

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA****Title: Monday, May 11, 1981 2:30 p.m.**

[The House met at 2:30 p.m.]

**PRAYERS**

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

**head: INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, today I am very pleased to introduce to you and to Members of the Legislative Assembly a very distinguished visitor in your Speaker's gallery. Mr. Louis Guirandou is the distinguished ambassador to Canada from Ivory Coast and is with his wife and Mr. Bamba, the Councillor of Economics and Commercial Affairs. His Excellency has had a very distinguished career in the diplomatic services of Ivory Coast, also serves as a member of the International Olympic Committee, and has had opportunity today to visit with Members of the Legislative Assembly. As part of his visit to Alberta, he'll be visiting Kananaskis Country and Banff, and we do hope he'll have a very sincere and welcome stay in Alberta. I would ask members of the Assembly to extend the very best wishes to him, his wife, and his aide.

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, it's an honor for me to introduce to you, and through you to the members of this Legislative Assembly, the 652nd Lord Mayor of London, the immediate past Lord Mayor Sir Peter Gadsden. Sir Peter is a native Albertan, born in Mannville, the son of Rev. Basil Gadsden, the Anglican minister at the time. He is a graduate of Cambridge University in geology, mineralogy, and chemistry. His active involvement in the mining industry dates back to 1952. I think we could say that Sir Peter is a world traveller, frequenting areas of the world like Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, and of course Canada on many occasions. Sir Peter is an Honourary Fellow of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, a chartered engineer, a Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, a member of the London Metal Exchange, an underwriting member of Lloyd's of London, and consultant to many companies, one of which is Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd. of London, the parent company of Union Tractor of Edmonton.

Mr. Speaker, in your gallery is Sir Peter Gadsden, the immediate past Lord Mayor of London, accompanied by Maureen McKay, senior conference consultant, Tourism and Small Business. I wonder if they would rise and receive the very warm Alberta welcome of this Assembly.

**head: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS****Bill 42****The School Amendment Act, 1981**

DR. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill 42, The School Amendment Act, 1981. The purpose of the Bill is to introduce amendments with respect to six areas: one, apportionment of federal grants in lieu of

taxes; two, provision of authority to allow cash grants between school boards; three, board of reference orders; four, transfer students; five, clarification of school attendance with respect to boundary changes; and six, work experience programs.

[Leave granted; Bill 42 read a first time]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 42 be placed on the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders.

[Motion carried]

**Bill Pr. 1****The Katherine Jean Jackson Adoption Act**

MR. LYSONS: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill Pr. 1, The Katherine Jean Jackson Adoption Act.

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for the adoption of Katherine Jean Jackson, who is over the age of 18 years, by her stepfather. There are several children in the family. Some are under 18 and can be adopted readily. Katherine is over 18, so we have to have a special Bill.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 1 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 2****The Honourable Patrick Burns Settlements Amendment Act, 1981**

MR. OMAN: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill Pr. 2, The Honourable Patrick Burns Settlements Amendment Act, 1981.

The purpose of this Bill is to extend the terms of benefits to recipients of this fund. It was rather limited before, funds have accumulated, and they want more people to benefit.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 2 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 3****The Dental Mechanics Amendment Act**

MRS. EMBURY: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill Pr. 3, The Dental Mechanics Amendment Act. The purpose of this Bill is to allow dental mechanics to advertise themselves as denturists.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 3 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 4****The Calgary Golf and Country Club Amendment Act, 1981**

MR. PAYNE: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill Pr. 4, The Calgary Golf and Country Club Amendment Act, 1981. The purpose of this Bill is to make amended provision for the issuance of shares in the club, to provide for different classes of membership, and for the distribution of assets to charities should the club ever be wound up.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 4 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 5**  
**The Calgary Research and Development**  
**Authority Act**

MR. OMAN: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill Pr. 5, The Calgary Research and Development Authority Act.

The purpose of this Bill is to bring into being this Act, with a composition of members to give guidance and governance to a Calgary research authority. Members will be made up from city council, the University of Calgary, and the chamber of commerce.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 5 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 6**  
**The Eau Claire Trust Company Act**

MR. PAYNE: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill Pr. 6, The Eau Claire Trust Company Act. The purpose of this Bill is to incorporate a new trust company.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 6 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 7**  
**The Edmonton Ambulance Authority Act**

MR. MACK: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill Pr. 7. The purpose of the Bill is to create an ambulance authority for the city of Edmonton and to provide for its operation, funding, and accountability.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 7 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 8**  
**The April Marie Harris Limitation Act**

MR. COOK: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill Pr. 8, The April Marie Harris Limitation Act. The Bill provides for a judge to hear the merits of a case, being the issue of whether or not an action should be allowed against a doctor who attended at the birth of April Marie Harris and the hospital where she was born.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 8 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 9**  
**The Paramount Life Insurance Company**  
**Amendment Act, 1981**

MR. PAYNE: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill Pr. 9, The Paramount Life Insurance Company Amendment Act, 1981. The purpose of this Bill is to authorize the company to increase its capital from time to time by a further \$40 million by directors' resolution, approved by the shareholders and the Superintendent of Insurance.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 9 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 10**  
**The Alberta Bible Institute**  
**Amendment Act**

MR. STROMBERG: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce a Bill, being The Alberta Bible Institute Amendment Act. The intent behind this amendment is to change the

name of the Alberta Bible Institute to Gardner Bible College.

I might point out that this fine institution is located in the city of Camrose.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 10 read a first time]

**Bill Pr. 11**  
**The Honourable Patrick Burns Settlements**  
**Amendment Act, 1981 (No. 2)**

MR. ZAOZIRNY: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce a Bill, being The Honourable Patrick Burns Settlements Amendment Act, 1981 (No. 2). The purpose of this Bill is to transfer the funds in the trust into the care of the trustees of the Calgary and district foundation and to authorize them to apply the trust funds which cannot be expended for the benefit of the present beneficiaries for general charitable purposes, primarily for the residents of Calgary.

[Leave granted; Bill Pr. 11 read a first time]

head: **INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you, and through you to the members of the Legislature, 95 grade 9 students from the Brooks junior high school in my constituency. Brooks is the second city I have in my constituency; I have Bow City, and now it's going to be Brooks.

They are accompanied by their teachers Barbara Tarney, Joan Redpath, Kathy Delday, John Powell, and Jim Hartley, secretary Jan Hufnagel, and bus drivers Vi Aeron, Sedar Berg, and Sharron Kiper. Mr. Speaker, they are in both galleries, and I would ask them to rise and receive the recognition of the House.

head: **ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

**Interest Rates — Treasury Branches**

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, today my question to the Provincial Treasurer is with regard to interest rates in the area of accountability that can be taken by this government. I'd like to refer the Provincial Treasurer to a November 7, 1979, announcement in *Hansard*, where the minister indicated that the treasury branches' "small business loan program for existing borrowers will be held at 14.5 per cent". I'd like to ask the minister whether those interest rates still exist and whether that program is still in place?

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, there was a modification of the policy of the treasury branches since the announcement — the hon. member is correct — made on November 7, 1979. In addition to the initiatives reviewed in the Assembly last Thursday and Friday with respect to the selective assistance and subsidies in AOC, the Agricultural Development Corporation, and the housing area, the treasury branch is providing a 1 per cent discount off the prime rate for its customers. This is resulting in a significant benefit and subsidy, in effect, for those customers, totalling approximately \$4.2 million over the course of the year. That rate, that discount, that benefit

of 1 per cent off the prime is the most attractive rate of any financial institution in the province of Alberta.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Could the Provincial Treasurer indicate when the program of 14.5 per cent loans for small businesses and farmers was taken out of effect? As well, could the minister indicate the reasons for discontinuing that program?

MR. HYNDMAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'd be happy to. When we made the announcement in the fall of 1979, we indicated that if and when interest rates dropped — and they subsequently did drop — through the then support figure of 14.5 per cent, the program would cease to continue. That occurred, the program ceased, and was replaced by the beneficial new program which, I have indicated, provides over \$4 million in subsidies for Albertans this year.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer. Could he indicate whether or not the cancellation of the Agricultural Development Corporation's 1 per cent service charge is still in effect at this time? That was on loans guaranteed by the Agricultural Development Corporation through the treasury branches.

MR. HYNDMAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On November 7 that was indicated and stated as being a temporary cancellation. My understanding is that it has been in effect and will continue in effect to benefit farmers.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer with regard to the Alberta Opportunity Company. The base rate was at 12 per cent at that point. Could the minister indicate whether that base rate still holds and will continue to hold?

MR. HYNDMAN: As I recall, Mr. Speaker, that was discussed last week. My colleague fully answered it, and I'd ask him to elaborate on it. The base rate of 12 per cent, which of course is very attractive and which represents a figure 7.5 per cent less than prime today, so it is even more beneficial for borrowers now than it was — and that can drop down to 10 per cent or up to 15 per cent under certain circumstances. All those rates are very beneficial and represent another selective rifling-in subsidy to small business men.

Perhaps my colleague the Minister of Tourism and Small Business would like to offer extra comments.

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, what I might do is just reiterate my answer of last Friday, when the question was raised.

For the hon. member, that's exactly what the rates are. The base rate is 12 per cent. It's down 2 per cent for what is determined by the Alberta Opportunity Company to be a small town, 10,000 people or less; a small business, 25 employees or less. It can be as low as 10 per cent. On the other side, it can be as high as 15 per cent, primarily in the metropolitan areas of Edmonton and Calgary.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer with regard to the policy that's been enunciated and changed by this government from a fixed-rate interest policy to a floating interest policy, where by now the interest rate will be 1 per cent

under prime. Could the minister indicate whether that floating interest rate policy will continue, or would the government be looking at the possibility of a fixed interest rate on some of the loans for farmers and small businesses?

MR. HYNDMAN: With respect to the treasury branch position, that will certainly continue for the moment. As I indicated in the past, through the very helpful network of treasury branch managers throughout the province, we will continue to monitor and assess the effects of the existing interest rates. For the moment, though, we will certainly keep that policy in effect.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Could the Provincial Treasurer indicate one or two specific reasons the policy was changed from a fixed rate to this floating rate?

MR. HYNDMAN: Certainly there are mixed benefits to a situation which would involve a fixed rate, Mr. Speaker. I think all members can appreciate that at a time when interest rates are very volatile and are moving up and down quite rapidly, as has certainly been the case over the past 18 months, it provides an added degree of certainty and predictability for borrowers to know a policy is in effect which moves up and down and therefore reflects the realities of the day-to-day market. That certainly is one of the basic reasons this approach was taken. As I indicated, the benefit to Albertans is approximately \$4 million in subsidy over the year, and is the most appropriate one at the moment. It's certainly the best rate, the most attractive, of any lending institution in Alberta.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer. When the treasury branches had the fixed rate, of course that would then have an impact on the rate the treasury branches paid to deposits. During that period of time, was there any significant change in the portion of savings in Alberta that was deposited in treasury branches?

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, I don't have the information on that. I'll certainly take notice of it, though, and see if I can find the information. I would think the savings would have increased a bit, because the interest rate paid by the treasury branch to their savings depositors was in the market rate area and was attractive.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer. Was a major factor in the government's arriving or moving to a floating rate as opposed to a fixed rate the possible impact a fixed rate would have on what the treasury branches in fact would pay to depositors? Or in fact did the government say to the treasury branches, the profits don't have to be as great this year, but keep the borrowing rates down?

MR. HYNDMAN: That would have been one of the considerations I'm sure the treasury branches would have borne in mind in evolving the new approach of using a floating rate. There has to be a degree of reality in the market place. I think Albertans look upon the treasury branches as a safe and credible place in which they can put their moneys and with which they can do business. So there has to be reality in terms of the market place and the continuation of treasury branch policies that are real-

istic in the Canadian inflation situation, most of which is of course under the monetary and fiscal control of the federal government.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister with regard to the effects of high interest rates and the loans from treasury branches. As I look at the Bank of Canada review of interest rates back in 1978-79, the low interest rate is 12.25 per cent, which means that the actual rate of borrowing is even higher. Could the minister indicate at this time whether there is an unusual number of bankruptcies or loans in default in treasury branches? If the minister isn't aware of that, is a monitoring mechanism in place so we in this Legislature could be aware of that?

MR. HYNDMAN: I have had standing instructions to be informed if dramatic trends like that have come forward, and to date they have not. But as I indicated, through the very effective vehicle of treasury branch managers across the province — in towns, villages, and large and small cities — we will be continuing to monitor, assess, and keep in close touch with that and other situations.

MR. KNAAK: A supplementary to the minister, Mr. Speaker. If my recollection is correct, last year the policy in terms of the fixed rate was confined to existing loans and not to new loans. Is this preferred rate confined to existing loans, or do all new business loans to small businesses and farmers take the benefit of this lower rate?

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, that policy has not changed from last year and continues with respect to those existing loans.

DR. PAPROSKI: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister of Tourism and Small Business would indicate to the House why the rate is lower for rural and smaller businesses.

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, when the Alberta Opportunity Company was formed some years ago, one of the problems facing the smaller business person in the smaller communities was the reluctance by the lending institutions at the time to move away from metropolitan centres and get involved in loans. Thus the Alberta Opportunity Company was struck to assist the small business person in those communities away from the metropolitan centres, by way of assisting in financing. As a result of that we have that differential in the small community, 10,000 people or less, 25 employees or less.

As well, I should point out for the Members of the Legislative Assembly that once approved, the interest rates applied to a loan in the Alberta Opportunity Company is fixed for the life of that loan.

DR. PAPROSKI: For further clarification, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister indicate to the House whether it's likely, possible, or could happen that a small business in an urban community could get that lower interest rate?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, the interest rate available to a small business in the metropolitan centres would be basically 15 per cent, and that is still a preferred rate. That is only as a lender of last resort; in other words, after having been turned down by the conventional lending institutions. Mr. Speaker, I should point out that in

the Edmonton area, for example, a year ago some 24 loans were approved; in Calgary 26 loans were approved.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the final supplementary on this topic.

MR. KNAAK: Mr. Speaker, to the minister: is the rate for existing loans to small business prime minus one, or in calculating the rate as it is normally, is it the normal bank prime plus one and a half, and then reduced? In other words, is the rate prime minus one or prime minus one plus the normal mark-up?

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, the reduction is 1 per cent off whatever interest rate the institution would charge to that person, company, or entity. So if X per cent was the normal interest rate that person or corporation would be charged, 1 per cent is taken off that — a total of about a \$4 million subsidy over a given year to those Albertan customers at the treasury branch.

#### First Ministers' Conference on the Economy

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my second question is rather related to the first and is to the Premier. It's with regard to the meeting with the first ministers of Canada, which includes the Prime Minister. Indications are that other premiers of Canada would like to have a meeting of this kind. I wonder if the Premier could indicate at this point whether the economy, specifically interest, is an item on an agenda that may be format for a meeting of first ministers.

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, definitely. The implication in the hon. leader's question is that the initiative in that matter has not been taken by Alberta, which isn't true. We discussed the matter at the premiers' conference last August in Winnipeg. On behalf of Alberta, we certainly pressed for a first ministers' conference on the economy. The hon. leader will recall that we had conferences on the economy in February 1978 and the fall of 1978. Because of the Prime Minister's attention to the constitutional issue, we haven't had a first ministers' conference on the economy for that considerable period of time.

It has always been the position of this government, and of me as leader of government, that an annual first minister's meeting on the economy should be regularly scheduled in the fall. The advantage of that is in terms of both provincial budgets and overall economic planning, to bring the first ministers together to discuss the economy. In my judgment, it is regrettable, and part of the reason we see such an absence of concentration on economic issues from the federal government that there has not been that conference. We would welcome it at any time.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the Premier. I certainly wasn't indicating that the initiative wasn't coming from here. Could the Premier indicate whether some formal initiative such as letters, telegrams, or a telephone call would be initiated to the Prime Minister to encourage him to do same?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, that has really already been done in a number of different ways. As I said, the communique issued from the Winnipeg conference last August by the chairman at that time very clearly empha-

sized the need for such a conference.

It strikes me now that as a result of the continued attention of the Prime Minister to the constitution, we probably will see a situation where we'll be having the annual premiers' conference hosted this year in British Columbia in August, and at that time I hope we could very clearly get back to where should be, which is a regular first ministers' meeting on the economy in the fall. If events occur and alter between now and then and there is the desirability to accelerate that meeting, it certainly would be encouraged by us. On the other hand, it shouldn't be done just as a function of attempting to meet an individual, short-term problem. The real use of those first ministers' meetings on the economy is when we get involved in intermediate-term planning and intermediate-term co-operation on economic issues rather than merely responding to pressures of the immediate moment.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Premier. I raised the question because since last August the prime interest rates have increased from 12.25 to 19.5 per cent. That is short-term, hopefully. At the same time the Bank of Canada, through the government of Canada, has instituted a policy of following the interest rate of the United States, which is a longer term policy. I would see that as the focal point of a meeting. Because of changed circumstances since August, are there initiatives through the other premiers of Canada that should be initiated at this point in time to get the meeting with the Prime Minister, hopefully in July 1981?

MR. LOUGHEED: Certainly, Mr. Speaker, there could be some advantage in doing that, but in my judgment we should be directing our attention to the underlying structural weaknesses in the Canadian economy that create a situation where we have to track the American interest rate, which I mentioned last Thursday was in our judgment unnecessary.

Just responding to the view of the Premier of Ontario, having a first ministers' conference on the question of interest rates and inflation doesn't really meet the need. The need in Canada is to look at the strengths in this country, to build upon those strengths, and to have co-ordinated, intermediate-term economic policy. So I hope that whatever first ministers' meeting — and I would have no objection to any earlier one — the agenda, objectives, and direction of that meeting would be clearly toward an intermediate-term approach.

Without taking too long on this subject, Mr. Speaker, I might just refer the hon. Leader of the Opposition to the communique issued from the last first ministers' meeting on the economy in the fall of 1978. The most important part of that communique — from memory, and I believe I'm right — the first item was that it is the private sector, not the public sector, that creates jobs in this country, and that the private sector should be encouraged. I'd welcome an opportunity to go back to the table in Ottawa and remind the Prime Minister of his agreement to that communique.

