were investigating what the duties of this person were I'm referring to in particular at the time when there was a threat in cut-back at the hospital here, and we were trying to look at areas where there might have been some weaknesses where they could have done away with some of their staff rather than cut back at the hospital.

We really tried to find out what the health educator had done in the previous year. And as far as we could tell, he had arranged one, he or she had arranged one conference, audio-visual conference for the nurses of the Territory, which had never taken place. And that is the entire year's effort that health educator had done, so I would sincerely hope that this 26.9 thousand dollars is going to bear more fruit than it did in the past.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** No comment.

**Mr. Chairman:** Okay.

Is there further discussion on Health Education? We go to the next item. Special and Chronic Program. Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** This last item I'm sure will cause no problem with any of the Honourable Members, because this is the program that brings the visiting specialists to the Yukon, rather than requiring Yukon patients to go outside for such treatment and/or consultations.

The program includes ear, nose and throat specialist; an eye specialist; an internist; an orthopedic surgeon and a pediatrician, and in the past year, we have been able to encourage the Department to include an orthodontist on a visiting basis, and I'm very pleased about that, because again, the local dental people approached us and said, there are a lot of parents who are making a great financial sacrifice to take their kids out to an orthodontist, and if we could have a little bit of help to bring one in once or twice a year, to supervise the work we could do in the meantime, we would be happy to take on this extra responsibility. Actually that's what's happened, and it has grown now into a visiting orthodontist to be included in this program, and I'm very pleased about that, because there are a lot of parents who are still paying for this treatment and care, but will now be relieved of the costs of taking their kid outside five, or more times a year, sometimes monthly if it's re-urgent.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, this program has been going for some time now, and I would like to rise to credit the specialists who have been making these visits for some years. They come up here, and interrupted their practices wherever they may be, and they have really worked hard, almost to a man. They have done highly creditable performances, and I think they really deserve a lot of commendation for what they have done.

They are indeed busy when they come, they are becoming busier, and this program certainly will need augmentation in the very near future.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hibberd.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** The subject of chronic, that refers to our drug list for selected diseases, the chronic list for free drugs, provided by the federal department, and that's included in their with your specialists and their visits.

There are always complaints, well I haven't had any recently, but very usually, complaints from Yukoners who feel that they're being discriminated against because their particular requirement in the drug is not on that free list. But when there are people in who face high costs of pharmacies or drugs there are



other ways to assist them through our Department of Welfare.

One of the reasons why the costs are up again on that one, and I'm sorry, I do not have last year's breakdown for that specific item, is because the general cost of drugs is up, and so we have to pay more for them.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could supply us with a list of the chronic diseases that are available. There has been some difficulty, some turbulence with this program in the last couple of years, in that the department, the federal department, seems to have sort of changed direction in mid-stream. They have now two chronic lists; one of them is just simply a list of people who have a chronic disease, for which they are not beneficiaries of drugs; the other list is the ones who actually do benefit by free drugs.

This second list is now a much smaller list than it used to be, and there has been considerable concern on the part of many of the practitioners in the Territory, that people who were previously covered on this chronic list are no longer covered.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, there was a change made in the list about a year ago by the previous administration, or Chief Medical Officer.

Now, I shouldn't say that, Mr. Chairman, allow me to correct that statement. The Chief Medical Officer did not change the list, he was carrying out a policy of the Federal department. We made some objections at the time when it was discussed with us, and we were unable to make much impression on the federal policy, but the point that was made to us in return, was that there is a list there of parent drugs, the basic prescription drug, not all the combinations of the commercial name, derivations from that drug. This is the comment that was made to us, that if doctors would make sure that they were describing the basic ingredient, it could still be on that list.

Now, I am only passing on a comment, Mr. Chairman, that was made to us. We are not completely satisfied with that drug list. I will bring in the information the Member requires.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Supplementary?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** The point is well taken. You're referring to the basic names that the drugs that can be used, and there are combinations. I agree.

The point still remains: the list, as you well know, of diseases was altered and reduced considerably, which has nothing to do with the drugs. The pharmacist has the ability to change the doctor's prescription to the cheapest form of the drug, he has that ability now, so it has nothing to do with this idea of a basic name. It is a real reduction in the number of diseases that are covered by that list.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Honourable Member, since he is in his seat and not in the Chair, ahem, if he could assist me in determining whether or not, if for example, the drug list, or the list of diseases for which the drugs are provided was amended to suit the requirements or suggestions of the medical profession? Would there be a need, then, for pharmaceutical care for senior citizens?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Yes.

I'll elaborate. Yes, you're dealing really with two different situations here. You're dealing with two different needs. The pharmaceutical care for the aged covers a group of persons who are caught in the inflationary squeeze. You have a high drug usage and it's a severe problem for them to cope with.

The Chronic Disease list refers to many diseases which, their onset is at birth or at twenty years of age that are going to continue throughout that person's life and impose a burden on them. Two separate problems.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I certainly --

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** -- accept the Honourable Member's opinions and advice on this subject. My only hope was that most of those Chronic Diseases would be the basic ones which senior citizens are having to buy drugs for and that would maybe handle a good deal of the need in that area.

**Mr. Hibberd:** That was true before the list was changed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, that was true before the list was changed, in that it did cover most of the geriatric illnesses. It doesn't now, so it is two separate needs.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** With respect, that's the question I addressed to the Honourable Member. If the list were changed back to what it was or should be, would this not handle most of the requirements?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, that is difficult to answer because I don't know specifically what all of the drugs are on all the diseases that are on the list. It certainly covers a lot of them, but it doesn't cover all of them.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Hibberd:** There are two separate needs.