#### Hospital Facilities

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care. Could the minister please advise what consideration was given to and what the disposition was of the petition presented by the Member for Lethbridge West in regard to the two-hospital committee?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, that was one of the expressions of opinion and viewpoints weighed very carefully when the decision was made with respect to the construction of hospital facilities for the city of Lethbridge.

MR. SINDLINGER: A supplementary please, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister assure the Assembly that the changes that will be made in respect of medical facilities in southern Alberta will be comparable to those in other regions of the province, and that they will meet the needs of the residents of that area into the 1990s?

MR. RUSSELL: They certainly will, Mr. Speaker. Insofar as bed ratios, Lethbridge and region will be considerably better off than many other parts of the province. With respect to the level of services, certainly there has been some minor compromise in trying to split the services between two hospitals, to a degree that would not have been there in one major regional hospital. But I think I can assure the residents of that region that they are getting an excellent hospital construction program.

MR. SINDLINGER: A final supplementary please, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate when the changes will be undertaken, and when it is anticipated they will be completed?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, the program is ready to go ahead immediately. The municipal hospital has met as a board, passed a resolution, and is getting on with their job. The other hospital, St. Michael's, is still having doubts as to whether or not they ought to proceed at this time.

MR. SINDLINGER: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary then. Could the minister indicate whether or not he has met with the St. Michael's board and visited St. Michael's hospital?

MR. RUSSELL: I've met with board members or spokesmen for the board on many occasions in many places and will be going down to their hospital again early next month, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SINDLINGER: Excuse me please, Mr. Speaker. For clarification, has the minister met with the board on a formal basis and visited the hospital on a formal basis, as opposed to just members from time to time?

MR. RUSSELL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have met with the board on a formal occasion, both by themselves and in joint meetings with the Lethbridge Municipal hospital board. None of those meetings has taken place in St. Michael's hospital, but the next one is scheduled to do so.

#### Beer Sales at Sports and Special Events

MR. MANDEVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the hon. Solicitor General. Could he indicate what response there has been to the amendments to The Alberta Liquor Control Act last fall, permitting the sale of beer at sporting events?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, I know that two cities, Edmonton and Calgary, have that matter under consideration. Perhaps the hon. member might direct his questions to the cities for their response.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate whether the Liquor Control Board has received a number of applications for approval for this type of beer sale?

MR. HARLE: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I didn't catch all the words the hon. member used in his question.

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Speaker, the question was: have a number of applications for this type of licence been received by the Alberta Liquor Control Board, other than Calgary and Edmonton?

MR. HARLE: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate the guidelines they follow when deciding whether or not to approve the applications?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, that is presently under discussion between the board and the two cities. I don't think they have been finalized as yet.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Is the minister then saying that guidelines could vary from one municipality to another? Or are only the two municipalities looking for a consistent set of guidelines?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, there is some flexibility, because they want to be able to handle the sale of liquor in slightly different ways. The board is prepared to meet with the two municipal administrations to work out what would be a satisfactory arrangement in both cases.

MR. MANDEVILLE: One final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As a result of the amendments to the Act, will there be any changes as far as special event licences are concerned? I was thinking of the beer gardens that were held throughout the province. Will there be any changes in that area?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, as far as I know, it would not be the intention of the board to make any specific changes in that area from the practice developed in the past.

#### Municipal Financing

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It deals with the question of increases in municipal borrowing rates. I pose the question in light of the statement the minister made in the House on April 7, when he indicated that the Alberta government wished to bring municipal borrowing rates more in line with the going rates across the country. Can the minister now assure the Assembly and, through the Assembly, Alberta municipalities, that he will abandon the philosophy and will not propose any further increases in the rates charged by the Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation for municipal debentures?

MR. MOORE: First of all, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is incorrect in his assumptions that I had said we were intending to bring municipal borrowings in line with other interest rates across the country. He's also incorrect

in suggesting that anyone could guarantee that there would be no increases in municipal borrowing costs.

By way of the introduction of that program and its establishment for another fiscal year, really we've ensured that municipalities are not faced with the fluctuating interest costs that other people in our society are, from the beginning of one fiscal year or thereabouts till the end of that fiscal year. We can and have assured municipalities that the interest subsidy that brings the effective interest rate down to 11 per cent will continue throughout the present fiscal year. To my way of thinking, that's a very substantial contribution to municipal financing, and a system of ensuring there is some sureness in costs of their borrowed money which no one else in our society has an opportunity to receive.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Is the minister telling the Assembly today — different from what the minister told the Assembly on April 7, I believe — that in fact the government's policy now is not to bring lendings from the Municipal Financing Corporation more in line with the going rates across the country? Because if my memory is accurate, I believe the minister used the terms "going rates across the country" early in April.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, when you consider the subsidy provided from my department, certainly an increase in the effective costs to municipal governments to borrow from the Municipal Financing Corporation was necessary, in my view, to be somewhat in line with the trends that occurred.

In my view the hon. member was indicating that there was some attempt on behalf of this government to keep increasing interest rates to municipal governments gradually throughout the course of a year. The facts of the matter are that I've said that that interest rate will be maintained for this fiscal year. Obviously it will be reviewed again, and the decision made with respect to the effective level of interest rates in March 1982 will have to reflect current conditions with respect to interest rates. But it is wrong to suggest that it is our intention to move those up continually throughout the fiscal year, and that's what I was saying the hon. member of the opposition was incorrect in. Now if the member wants to quote my remarks from *Hansard*, I think he ought to do so in full, so the Assembly is left with full understanding of what I said.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. Is the minister now indicating or advising the Assembly that next year Alberta municipalities should be looking at interest rates which will be more or less tied to rates across Canada? With the rates being increased by 2 per cent this year, that in fact has happened now. The minister indicated earlier that the government wasn't trying to discourage borrowing, and the province can't make the case that it needs the revenue.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I'm at a loss to be able to interpret any more for the hon. member. I think he ought to reread my remarks of April 7, and he will completely understand the government's position with regard to the subsidization of interest rates for municipalities.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I won't comment on the clarity of the minister's comments on April 7. I simply put the question this bluntly to the minister: can the

minister assure the Assembly and, through the Assembly, Alberta municipalities, that next year the province will not simply continue raising interest rates through the Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation because interest rates across Canada go up?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, only if the federal Minister of Finance or somebody acting in his stead can assure this government that they'll have a sensible monetary and economic policy for Canada.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Having regard for the fact that much of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund money is Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation money, was there a recommendation from the select committee last year that in fact the Municipal Financing Corporation rates should be increased?

MR. SPEAKER: I have some difficulty with that question. As far as I know, the minutes of the select committee are publicly available.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, that is a question for the Provincial Treasurer, who is responsible for the Municipal Financing Corporation.

MR. KNAAK: A supplementary to the minister. Since the minister has introduced the subsidized rates for the Municipal Financing Corporation, has the minister observed any shift in municipal construction; that is, rather than renting premises or having the private sector operate, has the minister seen an acceleration or shift from the private sector to municipal government construction?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, if I comment, it would only be expressing an opinion. My staff has not undertaken an exhaustive review of the construction being carried out throughout the province. But my initial reaction would be that at this point municipalities are still using those borrowed funds reasonably wisely, and I suppose that does reflect the current increase going on in interest rates generally.

MR. KNAAK: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise to what extent the per capita debt has increased again since that massive debt reduction program instituted a while ago? Does the minister know the level of per capital debt of municipalities now?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, of course that varies among the 350-odd municipalities in Alberta. I would have to do some exhaustive research in order to get it. In a general way, I can say that the municipal debt has increased rather dramatically over the course of the last couple of years since the municipal debt reduction program.

MR. KNAAK: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister have the figures available for the cities of Edmonton or Calgary?

MR. SPEAKER: It would seem that perhaps the hon. member might put his question on the Order Paper.

MR. SINDLINGER: A supplementary please, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister advise the Assembly whether any representations have been received from the city of

Calgary or any other municipality, objecting to the increase in the borrowing rate from 9 to 11 per cent?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I have received representation from a number of municipalities, the Urban Municipalities Association, as well as the Association of MDs and Counties, with respect to the effect of interest rates they're paying.

MR. SINDLINGER: A final supplementary please, sir. Did Calgary make any representations rejecting, or pleading, or whatever?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I would have to check the files in my office. I've received a number of representations, and offhand I just don't know whether they included a direct representation from the city of Calgary. However, I have received representations from the Urban Municipalities Association, of which they are a member. I'm aware of that.

DR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the hon. minister. Recognizing the subsidy is from 20 or 21 per cent down to 11, which is about a 9 per cent subsidy for municipalities, I wonder if the minister would indicate to the House if he has an equation of what that would equal in dollars and cents across the province.

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect to the hon. member, perhaps the hon. minister happens to have a figure of that kind, but it would seem to be a question that ought to be on the Order Paper.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, while I'm unable to answer the question in dollars and cents, I do need to say that the subsidy is not from a level of 21 per cent down to 11 per cent; it's from a level established by the board of the Municipal Financing Corporation down to 11 per cent. As I understand it — and the Provincial Treasurer may wish to elaborate on that — that level is established at regular intervals and currently sits at somewhere in the order of 14.5 per cent.

DR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Speaker, for further clarification on that point. If the municipalities were going on the open market, that rate would be 19 to 20 per cent.

MR. ZAOZIRNY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the hon. Provincial Treasurer, arising from the statements by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs that this question of interest rate subsidization would be reviewed on an annual basis. Could the Provincial Treasurer then advise the Assembly whether in preparing its budgetary estimates and particularly with respect to grant assistance to municipalities, it is the policy of the government to take into account any such increase in the interest rate charged to municipalities?

MR. HYNDMAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. A large number of elements are taken into account in arriving at a conclusion in terms of overall revenue and expenditure. I think the over \$40 million estimated in the estimates as the subsidy and benefit to municipalities is unique in the country. I believe it's a program which is generous at the moment. Each year, though, we would have to look at it in terms of what the priorities are among various hundreds of priorities relating to revenue and expenditure in every department and every area.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to pose a supplementary question to either the Provincial Treasurer or the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Is either hon. gentleman in a position to give an estimate, based on statistics gathered from either department, as to the impact on Alberta municipalities next year as a result of the increase in their interest rates from 9 to 11? The city of Edmonton says its mill rate will go up 2.5 per cent next year, attributed directly to the 2 per cent increase. I want to ascertain if that 2.5 per cent is a general thing across the province.

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, the situation is this: the impact on a municipality's budget for the next fiscal year is entirely determined by their own decisions with respect to how much money they are going to borrow, because we are prepared to extend this 11 per cent financing for the life of a debenture, which may be 25 years. On the other hand, the impact on the provincial government's budget, specifically the vote of the Department of Municipal Affairs for interest stabilization or interest subsidy, is entirely undetermined and out of the control of this government because it relates to national and international interest rates.

So the fact of the matter is that we've put some stability into the municipalities' budgets for the next fiscal year because they can relate it exactly to how much they want to borrow, while the province is assuming the fluctuation in interest rates that would occur over the course of a fiscal year.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, one last question. The minister is saying that in fact municipalities may borrow, as far as next year is concerned, to an amount the municipality deems to be necessary, and that no limit will be placed on this 11 per cent money from the Municipal Financing Corporation?

MR. MOORE: The only limits imposed are the legislative limits that still exist with respect to The Municipal Government Act in other areas. The government contemplated and studied the possibility of some limits to either specific types of projects or in terms of per capita expenditure or something of that nature, but decided at this time not to impose such limits. That is not to say that if borrowings continue at a rate the government believes is in excess or for projects we believe are not necessary, it may well be that some limitation will be placed upon the borrowings that attract the subsidy.

MR. KNAAK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary just as a matter of clarification. Does the minister exercise any control over the purpose of borrowings by a municipality, or could the municipality in fact borrow the funds, say, to buy an oil company?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, without quoting at length sections of The Municipal Government Act and The Local Authorities Board Act and relevant regulations, I would say there is indeed some considerable control with respect to the kinds of things that could be financed by those borrowings. Generally speaking, they're considered matters which are normally works to be undertaken by a municipal government.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Environment would like to deal further with a matter raised in a previous question period.

#### Water Management — Slave River

MR. COOKSON: Mr. Speaker, on Friday the Member for Clover Bar asked with regard to the problem of mercury build-up in the Slave River area, in relation to the prospect of construction of a large power unit there and a \$10 million study taking place. Though the member is not here, I'd just like to say for *Hansard* that there is a higher than normal mercury content in the river. These sources of mercury have not as yet been determined. Occasional samples taken indicate drinking water and fish flesh in the general area sometimes exceed the Canada Health and Welfare guidelines.

Specifically to answer the question by the member: there's no confirmation of a health hazard to local residents. However, the presence of mercury is a concern, given that a reservoir could increase the levels of dissolved mercury available for intake into the food chain. Also, there's no evidence to suggest that mercury in the river system originates from tar sands operations. As phase two of the Slave River hydro feasibility study, we will continue to assess the problem. Hopefully, we'll have some answer at the termination of the study, about 1982.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

##### head: GOVERNMENT MOTIONS (Committee of Supply)

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will the Committee of Supply please come to order.

##### Department of Social Services and Community Health

MR. CHAIRMAN: We begin today with Vote 5, benefits and income support.

Agreed to:

5.1 — Senior Citizens' Supplementary Benefits	\$64,784,000
5.2 — Pensions and Allowances	\$59,949,000
5.3 — Day Care	[\$16,420,000]

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, just before we agree, with regard to the whole question of day care, when may we expect to have the provinces act together? We had changes in the regulations about a year from now. We had some more during the summer. Are we now in a position where both public and private day care operators can feel with some legitimacy that they're not going to be looking at a series of changes for the next two, three, or four years, so they have a matter of knowing what the ground rules are?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, Vote 10 contains the expenditure of funds for operating allowances for day care centres. I've had some initial feedback from operators. The hon. member may wish to speak with various operators. I feel confident that the additional resources the government's making available for all day care centres, private or public, will allow those centres to meet the new, enriched standards that must be met by all day care



centres by August 1, 1982, without passing an added burden onto parents.

Agreed to:

Total Vote 5 — Benefits and Income Support	\$139,153,000
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#### 61 — Program Support

MRS. CRIPPS: Mr. Chairman, I have a letter from a constituent in Drayton Valley, where they have a mentally handicapped association workshop. They talk about the wage parity for residential staff increased to the level of civil servants' wages but that no changes in vocational staff wages have come through. Are there discussions in the department and with the mentally handicapped associations about the vocational wage?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, if there are other questions, we might deal with them all at the same time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions?

MR. BOGLE: The matter of wage parity between operators of the various vocational workshops across the province and similar activities in government has been under constant review for the past number of months. I might mention that at the most recent meeting, which was held in Calgary on April 25, I believe substantial progress was made by representatives of the 29 agencies across the province and the department in understanding better the concerns that each had. I believe we've made very good progress in terms of the administration grants, in recognizing that there probably should be a differential grant for small, medium, and larger societies. We're also discussing the amount of government support that should be provided for programming, and the staffing models themselves. Although these matters are not resolved at the present time, it's my feeling, and I'm pleased to report to this committee, that very substantial progress was made at the last meeting. I believe we are within reach of resolving this very important matter for Albertans who depend upon us.

Agreed to:

Vote 6 — Vocational Rehabilitation Services	
6.1 — Program Support	\$317,530
6.2 — Regional Delivery Services	\$2,439,520
6.3 — Agency Grants and Purchased Services	\$15,846,650

#### 64 — Vocational Opportunities for Disadvantaged Adults

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. I understand the Edmonton Social Planning Council did a study on sheltered workshops. I believe that would come under this vote. The report indicated a need for 199 positions in workshops this year, increasing to 384 in three years. Only 79 positions exist at present. I wonder if the minister has had a look at that proposal. Will there be some changes?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, the funds allocated for sheltered workshops are in Vote 6.3, agency grants and purchased services. There are funds in excess of \$4.2 million for capital expansion, renovation, and main-

tenance of existing facilities. The hon. member may be aware that recently we increased the funding to agencies from the old 50 per cent provincial, 50 per cent agency concept to 75 per cent provincial, 25 per cent agency. In fact my colleague the hon. Member for Lethbridge West was at a sod turning for the society for southwestern Alberta in Lethbridge, where they're planning to build a new facility in excess of \$1.2 million. We will be providing substantial support to meet the needs of that agency. Vote 6.3 does contain additional resources so there may be a very significant expansion of the sheltered workshops during the present fiscal year.

Agreed to:

6.4 — Vocational Opportunities for Disadvantaged Adults	\$3,228,730
Total Vote 6 — Vocational Rehabilitation Services	\$21,832,430
7.1 — Program Support	\$953,430
7.2 — Community Development and Referral	\$3,284,360
7.3 — Agency Grants and Purchased Services	\$24,106,300
7.4 — Residence and Treatment in Institutions	\$58,102,380
Total Vote 7 — Services for the Handicapped	\$86,446,470
Vote 8 — Treatment of Mental Illness	
8.1 — Program Support	\$2,279,450
8.2 — Regional Diagnosis and Treatment	\$10,764,450
8.3 — Purchased Services and Agency Grants	\$5,500,410

#### 8.4 — Residence and Treatment in Institutions

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister, with regard to the treatment. I wonder if the minister could comment on the acceptance of the program at the regional level; how the general citizenry is accepting it. One major recommendation or thrust when we first initiated the Blair report and had it in place was to try to move more of the care programs — not only rehabilitation but treatment and preventative types of programs as well — out to the regional level. I think this expenditure would be part of the mechanism to fulfill that goal. I wonder if the minister could comment from his experience on, one, the success at this point in time and, two, the acceptance at the local level. I know there was a fair amount of resistance at the community level back in 1969-70.