**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, one minor question to settle an argument I had the other day. If a person has a chronic disease that is listed on the list, is it necessary for them to show that there is need for them to get the drugs free or is there no question asked, they just receive the drugs.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, my understanding is if it's on that list --

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** -- the drug is available without charge to that person. I think you have to get a little card, a little chit thing, but certainly they don't have to go and prove they haven't got any money in the bank.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Just to clarify, Mr. Chairman. The doctor fills out a form and that puts that patient's name on the list and at that point -- The drugs are listed as well and they are covered.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is there any further discussion on Special and Chronic Program?

Five oh two. Are we clear on 502?

**Some Members:** Clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** We will go to 504. That is Medical Travel, \$195,100.00.

Mr. Hibberd.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Chairman, looking at '75-'76, it's \$71,000., '76-'77, it was \$130,000.00, now projected \$195,000.00. I wonder if the Minister could account for this rather rapid increase in the costs of medical travel?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd, if you allowed the Minister to explain this particular item, then you may get the answer.

Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, the figures shown there are most misleading and it's a case of government bookkeeping. The '76-'77 estimate of 130, in fact required a supplement of 163. Treasury will, I think, clarify this for you. It was a carryover at the end of the year, which had to be shown separately and the figure there that you see of 130 is not realistic. And that is why the figure for this year of 195 is the only justification, as usual, is the increase in air fares, there's another 7 per cent this month over which we have no control. Though it was a very small amount, of that, of course, will be in the increase mileage rate within the Territory.

If Mr. Williams would like to clarify the carry-over?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, we discussed this when we were dealing with the supplemental estimates and the true cost for 1976-77 would be closer to \$160,000.00. The currently projected cost for 1976-77 would be around

\$200,000.00., so this 195, compares actually with approximately \$200,000.00 in '76-'77, so it might in fact be a little bit light, but it's hard to say for sure until the actual claims come in.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Williams. Have you any further comment, Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** What was the actual figures then? Was it 71,000 to 200,000 in '75-'76 to '76-'77?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, the actual figure for 1975-76, was in the neighborhood of \$160,000.00. The actual figure for 1976-77 is in the neighborhood of \$200,000.00 and then the estimate for 1977-78 are 195.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Hibberd?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Then why does it say "Actual, '75-76, \$71,000.00" in our budget?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, as we said when we went through the Supplemental Estimates, there were 92,000.00 worth of expenses carried forward from 1975 into 1976, so for instance, the supplemental -- the supplemental figure for 1976-77, amounts to approximately 290 or \$292,167.00.

Of that \$292,000.00, we explained \$90,000.00 related back to 1975-76. So the figure of \$71,000.00 is the figure that was actually reported in the Territorial accounts for 1975-76, but if we add on the accounts that were carried forward into 1976-77, then we're looking at a figure in the neighbourhood of \$160,000.00.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Williams. Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if this government's interested in owning its own airline, in view of these rising costs, the Canada Games and a few other items which we are paying out to corporations which are non-resident in the Yukon.

We might approach the Province of Alberta, to see if they would like to have a subsidiary here or something.

**Mr. Chairman:** Did you have any particular aircraft in mind, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** No, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, I would just like to take a moment to commend the Minister on the increase in mileage rates within the Yukon Territory, for the work that she's done over the past year or so, on that. I think it's really about time, but at the same time it did come, and I'm sure that there will be a lot of people who are grateful that the Territory recognizes the expenses that are made within the Territory.

Thank you.



**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the kind words. It was not myself alone involved in this. It's a very small number of dollars in the context of the whole budget, but it's important to people, and it had to await a policy which would affect the mileage rates in other Departments as well, and that is one reason why it took us a little time to work it out.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, is it possible at this time to discuss that white paper on standard mileage rate?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I have no opinions on the subject.

**Mr. Chairman:** Go ahead.

**Mrs. Watson:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I go along with recommendation 1 and 2.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have it before me, can you wait a moment until we find it?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mr. McKinnon:** The policy really applies to all Departments of Government. I wonder whether we shouldn't just save it for a separate debate, rather than dealing with it specifically in the medical estimates. It involves every Department of Government that we deal with.

**Mr. Chairman:** If Committee concurs with that.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, that's why I asked whether I could deal with it now. I'm quite prepared to leave it, but I certainly want to deal with it before we prorogue.

**Mr. Chairman:** Oh yes, most definitely.  
Thank you, Mrs. Watson.  
Does Committee concur?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Very well. Is there any further discussion on 504? Clear?  
Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, this subsidized medical travel does concern me, because it is increasing a great deal, and when we get back into the other Establishment on Medicare, and when we get the statistics on the number of people who are receiving Medicare in '76 or '75, and whether there is an increase in population in the Yukon who are using our medical services, it might shed some light on it.

A person could understand this gradual increase that we're -- and not just gradual, it's quite a significant

increase that we're embarked upon in this Vote, because there has been an increase in air far, but I think that it's quite a considerable increase, and if there isn't the significant increase in the number of patients using the scheme, then one begins to wonder.

I would hate to get it to the point where we can't afford it any more, because it's a service that many people use and is very important to people using it, so I won't pursue it any further until we get the other statistics.

**Mr. Chairman:** Very well, Mrs. Watson.

**Mr. Chairman:** Do you wish me to stand 504 over for the time being?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Very well.

We will go then --

I asked Committee if they wished to stand 504 over for the time being, and it was agreed.

If you wish to clear it through, please give me advice on it. Yes, Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** What are we waiting for?

**Mr. Chairman:** There is some information, I believe Mrs. Watson --

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I'm quite prepared to wait.

**Mr. Chairman:** Okay, is 504 clear?

**Some Members:** Clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** Five oh five.  
Yes, Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, all Members have received an up-date report on treatment centres and how they're going in our program under Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. You might like to know that, because we produced our film last year, we will not be repeating that expense, and we have cut back approximately \$30,000.00 in that area.

There is a normal increase in the salaries for the four people in administration and in the salaries of the people in our programs, which accounts for some increase.

We are also looking toward the use of community people, who will work with us not as full-time, not as professionals always, but as resource people to whom we can refer our clients when they return from a treatment centre, or who can refer clients to us who require treatment, who are working in the community, of the community, for the community, instead of being imposed upon them as a visiting expert type of staff person.

One demonstration of how this co-ordinated program will work, we hope, will be seen in Dawson City in the coming months when our new community alcohol worker will be working side-by-side with the social service staff member, and we hope to see an integration there, at the community level, of services which have been operating independently of each other.

I don't know that I have any additional comments to



make regarding the costs of this program. I think we're all very well aware of the value of it in other ways.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Again, I would like to commend the Minister on the improvement in the services by having community people represented in the smaller communities, and working with alcoholism and social service work too, is an excellent idea.

In the community program, there doesn't seem to be all that much money, is this only for expansion to one community, and is that community Dawson?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, no. As I mentioned, we are not looking at full time employees in community areas, as government staff people. They will be compensated for what they are doing for us, instead of being asked to be volunteers forever and ever, but they are not going to be full time people in each year.

That is why there isn't an amount there which would be the equivalent of a number of full time staff salaries.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** In other words, will they be contracted for service? I notice that the monies are not under salaries, but under professional services, so they will be contracted for certain jobs, or certain periods of time, limited to the contract, is that correct?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, that will be the arrangement.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** I would like to ask, under Grants, \$43,000.00 under Grants, what does this specify?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** That is our subsidy to Crossroads, and I would like to take the opportunity of correcting any public misapprehension resulting from an interview with me on CBC the other day in which it was referred to as the government's program in Crossroads.

Crossroads is not a government institution, but Crossroads is subsidized by this government to that amount. Crossroads is operated by a private board of directors, and we appreciate the service they provide for us.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Will these community people be following up on services as people come out of Crossroads back to the communities?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** That's the whole point of using resource people in each area. It is very difficult to go through that program and then come back to the same circumstances which sent you there, and we all acknowledge that there is that difficulty, and there is the need for somebody to be around who is going to not take you to the bar.

There has to be some places where you can go where there isn't booze all the time. There has to be people who will sit and listen and drink a cup of coffee with you and not expect you to have sixteen drinks before you go home.

There has to be a receptive environment to go back to, and nobody can provide that but the people in the community, and the best person to provide that is somebody who's been through the mill themselves, and this is the way it's gradually developing.

We are getting people in each area who, I don't want to be maudlin about this, but who extend a helping hand, and the people who have gone through the treatment program, whether they finished it or not, whether it succeeded with them or not, will still have somebody to fall back on when they go home.

It's unfortunate, but in our early experience in the program, we have found that somebody can go there with every good intention in the world and be most attentive and obedient during the entire month of treatment and instruction. The minute they step off the plane or get off that bus at home, there is the biggest bash of all time to celebrate from the friends. And away we go again. We're right back at square one.

So, we're trying to get a core of community people, ordinary people, people who are friends and who are familiar with the problem of that individual and they're the kind of people we're working with and they're the kind of people that are going to get a few bucks to do this instead of being volunteers.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Whyard.  
Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could bring us a breakdown of the administrative staff of this program. The administrative staff seems to be getting -- or the administration end of it, seems to be getting quite heavy and, in all likelihood, there's good reason for it, but I always want to watch this type of thing when you embark upon a new program, that it's half of the total dollars, and I think that it is a social program and we don't want to take more than we absolutely have to for the administration of the program. So I would like to have that list.

Also, I would like to make a comment on the treatment programs that were outlined in the paper which we received. I found it gratifying that the organization, A.A., is still being used in Crossroads.

Now, it is my unacademic, very man-on-the-street opinion that this is the only organization and the only program that really has showed positive results for alcoholism. I think it's recognized across the country for this, that the A.A.'s can list people.

I'm so happy that Crossroads is continuing to use that service, which is a volunteer basis, I'm sure, and continue to use their service.



I've done just a little bit of reading on A.A.; it's not that I needed to, but I found it most interesting when I got into a few articles on it, and apparently their program is not the professional, academic type of approach. Whereas they can work with professional people, they can work with academic people, but their approach isn't that type of approach and sometimes you get problems when you have both of them working together, and I have been watching with quite a great deal of apprehension in the Yukon whether, in fact, they would continue to play a prominent, important role in the government's Alcohol and Drug Treatment program. I am happy to see that they are and I hope that the government never gets to the position where the program is so professional that there is no room for the volunteers from A.A.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mrs. Watson.  
Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I second the Honourable Member's remarks and the only reason that A.A. has not been singled out for particular mention in any of our material during this Session is that it's against their code to have anyone identified publicly or to accept any kind of recognition publicly, I am informed. And of course, we welcome their continuing support and they are very much a part of the program in Crossroads, but I was told when I asked why we couldn't specifically record our appreciation to them that it is part of their ethical operation, to have recognition in this way. And I would like to explain that to the House.