MR. BOGLE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I believe that over the past ten or eleven years very substantial progress has been made by the department, organizations like the Canadian Mental Health Association, and many other voluntary groups in demonstrating through a variety of ways to the public at the local community level the need for communities to provide services within their own regions. Of course this is a tremendous benefit to family members, who are able to visit their loved ones much more easily if they're in their home region rather than in Alberta Hospital Ponoka or Alberta Hospital Oliver. At the present time we have approximately 350 individuals working in the various community mental health clinics in different parts of the province to provide, as much as is physically possible, the service within the local area. I believe the

development of the forensic units at our hospitals — the Calgary General hospital is an example — the new beds at the regional hospital in Red Deer, the planned beds for the Lethbridge Municipal hospital in its new facility, and for Grande Prairie and other such centres, are very positive and beneficial steps in bringing services closer to people within the regions. I believe there will continue to be a very important role for centres like Alberta Hospital Ponoka and Alberta Hospital Oliver. As the hon. member is aware, those two centres are specializing more in specific areas in providing that kind of care and back-up support, not only to the general hospitals but to the community health clinics across the province.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. One specific incident was concern at the hospital in Edmonton with regard to security of the staff who were working at the time, and with controlling some of the patients. Is the minister considering security personnel as part of a budget? Could they be financed through the budget here, or is the minister looking at the possibility of a program in coming years to implement that request of some of the hospitals? Secondly, in a general sense, has a security problem in other hospitals across the province been brought to the minister's attention?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure if the hon. member is referring to security in a forensic ward or security in the emergency department of a hospital, similar to the recent request by the Royal Alexandra hospital in Edmonton for a policeman to be on duty to assist.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. I was under the impression that that was at the forensic ward. If it wasn't, then I'd be corrected.

MR. BOGLE: I stand to be corrected, Mr. Chairman, but I believe it was to provide additional protection for the doctors and other staff members in the emergency unit of the hospital, where care is provided on a 24-hour basis. If I'm remiss in that, I'll certainly check to determine . . . Other than the normal procedures we've built in over many, many years of service through the forensic units at the hospitals, I'm not aware of any additional or special circumstances that have arisen during the past 12 months.

Agreed to:

8.4 — Residence and Treatment in Institutions	\$58,339,780
Total Vote 8 — Treatment of Mental Illness	\$76,884,090

Vote 9 — General Health Services

9.1 — Program Support	\$7,057,500
9.2 — Communicable Disease Control	\$4,898,010
9.3 — Special Health Services	\$346,010

#### Rehabilitative Health Services

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Chairman, could the minister indicate what the response has been to the Alberta aids to daily living program, which was started just recently. I would also like him to explain the extent of the services there, and what leeway the staff in rural areas have in this area.

I had an example down in my constituency of a widow with four children. She came in and wanted some assistance for one of her little children. She works and is not

on any social allowance. The officer there indicated that she could get a brace for her shoe but she couldn't get the shoe itself. The shoe they had to put the brace on was going to cost \$50, and she couldn't afford this. I was just wondering what guidelines the staff have to approve such items that I'm speaking of, that this lady mentioned she couldn't get for her little child.

MR. BOGLE: That's a very good question, Mr. Chairman. The aids to daily living program has been implemented over the past year and a half. I would not want to lead members of the Assembly to believe that we have worked all the bugs out of the program, because that's certainly not the case. In fact I have scheduled a very important seminar for June 10 with the aids to daily living advisory committee, senior members of the department, and me. The purpose of that meeting is to spend some time away from my office and the activities of the department and, comparing the aids to daily living program with the old extended health benefits program, sit down and take a good look at how far we've come during the past year and a half. The case alluded to by the hon. member concerns me somewhat, because if the youngster were under the age of 18, then certainly support should be provided through the extended health benefits plan. As I've indicated, we're working with an advisory committee made up of professional and lay people from across the province, who are providing a lot of assistance to us in government as to how the program should be expanded.

I'm sure the hon. member is aware that at present the program is limited in the general context to non-electronic equipment. In other words, the hearing impaired, the deaf, or other members of our society who have some very special needs that can only be met with electronic equipment cannot yet receive assistance through this program. The primary reason for that is that we wanted the advisory committee, through a series of very subjective testing, to advise us as to which apparatuses are more acceptable than others that might be used in helping Albertans. So although I believe we have a very positive program, we still have some way to go in terms of working with the various aspects of it to ensure that it's running smoothly. We'll continue to do that over the next fiscal year.

Agreed to:

9.4 — Rehabilitative Health Services	\$16,138,980
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#### 9.5 — Vital Statistics

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. Could the minister indicate whether this program is fully computerized at this point, and whether there has been a recent review in terms of the regulations and the use of vital statistics by government, access to vital statistics, or the regulations relative to confidentiality? Have these been reviewed by the minister?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I believe there were two questions. The first was with regard to computerization. The short answer is no. In a number of areas in the department we are certainly moving to computerization. There's still a lot of manual work involved in vital statistics in this particular area. I don't see a dramatic change in that over the next year or so.

With regard to confidentiality: one of the trends that

has developed over the past few years, in part because of the increasing number of requests for information which is classified — and only the minister may authorize that that information be released. I would take a 'guesstimate' that the requests that go across my desk at present would equal 10 per week. I have asked whether that's the normal number that have flowed across the desk over a period of time, and I am advised it is not. It is an increase. We have not yet reviewed, but I intend to review in the near future, whether or not some sections of the Act and/or regulations might be amended so that the director would have the authority to authorize some matters that are not of the strictest confidence being made available to members of the family.

Mr. Chairman, I want to assure hon. members, though, that no moves in that area would be taken without the fullest input from the Attorney General's Department and other interested parties. Because although one might say it's an inconvenience for the minister to provide that kind of waiver, it is a check and safeguard put there for a reason. We don't take our responsibilities lightly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member for Edmonton Norwood has requested leave to ask a question under 9.1, which we have approved. Does the committee agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MRS. CHICHAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry to bring back the point on Vote 9.1, but it went through so quickly that I didn't have an opportunity to draw that to the minister's attention. I believe the minister has had some submissions from the Edmonton local board of health with respect to various programs and the amount of budget that is being allocated for the program support, particularly areas that the general has raised. Perhaps the minister wanted to clarify ...

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I think we might more appropriately deal with that matter under Vote 10, funding for health units and boards of health.

MRS. CHICHAK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I will just leave this to the next vote and we can complete our vote on this one.

Agreed to:

9.5 — Vital Statistics	\$1,004,500
Total Vote 9 — General Health Services	\$29,445,000

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vote 10.1, community social services.

MRS. CHICHAK: I'm not sure whether it's really on Vote 10.1 ... All right, I guess I'll just stay back and wait for 10.2.

Agreed to:

Vote 10 — Community Social and Health Services	
10.1 — Community Social Services	\$19,750,000

#### 10.2 — Community Health Services

MR. CHICHAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The concerns expressed by the Edmonton local board of health with respect to community health services are with the kind of pressure experienced by the board from the in-

creasing population and the increased demands on the services provided. Over the past several years the local board of health had a five-year plan of their needs, and are finding it extremely difficult to maintain the level of services they had been providing in the past — taking into consideration as well increased demand because of increased population and, as a result, expanded pressure for services, the facilities some of these require, particularly in family health programs, infant and preschool, prenatal, school health programs, geriatric, communicable diseases, and so on.

They have identified one of the very crucial items as well; that is, the need for more public health inspectors, the fact that the budget allocations will no longer keep up with the need they find exists. The attempt to consolidate family health programs, even with replanning of the services they are providing — they're indicating to us that there is a real strain on the system or the service they're able to provide, and are asking the minister to reconsider whether there cannot be re-examination of the 1981-82 budget allocation in this area.

I believe the hon. minister has commented with respect to facilities for a new clinic, particularly one in west Jasper Place. I guess that in itself, with the increase in costs and expansion again of the professionals required — I wonder if the minister can give some indication if there is any way the local board of health is able to expect some further consideration, keeping in line with the expansion and the pressures on them for program services.

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, we as a department provide funding to 25 health units and two boards of health in the province of Alberta. The two boards of health are for the metropolitan centres of Edmonton and Calgary. With the 22.1 per cent increase in funding to those agencies this year, we've tried very hard to ensure that there's some fairness across the province, looking not only at the services provided but at the traditional position the municipalities have been in.

For instance, some municipalities have traditionally provided a richer level of services than others. Traditionally the city of Edmonton has had a larger budget for its health unit needs than the city of Calgary. At the present time we believe that the greatest need is to enrich the budget for the health unit of the city of Calgary so additional nursing manpower may be obtained. For several years now Calgary has asked for this kind of enrichment, and this year we were able to accede to their request with approximately an additional \$300,000, earmarked for nursing costs and increased nursing manpower for the city. Even with that increased injection of funding for the city of Calgary, the actual increase in the budget for the city of Calgary is less than that for the city of Edmonton.

This year Edmonton's budget will go up by some 20.8 per cent. One of the things the city of Edmonton may consider doing is taking three of the 29 public health inspection positions currently not filled by a health inspector but rather by clerical support, putting the clerical support in the administrative area where they properly belong, and filling the three positions with health inspectors.

Agreed to:

10.2 — Community Health Services	\$65,851,600
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### 103 — Day Care

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to bring up a point or two on day care. I should have brought it up under Vote 5, but I see we have day care here under Vote 10.

In talking to some day care operators, they're very pleased with the day care program the minister came out with. The subsidies are excellent. I would say it is the best day care in Canada today. However, it gives me some concern that we might get into a case where we're going to give overcare to some of our ... especially the ratio where we have 10- to 18-month-old children and we need two staff to take care of six children. They're not full-time there. Our mothers had to take care of us, cook our meals. Some of the farm ladies had to go out and work in the fields. So, Mr. Chairman, a concern I have is that we could get just a bit too much care or overcare for some of our children in the province by going into day care centres.

I have a prime example. I happen to come from a constituency that I think is famous, for the simple reason that we've got the largest family in Canada. There are 23 in the family. They live on a farm. I went down there one day and had dinner with them. They were all home. Everyone was trained to do something. They were trained to take care of some part of the home or some part of the outside. It was really excellent to watch this family of 23 home all at once, and prove that they were a very successful family.

Three of the boys went out and got hold of me. They wanted to go through the Opportunity Company to buy one oil rig. That was about three or four years ago. Well they got their loan approved, got their money. They went into the oil industry. They sold out for \$7 million about two or three months ago. That proves that you don't have to have overcare for a family to make them successful. If they were all Social Crediters, I could have won an election with the one family. However, I never did test their political area.

But I certainly think we need some changes in the day care regulations. Most of the regulations are good, but I'd like the minister to take a good look — let's not provide overcare for some of our young people in the province.

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I certainly appreciate those comments by the hon. member. During a meeting two and a half weeks ago with about 80 day care operators in the city of Calgary, basically the same point was made. I have advised that the regulations which have been accepted — I cannot see any major alterations to those regulations, but there could be some fine tuning within the various age categories.

For instance, between the ages of 0 and 19 months, it might be that we could further refine the program so we're defining, say, zero to nine or 10 months as one part of the program and 10 to 19 months as a second, because I think most people will recognize that a newborn infant requires considerably more care than the youngster who is in the 10- to 19-month category. Speaking from experience as a parent with a 10-month old, I know that's true in our household, and I believe it's true across the board.

I've advised the society and will be working with the Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee to determine whether some refinements might be made within the global figures that have been used. The one thing we don't want to encourage is a system where we have staff

members literally tripping over themselves. They have to be there because our regulations insist they be there. On the other hand, we want to ensure we do in fact retain the best day care in this country. I think we can do that by taking a second look at it with the advisory committee, the various day care societies and associations across the province, the day care operators themselves, and the parents who send their children to day care.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, in terms of local day care and the involvement of the parents in terms of staff ratios, types of programs, and the level of care, is there any requirement for the day care facility to involve a parent type of committee, a parent type of body that is represented by maybe the broader group that uses the facility? Is that in place? If not, is any consideration being given to that type of organization? Often it's like our school system. We send the child to school, the teacher has our child all day, and the relationship between the parent and the school breaks down at that point. I find that exists in the public and even in the private system. In the initiating of this new program, I wonder if one of the components would be a mechanism to build that close working relationship. It's easier to do it now than later when there is a breakdown of communication.

MR. BOGLE: That's an excellent point, Mr. Chairman. The Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee has discussed ways to encourage parents to become more actively involved. Unfortunately some parents apparently have taken the attitude that they do not have the time or, for other reasons, are not able to become as involved with their children's activities as we would like to see them. We've done things like posting the menus for the weeks' lunches to be served at the centre so parents ... We've tried to find ways to encourage parents to become involved without saying, you must do it.

Some day care centres, particularly those non-profit society organizations which are built around church organizations or others, I think by and large have done a very good job in involving parents in the total operation of the centre. Other centres — some private, some public — still have a long way to go. In short, we're trying to do it by using the carrot rather than the stick approach. To date we have not — and I would be very, very reluctant to see any mechanism that would force a parent to become more involved. If we provide the incentives, I hope parents would naturally want to become more involved. If we have enough parents doing that, in protecting the rights of their children they're going to be protecting the rights of those children whose parents aren't there.

Hopefully, we can continue to encourage that kind of participation on a voluntary basis.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the staff/child ratio, let's say the parents of a day care facility, along with the owners and operators, meet and agree that a certain format should be used in terms of care that is given. It doesn't meet with the established staff ratio, such as in the age group of 10 to 18 months there must be two staff members for 10 children. Let's say there was another variation to that relationship. Is there enough flexibility in the regulations that under those kinds of circumstances the minister can make changes?

MR. BOGLE: No, Mr. Chairman, there isn't under the present regulations. I'd be remiss if I led this Assembly to believe we would look at a situation whereby a different

set of standards could be applied in one municipality vis-a-vis another. That's part of the heat we went through last year, and I don't want to go through it again.

In fairness, I can say we want to ensure that whether you live in Lac La Biche, Fort Chipewyan, or Edmonton, you are entitled to the same basic standard of day care. If some centres wish to provide an enriched type of day care for youngsters — and I'm not talking about handicapped youngsters. We have special programs to assist day care centres to meet the additional costs in those areas. But if some day care centres wish to offer enriched programs and servicing, that certainly can be arranged between the parents and the operators.

In general I'd like to say that the review we're going to do through the Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee — and I remind all members of the Assembly that that committee is made up of day care operators and parents. It's not something dominated by one or the other. It has a combination of the two. Through that committee we hope we would be able to take a good look at the regulations, and refine them if need be, particularly with regard to the question on the number of staff per child raised by your hon. colleague.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, earlier this session I raised two other areas, with regard to nutritional standards and staff training standards. I wonder if the minister could comment on what programs potentially are in place for that, in light of the increase in money that is allocated to this area.

MR. BOGLE: On nutritional standards, the Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee is working on an Alberta standard for nutritional needs which would be met either by the parent sending with the youngster a lunch that would be supplemented by juices and milk or, for those day care centres which provide a lunch as part of the programming, to ensure those standards are met.

On the staffing standards, at the present time we are working on two models. Increased support has been provided by my colleague the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower so that the one- and two-year programs currently offered in a variety of our community and junior colleges in Alberta can be strengthened. The second model is an apprenticeship program whereby in-house training programs could be offered through approved day care centres across the province. Progress is being made on the latter of the two models. Of course the first is already in place. We are hoping to have the registry established, certainly by August 1, 1982, when the new staffing requirements are to be met by all day care centres.

Agreed to:

103 — Day Care	\$19,069,450
Total Vote 10 — Community Social and Health Services	\$104,671,110

### Vote 3 — Child Welfare Services

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vote 3.2, under Vote 3, was held. I believe there was some additional information.

MR. BOGLE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. When we were on Vote 3, I was asked for an explanation of 3.2. I believe it relates directly to the elements detail book. I might provide this information to the Assembly. In the 1980-81

fiscal year, we asked for and received a \$3.8 million special warrant. That was not budgeted for and of course is reflected in Vote 3.

The funds for the special warrant may be broken into two general categories; first, to cover the increased cost in maintenance rates for foster parents. That was primarily the 10 per cent increase provided across the board on October 1, 1980. The cost of that increase was about \$2 million. The other \$1.8 million resulted from unexpected expenditures in other contract services. We believe they are of a non-recurring nature and, accordingly, were not budgeted for in the 1981-82 budget. Therefore if you deduct the \$1.8 million of what we believe are non-recurring expenditures, actually we will have about a 15 per cent growth in the funding available, based on the 1980-81 years.

MR. R. SPEAKER: As this vote is still open, I'd like to ask another question with regard to the Cavanagh commission and its progress at this point in time, when it will be reporting. One of the concerns I have had is with regard to disclosure of that report in the final analysis. We continue to recommend various items of concern to that committee. For example, we've recommended that at least four of the recommendations from the Ivany report go to the Cavanagh commission. Then there is another long list of items they are reviewing at the present time.

I believe that if the commission does its job well, some very new, significant direction and suggestions with regard to child welfare could come from that committee. When ideas come forward, good or bad, one thing that should happen is that they come to this Legislature in the rawest form possible, so that each and every one of us can examine them, debate them, be critical or constructive or whatever, and after that discussion, shake out the best and come forward with some legislation. At this point is that the minister's intention, and is it possible to have a commitment at this time to say, when the report comes in, the Legislature will have it and we'll go from there?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I believe I was asked that question the first evening we were going through my estimates, and the hon. member had to be away, for a very good reason. I gave a commitment to this Assembly that we would follow the same practice with the reports of the Cavanagh Board of Review as we did with the Kirby Board of Review reports; that is, once they are received, they will be made public. As to the timing, I can't comment on when Mr. Justice Cavanagh or the board will conclude their reports. I can say that I have had several letters from organizations which have presented briefs to the Cavanagh Board of Review, very supportive letters as to the depth of knowledge and the types of questions being asked by the board.

Certainly we welcome interim reports, so that if there are items the board of review feels they may report on more quickly, we'll have that information and will certainly be willing to debate it in the openest way possible. We're dealing with an extremely important area of child care. It's an area that's not unique to Alberta. We know of the needs and concerns across North America. I believe there was an article in one of the daily newspapers today on that very subject, that child welfare concerns are not unique to Alberta.