Regarding the number of people in the administration, we have Mr. Cline, who administers this program of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, plus two full-time counsellors who travel in various areas throughout the Yukon administering the training programs when requested and counselling on an individual basis, plus a third counsellor we hope we will be able to have this year. And there is stenographic support, I don't know whether it is a half man year or one.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I must, I suppose, apologize if I breached the code of the A.A.'s, but I still am very happy that I was able to say that we are, that we appreciate the efforts that they make.

**Mr. Chairman:** Establishment 505, clear?

**Some Members:** Clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** Five oh six, Detoxication Centre, \$109,900.00.

Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I think all Members have been provided with a considerable amount of detail about the operations of the centre. The normal increases in costs of supplies and equipment, food, utilities, the normal increase in salaries, plus, Mr. Chairman, an additional amount which we encountered because of the requirement for extra hours of casual staff and overtime of general staff because of the influx of people who required the services of the centre.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I'm happy to see this program going, and apparently, from the statistics, it certainly was needed and it's certainly being utilized.

However, it is interesting that we operate the boys' dorm for 72,000 and for one facility we have to look at \$109,000.00, because it is that special kind of a facility. But it sort of puts it in the right perspective when you're thinking of going into providing this type of treatment, that you're not just providing accommodation, it's a special kind of accommodation, and we're going to have to be looking at that kind of costs.

I was just thinking that if the Detox Centre is being used to this great a degree, will the pressures be on the government to open up another one possibly in another area, or maybe even again in Whitehorse, and I think it's something we're going to have to look at, and we're going to have to be realistic about it and know that when we open it, it's going to cost us in the neighbourhood of \$125,000.00 a year to operate.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member is quite right. You're looking at skilled staff on a shift basis, but I would like to extend one small ray of light at the end of this tunnel, if I may.

Members will recall that when we first embarked upon this program it had been on the basis of federal support financially, which the Honourable Minister Lalonde had been extending graciously across Canada. However, when we got to the actual point of opening and of hiring staff, suddenly the rug was pulled out from under, and there was no federal financial support.

Mr. Chairman, I might say that when I was in conversation with federal officials in Ottawa last month, I raised this matter in the context of other financial agreements to show that we are not always assured, we're not always confident that the assurances will be carried through by the Great White Father in the Far East, and there was surprise and consternation around the table when I said that we had not received financial support for the Detoxication Centre, and they said that cannot be, and I said it is and it was.

They have now, I have found, passed this query along to the Regional Director, saying was this indeed so, and he has assured them that this was indeed so, and the reason for the non-support financially was at the regional level, yes, when it came to formulating a budget.

Now, there is another reason for wanting to control and assess our own priorities in these areas. I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am sure we are going to get federal cost sharing on this program, not tomorrow, not next week, but we're going to get it, and when we get it, if I can't get it to be retroactive, I will be very upset.

But there should be means to do this, and we are continually pursuing this matter.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard, on the Legislative Return, there's a good deal of very helpful information but it doesn't really go into any details regarding drug abuse. Do you know, do you have any specific details on the drug situation in the Yukon at the present time?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, I would be



happy to bring in an updated report. I think we had one a year ago, but it was very vague, and I will be bringing in that information if you require it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you.  
**Mrs. Watson?**

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, could I ask you the statistics on how many people were accommodated in the Detox Centre because of drug abuse?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Further debate in 506?  
**Mrs. Watson?**

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, one interesting thing that I would like clarified — non-residential treatment. The paper referred to ex-residents going back to the Detox Centre when they're not under the influence of alcohol. Does the Detox Centre, in conjunction with the treatment of the people who are brought in in an inebriated condition, do they also counsel people who are not in that condition when they visit that Detox Centre? Does it play a counselling role?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, this has been a growing service which had not been foreseen when the Centre was opened. There are a number of clients who return when sober and are continuing to receive counselling and support from the staff in the Centre, although they are non-residents.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, that's most interesting. The daily average sober ex-residents' visits, the daily average is ten. That to me is a very significant thing.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** It is significant and I think that one of the things that it's significant of is the lack of facility in this community where you can go and visit with people without being expected to buy a drink.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, the other one that I think is most interesting is the referral source, that almost half, 45 per cent of the referrals to the Detox Centre are self-referrals. I think that in itself is gratifying too, so maybe there is hope.

**Mr. Chairman:** Five oh seven, Rehabilitation Services, \$329,000.00.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, it seems to me there were a number of questions in this area during the Supplementaries which may or may not have been cleared up for all Members, regarding the transfer of the funds for this Vote from Education to Health and Welfare. And I don't know whether Mr. Williams promised at that time further clarification, but if Honourable Members still require some, I would welcome it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, the only question that I recall is still outstanding was that somebody asked how much was anticipated to be paid to the Rehab. Centre during 1976-77 and I'm now told that they anticipate spending \$45,000.00 at the Rehab Centre in the current fiscal year. If there were other questions, I'm sorry, I can't recall them.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:**  
**Mr. Chairman?**

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I believe it had to do with the refund with the Vocational School through the VRDP operation.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, we dealt with that yesterday when we were discussing Education's estimate. Shall I go through that again?