Agreed to:

3.2 — Community and Family Services	\$28,023,430
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Total Vote 3 — Child Welfare Services

\$80,997,600

**Vote 11 — Alcoholism and Drug Abuse — Treatment and Education**

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, could the minister please make an observation on the payments to MLAs? I note it's increased by 20.3 per cent in this instance compared to increases of about 13.5 per cent for ministers' salaries.

MR. BOGLE: I would like the chairman of the Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission to handle Vote 11, as it deals explicitly and totally with the commission. I'm pleased to respond to that question and any others as to the role of the chairman.

It was a decision of the cabinet, certainly endorsed by government caucus, that certain members of the Legislature who are performing duties as chairmen or members of various agencies, boards, and commissions should receive an increase in their remuneration. It was a decision that the monthly honoraria for the hon. Member for Lethbridge West be increased from \$1,000 to \$1,100. I believe that is similar to the chairman of the Research Council of Alberta and . . . Maybe I'd better stop while I'm ahead. I can't recall the other examples. I remember that other members — for example, the chairmen of the Health Care Facilities Review Committee and the Social Care Facilities Review Committee — receive a lesser amount.

MR. SINDLINGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, you've described the decision-making process, but you haven't really indicated the reason for increasing this payment to the MLA by 20.3 per cent, compared to increasing ministers' salaries by 13.5 per cent.

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I assure the hon. member that it has no relation to the workload of the two. I can say that I can't recall at this point in time all the specifics involved in it. It certainly seemed like an appropriate move to make. We had not increased the support for the chairman since the position was created some two years ago. So if you amortize it out over the two years, you find it's actually a lesser increase than the minister received.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Chairman, in my role as chairman of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission, I would like to comment relative to Vote 11, in addition to what the minister has already said. I'd like to ask members of the committee to bear with me for just a few moments while I point out what I think are some very, very significant changes with regard to the problems encountered with drug abuse and what steps the commission is undertaking to implement programs by this budget request today.

First, Mr. Chairman, I think it important to point out to members that it would seem that regardless of what has been attempted over the years, very, very few dramatic changes have taken place. I refer first of all to such things as the terrible impact of alcohol on the lives of many Albertans. We see it daily in terms of court cases, divorce cases, assistance requests to social service programs; we see it with regard to hospital admissions and in terms of auto accidents. For example, a study done by the Traffic Injury Research Foundation of Canada has

indicated that in a six-year period, from 1972 to 1978, the average with regard to alcohol involvement in automobile accidents has remained almost constant. Just about half, as a matter of fact about 44 per cent, of all motor vehicle accidents in Canada relate to drinking alcohol.

When we look at the impact on the health care system, Mr. Chairman, as members know, under universal medicare and hospitalization the public bears the cost for all hospital admittances and treatment. If one were to look at some examples across Canada: in Ontario, I believe about one in every five hospital admissions is related to alcohol in some way; in Manitoba, 16 to 20 per cent; in B.C., about 30 per cent. In Alberta we just don't know. But it's interesting to look at what some other communities see. For example, a study just done in New York state: 40 per cent of all hospital patients in the state have alcohol-related problems. That's determined on admissions.

Mr. Chairman, I think AADAC, if I may use that term, has been attempting for many years to respond in a very positive way to alcohol and drug abuse problems with our population. I would point out that our budget has grown from about \$4 million in 1975 to \$10.5 million in '79-80, and here we are this year requesting funding to the extent of about \$17 million. Some very dramatic changes are being requested before this committee in terms of legislative authority and the spending of money.

[Mr. Purdy in the Chair]

For the benefit of members, I would point out that the retail liquor, beer, wine industry in Alberta is now in excess of \$0.5 billion. That points out that every day over 5,300 gallons are consumed by Albertans, assuming those who buy it consume it. There is no question that in terms of consumption, clearly we are amongst the leaders in the nation. That seems to be consistent with other programs we have. If we read the Solicitor General's annual report, we find that of the number incarcerated, probably four out of 10 are there as a result of alcohol related to their offences in some way or other. If we take an average of about \$60 a day in terms of inmate cost, that's a very, very expensive proposition.

A uniqueness occurring nowadays in Alberta, Mr. Chairman, is that there's no longer such a thing as a simple drunk. With the advent of drug abuse, we've seen statements from the registrar of the College of Physicians and Surgeons; for example, one in eight physicians has a problem. It's not difficult really to understand how it happens. It appears they go the route of the cocktail party. They find that being up all night, making calls and so on, a pick-me-up pill in the morning is probably very helpful in terms of getting ready for the day's activity. Unfortunately, according to the registrar, it develops to the point where one out of eight has a serious problem. When you consider they're dealing with people's lives, it's no wonder the college is concerned, as I'm sure the AMA is.

We attempt to deliver programs throughout six regions of the province of Alberta, Mr. Chairman, in a rather meaningful way. The constituency of each member of this Assembly is serviced in some way by the commission. We find that the historical concept of a drunk, in terms of a criminal, has changed dramatically. We're taking steps today to provide detox facilities — now under construction in Calgary, and in the future in Edmonton — to provide something other than a prison setting or, let's say, a mandatory treatment setting, and all the ancillary

costs that go with it such as booking people, printing people, and putting them into a remand centre.

Mr. Chairman, one should not for one moment discount the great role Alcoholics Anonymous is playing in the province of Alberta, as they are in North America. Without the active role of Alcoholics Anonymous, I'm sure many lives would still be destroyed by the ravages of alcohol abuse. It's estimated there are perhaps 110 to 120 weekly meetings of the association of Alcoholics Anonymous in Edmonton. Last year we found that over 13,000 convicted, impaired drivers attended the impaired drivers' program, which the commission is responsible for putting on throughout the province, unique to Alberta and Canada. I guess Alberta was the first province to undertake a program of that kind.

Here in the province of Alberta we see that between '66 and 1978 consumption of alcohol increased by about 60 per cent. That's a pretty dramatic increase. Most of this increase didn't occur with regard to beer or certain wines; it was mainly spirits or alcohol. A concern I and many people have, Mr. Chairman, is that each year or two we seem to have beer strikes and people don't quit drinking. They simply turn to other types of intoxicants — liquor for those who can afford it. We don't know what the statistics will be for 1980 or 1981, but indeed they appear to be somewhat frightening.

Mr. Chairman, I should point out that the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission is respected as an agency of government throughout not only Canada but North America and the world. The comments and letters I've had from visitors knowledgeable in the field to AADAC keep coming back. AADAC is continually used as a model for both programming and ideas in terms of handling people's problems. All the money in the world can't do that, and the best of intentions can't do that. It takes a very dedicated group of people. I'm proud to have been associated for two years now with the Executive Director Mr. Wilf Totten, who will be retired as of the end of this month. He's given six years of excellent service to the commission, and I think has been responsible in a very meaningful way for AADAC's progress.

Mr. Chairman, when people talk about alcohol abuse, one wonders why more is not done about it. Well I think we have to relate back a bit to the consumption of alcohol and wonder why people drink so much. I suggest that if the price of automobiles decreased about 50 per cent relative to disposable income over the last 10 years, there would be three or four times as many automobiles. I suggest that if milk decreased relative to disposable income, there'd be many more people drinking milk. Yet very clearly, when we look at the price of alcohol — many members of this Assembly, I suggest, are approaching 50; when they were 25, a bottle cost about \$5 or \$5.50. A bottle today is about \$8 or \$8.50, whereas incomes have gone up many, many times. Now I'm not being critical of that. I'm simply saying, how realistic are we when, on the one hand, we look at \$0.5 billion in terms of consumption and, on the other hand, we wonder why? Yet when we can view it as an all-time bargain in terms of purchasing power, is it any wonder? As a matter of fact, if one thinks he can cure his problems by sipping at the bottle, undoubtedly he couldn't find a cheaper source.

Last year 11,000 people were treated at AADAC. How many are there? We don't know. But when we talk to the foremost research people in Canada with regard to alcohol and drug abuse, the Addiction Research Foundation in Ontario, our research indicates that really only 5 to 8

per cent of Canadians who have a problem ever get treatment. AADAC's doors are always open, yet how do you motivate people to come inside? Frankly, Mr. Chairman, our concern is not with the 50-year old Albertan; our concern is with the young people. We've seen where freedom of choice, The Liquor Control Act passed in this Assembly not very long ago, has tended to further liberalize, albeit local, option. The municipal governments have the option of having beer in stadia. The theory is that allowing people to drink in stadia will lower the incidence of alcohol abuse. That's a pretty good theory, but in all honesty I submit that most alcohol problems wouldn't happen if people didn't drink. I have some difficulty reconciling in my mind how we're going to arrest the problem by allowing further liberalization of the drinking laws. But I've been known to be wrong many times before, and perhaps I'm wrong this time.

However, when we look at the young Albertan — not male or female but both — we find some very, very interesting statistics. For example, our high school students: about one in three may not drink at all, but at least fifty per cent are moderate drinkers and fully one-fifth would be considered heavy drinkers. Now what is the young heavy drinker of today going to be for tomorrow? That's what we must address our attentions to. What about tomorrow?

As chairman of AADAC I'm quite prepared to have policies ratified that say, look, let's continue the treatment programs we have in place for those people who have a problem, but for heaven's sake let's not try to commit further and further resources to the treatment program if indeed the problem is preventable. Now dealing with 30-, 40- and 50-year-olds, I submit we're probably not going to have that much effect on that group. Therefore perhaps we should be addressing our minds to the next generation. A study done in Edmonton not long ago indicates that oddly enough most of the young people who are drinking start at home. For those who think we should become civilized like France — if you get wine on the table early in the game, you teach people moderate drinking habits. Well if that's so, and that's been going on for 50 years, why is it that one in every two hospital beds is occupied by alcoholic problems? I have some difficulty in reconciling how we could justify teaching moderate drinking by feeding people spirits at a very early age. However, I guess some people would say the jury is still out on that.

Mr. Chairman, with perhaps 0.25 million adolescents in Alberta; in other words, 450,000 in our school system... Let's begin at grade 7 up, and say there's 0.25 million. At this point they're beginning to develop what I would call some very, very unhealthy habits in terms of alcohol consumption. These youngsters of today are obviously the leaders and parents of tomorrow. There's very strong evidence today with regard to newborns whose parents have a heavy alcohol experience — particularly the mother, of course — that there are birth defects in those children. They're not clearly identifiable yet in terms of social problems, but I suggest that when they get into the school system — if we think we have a problem now with youngsters in their early teens in conflict with the law, then we haven't seen anything yet, not to mention the medical costs that go with it.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me the problem really is: what can we do today that we haven't done in the past, whereby we might have a very marked effect on the coming generation? I look at some things going on in Canada today; for example, Prince Edward Island intro-

duced legislation. All you have to do is pass a Bill committing people to treatment and you're going to solve the problem. That has been tried many times before. I wish Prince Edward Island luck, but frankly I'm convinced it's not going to work. We see a city that has 2,500 people killed and 75,000 people injured a year — the city of Los Angeles came out with a proposed program, where you lock people up and in effect throw away the key. That's been tried before. How effective is it?

I guess I'm saying that control measures just don't seem to work. We have to attempt in some substantive way to convince people that you don't have to drink to get along in life. Unfortunately it's not that way today. So faced with the problem of a record consumption of about 23 gallons per person per year — including the sick, lame, and lazy; man, woman, and baby — the number of auto accidents a year, and the number of convictions in our courts in terms of criminal offenses, AADAC has looked at all this and said: what can we do for tomorrow?

We started this about a year and a half ago. Through the consent of cabinet, we had a couple of hundred thousand dollars to develop what we called a media program, whereby we could put together bits and pieces of factual information and mold a program that people would accept. Many have said that if you want to know how to run the schools in this province, why don't you try asking people who use the schools instead of people who run the schools. That's not a bad idea. We look at the criminal and physical violence in our prison system across Canada today. Is it a bad idea to ask people within the prisons how they should be run? Obviously it is, because nobody does it. We're suggesting that we develop a media program whereby we could impact on the young, which would develop some healthy life styles for the future. [interjection]

Mr. Chairman, I'm not saying for one moment that with 8 or 9 per cent of Canada's people, we're going to convert the country. I'm not saying that with the proposal before the House today, with that kind of money, we're going to solve the problem. Given what we have today in terms of the problem, I'm saying: what can we do to alter it?

I'd like to briefly describe to members of the committee the program AADAC has developed, where indeed there may be some degree of hope for the future. Based on some pretty factual information that has come about by talking to individuals concerned, we believe there's hope of influencing people's life styles through proper programs, involving them as part and parcel of them. As a legislator I have been faced, I think, annually with requests from school boards to raise the drinking age — as if you end the problem by raising the drinking age by some magic figure. I think most of us would agree that all we would do by raising the drinking age would be to create by statute a lot of criminals. You don't end the problem because you put something on the books as law. If that were the case, we wouldn't have any problems today.

Using the information we have today, plus developing some new ideas, we believe we have a fighting chance with regard to progressive alcohol modifying programs for the future. Our media campaign consists of a multifaceted approach. We plan to use television, through the province of Alberta; print media, through the province; and other print material, displayed through the province. It would indicate to young people, with their concurrence, that they don't have to continue the way they are to be "with it". Indeed there are alternatives to what

they're doing.

Mr. Chairman, I have five children. My first child is about 30. When we enrolled her at school, many years ago, a condition of that school was a school uniform. If you didn't want the uniform, fine, the youngster didn't go to school. It was a private school, so you bought the uniform. Then we went through the '60s, with that great resistance to school uniforms. It was "do your own thing" — how dare you suggest my youngster wear a uniform. Today in our school systems, they don't call them uniforms but jeans, and they're universal across Canada.

That's not a bad system to try to adopt: let people decide for themselves the mode of behavior and life styles they're going to follow. I think that would be an interesting experiment. For that reason, this year we hope to adopt that kind of program directed at our young people in the province of Alberta. Obviously we can't deal with young people in isolation; we must deal with their parents. So in addition within the media campaign, we're obviously hoping to influence the parents.

In my opinion as a father, one thing youngsters need today is to know at a very early age where they stand. We quarrel about business, economic conditions, and interest rates. Yet in Alberta one reason industry fails to invest its money is based on tradition. Within a week or month of launching some new program, someone changes the rules. So it's absolutely essential with young people today that you establish rules and they know where they stand. If you're going to do that in a meaningful way, is it unrealistic to let them have some say in establishing those rules and giving some commitment? If one could do that in what I call our media campaign — talk to young people and see what they think, not as a method of control but as a way of positive influence — frankly I'm convinced there's going to be a great degree of success.

The school system is probably the one system in Alberta that has the greatest impact on young people in terms of an everyday occurrence. About 200 days a year you can find the children of Alberta in the same setting; that is, within a school room. So obviously we must develop a program that's acceptable to the school boards, the school districts, the superintendents — but most importantly, the teachers. In this media campaign we propose to develop kits that teachers can use.

As an example, Mr. Chairman, many people say there's nothing new under the sun and things don't change. Well I direct the committee's attention to the very great success with regard to smoking. I attend many committee meetings and am the only one who smokes. Now 20 years ago . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame.

AN HON. MEMBER: Set an example.

AN HON. MEMBER: Utter hypocrisy.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Chairman, I smoke on an experimental basis to get reaction. It's purely for scientific research.

AN HON. MEMBER: You're flunking the test.

MR. GOGO: The point is that it's interesting to speculate and understand how that came about. I recall . . . I got a note from somebody, Mr. Chairman, obviously not of front-rank stature or they wouldn't use government members' memos. The handwriting is female.



AN HON. MEMBER: Sexist.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Chairman, I would point out that an example of how a media campaign could be successful is found with regard to cigarette smoking. At one end of the scale you get physicians, very well-informed people. The number of physicians who have quit smoking is nothing short of dramatic. But more importantly, I look at members of the Assembly. The Member for Edmonton Mill Woods has told me some interesting stories as to how he quit smoking. It wasn't a case of affordability; it was a case of being influenced by his children. I've heard it said that smokers make lousy lovers. I don't know who would testify to it, but I look at the Minister of Recreation and Parks with a smile on his face. Obviously there's some experience there.

MR. PAHL: Mr. Chairman, on a point of privilege. I have never been a victim of demon nicotine. We'll not let that one stand in the record.

MR. GOGO: Well, Mr. Chairman, with regard to my comment to the Member for Edmonton Mill Woods, it was probably another addiction. [interjections]

But to come back to the chances of success in relating it to people who no longer smoke, Mr. Chairman. I was president of a local cancer unit for several years, and we had extremely good co-operation from school teachers in influencing grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 with poster campaigns. It's had a dramatic effect. We find today that about 28 per cent of the females and 23 per cent of the males in the school system are smoking, yet more and more parents are quitting daily. So this campaign has a chance of success, Mr. Chairman, but it requires a lot of co-operation. The program is now well under way at AADAC in terms of design, and we hope to launch it this September so it's coincidental with the new school year. From what I've seen of the program, Mr. Chairman, comparing it to others across Canada and North America, this has a very, very great chance of success.

I want to close on this note, Mr. Chairman. AADAC will continue to offer the programs it has offered in the past. Institutions like Henwood and David Lander, the Alsike farm, and the detox centres will continue operating. I wouldn't for one moment like people to construe that because we're launching a major media campaign, we're cutting back in any way on existing treatment programs. That would not be true. But I leave it to the members of this committee. We know where we are now in terms of the number of people who come to AADAC for treatment; the number of people in conflict with the law; the number of gallons drunk annually; the number of hospital admissions, albeit they may be clouded in terms of diagnosis. Dr. Allan Gilbert of the Royal Alex is very definitive about four out of ten going through emergency registering 0.15 or higher in blood alcohol content. The evidence is there, Mr. Chairman, but I suggest it's time for this government and this commission to put its money where its mouth is. And we're doing it in the requests for estimates this year: \$2 million, the tremendous increase of 250 per cent in the educational budget which is directed toward education. I would certainly ask the support of all members of this committee in seeing this is passed.

Thank you very much.

DR. PAPROSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly, I would like to congratulate the hon. chairman of the

Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission, the hon. Member for Lethbridge West; I think he has given a very good and positive report. I'd like to congratulate the staff of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission, primarily Mr. Wilf Totten on his retirement.\* They're doing an excellent job.