**Mrs. Watson:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the only outstanding question, if I may clarify it, was at what percentage of cost sharing arrangements do we have with the federal government under the legislation? Under our agreement?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, our arrangement with the VRDP, which is a division of the federal department of National Health and Welfare, is 50 per cent so we do have -- the total projected expenditure is \$329,000.00. There is a recovery shown of about \$165,000.00. So we are recovering 50 per cent from the federal government.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I have something in the back of my mind that in certain instances the recovery was greater than 50 per cent under the terms of the agreement. Certain projects. However, we might not fall within those.

But my question, and this is a specific question, is: When people are receiving therapy, which is a rehabilitative service, I would hope, for such a disease as cerebral palsy, and the people who come from an area outside of Whitehorse, are they given assistance under this program to pay for their hotel and accommodations?

For example, a mother bringing a young child, three or four or five or half a dozen times a year for therapy. And of course, there are no other programs, and I was just wondering whether they would fall within the rehabilitation services program, so they would get assistance. It becomes extremely expensive.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?



**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, if the patient required physio-therapy and the doctor had prescribed such therapy, this is an insured service. There would be no charge for this therapy. I presume you are referring to costs of living here while receiving that treatment?

I would have to seek advice on this one, Mr. Chairman, but my immediate off-the-top-of-the-head reply would be that there would only be the mileage in to receive this treatment, and that the costs of staying in town while the patient was receiving the treatment would be borne by the individual.

Now, if there is financial need there, that is another question. An application should be made for assistance, if there is, but otherwise, I do not think it would be covered, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I just thought that they would, the individual would be considered a physically handicapped person, wouldn't they, under the terms -- or does it cover children, because we do have living subsidy provisions for people who are getting treatment, and if it's someone young who has to have a guardian or a parent with them, you would think that this would apply to them.

We pay the fare for the guardian or the parent taking a young, a child out on referral outside for medical attention. I wonder whether the Honourable Minister would sort of look into this to see whether the rehabilitation services would apply as far as cerebral palsy is concerned?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I would be happy to obtain that information, and also, we are of course at this present stage, in a stage of flux regarding what services will be covered and what will not, after the new extended care financing is finally agreed upon by the Federal Department.

I think I rose in this House recently to say that there were to be instructions on this cost sharing method, at a meeting of our officials and the N.W.T. health officials with the federal people last week, that the plan for that meeting was cancelled, and we are now told it will be April 22nd, I believe, before this information is put before us.

I would like to have an opportunity also to check an eight foot telex which is on the health file somewhere in the C.R., which outlines all the details of these new cost sharing arrangements for extended care and special service, and the kind of thing we're talking about here, which applied to the provinces, until we sort of filed it, and said all right, that's for the provinces, now how is it going to affect us?

Each time we ask those questions, the Federal Department says, well of course it's the same for you, and they keep forgetting that it isn't. However, I will try to find out the specific answer to the specific question regarding cerebral palsy patients who require that physiotherapy.

I would certainly be most hopeful, the number of these gray areas are going to come under the new cost sharing

agreement, because the Federal Minister is certainly giving us every indication that he is going to be extending cost sharing in those areas, which will relieve acute care requirements, and they're dangling all these carrots in front of us, Mr. Chairman, such as home care and visiting nurse and all these auxiliary things, in order to try to take the pressure off acute and costly care in hospitals.

That applies to the rest of Canada, quite reasonably, but up here conditions are different, and costs are different, and travel arrangements are different, and I'm not sure how it's going to affect us.

I just hope that we will be able to pick up on a number of these gaps in financing the services.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard, do you have a method of assessment of the effectiveness of your rehabilitation program? Is there an accountability, do you know how it's doing?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, in the area of the Rehab. Centre, yes. Whenever there are public funds granted to any agency which provides a service to this government, they must accept an assessment of how they're using the money, and of the benefit of their programs to their clients, and there is such an assessment taking place, either this month or in April, not this month, in the Rehab Centre by an outside consultant.

**Mr. Chairman:** What I really meant, Mrs. Whyard, is the effectiveness of the rehabilitation program?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, you would have to ask me that in another year. We haven't had this Department on our side that long.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, the training, of course, is the bulk of the money in this Establishment, and I would imagine some of that was going to the Rehab Centre, and my question is, just how much of that is going to be going to the Rehab Centre, and maybe we could have just a brief account of what they are doing at the Rehab Centre, what kind of training program are they embarked upon?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I could speak to that briefly, or I can bring in a report from the people in charge of the centre, whichever you would like.

I think we have mentioned, in the last few months, that it's been very successful in the amount of community support which has already been extended, in the number of contracts and training opportunities which have been provided.

We have 16 people in place now at the Rehab Centre. They are getting contracts for doing things such as repairing telephones from C.N.T., brake shoes from White Pass and Yukon. They are doing collating for printers, putting the pages of material together.

They have recently, as we all know, undertaken a contract at the Yukon Indian Centre, to operate the



cafeteria and coffee service, and there are more openings coming along all the time.

One of the problems now is that with so many trainees, if I may use that term, out on these contract jobs, you have a smaller number back at the Rehab Centre to train in the other areas, but I don't see that as a difficulty. I think that's great.

I think that the staff there would like me to extend, on their behalf, appreciation to a number of volunteers from this community who work there everyday with those people and we do appreciate the time they give.

I cannot speak for the Board of the Society or the Rehab Centre but I know that that is their feeling. If you would like a detailed account from Mr. Riba, I am sure he would be happy to provide it with the number of people and what they are doing and where the costs go and so on.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, just how many dollars are we looking at in this? We give them a grant and they do the operation. I believe that was the arrangement, was it not?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, we pay an amount per day for each person there in the Rehab Centre.

**Mr. Chairman:** They have other means of -- They are being paid for their services. They are collecting from -- If they have Indian status involved, they are being paid by the Indian Health on that basis.

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, Mr. Williams has the figures.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, this budget contains an allowance for the purchase of spaces at the Rehab Centre at the rate of twenty clients at \$16.00 per day for 250 days so they anticipate buying spaces for 20 people and they anticipate a cost of \$20.00 per space per day.

Sixteen dollars per day for 20 people for 250 days -- so it is \$80,000.00.

**Mr. Chairman:** That is not all from this government though, Mr. Williams.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, that is what we anticipate in the way of buying space. In addition to that, we also pay allowances to people who are working at the Rehab Centre. There is an allowance of -- or a budget of \$11.00 a day for people employed at the Rehab Centre.

The students themselves get a training allowance from us of \$11.00 a day similar to a Manpower Training course.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, would then the age requirements that -- to get this, the same as the Man-

power, would that be lower or how does that work? Because with the Vocational School, in order to receive a training allowance, a subsistence allowance, you have to be a graduate from school for two years or out of school for two years, right, under the Manpower?

Does it work the same way here?

**Mr. Chairman:** No.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, I am not certain that they use the Manpower criteria for paying that training allowance. It is structured quite similarly but it may not be identical. We can certainly find out.

**Mrs. Watson:** No, it is not necessary.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, one other question. What about people who are mentally or physically handicapped, who live outside the city of Whitehorse and want to take advantage of this training program, rehabilitation training program, what allowances are available to them?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, once again, the individual student, if that is the proper term, receives a training allowance of \$11.20 a day, I think that -- or at least that is the average but there is nothing in the budget beyond that.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** Mr. Chairman, in this area, we are dependent upon the generosity of local residents who open their homes to out of town students who apply for a place at the Rehab Centre. Here again, we owe a great debt to a number of people who have taken in these handicapped students and do it for less than it should be paying them but without them, we would be restricted in the number that we accept. From the very beginning, the number of places, residential openings for them has controlled the number of out of town applicants who could be accepted for this training and we hope that as the students at the centre become more proficient in their own training areas and their life skills and are able to become independent physically from the centre, we will be able to accept more from other parts of the territory.

But it is a matter of finding suitable accommodation with a cooperative and helpful person there to assist.

**Mr. Chairman:** I might add that the centre has been so successful, they have now really out grown their facilities and they are looking for larger facilities now, already, in less than a year's operation.

**Mrs. Watson:**

**Mrs. Watson:** Actually, that is good news, isn't it? A person doesn't usually like to look at providing more facilities but in this area it is gratifying. But isn't there a subsistence allowance available when we send people outside for training which we have done and we still are doing, rehabilitation, there is subsistence allowance



available to them, why would it not apply to people coming in from the outlying areas.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, the \$11.00 a day that I was talking about, was the subsistence allowance. It's what the student receives, whether he's at the vocational school, the Rehab Centre, or at an outside institution. That is the allowance which is paid to the student.

In addition to that, we also pay the Rehab Centre so much per space. Is there some confusion between the two payments, perhaps?

There's one payment made to the Centre itself at the rate of \$16.00 per space bought, then there's another payment made to the individual trainee at the rate of about \$11.00 a day.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, it's not identified as a living subsidy.

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, it's under Primary 52, which is subsistence and maintenance, the same Primary used in the vocational school, for instance, for a similar sort of payment.

**Mrs. Watson:** Okay.

**Mr. Chairman:** Establishment 507, clear?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, just an observation on the subsistence of \$11.00, I was thinking that isn't a great deal, but then when you figure it out, it's more than an old age pensioner gets, right?

**Mr. Chairman:** Establishment 510, Administration, \$418,300.00.

**Mrs. Watson:**

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, I'll ask the question now that we're here, 510. I note the Administration costs of hospitalization insurance is 80 thousand 9. The administration costs for Yukon Health Cre Insurance Scheme is 277 thousand, point 3, a tremendous difference, but I realize some of that is for the computer service that we have that we buy from outside. Am I correct on that, 114,000 of that?

But why would there need to be a difference in the administrative costs between the two programs, because I think the one Administrator is the Administrator for both the programs?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, in this current fiscal year, 1977-78, as everybody I think realizes by now, it's the intention of the government to do the processing for Medicare payments in Whitehorse, as opposed to doing them in Vancouver by consultant, and as a result of that change, there are some non-recurring costs, which appear this year, which won't appear in the normal course of events.

For instance, under Primary 99, the Department of Health has allowed up to \$25,000.00 for training staff, and that's a one time cost associated with the take-over. That involves us sending staff which is going to have to

be recruited in Whitehorse to Vancouver, to participate in two processing cycles, and it also involves some costs that might be involved in bringing supervisory staff from Vancouver to Whitehorse, also once again, to make sure that there are no bugs in a transfer. That's part of the addition.

Another element is that because there is going to be an overlap between us doing the processing ourselves at Y.T.G., and the processing being done by the computer company in Vancouver, so once again, there's — in this first year there's an element of double expenditures. We don't want to cut off one system today, and start the other one tomorrow. There's an overlapping period, therefore, we are going to need four people to administer this program.