Mr. Chairman, having heard the hon. member indicate that alcoholism is a very important and significant public health problem in our country and province, there's no question that emphasis in this area requires close attention. We know very well that the family problems, health problems, mental problems, social problems in actual dollar costs and loss of dollars as a result of health costs, and also as a result of lack of employment, are very consequential. That in itself merits very close attention, apart from the mental, social, and family breakdown, which is very, very consequential. I recall the statistics in 1970; there were some 60,000 known alcoholics in the province of Alberta. The underscored factor was that probably just as many were not known. When you multiply that with the families involved and the impact on our society, it's certainly consequential.

So briefly concluding, I'm pleased that the chairman is positive. He's looking forward and asking the right questions. He's suggesting, he's recommending, and using the evidence that's out there.

I want to pose a few questions for him to clarify further, Mr. Chairman, if I may. Number one, has AADAC been visiting schools at this time; to what extent, what grades, and how often? Have public relations and advertisement in the school system increased over the past one, two, or three years? I think this is one area, as he has already indicated, that is very important and vital. This is a prime target group on which we should be focussing our public relations program. What about the education of professionals: MDs, if you wish, nurses, counsellors, and so on? Is any emphasis being placed in that area to encourage the professionals to upgrade and update their information on alcoholism, which is a major public health problem?

Another point, Mr. Chairman: has alcoholism increased or decreased in Alberta? Does he have those facts? If he doesn't, what assumptions is he making? I think it's important that we know this. If we do not know, I think we should make every effort to find out by some methodology. I'm glad he's positive in his outlook on this, that something can be done, but I would like to know the cure rate from the hon. chairman of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission. I think citizens out there want to know whether there is encouragement or not. Can you actually recover from chronic alcoholism? I think that's very important. Where does a person go at the earliest stages of alcoholism? In other words, if a family member picks up a potential alcoholic, or believes he's an alcoholic, or industry does, or his school system or whatever, what do they do? What are the steps? Maybe he could take us through those steps very, very briefly. I think it's important that it's down for the record.

Another point, Mr. Chairman. Has AADAC developed a policy of encouraging the utilization of hospital beds or wards rather than specifically developing more Henwoods, which are doing a good job and very important? Maybe the answer is to develop unit sections in the hospital to treat alcoholics and offer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and maybe education of professionals and so forth.

Another point, Mr. Chairman. Where is the emphasis

\*See page 738, right column, paragraph 6

in the commission's activity? Is it on education? Is it on treatment? Is it on rehabilitation or prevention? I'd like to hear the specific emphasis the hon. chairman is actually embarking on over the next year. What emphasis is being given to education of industry, employers and employees, so they're aware of the problems similar to workers' compensation? Recognizing the problems of safety, I think probably this should be a very important specific target area.

Two more points, Mr. Chairman. What model of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation is the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission using? Is there a model anywhere in this world — in the United States if you wish or Sweden — that we are adopting and looking at because they've had good success? In addition to that, what about the other facilities now functioning in addition to Henwood and the others mentioned on page 314? Are new facilities being developed in addition to the hospital facilities? If there are, maybe you could indicate roughly how many.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, is the staffing adequate within the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission to carry out the programs the hon. chairman has indicated? I think he's done an excellent job; he's really forward on this and very aggressive, I might say, not only in the Legislature but outside. I think that is a very important attribute for a person who leads this kind of program.

With those comments, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to hear a response from the chairman of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission.

MR. STROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The chairman of AADAC indicated that Alberta's number one social problem is alcoholism. During his speech, I noted some of his remarks like: we're leaders in the amount of alcohol consumed, and put your money where your mouth is. That's the question I would like to ask the chairman. A good number of years ago the Alberta Alcohol Education Foundation was established by statute. A chair was set up for the university to deal with research into the causes of alcoholism. I've never been able to find out from the minister or anyone what happened to the group of prominent Albertans who agreed to sit on that foundation, or what happened to that chair. I would like to find out why that was not funded, if not on a matching grant, and why AADAC has not seen fit to show some leadership in research.

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

I think a time will come when alcoholism can be cured. But why do we in Alberta — instead of being leaders, we're at the back end. We have to rely on Ontario and Switzerland for research. I don't think we're spending one dime. I look at the budget. I believe last year \$155 million in profits was returned to the Provincial Treasurer from the Liquor Control Board. Do you think it would be possible to get a dollar or two from them for research?

MR. BORSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The chairman expressed some concern about the slow rise in the cost of alcohol products across the province as compared to some other products. I suppose you're talking about milk and those types of things. I thought I might mention that I totally agree with you. It doesn't seem reasonable that alcohol should have the same price in Coutts, Montana, on the southern border as it would in Fort Chipewyan, where milk is probably three or four

times more. It's cheaper to drink alcohol than it is milk. I point that out because it's created some great problems in northern Alberta.

At the public meetings of the Northern Alberta Development Council, alcohol related briefs and problems are quite prevalent. Most of them express concerns and the need for expanded facilities in northern Alberta to fight the alcohol problem. I would urge the chairman of AADAC to look at early response to develop detox, treatment, and other rehabilitation centres in northern Alberta which will relieve those hospital beds where alcoholics take up the bed at a terrific cost to the taxpayer.

Might I express my appreciation to the Member for Lethbridge West for allowing the appointment of one of the Northern Alberta Development Council members to AADAC so we can work closer together to benefit the citizens of northern Alberta. I might also say that in my work with the regional and local alcohol and drug abuse people in northern Alberta, I have found that AADAC has some very dedicated people working for them.

MRS. CHICHAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are just a few points I want to raise with the chairman of this commission, with regard to programs, particularly to provide services in the northern part of the province. I suppose I'm not quite as familiar with the southern part. In those areas where we have Metis settlements and native people on reserves, it's my information that the staffing available is very inadequate. I recall that when there were problems in some of the lodges and nursing homes and a call went out to have assistance from AADAC, there just wasn't the manpower to give the service that was necessary. I wonder if perhaps the hon. chairman could indicate what progress is being made to perhaps redirect some of the personnel from areas where the problems of alcohol are of a different nature, and direct them into some of these isolated areas of the province where the percentage of the alcohol problem amongst the population is perhaps highest.

The matter of education in the schools is one that I have supported and indicated to the hon. chairman and in the House in the past. The real significance or need, if we are going to have any kind of success in resolving the problem of alcoholism and drug abuse, is that unless we start in the area of the young people, we really can't hope to have that much of an impact — if we simply direct most of our programming and services to treat the symptoms rather than put in place programs that would prevent the development of the abuse and the problems that arise. I wonder if the hon. chairman has in his information from the studies that have been carried out, and in the data AADAC has, whether studies have been made directly into the homes, related particularly to where there are alcohol and drug abuse problems amongst the young people — whether there's been a study into the home case, the environment, where such young people live. Because it's one thing to treat them, but if the environment is such that it will ultimately result in their returning back — to try to use another way of overcoming or not having to live with the nature of domestic problems, whatever they are — the treatment won't be a success for any length of time.

The other matter in the educational packet being prepared that the hon. chairman referred to: is the program such that it would not only try to influence the family, the peers and the parents of the children, in areas where there is a significant problem, but go into the home to ensure that if the child is not able to bring home any kind of

influence in what is being put forward in the classroom, there would be a counsellor who would be provided with such data or information that, for a particular community where the problem is very prevalent and high, would ensure that the treatment, the environment in the home, changes to give the support service that is necessary. When we are looking at the very high significance of drinking habits and drug use among children, is there use in the home, and if there isn't, is there a lack of communication? Perhaps this is a means by which some of the young people are attempting to draw attention from their parents to themselves.

I would like the hon. chairman to comment on whether the media campaign is designed and includes with its message the utilization of individuals who perhaps are held up as public idols in the eyes of young people, and who are themselves abstainers from these various addictions that come under the AADAC programs. The hon. chairman also mentioned the campaign with regard to methadone, and they're embarking on that. Could the chairman perhaps elaborate a bit more on what increase there has been in this usage within the last brief span of time? Has there been a rise in the numbers, what we might call "alarming proportions", and how does this relate to the increase of population, people coming into this province? Is that consistent with the percentage of people coming in? Or has it increased and is it being thrown out of proportion?

As well, what are the age categories of people coming in found to have a drug abuse problem? Is it relevant to a certain sphere of employment or career, or is it across the board and really doesn't have any particular pattern? Because of the affluence in this province, are we attracting more transients who really don't have any kind of career and are simply gathering here, possibly with the view that this is a Mecca where they can easily obtain drugs and, as well, make their incomes in distribution of drugs. Those are the questions I would like the hon. chairman to add to his remarks in response to other members.

MR. MACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not my intention to reiterate much of what has already been said by the hon. Member for Lethbridge West as well as other hon. members, insofar as identifying some of the difficulties, problems, and costs related thereto. My comments will be directly related to the programs and where the programs should receive a very high priority, and that is with our young people and our families.

I think young people are easily captivated by the jingle of a commercial. If we're prepared to do so, I believe we have the capability today to influence these young people and, through them, their parents. I sincerely believe there is no one who has the same kind of effect on a parent as the child, to influence that parent in many cases. So I would certainly urge the Chairman of AADAC to consider the educational program so that, one, the young people would receive — I'm speaking of preschoolers as well as those entering school, because I think this is where they can be influenced. Secondly, the family unit: what a good family unit could be as opposed to one that's been ravaged by the alcoholic syndrome and the effects of alcohol.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a couple of remarks about the terrific job that I think the chairman of AADAC is doing. I was

privileged to attend one board meeting in Lethbridge, and the concern and dedication he shows to the job is certainly very meaningful.

The member brought up that we spend \$0.5 billion in Alberta in a year. I saw a figure the other day saying that's \$5 billion across Canada. I don't know if that figure is true or not. We get talking about billions and we don't even know what a billion is. Actually a billion seconds is 30 years, so when we talk about a billion that's relatively significant.

I want to mention and put on the record a couple of things I have concerns about: there's been a 30 per cent increase in the per person consumption of alcohol since 1970, and in 1977 140,730 accidents in Canada were related to alcohol. We talk about doing everything with seat belts, yet we have just about 141,000 accidents in one year related to alcohol. Another one I'd like to mention is that in 1978 there were 640,000 alcoholics in Canada — that's the ones who are declared. I wonder about the undeclared ones, what that would bring the figure up to.

It says that alcohol-related deaths are about 2.5 per thousand of population. I think that's relatively significant when we look back at the number of accidents and tie the two together. I have some comments I'd like to make about the David Lander centre in Claresholm, but I'll hold them 'til we get to that vote.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. chairman wish to respond?

MR. GOGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I want to thank the members for the interest they've shown in the role of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission. I want to point out that many members of the committee — I look around at former school trustees, others who I know have been involved with home and school associations over the years. Contrary to popular belief, frankly I think the home and school associations are alive and well, perhaps not as well as they could or should be. I would point out, Mr. Chairman, that AADAC contributed \$3,000 last year to the Alberta home and school association.

I think that Joyce Westerland, who was the chairman, has done great things in trying to bring problems that exist in our schools to the attention of Albertans. I think that reinforces the role of AADAC. We believe fundamentally that alcohol problems are people problems within communities and communities have the responsibility to resolve their problems. Our role is really one of facilitating, getting a program going with volunteer groups, and funding.

The other point I should make clear at the outset is that with this commission in this province drug abuse and treatment is one of voluntary treatment — not coercion, not mandatory treatment. There may be some views on that. People may not think that's right. Our experience is that it has to remain voluntary.

The member for Edmonton Kingsway asked a variety of questions. First I'd point out that as a medical doctor the Member for Edmonton Kingsway is only too aware that we keep people living longer than ever. For that reason, Mr. Chairman, we're finding that many problems related to alcohol abuse seem to occur with senior citizens. I think the Member for Calgary Millican is quite familiar with that. I would point out, and I think it's important for the members of the committee to understand, that on the one hand, where I've said that I believe alcohol problems are the number one health problem in

Canada, it's interesting to look at a medical school calendar. They'd be lucky if there are four hours in four years of medical training devoted to the problem of alcohol.

With that in mind, I would attempt to answer the question the Member for Edmonton Kingsway asked. What were we doing in schools? Well I think in the Edmonton region, one of our six regions, Mr. Tom Winspinski, director for community extension programs in Edmonton, has an excellent track record with regard to going to schools, talking to teachers, and getting them to endorse programs. Obviously, with 375 people, we can't possibly do it out of AADAC. We have to do it through a volunteer component, and I'm very proud of many of the school teachers in Alberta who have undertaken educational programs within their schools.

Now they're faced with — we talk about 20-20, that we heard recently from the ATA. Somehow within the curriculum, within the school day, everybody thinks they've got something that should be in there, whether it's practical nursing, alcohol abuse, or you name it. Where are they going to find the time? Well, we only use 200 days a year in our school system. It's about time for a reassessment of that. They're air conditioned nowadays you know. It's not the same thing to be closed July and August. I'm sure the Member for Olds-Didsbury, as a former Minister of Education, is aware of that.

In terms of public relations in schools, I'm very proud of Alcoholics Anonymous in Calgary, Alberta, who take it upon themselves, former people — I shouldn't say alcoholics; they are alcoholics, or people who have had problems with alcohol — in a volunteer capacity to visit various schools. We're very proud of those. At teachers' conventions, we attempt to have displays to bring teachers up to date.

The Member for Edmonton Kingsway mentioned what is done with professional associations. It depends on which one you're talking to. We have a man at AADAC now, a Mr. Jim Edwards, who is developing strategies with professional associations. One of the great problems we have is that you can't spend your lifetime as a lawyer, having people come to you for advice, and suddenly turn around and go to other people for advice. That's a very difficult thing to do, and it's a difficult group to get through to. You know, they're self-governing, self-regulating associations, and we as legislators expect them to keep a clean house. They have various ways of doing it. We would like to see more done in that area.

The Member for Edmonton Kingsway asked if alcoholism has increased. Alcoholism is a difficult thing to determine. Our concern is with alcohol abuse and how it impacts on citizens.

The cure rate: well, I've visited various parts of Canada and the United States. I've looked at different modalities, different treatment programs. If a man is not drinking after a year, they term that a success. If a man is drinking with moderation after a year, others term that a success. But a rule of thumb for a good program is that if six out of 10 after a year of being in our program are dry, or sober, that is a great success. That's a matter of interpretation.

The Member for Edmonton Kingsway pointed out, what are we doing in industry? Pointing to Calgary again, we've been very successful with employee assistance programs with industry. We have about 30 of them, where our people in the Calgary region, under Mr. Quigley, deal with these groups. We're very hopeful, because about six in every hundred in the work force have a problem. AADAC's position is that you don't attempt to analyse

or psychoanalyse; you try to convince supervisors or employers to recognize when a man has a problem on the job. You relate it not to his drinking habits or his marital problems but to his performance in the work place. If he has a problem, you then try to plug him into a service to resolve that problem.

The member asked if staffing is adequate. Is staffing ever adequate? I suggest we could have a hospital bed for every person in Alberta and there would still be some person without a hospital bed. So one has to recognize that the state can do only so much. The role of the state with regard to AADAC is to facilitate resolving community problems and influencing drinking habits.

The Member for Camrose raised an interesting point about research funding at universities and that we have a chair there, and so on. Of course no chair exists at the university. There is a statute on the books called AADAFAC. Its goal was to do some research, but the funding problem was up to them. They were to arrange their own funds. The Legislature, through its minister, put a statute on the books. Dr. Hugh Arnold from Lethbridge was the chairman for some years. Frankly it hasn't gone anywhere, which indicates to me the priority it has within the university setting. As members know, universities are autonomous. They distribute their funds as they see fit. To date we've benefited from the Addiction Research Foundation, which has an affiliation with the University of Toronto and the Clarke psychiatric institute in Toronto. I'm not saying that wouldn't be a good thing here. I can't help but think that research into alcoholism would probably be positive. But I would point out that the statute under which we function doesn't have that provision. Maybe that would be the basis of a good resolution before this House.

The Member for Grande Prairie made reference to the cost of alcohol, and he's right on. In terms of disposable income, it's gone down, down, and down, while milk has gone up, up, and up. If good health came as a result of drinking alcohol, maybe it wouldn't be a bad policy. But we know that's not true. However, the price is certainly not within the authority of the commission. The Northern Alberta Development Council, through its member from Grande Prairie, has continually pointed out where problems exist in northern Alberta.

The Member for Edmonton Norwood mentions problems in the north. I would have to point out to the committee, Mr. Chairman, that of the nine new positions last year, six of them, fully 66.33 per cent, went into northern Alberta, in recognition by the commission that we prioritize where the greatest problems are and try to distribute resources in that regard. We think we've gone a long way toward that.

The member mentioned the methadone program. I would just point out that the methadone treatment program held at our west end centre is kind of unique. Methadone is a chemical alternative for heroin; it's for heroin addicts. We have about 30 to 32 who visit there daily. I don't know the future of that. I can't help but note that in England and other centres where they have heroin treatment programs, they are being dramatically changed. AADAC would probably be reviewing that in the not too distant future.

The Member for Edmonton Norwood also mentioned what we are doing in terms of holding up public idols and so on. A year or two ago the Edmonton region, under the community extension services, used book covers with Tom Wilkinson on the cover. It was very positive, very well received. In other words, young people tend to

emulate successful people. That area is going to be highlighted with our media campaign. We'll try to relate to some of those.

The member also pointed out the homes. We have found that most young people who are drinking began their drinking in the homes. But you know, there's a limit to what AADAC can do. AADAC can influence; AADAC can attempt to influence. But there's no role for AADAC in people's homes, except through information. If there is a child abuse problem, it is clearly a responsibility of the director of child welfare.