These four people have to be brought on in advance of us stopping the processing in Vancouver.

Those are the prime reasons, and they're associated with the take-over of C.U. & C., that's the prime reason, and on the other hand, there always are going to be more costs here than there are under Y.H.I.S. because there are more records to be kept under Medicare. There's premiums to be collected, and therefore accounts receivable records and this sort of thing, whereas under Y.H.I.S., those costs don't exist.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, then this year is an exceptional year for the administrative costs for the health care scheme. Then what were the costs last year, and what staff did we have last year? I don't have mine here.

The administration, including the contract with C.U. & C.?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, last year, the Department of Health had administrative staff spread throughout several establishments. There were a couple of people in Establishment 502, and because it was difficult to see what the total administrative core of the Department was, they have all been moved under one Establishment.

Last year, if you look at Establishment 525, you will see that there was an allowance of approximately, oh about 55, \$65,000.00 for administration included in the Main Estimates.

In the Supplementary Estimates, we had to beef that up because of the increase in costs at C.U. & C., so probably we're looking at administrative costs of about 75 to \$85,000.00 in 1975, or rather 1976-77.

**Mrs. Watson:** How much?  
More than that

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, I'm going to have to get back to my Supplemental Estimates to maybe reconstruct the figure, because there are some administrative expenses shown under 525, and that was increased by the amount of the supplementals, so I'm sorry, I don't have the exact comparable figure. I can get that.

**Mr. Chairman:**



**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Perhaps I can add a bit more information. Under the Administrative budget in 1977-78, there's a total shown of \$277,000.00 for Y.H.C.I.P. The non-recurring costs are those shown under Primary 20 of \$114,000.00 and that amount shown under Primary 99 of \$25,000.00.

If we take that \$140,000.00 off, then we will see that on an ongoing basis, the administrative costs would be in the neighbourhood of \$130,000.00 plus perhaps another \$20,000.00 for salaries, because that budget, I don't think, allows for full year's salaries for the extra people, so the ongoing administrative costs will be in the neighbourhood of 130 to \$150,000.00.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Mr. Chairman, a question of Mr. Williams. When we were talking of man years, I see we have 15, and just by my calculations, and I could be wrong here, I think last year we had 10. Is that correct under those areas, has there been an increase of 5 or 4 somewhere in that area?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, yes, if you add the man years from 502, 515 and 525, last year's man years were, I believe 10, and there is an increase of 15. Four are related to the take-over of the processing of C.U. & C. records, and in addition, there has been one man year added in, in case it's required at the time the Health Services is taken over, so there is a proposed increase of 5.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, now the Y.T.G. is embarking upon taking over the providing the computer service, or whatever you call it, for the Yukon Health Care Insurance Scheme. We're renting equipment, I believe, expanding the kind of equipment that we have, in Treasury, to make provision for it. The Health Care Scheme will be charged, by Treasury, for the service that they perform for them. Am I correct in that?

**Mr. Williams:** No.

**Mrs. Watson:** Okay, how will it be done?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, at the present time, with the exception of computer processing which is done for Workmen's Compensation, all processing costs done within the government of the Yukon are absorbed by Treasury, all data processing costs.

It might be worthwhile to try and allocate those costs to the user departments, but it's not being done at this present time.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, then can we look at a decrease in the administrative costs of health care in-

surance scheme next year?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** Mr. Chairman, I've got some comparative costs some place. I'm just trying to find them, to show what the costs would be this year, if we were doing the processing ourselves as at April 1, versus the costs that are incurred by using C.U. & C.

For instance, within Treasury, we are going to incur additional costs of \$40,000.00 a year for the rental of a larger computer and a faster printer. In addition, the department of Health is going to incur extra salary costs on an annual basis, of about \$54,000.00 for four people. Those two figures together, add up to \$95,000.00, so our processing costs would be \$95,000.00. We're just guessing, but we think the C.U. & C. costs would be in the neighbourhood of \$135,000.00, so for the government as a whole, there is a savings of \$40,000.00, but in addition to that, it now means that we do the processing ourselves, rather than relying on other people, and it does mean that we've got a larger computer that can be used for other purposes.

Slightly offsetting that, there are some non-recurring costs, as you can see, and the non-recurring costs might be \$20,000.00 in Treasury O & M, \$25,000.00 in Health O & M, and perhaps 15 to \$20,000.00 in capital. So it's going to take a couple of years to amortize the non-recurring costs in the long run, on an economically sound take-over.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Lengerke?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Could I have some clarification again on the 95,000, 40,000 and the 54? What was that again?

**Mr. Williams:** Our increased rental costs for the data processing equipment amounts to approximately \$40,000.00 a year and extra additional salaries in the Department of Health are from 50 to 55,000 dollars.

**Mr. Lengerke:** Additional salaries?

**Mr. Williams:** The salaries for four people.

**Mr. Lengerke:** Okay.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Watson?

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, that's fine, we'll accept it, but I certainly hope that next year we don't have a request by Y.H.C.I.P. that they need more staff in order to do the work because of the data processing that is being done here in the Yukon.

Will this, other than it's supposed to save us money, will it also speed up the processing of the claims? Right now, we have to send them into Vancouver and then have them come back. Is it going to make this a speedier process?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Sherlock?

**Mr. Sherlock:** Mr. Chairman, I certainly hope so. I don't think it will probably happen overnight, but certainly, looking over say the next two years, as Mr. Wil-



liams pointed out, we're looking to not only the savings he mentioned, but perhaps additional savings which might come about by a reduction in personnel costs in health care.

I don't want to speak for the Health Minister, but our intention is that eventually we would get some of the work that is being done manually initially we hope to get it on the computer, and we're talking specifically now of Accounts Receivable.

The four people that they now have doing receivables there, we hope that we will be able to take some of that load away from them, so there should be a reduction in the course of events. Just when this will happen, I cannot say.

**Mrs. Watson:** But there will be a speeding up of the process?

**Mr. Sherlock:** Very much so.

**Mr. Chairman:** There might be some reverse psychology there because C.U. & C. payments are considerably slower to Vancouver doctors than they are to Yukon doctors.

**Mrs. Watson:** Is that right?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, it is.

**Mrs. Watson:** Mr. Chairman, just one comment, and I'm sure that the Chairman knows what I mean. I wonder if there will be a requirement to change the legislation at that point, let it fall on the computer and the Accounts Receivable are also done. There just may be a requirement for changes.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mrs. Whyard?

**Hon. Mrs. Whyard:** I would not like to mislead the Honourable Members into thinking this is going to be a zip, zap performance because there will still be requirements for decisions by the medical referee on all these claims as well, and we haven't got him computerized yet.

**Mr. Chairman:** Clear?

**Some Members:** Clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** Ms. Millard?

**Ms. Millard:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to move that Mr. Speaker do now resume the Chair.

**Mr. Fleming:** I will second that.

**Mr. Chairman:** It's been moved by Ms. Millard, seconded by Mr. Fleming that Mr. Speaker do now resume the Chair. Are you ready for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Chairman:** Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** The motion is carried.

*(Motion carried)*

**Mr. Chairman:** The witnesses are excused. Thank you.

*(Mr. Speaker resumes Chair)*

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now call the House to order. May we have a report from the Chairman of Committees?

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, the Committee of the Whole have considered Bill Number 2, Second Appropriation Ordinance, 1977-78, and directed me to report progress on same.

The Committee have also directed me to ask leave to sit again.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** And leave is so granted.

May I have your further pleasure at this time? The Honourable Member from Whitehorse Riverdale?

**Mr. Lengerke:** Mr. Speaker, I move that we do now call it 5:00 o'clock.

**Ms. Millard:** I second that, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse Riverdale, seconded by the Honourable Member from Ogilvie, that we do now call it 5:00 o'clock.

Are you prepared for the question?

**Some Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall declare that the Motion has carried.

*(Motion carried)*

**Mr. Speaker:** This House now stands adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

*(Adjourned)*



LEGISLATIVE RETURN #7  
1977 (First) Session

Mr. Speaker  
Members of the Assembly

On March 2, 1977 Ms. Millard asked the following question:

"Prior to the approval of the Civil Legal Aid Program, I understand that there were some problems with the lawyers. Are they now agreeable to the Program?"

The answer to the above question is as follows:

Some problems still exist in carrying out the civil legal aid program. Only two of the five law firms in town (Cable Veale and Cosco and Nielsen, Anton and McBride) have agreed so far to accept civil legal aid certificates. Negotiations with the Bar are still under way and it is hoped that all firms will eventually see their way to accept legal aid certificates.

March 9, 1977

*Phillipie*  
Signature

LEGISLATIVE RETURN #5  
1977 (First) Session

Mr. Speaker,  
Members of the Assembly

On March 8, 1977, Ms Millard asked the following question:

1. How many resolutions passed by the School Committee Conference on Nov. 19, 1976, have been acted upon? Which ones are they? When may the House expect action on any remaining resolutions?
2. If the Executive School Committee has been formed, are there monies available for them to travel and hold meetings? Will the Minister of Education be forming a policy delineating the relationship of his Department with the Executive School Committee, and may the House have a copy of that policy?"

The answer to the above question is as follows:

There were two resolutions from the Conference that had to be acted upon before any others could be considered. The first resolution dealt with the formation of the Executive School Committee. This committee has been formed. The Chairman of the committee is Mr. B. Warner of Whitehorse. The following is a list of areas and their representatives:

- Area #1: North Highway  
Dawson City, Mayo, Elsa, Clinton Creek,  
Old Crow, Pelly River  
Representative: Mrs. Bonnie Barber,  
Dawson City.
- Area #2: South Highway  
Carmacks, Watson Lake, Ross River, Faro,  
Teslin, Carcross  
Representative: Father Rigaud, Faro
- Area #3: West Highway  
Kluane, Haines Junction, Beaver Creek  
Representative: Charles Zikland,  
Destruction Bay.
- Area #4: Whitehorse.  
Representatives: Brian Warner  
Pat Lortie  
Frances Nowasad  
John Farynowski

Mr. Warner has drawn up a meeting agenda and has been instructed to make arrangements for a meeting. The Department of Education will cover the costs of all necessary meetings of this committee.

One of the agenda items for the up-coming meeting will be the formation of a policy for the Minister's consideration delineating the relationship of the committee and the Department of Education. When this policy is available, the House will be advised.

The other resolution deals with listing the resolutions in order of priority. This task is to be done by each school committee and returned to the Department of Education. To date not all school committees have completed this task. Compiling the overall results of this list of priorities will be a first task of the Executive. In respect to this particular task, the Department of Education will provide whatever assistance is required.

14 March, 1977 .

*Dan Haag*