But I would like to point out to members of the committee, because the Member for Edmonton Norwood raised it, how times have changed. For a young teacher today in a classroom setting, out of 20, 25, or 30 children there could well be five, six, seven, or eight who hadn't slept the night before, let alone eaten. This ties in with the point the Member for Edmonton Belmont raised; that is, we're expecting so much from our teachers today in the school setting, to be all things to all people; not just teaching them the three Rs. Through the media campaign we hope to overcome a lot of this, to make people aware. We hope that awareness program ultimately will result in more moderate drinking habits of Albertans and, as a net result of that, less cost to the state.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I read a study a few years ago about youngsters in conflict with the law. It was a Senate report out of Ottawa, and the author and witness was a professor from U of A. Clearly about eight out of 10 youngsters in conflict with the law at age 16 had very discernible learning disabilities that, if caught in time, at ages 3, 4, or 5, could probably have prevented something. That's the sort of thing we're hoping for in this campaign.

Finally, the Member for Macleod pointed out the very tragic number of accidents we face each year. It's reminiscent of Viet Nam. We always killed three times as many people on U.S. highways as we did in Viet Nam. Yet no one seemed to talk about that.

The David Lander Centre, which is in the Macleod constituency, is a 48-bed treatment centre. We would hope to have an official opening some time this fall. It adds to the complement of in-patient treatment centres in southern Alberta. We are at the preliminary stages of planning a treatment centre in northern Alberta. We constantly carry out need studies. It just happens, I guess, that the incidence on the reserves in northern Alberta appears to be more serious than other places. We continue to provide counselling people where we can afford it, within the authority of the budget passed by this Assembly, to look after those problems.

With that, Mr. Chairman, unless there are other questions, I would again ask members of the committee to accept Vote 11 so that in 1981 AADAC can launch what I believe to be a significant media campaign right across North America, centred in this province.

Thank you.

Agreed to:	
11.1 — Program Support	\$2,310,437
11.2 — Treatment and Rehabilitation Services	\$7,220,490
11.3 — Education and Information Services	\$3,252,361
11.4 — Direct Financial Assistance to Private Treatment Agencies	\$4,213,000
Total Vote 11 — Alcoholism and Drug Abuse — Treatment and Education	\$16,996,288

Department Total	\$842,756,898
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MR. BOGLE: Mr. Chairman, I move that the votes be reported.

[Motion carried]

#### Government Services

Agreed to:	
1.01 — Minister's Office	\$150,870
1.02 — Administrative Services	\$901,600
1.03 — Financial Services	\$729,730
1.04 — Personnel	\$936,800
1.05 — Metric Conversion	\$239,000
Total Vote 1 — Departmental Support Services	\$2,958,000
Total Vote 2 — Building Operations and Maintenance	\$87,473,080
Total Vote 3 — Government Transportation	\$4,057,400
Total Vote 4 — Supply	\$3,566,010
Total Vote 5 — Public Affairs	\$6,702,765
Total Vote 6 — Information Services	\$1,299,290
Department Total	\$106,056,545

MR. McCRAE: Mr. Chairman, I move that the vote be reported.

[Motion carried]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

[Motion carried]

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

MR. APPLEBY: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions, reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1982, sums not exceeding the following for the department and purposes indicated. For the Department of Social Services and Community Health: \$66,243,630 for departmental support services, \$213,179,060 for social allowance, \$80,997,600 for child welfare services, \$6,908,220 for specialized social services, \$139,153,000 for benefits and income support, \$21,832,430 for vocational rehabilitation services, \$86,446,470 for services for the handicapped, \$76,884,090 for treatment of mental illness, \$29,445,000 for general health services, \$104,671,110 for community social and health services, \$16,996,288 for alcoholism and drug abuse — treatment and education.

For the Department of Government Services: \$2,958,000 for departmental support services, \$87,473,080 for building operations and maintenance, \$4,057,400 for government transportation, \$3,566,010 for supply, \$6,702,765 for public affairs, \$1,299,290 for information services.

MR. SPEAKER: Having heard the report and the request for leave to sit again, do you all agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, it's proposed that when the members assemble tonight at 8 o'clock the House be in Committee of Supply. I therefore move that the House now adjourn until the Committee of Supply rises and reports.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Assembly agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

[The House recessed at 5:25 p.m.]

[The Committee of Supply met at 8 p.m.]

#### head: **GOVERNMENT MOTIONS** (Committee of Supply)

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Committee of Supply will please come to order.

#### **Executive Council**

##### **10.1 — Office of the Premier**

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, there are two topics I'd like to discuss briefly with the Premier this evening. One is with regard to the general attitude on the administration of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund. The second is with regard to The Financial Administration Act and its use in terms of special warrants. In those areas I would like to establish from the Premier basically the direction that accountability is going and the direction in which these two Acts of the Legislature are being administered.

With regard to the Heritage Savings Trust Fund, one of the concerns we have voiced from this side of the Legislature and as the Socred Party since 1976 and the introduction of the Act, was that 80 per cent of the decision-making in the Act is made by the cabinet committee or cabinet as a whole. I wonder, from the experience of the Premier through actual practice up to this point, whether some of that responsibility and the decision-making process in the determination of the investment of the 80 per cent could be returned to the Legislature. I was going to say restored, but I'll leave that comment till later. I look at some of the investments, Mr. Chairman — in terms of loans to other provinces, the Alberta Energy Company, some of the other investments that have been made through both the Alberta investment division and the Canada investment division — and think that potentially those could have been approved or discussed in the Legislature before the final say was given. Would the Premier comment on that? Maybe we could discuss that first and then go to the second topic, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Chairman, in my estimates I'm prepared to respond perhaps in a general way, but I

believe the appropriate time to respond to those questions is when the select committee on the Heritage Savings Trust Fund meets and reviews the matter in the fall. I have always made myself available to respond at that time, and I'm prepared to do so. If the hon. Leader of the Opposition wants me to respond to some of the aspects of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund in a general policy way, I'm prepared to do so. But I'm not prepared to deal with that issue under my estimates. I'm available when the select committee meets in the fall and will continue to be available.

I believe the hon. Leader of the Opposition did ask me a general policy question that had to do with our experience with regard to whether these decisions should be made first by the Executive Council acting in its capacity as an investment committee, and then ratified in the general ratification concept of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act. From that point of view, I would merely say that I think it's worked well. I haven't seen any circumstance which would cause us to alter our general policy position. I believe the concept of having a select standing committee of the Legislature to review it and then a general debate on the motion to provide for the transfer of the 30 per cent of the natural resource revenues of the province at the time of the fall session, has worked out well and has certainly met the general policy expectations and objectives we've had as a government.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the Premier. The concern I have and I'd appreciate the Premier's comment with regard to this — it's only a policy direction I want to talk about. I don't want to go into specific programs or discuss the merits of one over the other; it's just the direction at this point. The way it is handled at present, 80 per cent of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund brings into the hands of cabinet an amount of money equal to and even larger than the whole provincial budget. Up to this point, things have been potentially acceptable in the decision-making with regard to investments. But if we project ahead, potentially the Heritage Savings Trust Fund could be more than double or even triple the size of the actual general revenue budget of the province. I'd like to know from the Premier if he sees this as a concern. Possibly there should be a review of the legislation with regard to the powers that have been given to the cabinet committee.

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Chairman, I see no reason to alter that. It was a matter of extensive debate at the time the Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act was brought into this Legislature. The position I took then, and take today, is that the ratification process is there. If at any time the Legislature does not view the position of the investment committee as being adequate in the public interest of Alberta, they can preclude the transfer of further funds or, for that matter, the Legislature is always in a position to cause changes in legislation to occur. But the process, which I think we debated extensively at the time the Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act developed, was that would we would make investment decisions in the Executive Council acting as an investment committee, with the exception of the capital projects division. We would then present those with full audit for review by a select standing committee of the Legislature, which would make recommendations to the Legislature. We provided that in the fall session, we would not deal with the general resolution to transfer further funds into the Heritage Savings Trust Fund until we had dealt with the resolution

of the select standing committee. It seems to me that process has worked well over a number of years. The ultimate authority and residual responsibility rests, as it should, with the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

MR. R. SPEAKER: I'd like to move then to the second topic, The Financial Administration Act, specifically with regard to the interpretation of Section 30(1)(a), where a special warrant is allowed where "an expenditure of public money is urgently required with respect to that matter". Mr. Chairman, I'd appreciate the interpretation of that from the Premier, in terms of the Premier as chairman of Executive Council, as well as the application of that part of the legislation when special warrants are approved by Executive Council.

MR. LOUGHEED: We have discussed that on a number of occasions. It's hard to generalize with regard to the interpretation of that section of The Financial Administration Act. I believe that as the legislative process is established, each of these special warrants is the subject of ratification in the process of the estimates we have here, and are contained and listed at the completion of the estimates book. I would grant the hon. Leader of the Opposition that there are always cases — when I was in opposition, I recall arguing from time to time that there was a particular instance of a case that did not need to be the subject of a special warrant; it could have been delayed or held.

Of course there is also the process, which we've already debated in this spring session, of supplementary estimates, which we've used on the odd occasion. If my memory serves me right, we used it last year with regard to housing, and I believe we used it on one occasion when we made a decision with regard to education finance. There is an appropriate place, I think, to bring in supplementary estimates. We certainly aren't hard and fast on whether there could not be greater utilization of the concept of supplementary estimates. Maybe there can well be. We realize that with some special warrants — I suppose a quick one that comes to mind is forest [fire-fighting] expenses, that you can never anticipate. I think that's pretty clear-cut. On the other hand, you're going to get into some others where we've already debated, either in question period or generally, whether or not there was a need to do it by special warrant. There's a multitude of reasons.

I don't know that I can be any more effective in responding to the question at this time in committee. In each individual case — as I'm sure will be the intention of the Leader of the Opposition — if he has some concerns, when we come to the ratification he's perfectly entitled and, I'm sure, will direct the questions to the responsible minister who will then respond as to why it was necessary to deal with the matter by way of a special warrant.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, might I just pose one follow-up question to my colleague's and ask one additional area. I take it from the Premier's remarks with regard to supplementary estimates — I wouldn't want to be accused of putting words in the Premier's mouth, but taking that risk — that in fact on major expenditures that find their way into special warrant, the Premier is prepared to consider more use of supplementary estimates, either at the end of the spring session like last year or more preferably in the fall session, where it may be possible to deal with a number of questions which come up. And possibly we could see in the future one piece of

legislation, which would come into the House, dealing with a number of requests for special warrants in a variety of departments. I feel that would be a very positive step forward.

The other question to the Premier deals with the timing of the session this year. One concern the Leader of the Opposition has had — I think very rightfully so — with the very late start of the session is that we find ourselves in the situation where it isn't a matter of supplementary estimates after the budget comes down or even the House has started; in fact that had to be done before because of the session starting this year. Is it the government's intention where practically possible to attempt to move the session starting date, be it late February or the early part of March, so that — one wouldn't be so naive as to suggest the estimates are going to be through — at least the estimates are presented to the House before the end of the fiscal year, which seems to me to pay far more importance to at least starting the estimate debate prior to having to go the supplementary estimate route, or the special warrant route we went this year.

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Chairman, those are two important points. Yes, with our decision last year on the supplementary estimates relative to housing — which I think worked adequately from the standpoint of the Legislature — and the other example I mentioned, I think we have shown it's certainly an approach in terms of financial management that can be looked at in terms of the situation developing relative to the issue between special warrants with subsequent ratification and supplementary estimates. I think that is so. Of course the difficulty of timing is still there. To some extent one might find a situation with a special warrant request coming, say, in early September, with the fall session starting in the middle part of October. Then it's a sort of gray area whether or not one can wait and get the supplementary estimate through in the fall session. That's the judgment call that has to be made. Quite clearly, that's one area we'd be quite prepared to examine more fully and utilize more extensively.

The question of timing of the session is certainly a valid point. There were both external and internal reasons for this year's commencement on April 2. It's not our intention to continue with that approach. It would be our view that we would follow the more customary approach we've had in this Legislature, starting the spring session perhaps towards early or, at least, mid-March. This year's external factors involved us in some pretty heavy demands with regard to constitution and energy that required our involvement in terms of some public communication and other commitments. We felt we needed to push the starting date on for that reason. That was basically the reason. It was both internal and external in terms of the organization of business of the government relative to the Legislature. It would be our intention to return to the more traditional time of early to mid-March in the future.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Chairman, to the Premier. I note that in 1.01 and 1.04 in particular there's a minor decrease of \$22,000 in the first but a significant increase of some \$381,000 in 1.04. I wonder, Mr. Premier, if you could elaborate on what special programs or projects are contemplated in view of this significant increase.

MR. LOUGHEED: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that should be explained. With regard to project management, if you look at the estimates carefully, the figure for last year was

some \$599,000, the forecast was only \$276,000, and this year's estimate is for some \$657,000. The reason for that is it primarily involves consulting fees, which is a very difficult area for us to judge in advance and, frankly, we make a very rough estimate. We just feel the magnitude of economic, social, and other issues that may require consulting work done by Executive Council require us to have that larger amount. Of the \$657,000, I'm informed that \$440,000 is an appropriation intended to cover consulting fees.

I'm sorry, I think the hon. member may have asked an earlier question, which I may have missed.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Chairman, just a supplementary. Specifically in project management, these are for anticipated programs but not any specific programs?

MR. LOUGHEED: There are two elements of project management. One is the assignment of staff to undertake a number of tasks on an ongoing basis that we have not involved with a particular department. In the course of '80-81, they include such matters as the telecommunications planning study; an inventory of agencies, boards, and commissions; a review of government surveying and mapping; the whole assessment of our guidelines and procedures for handling government research contracts; the report with regard to our land-purchase activities; and some others that cover a number of particular departments rather than one particular one. So we tend to call upon the group working with us in project management who would not, if you like, have the tendency to look upon a particular review on the basis of one department primarily but would have an overall government view. That's the purpose for project management. Beyond the people working in project management, there is of course the consulting aspect I mentioned in my earlier answer.

Agreed to:

1.01 — Office of the Premier	\$432,662
1.02 — Administrative Support	\$1,353,289
1.03 — Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	\$78,738

#### 1.04 — Project Management

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, the Premier indicated there are some consulting fees in Vote 1.04. Are any of the consulting fees for the constitution and, if so, how much?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Chairman, if we're talking about the appropriation for 1981-82, I don't believe there is any intention to involve consultants relative to the constitution.

Agreed to:

1.04 — Project Management	\$657,506
1.05 — Protocol	\$365,958
Total Vote 1 — Executive Council Administration	\$2,888,153

#### Vote 2 — Occupational Health and Safety

MR. CHAIRMAN: I believe the Minister for Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation . . .

MR. DIACHUK: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if I may. I just wish to make a few comments on Vote 2. The occupational health and safety division was under the Department of Labour for some three years and, in its third year, is now entering a new phase in the operation as part of the portfolio of Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation.

Nineteen eighty has been a very active year. Implementation of the Sage report on oil wells took place. While there was a reduction of activities, this removed some of the pressures. However, the industry has co-operated and has assured my office and officials that the reduction will not slow down the implementations that were part of the recommendations of the Sage report. In general, co-operation from the industry was good.

The other study I wanted to touch on was the Stevenson coal mine inquiry. This is progressing fairly well and smoothly. Public hearings will be held this year to finalize the public hearings portion of the inquiry. The interim recommendation has been put into effect, particularly with the specific McIntyre mine. The final report is expected at the end of 1981.

The other study, the task force on construction: the public hearings have been held, and the initial part on the inquiry in Lethbridge has been completed through the public hearings. There were meetings in Calgary and Edmonton. They looked at other jurisdictions outside Alberta. As I've indicated previously and would like to just reaffirm, the report is expected at the end of June and is on schedule. The committee will also be reviewing the judge's report with regard to the inquiry under the fatality inquiry. The division has taken the initiative and is working toward the acceptance of another area of co-operation with the industry, and that is the operation of tower cranes. In approximately two to three weeks, I expect to make some announcement with regard to an agreement we are working on to get co-operation between the industry, the professional group, and the officials.

I just want to touch on the implementation of the heritage fund. That will no doubt be reviewed in the fall, but the final interviews with regard to a fund administrator to work in my division will be completed shortly. I understand the interviews are being held this week.

That, Mr. Chairman, is the recap of the activity of the occupational health and safety division in Vote 2.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I may make one or two general comments dealing with Vote 2, and then ask the minister to respond. Specifically, Mr. Minister, on the question of inspection and enforcement of safety regulations, I note that the estimates have increased by some 34 per cent. Will there be a change in the number of inspections conducted, or in the way the inspectors go about the work? For example, the minister mentioned the Sage report. What portions of those recommendations does the minister expect to be implemented in the course of this year? I ask the question in light of the 34 per cent increase here.

The second question to the minister: the committee on workers' compensation that the minister chaired, and some legislation was brought in last year — what is the expectation of the government? Is it the government's expectation that the legislation dealt with last year will sit in its place for another three years — the tradition has been a four-year period — before there'll be a look at recommendations again? If my memory's accurate, the minister will recall that there were some questions about moving on some recommendations and not on others. Or



in fact will the workers' compensation legislation be in place as it is now for the next three-year period, which has been the tradition? That would be the second question.

Thirdly, with regard to the inquiry held after the most regrettable industrial accident in Lethbridge, I ask the minister what changes if any have been implemented either in the minister's department or the Department of Labour? One concern I've had raised to me by people in the construction industry is the correlation between the minister's people and the Department of Labour. I'd like to ascertain the working relationship — and use as an example the report that was done after the Lethbridge accident and the inquiry that followed. What have been steps since that inquiry was finalized, and what changes have been made as a result of that particular example?

MR. DIACHUK: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the first question the hon. member asked: whether there will be a change in the approach of inspections, particularly reflecting the Sage report. As I've indicated in this House, the [CAODC] and the other related oil sectors have been most co-operative and willing to co-operate with the division and my officials. Because of the continuous moving of many of their drilling rigs they have undertaken, as recommended in the Sage report, to carry out their own inspections. But at all times the complement of occupational health and safety officers will routinely be checking the inspection at the site to see how currently the professional people employed by that company, in most cases, have carried out the inspection. So there is a co-operative approach.

As you recall, Mr. Chairman, the emphasis was on training. With the reduction of activity, the industry has continued to provide the emphasis on training. The interest is good. The programs are being re-evaluated and assessed by my officials, and in co-operation they're coming up with the training program. In most cases the recommendation of the Sage report was that it wasn't the practice or the equipment that was at fault, but the lack of training of people.

With regard to the report on workers' compensation, I wonder if the hon. member missed that I introduced Bill 37 last Monday. Possibly, in the trip with the select committee, you haven't been briefed on it. But Bill 37 was introduced last Monday. It is the intent and hope that this Assembly will approve it and that it will receive royal assent in order that the Workers' Compensation Board will be able to place all the programs in place by January 1, '82.

As I've answered previously and will again, the Lethbridge Roy Plaza collapse — my officials, I, and some of my colleagues are awaiting the final report of the task force headed by Dr. Gordon Wynn. As I indicated in my opening comments, they will naturally be reviewing even the comments of the judge who reviewed the incident under The Fatality Inquiries Act. When that report is received, we will be in a better position — and I say we because it will involve other departments. As you mentioned, sir, there will be areas the Minister of Labour is responsible for, particularly the building standards branch. At all times there is good co-operation, because in most cases the inspectors who are implementing the building standards Act are municipal inspectors, be it in one city or another. My officials are constantly co-operating with them, and the building inspectors are co-operating with the occupational health and safety officers. If any of them sees any irregularity, they will advise

the other one. This co-operation is good. But as recently as the last two weeks, it was pointed out that there's a shortage of some of these municipal inspectors. Some of the cities are addressing this by placing more people in the inspection field to inspect buildings so that new construction is according to the building standards set out under the Department of Labour.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, I apologize to the minister. I hadn't checked my Votes and Proceedings and failed to notice the Bill on the Order Paper. One further question I'd ask the minister. Dealing with the recommendations of the Sage people on safety in the oil well drilling business, what thought has been given to the idea of implementing a number of their recommendations right at the oil well drilling facilities, which was a joint industry/government venture? Have a number of the recommendations been implemented at that particular facility already?

MR. DIACHUK: I gather you mean the training centre under Advanced Education and Manpower. Yes, that has always been, and the graduates of that facility, that program are excellent graduates. But the unfortunate part is that the statistics show that few of those graduates have remained very long in the field. They take their training, go out, and once they find out that the training is not what is really out in the field, they last a week or two weeks. Therefore we have a large turnover of those graduates. That's why the industry also has many programs, as recommended in the Sage report, to provide on-the-job training, which I agree isn't as satisfactory, but that's the compromise they come up with because not all workers go through the training school on the south side.

Agreed to:

2.1 — Program Support	\$762,992
2.2 — Worksite Services	\$3,690,550
2.3 — Occupational Health Services	\$2,863,160
2.4 — Research and Education	\$2,525,820
Total Vote 2 — Occupational Health and Safety	\$9,842,522

Total Vote 3 — Workers' Compensation	\$14,148,400
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#### Vote 4 — Support to Native Organizations

MR. CHAIRMAN: Total amount to be voted, \$3,375,058. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. WEISS: Sorry, I didn't get your attention, Mr. Chairman. I notice there's almost \$2.3 million in grants for native organizations. I'd like to ask the hon. Minister of Native Affairs approximately what dollar value that would be per person, if we could relate it that way. What is Alberta's position in relation to other provinces, dollarwise or percentagewise, if the minister has an approximate answer to that?

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, you were so quick. I had a few opening remarks, and you just about finished me before I got started.

Mr. Chairman, this evening I'd like to take a few moments to speak about a number of significant initiatives that the Alberta government will be pursuing in the

months ahead concerning native people, as they are reflected in my department's estimates. When I assumed the position of minister responsible for Native Affairs, I made it well known that my priorities included increased communication with the native organizations and individuals, as well as examining steps the government could take to meet the economic development objectives of the Indian and Metis residents of the province. My department's estimates reflect a real and tangible commitment to these objectives, not purely in raw, cold numbers, but in the substance of positive initiatives that have at their heart the goal of improving the social and economic well-being of the native people.

The 1981-82 estimates total \$3,375,058, a 38.9 [per cent] increase over last year's comparable estimates. This increase is due largely to an increase in the field capability of the Native Secretariat, and a major expenditure to assist the operation of a newly-formed private corporation, the Business Assistance for Native Albertans Corporation.

Let me speak briefly about these matters, Mr. Chairman. I believe that my department's attempts to further develop its ability to maintain contact with the individual residents of reserves, settlements, and isolated communities is a positive step. Far from the confines of legislative debate, press conferences, and newspaper headlines, I have found that the native people have a keen desire, on a grass roots level, to get on with the job to improve their economic well-being. I suggest that government is prudent to take steps to facilitate communication between people and their public service.

In the next year the Native Secretariat will be increasing its field staff, not in a dramatic fashion in terms of numbers, but in a way that each individual band, settlement, council, and residents of isolated communities and urban centres will have more easy access to our government. In this respect, I believe the additional expenditure of \$198,000 will pay handsome dividends for both government and our native people.

I should note that the transfer of the budget of native news organizations adds some \$592,000 to my estimates. It is safe to say that Alberta is a leader in the area of native communications and communication services; witness the compliments of Alberta native communications services and Indian news media received nationally. This was transferred from the Department of Culture to the Department of Native Affairs.

Mr. Chairman, I want to close my opening remarks by referring to the exciting concept represented by the Business Assistance for Native Albertans Corporation. This proposal, that shows initiative and great promise for the future, was first presented to me last summer by the president of the Metis Association of Alberta, Mr. Sinclair. We are all aware of the difficulties which face small businessmen. BANAC is intended to provide native people with advisory services that I hope will increase the success rate of native small business. BANAC will assist in providing advice regarding financial planning, accounting, market analysis, and marketing strategy. It is a major step in addressing concerns that all members of this Legislature share. To date the interests of native people in this new service has been substantial. Given time, we hope it will become a model for other provinces to follow.

With respect to the major changes as far as percentages are concerned, I mentioned in my opening remarks that news media and communication has been transferred from Culture to my department, which is \$592,000.

Urban native referral has been shifted from contracts to grants. BANAC is an additional \$400,000 for the first year of its operation. In our B budget, we have openings for five new people, who will be field staff in the province: two to the reserves, one to the isolated communities, one to the cities of Calgary and Edmonton, and one travelling around the province to assist in this.

The hon. Member for Lac La Biche-McMurray asked me what this involved per person. There are roughly 100,000 native people in the province of Alberta, so if you divided that total budget by 100,000, it would give you your answer. I think that was the only question. If there are any further questions, I'd be glad to try to answer.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Chairman, I did ask how Alberta would fare in relation to other provinces, either percentage-wise or dollarwise.

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, I think we fare very well. I think we spend more per capita. It's a difficult area to project in this manner, because my department works through other departments. As far as Housing, Social Services and Community Health, Transportation, and any one of a dozen departments are concerned, the funding basically flows through a great number of them. I have only the local grants, which are the smaller numbers compared to some of the assets like the major recreational programs and other programs that flow through other departments, so it's a kind of difficult question to answer.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, three things. First, in terms of the staff going out into the field, a few years ago we had the policy where we brought all the staff members into central office. I wonder if the minister could comment further as to why the switch in policy to move the staff back into the field, although I think I can partly understand that.

Secondly, the minister mentioned the BANAC program. I'm not sure whether he mentioned the VCC program. I have three questions with regard to those. With regard to consultation with the Indian and Metis groups before introduction of both those programs . . . Secondly, will native businessmen who obtain money be accountable for the venture capital to government, private enterprise, or are they independent? Thirdly, what role would the department or the provincial government play with regard to the ventures undertaken?

The third area I'd like the minister to comment on is with regard to the Metis settlement: the housing, sewer and, I believe, a road program. I wonder if the minister could bring us up to date on those. In the throne speech we mentioned that the rural and native program as well as the home assistance program would benefit a number of families. Could the minister indicate where that program is at the present time?

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, the reason for the change, instead of native people coming to our main office in Edmonton, is that it was found we ended up with basically one person travelling the province, and there was just no way they could possibly do it. If we're going to help native people, we have to have access to them. This is what they're for. Of the five new staff we are in the process of recruiting, I expect that four will be native-speaking people. They will go to the settlements, to the reserves, and report back and keep a line of communication open. That's the basic reason. One person from the central office — there was just no way we could keep

that line of communication open. This a change in the concept of the Native Secretariat. I have hopes for it. I think it will be a real improvement over what we have had in the past.

You mentioned the BANAC proposition. Hopefully this will be starting the first part of next month. We have allocated \$400,000 to it in the budget. In the first place it will start out small, with a president, a manager, a board, and probably two other assistants — probably one in forestry and perhaps one in the oil and gas business — and a secretary. It will build from there as time goes on and they get busier.

You also wanted to know about venture capital, who these would be accountable to and what role the government plays. Basically we've been acting more as a catalyst in setting this up. The program is that government will take 10 per cent. This will be run by private enterprise. It will be at arm's length to government, run by a board of directors from the private sector. It will be run by the private sector, not by government. As government we are acting just as catalyst in this effort. We have been out talking with the various companies, basically those who have a vested interest in native people; in other words, the ones in whose interest it is to see that native people do improve their lot, get work, contracts, employment, move up from that 60, 70, 80 per cent unemployment and have that reduced. For the most part it's in the northern areas that this would be effected.

When we have it established and set up, it will not be a government program. Hopefully we'll have it as a private-sector program. This is the first time this has ever been tried, and we have real hopes. I think you can see how the BANAC proposition will fit into the venture capital. One gives the expertise and business advice, and the other is set up so capital projects will come through the board of the Venture Capital Corporation.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, the description the minister gives makes it somewhat comparable to the Alberta Opportunity Company. They have advisory people. As well, money is available as — well, it's not really venture capital; I guess in one sense you could describe it as that. Has there been any thought of using AOC as the base from which to launch this program?

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, it has been considered. But it's difficult to get that capital involvement from the private sector through the AOC program, if you follow what I mean. We feel that as the private sector has a vested interest in the well-being of the native people in the province, it's up to them. It's to their best interest, too, to make this work. This does not preclude AOC or the Ag. Development Corporation for any native person who wants to do it. But we felt the private sector should have a vested interest in the actual establishment and operation of this, and putting up the funding for it. That's the reason we haven't gone through AOC.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Minister, in light of my last experience, perhaps I should preface my remarks by saying I might have missed something. But would I be oversimplifying if I were to say that we're going to have the BANAC organization, with about \$400,000, which is really going to be the technical arm of things, if I can use that terminology. Then this venture capital group is being established, which will be at arm's length from the government. I take it from the minister's comments that we're expecting the private sector to put up the bulk of

the money, in fact all the money, for this venture capital. The minister says 90 per cent.

Mr. Minister, I think it's very, very desirable to have the private sector involved and have some of their money in there too. But I would really urge that if in fact we had followed that exact argument and said it was up to the private sector when it came to ADC or AOC, we wouldn't have those organizations in existence. One could make the argument that it's in their interest that agriculture stay strong and that small business grow in Alberta. I'm not one who has a reputation for urging government involvement on every occasion, but I strongly say to the minister that as I understand the concept that has been outlined this evening, here may very well be an area, after we've had a bit of experience and if private involvement in this venture capital group works out, where the Heritage Savings Trust Fund could very well be seen as a source of money — to get a return on, not as an outright gift, the same principle as we have with the Alberta Opportunity Company and the Agricultural Development Corporation.

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, as I said, the way this is going to be set up is that no company, including government, can take more than 10 per cent. So no one is going to have control of this Venture Capital Corporation. The government takes 10 per cent and can distribute it in any amount they wish, up to 10 per cent of the total capital. We hope to raise between \$6 million and \$9 million for the total capital. You can take the government's involvement in this, about 10 per cent, somewhere in that area — we'll probably know our returns in a couple of months. We've been visiting and having meetings with various businesspeople across the province, and the reception has been pretty good. So we hope this will develop. As I say, this is the first time something of this nature has ever been attempted. The sorting out of what comes to them — in other words, suppose you were a native businessperson and you had an idea. You'd come to the board, they sort it out, ask advice from BANAC, and then they go and make their proposition. It may be accepted; it may be turned down. But as I say, it's at arm's length from the government. If it has a good chance of being a viable business operation, it'll probably be accepted.

This capital corporation is going to start small, too. If somebody goes in for, we'll say, half a million dollars, that will be over a three-year period. We feel it's a fair and just chance. Down the road, as we see how things work out, we may have to make some adjustments in it. I wouldn't be surprised. But talking to all the business heads in Alberta, I might say they're all pretty enthusiastic about it and seem to think it's a good, sound idea. So we're hopeful that it has good prospects.

MR. R. CLARK: Perhaps I might just follow up with two additional questions to the minister. Mr. Minister, would it be possible for some of the reserves in the province that have become reasonably well to do as a result of resource revenue, to become a 10 per cent participant? And what about the federal government? Would you accept their money?

DR. McCRIMMON: We would accept the money from the reserves. As a matter of fact, one reserve is in for sure, in quite a solid amount — I spoke to them just two days ago, and they're very enthusiastic about it — and maybe more. Yes, the native people themselves are involved in

this, and a native person from one of the reserves has been on the board. We are hopeful that several reserves will become involved in it, and one is in for sure.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. Having eaten bannock on many occasions and enjoyed it very much, I'm sure most members are aware that's what the name signifies. I certainly hope it puts food on the table for the native organizations. My concern is: is there any minimum or maximum dollar value that the program might be limited to, or is there a limited number of people who may be eligible to participate in the programs?

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, not at the present time, but it's up to the board of directors to draw up their own by-laws, rules, and regulations. I feel it's not up to us as government to draw up this type of set of rules under these circumstances. That's up to the board that's set up for the corporation. I feel it's not up to the government to lay down those rules when other people are putting up the money.

MR. WEISS: To clarify that, Mr. Chairman, then is there no set maximum amount of dollars that would be available under the program?

DR. McCRIMMON: Not at the present time. That will be up to the board of directors to set when they're established.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. One of the organizations that had a bit of concern was the native Sooniaw corporation, which I understand operates on the Metis settlements. Is there any conflict between that organization and this proposal?

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, I see no conflict. I'm not altogether up on it because this comes under the Minister of Municipal Affairs, but I believe the funding they're speaking about for this is from the municipal grant of \$500 per person that went to the Metis settlements. I think it's between \$1 million and \$2 million. If they're going to let this type of money out — to their own people, I imagine — for land and this type of thing, \$1 million or \$2 million doesn't go very far. I can see no conflict whatsoever. If anything, I think one would assist the other. Because when you look at all the reserves, the possibilities for business between the natives and the Metis people in the province, \$9 million or \$10 million is just scratching the surface.

MR. BORSTAD: Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of questions on friendship centres. I believe that comes under your department, Mr. Minister. It's my understanding that the federal government is sort of backing out of that program. I would like to urge the minister to negotiate with his counterpart, if he would, to try to increase those grants rather than lower them, because it seems to me that native friendship centres are filling a real need in a good many places in the province, not only to the native people themselves but in some of the communities where the facilities that they have are being used by the public at large. I could name one, in Slave Lake, which I think is filling a real need in Slave Lake. So I urge the minister to see what he could do to make sure that those grants from the federal government are increased and, if necessary, maybe we could even suggest

that the provincial government put some extra money into the funding. They need it especially in capital, so they can get some sort of building or something to work out of.

While I'm on my feet, I would also like to ask you when BANAC is going to be in operation, when it will be in business, and how many natives are hired in your department.

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the friendship centres, I agree with the hon. member. I think it's one of our greatest lines of communication, and absolutely essential. In the last year we had \$210,000 to friendship centres; we've raised it to \$230,000.

The principle behind the friendship centres is that the federal government supplies building and staff and we supply the program. They haven't been expanding their services one bit and, yes, we're having some problems. I agree with you a hundred per cent. We will try and are trying to get them to increase this, because we feel it's very essential. We gave them a clear grant of \$2,000 per friendship centre, and we have raised this to \$6,000, a considerable raise. We're trying to get more money out of the federal government. I don't know how much success we'll have, but I agree it's very essential.

I forget the question you asked on BANAC.

MR. BORSTAD: When will it . . .

DR. McCRIMMON: We hope to get it in operation next month. We're in the final stages of setting up a board and getting a president and director for it.

Agreed to:

Total Vote 4 — Support to Native  
Organizations

\$3,375,058

#### **Vote 5 — Personnel Administration**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I believe the minister responsible would like to make some remarks.

[Mr. Purdy in the Chair]

MR. STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In introducing the estimates for Personnel Administration, I would like again to take the opportunity to express my appreciation for the conscientious manner in which our Alberta public service employees discharge their responsibilities. There are occasional problems that attract publicity and headlines. I don't want to downplay those, but they often obscure the fact that to a great extent the people of Alberta are served by a dedicated, conscientious work force. So it's important that the overall picture be given this perspective, and I'm pleased to have this opportunity again to do so.

The budget before the members does not propose any major new activities for the Personnel Administration office. As a service entity, Personnel Administration is charged with the responsibility to maintain an effective level of service to departments, in all personnel program areas. This of course includes ongoing monitoring of our systems and delivery mechanisms to ensure that the programs are meeting the needs. I'd like to assure you that this responsibility is taken very seriously and objectively by the department.

Five of the 10 new positions in the budget are ear-

marked for recruitment and selection, to maintain the quality of service to the departments and the prospective employees involved. This will also enable the department of Personnel Administration to expand its strategies in university, technical, and high school recruitment, to obtain a supply of suitably qualified candidates for our work force from the highly competitive labor market that exists in our bountiful province of Alberta. Two of the positions will enable us to improve the level of service provided by employee health services, particularly in screening and testing of employees exposed to hazardous work environments. Increasing activities in benefits and compensation administration necessitates the addition of two positions, and the tenth position provides a support function in management services.

The major increase in our budget, in supplies and services, relates to our recruitment career advertisement activities. We are in a very competitive labor market. We must maintain a visible presence through various forms of media advertising if we are to recruit to positions successfully.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that in this international year of the disabled, in co-operation with Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, Personnel Administration is operating a work experience project as part of the special placement program. This program assists handicapped citizens obtain meaningful employment in the Albert public service.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be glad to answer any questions.

MR. PAHL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a rather general question and it really flows from all the estimates, but I'd like to address it to the Minister responsible for Personnel Administration. I note the ministers' salaries and benefits in all cases forecast a percentage increase of 13.5 per cent, all rather consistently in excess of 13 per cent. Yet it was my understanding that the amendments to The Legislative Assembly Act limited increases to 5 per cent. I wonder if the minister might clarify that across the board.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, that probably could be best clarified by the Provincial Treasurer. But perhaps I can explain on behalf of the Treasurer, and in my own and my colleagues' case. Of the 13.5 per cent shown in the estimates, 5 per cent is for the economic adjustment, as part of the recommendations of the Miller report accepted by the Legislative Assembly. Approximately 7 per cent of that 13.5 per cent is the additional amounts required for the provincial pension benefit, and the remaining 1.5 per cent is the increases in all the other benefits the employer must pay such as long-term disability insurance, group life insurance, and other benefits that apply to ministers in the department estimates you see.

MR. PAHL: A supplementary then, Mr. Chairman. Is that taken to mean that the amendment to The Legislative Assembly Act was improperly placed or am I misunderstanding the effect of — I guess the clarification should be: does the 5 per cent increase set down in the legislation affect or cause the 7 per cent increment, or is it on the base salary and unrelated to the annual increment, if that's clear.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, it's clear, but I believe the 5 per cent is the pure salary adjustment. In total, adjustments to the pension program and other programs

have required additional amounts of 8.5 per cent to be applied in varying degrees to the total package. But those questions may best be placed with my colleague at that time.

MR. SINDLINGER: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. The minister did offer to make some comments about the reasons for the order of magnitude increases, and I know you've just passed the question on to the Provincial Treasurer, but perhaps you might consider . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would the member use the common parliamentary language, please. I notice a number of members in committee this evening have been using unparliamentary language. So please revert to the common language of the committee, which is also the whole House language.

MR. SINDLINGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize, Mr. Minister. Mr. Minister, this afternoon we were talking about . . . [interjections] Did I do it again, Mr. Minister?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would you please address the remarks through the Chair.

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, maybe I could write him a note or something.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a question. The minister offered to answer a question posed by another member back here — am I okay so far — in regard to the reason for the increases here, and he indicated the components of the increases. I wonder if the minister might also refer to Vote 11, alcoholism and drug abuse — treatment and education, that we had this afternoon in regard to payments of MLAs. The increase is in the order of magnitude of 20 per cent. The question posed this afternoon was: what were the components or the reasons for that increase relative to the 13.5 per cent increase which was consistently reported throughout the other departments? I just thought it would be fair if we could have the reason for the order of magnitude of increase.

The second question, Mr. Chairman, if I may, while I'm on my feet — I hear that phrase used quite often — is in regard to the Land Titles Office in Calgary. I was wondering if the Minister had reviewed the salary schedule or levels in that department. I ask that question in light of the fact that recently one of the senior supervisors resigned because a salary level available to him in private industry was twice what he was receiving in the Land Titles Office.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, for the Member for Calgary Buffalo, I'm not sure of the detail the member would wish to have. But perhaps if I begin in some of the detail, that may be satisfactory and it may answer the question.

First of all our submission before you shows a 21.3 per cent increase. I think the member would like to see that broken down in some capacity. I'd be happy to do that. Am I on the right track, is that following the member's question?

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, actually the number I'm referring to is on page 315. The only reason I'm making that reference is because the minister offered to

answer a general question posed by the Member for Edmonton Mill Woods. He indicated why the increases for ministers' salaries were generally 13.5 per cent. I thought perhaps this minister might be able to throw some light on why the payment to MLAs under Vote 11 on page 315 shows an increase of 20.3 per cent.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: With due respect to the Member for Calgary Buffalo, I believe the Minister of Social Services and Community Health answered that question this afternoon when that particular estimate was before the House, or am I mistaken?

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, I did ask the question and the minister described the process for making the decision. But he didn't give the justification for the increase, as this minister just gave justification for the increase. In any situation I'm aware of, when an increase is given, there's a justification for it. For example, the minister just indicated that 5 per cent of this increase was because of cost of living, et cetera, et cetera. I was hoping you might be able to elaborate on this one.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, I'm not in a position to answer for a colleague on that item.

MR. SINDLINGER: Mr. Chairman, I just used the wrong word again. I apologize.

The minister didn't address the second part of the question; that is, a review of the salary levels in the Land Titles Office in Calgary.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, there are salary reviews or series reviews done from time to time. The Member for Calgary Buffalo may be aware of the recent decision of the public service grievance board, which had an impact on other members of the public service in the court area. The land titles area — to my knowledge, any reviews done from time to time have been carried out in consultation with the various departments or the minister involved and with the process we have. I'm not aware of any change pending at this time, but reviews go on from time to time.

The member had a question about a staff member who decided to leave for a position that might offer greater remuneration. I believe all members of the Assembly received a summary of turnover statistics, which I provided following the estimates last year. Our statistics on voluntary turnover as such have generally found a number of reasons why people leave — voluntary resignations. But we have not found, except in some areas of course where we are going to be off the mark — whatever that mark may be, whether it's competing with the public sector in another community or with the private sector. In this case it's difficult to compare the work of Land Titles employees to other employees in such work, because they will be in other provinces.

Wherever we find discrepancies in our reviews, we will probably advance those through negotiations — one approach. That may be balanced by proposals by the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees and will be negotiated. But if there's a series review or re-evaluation, then we have a process for doing that. We'll be happy to see those changes if they're warranted.

Agreed to:

Total Vote 5 — Personnel Administration

\$8,541,800

Total Vote 6 — Natural Science and Engineering Research

\$15,000,000

MR. MUSGREAVE: Mr. Chairman, before you take the vote, I would like to make some comments. [interjection] Yes, you have to be quick.

I would like to discuss with my colleagues tonight the relationship between my position as chairman of the Alberta Research Council and the science policy committee of cabinet. I would like to briefly give you an outline of how I see science policy developing. The science policy committee of cabinet is made up of the ministers of Energy and Natural Resources, Advanced Education and Manpower, Agriculture, Environment, and economic affairs, with Dr. Cloutier the President of the Alberta Research Council as our technical advisor.

As mentioned last week by the Minister of Economic Development, this government has taken a positive lead in developing research in many sectors of our society. There is a new food-processing facility to be built in Leduc, the agricultural research centre in Vegreville, and the ongoing work of the provincial park in Brooks. In addition, there are hundreds of millions of dollars invested in the oil sands authority, the medical research authority, and the expanded activity of the Alberta Research Council. In my view, this is a firm foundation for research in our province. Coupled with this, there has to be some imaginative funding and planning for new technological developments.

I'd like to touch briefly on some experiences of the province of Quebec, where they developed a new policy in research. They suggested that a more informed debate in a democracy can only be possible where you have public opinion alive to scientific and technical realities. They go on to say that you have to develop a scientific mentality if we are to get public support for more research. Science helps form our attitudes, helps model the environment and, as most of us should know by now, directs the daily lives of all. In our world we cannot afford to be ignorant of science any more than we can be of art. I'd like to tell you, Mr. Chairman, that I'm glad we have a new, modern piece of art in our corridors.

One suggestion has been that we could have a scientific council that would advise the government on science questions yet reflect the views of, say, the universities, the medical and agricultural research institutes, the Research Council, and private industry research. An interesting concept in the Quebec science policy is that to get public support for the new aims of their science policy, they want to get rid of barriers aimed to keep women out of science. In some areas, research is reserved exclusively to men. This has to change, and the way is to start in elementary and secondary schools science programs. We have to convince more girls to feel enthused about undertaking careers in science and technology.

Mr. Chairman, we're all conscious of our depleting resources. Too many of us know, through drought in the west and world depression, that prospects can be very bleak. We must develop new industries if we are to strengthen and broaden our opportunities. Part of our problem in developing new technology based on oil or coal research has been that this research has been under the control of international companies. There's nothing wrong with this, provided we can sell the technology or that Canadians can develop new scientists and engineers to become more independent from misfortune. But we've got to stop the brain drain from our province. Knowledge will become one of our strongest supports for a prosper-

ous Alberta in the Canadian nation. For example, in the development of the oil sands, we have the chance to develop for our use and for sale abroad the technology in separation of oil sands. This is one program that our Minister of State for Economic Development — International Trade was discussing earlier this year with Nigeria.

I'd like to point out that the new research Act introduced this session provides for the main office of the Alberta Research Council to be in Edmonton. But 60 per cent of our province is covered with trees, and I can see in the future, for example, that research facilities in forestry products could be located in northern Alberta. Similarly there are many plausible arguments why extended research facilities in agriculture, fuel conservation, or development of solar energy could be located in southern Alberta.

We know that one of the largest basic industries is farming. So why could we not have more agencies such as the cattle breeders' association or grain growers' association sponsoring forums where the needs of research in their industry can be discussed with the members as participants. We've heard a lot of discussions about land use. Why could we not involve the farming community in developing wiser use of our lands, with input from citizens of both town and country? Right now there's great emphasis on research. In order to be successful on a provincial basis, we could consider a government agency that in effect would stimulate and guide the entire science system without taking the place of any of its constituent parts.

In my last two years as chairman of this committee, it has become clear to me that research co-ordination and development cannot be left without more support staff. We could possibly have a permanent secretariat or a flexible committee system operating on an *ad hoc* basis with the power to draw from various departments. In Quebec and British Columbia — and I should point out they're provinces that are richer and larger than ours — they have ministries of science. But in the case of Quebec this doesn't mean they have another bureaucracy. That's why it's successful. It has no administrative process to worry about. Much of the research carried out by them is done by various agencies, and they have a co-ordinating council.

Much of the research carried out in our province — which a lot of our members are probably not aware of — is funded by the National Research Council in Ottawa through our universities or hospitals. There has to be better communication with the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower so we can make sure these federal tax dollars are spent wisely in our province. Likewise we have had correspondence with the National Research Council, who wish to establish a laboratory of northern science in our province. When one considers that Edmonton is the gateway to the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and the Arctic, one can see how important it is to have a scientific council that would ensure such establishments are made in the best interests of Canada and Alberta.

Another area that a central agency of science could develop would be a mandate to develop a scientific press. We could consider aid for information projects on scientific manpower and grants to science organizations.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to deal with the vote regarding the Research Council. The proposed \$15 million grant to the council is 52 per cent of our total budget. The remaining 48 per cent is obtained from about 50 contracts for research to be carried out on behalf of or

jointly with clients in government and the private sector. The total revenue and expenditures for 1981-82 are projected at \$29 million, compared with \$22 million last year. The grant for the Research Council's budget represents a 30 per cent increase.

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

I'd like to just briefly touch on some reasons for this increase. First, the council has now gone from an appropriation to a grant, a process that began in 1980-81. The council no longer has access to the salary contingency fund of the government, and we must reflect all salary increase projections in our budget. I'd like to mention that in the highly competitive market for engineers and geologists in Alberta, these increases were in the order of 16 per cent in 1980-81. In our increased budget we've had to include changes in the pension plan, introduction of a dental plan, and an occupational health program for all employees. During 1980-81 our staff increased from 430 to almost 500 people. The full cost of this is projected in our 1980-81 budget. We anticipate that by the end of 1982 we'll have a staff of 530 people.

The main activities in 1981-82 are our oil sands program, the coal program, the industrial and engineering research programs, the forest products program, the frontier science program, and the natural resources program. I'd be pleased to answer these in more detail later on, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to mention, though, that the majority of our staff are now in new facilities. Work at the campus building at the University of Alberta has not been as fast as we hoped. As members may appreciate, modifying old buildings does create unique problems. With new standards of health and safety, the workplace for scientists is not as easily obtained as it has been in the past. This does give us a problem in keeping staff, because if they don't have the facilities in which to work they will soon be attracted to employment elsewhere.

I'd be happy to answer any questions, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The vote has been approved. If members of the committee want to keep the discussion going, you can agree to do so. But it has already been approved. Does anybody wish . . .

I think we should proceed to the next vote, unless somebody has serious objections.

MR. STROMBERG: Mr. Chairman, I stood up at the time the vote was called, and I was missed. I would just like to have two minutes of your time to ask the member . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would the committee agree to let the hon. member make some comments?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very well then.

MR. STROMBERG: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'll be as brief as I can. This regards the annual report of the Alberta Research Council. I would like to quote from page 3: "The 'Generalized Hydraulic Theory of Petroleum Migration' by Dr. J. Toth received a great deal of interest from oil companies". Now that's quite a theory he has, and there's been a considerable amount of money spent on it. So, Mr. Chairman, I would like to

quote from Dr. Toth himself:

The AAPG catalogue lists Dr. Toth's presentation as one of the number of select technical presentations which can be made available, through AAPG, to oilmen in most parts of the world. Dr. Toth says to date he has received little interest from the oil industry . . . .

I have to believe that the good doctor is being accurate, and that perhaps the research report is not being accurate. I have to view this research report with the same suspicion that my mother-in-law views me.

I would like to ask the chairman of the Research Council why the Research Council has now gone into quite an expanded area of research into liquefaction of coal, when we have countries such as South Africa that have had 35 years of experience, the Japanese already in the process, and Australia and the United States. It's a little bit like comparing someone starting school in grade 1 and someone graduating out of high school. I think we're 35 years late, and perhaps we should be saving some of these dollars and borrowing the technology that is so far advanced in South Africa.

MR. MUSGREAVE: Mr. Chairman, one of the difficulties that Canada faces as a nation is that we've been borrowing technology from abroad for over 100 years. If we're going to develop scientists and engineers of our own to export technology to other parts of the world, and if we're going to develop coal reserves which may have unique characteristics that coal in other parts of the world does not have — and coal is not coal; it comes in a great variety of types — then obviously we should be doing research of our own here.

As the hon. member mentioned, we're quite familiar with the coal liquefaction. In 1979, Dr. Cloutier was an invited guest to the opening of the world's largest coal liquefaction plant in South Africa. We're well aware of the technology. We are also aware that the Germans were using it during the war. But the scientific world is a fast-changing world. I think it behooves us to make sure we have developed the expertise within our borders to process our own products, and hopefully be able to sell them abroad.

MR. STROMBERG: The chairman did not answer my first remarks on the discrepancy between the annual report and the other report by Dr. Toth.

MR. MUSGREAVE: Mr. Chairman, when an oil company says they're interested in a project or discovery and they say it's interesting, then it is interesting. That doesn't mean they're necessarily going to take the experiment from the lab or the bench and do the work in the field. Some of their scientists may find that it is interesting, but they have other theories they would like to advance.

I know the hon. member realizes that Dr. Toth's paper was one of many presented at a science seminar. To suggest that because it may have cost, I think, between \$200,000 and \$250,000 over several years the Research Council shouldn't be doing this kind of work, is not to be conscious of the whole field of research which quite frequently means spending millions of dollars in the hope that someday something successful will happen. For example, the separation of bitumen sands in the Fort McMurray field was discovered by Dr. Clark of the Research Council back in the early '30s, and it took almost 50 years before it was able to be put into an economic process. Likewise it was 20 years from the time

the inventor first invented Xerox before it became viable and could be sold on the market.

#### Vote 7 — Energy Resources Conservation.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to raise with either the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources or the Minister of Utilities and Telephones three or four questions that have been raised with me by one of my constituents. The first question is with regard to a resolution that was passed in this Legislature — I did mention this earlier in the session — where we were to review the location of transmission facilities in the province. There are four questions I'd like to ask with regard to that. I think the Minister of Utilities and Telephones could answer these.

First of all, what were the terms of reference for this study that was carried out by the interdepartmental committee? Secondly, is the study complete? Thirdly, will the results of the study be released to the public? And fourthly, did the study examine the question of locating transmission lines on public land wherever possible? That's the first part of the question. Then I have three others related to that.

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, the first question the hon. leader asked was the terms of reference of the study. Those were filed in the Legislature. I don't have them, but they resulted principally from a resolution introduced by the Member for Three Hills. The study itself was conducted by a number of departments. I think I indicated earlier, in responding to a question, that I would file the results of the study by way of a position paper sometime during the 1981 session, which I intend to do.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to either minister. The cabinet has approved the ERCB decision to allow Calgary Power to build a 500 kV transmission line from Langdon to the B.C. border at Philipps Pass. Calgary Power has indicated that it is its intention to connect the Langdon substation to the Wabamun-Ellerslie 500 kV line, which was approved several years ago. Thus the line in question is just a small part of a larger system. There are two questions related to this comment, Mr. Chairman. Does the government endorse this piecemeal approach to the planning of the province's utility system? Secondly, is the government prepared to instruct the ERCB not to deal with approvals on a piece by piece basis?

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, just for clarification. Is Committee of Supply dealing with the estimates of the Department of Utilities and Telephones?

MR. CHAIRMAN: They're dealing with the Energy Resources Conservation Board estimates right now.

MR. SHABEN: Okay, in responding to the question, I wasn't clear precisely on the question because there was reference to the 500 kV approval on Langdon-Phillips Pass and also Keephills-Ellerslie, and I didn't clearly understand the import of the question.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the hon. Minister. Let me rephrase the question being raised by my constituents. Is there a provincial plan with regard to the utility corridor systems or the utility system, rather than an approach to building of the lines piece by piece? Is the



government looking at a broader provincial type of program on a long-term basis, rather than just the short-term, piece by piece? The concern the constituent as a farmer has, is that each of these lines — all of a sudden they go so far, then they go again, then they go again. With regard to land utilization or direction, it seems there isn't a long-term consideration that the utility line takes.

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, in dealing with applications for transmission lines, the Energy Resources Conservation Board does take into account the long-term utility requirements of the province. Quite often those are dealt with at length in the reports released when decisions are taken by the ERCB. That question was dealt with, too, by the interdepartmental committee that looked at policy with respect to the development of procedures for approval of transmission lines, and it is being dealt with in the position paper. But even though it is being dealt with, the ERCB does take into consideration those matters that your constituent raised.

They have difficulty being absolutely certain as to where the load centres will be. Therefore it's virtually impossible to decide for certain where a certain transmission line will go in the future. But that aspect is taken into consideration when making decisions, and it's evident in a number of approvals that have been passed. One of the recent ones was the Keephills-Ellerslie line — and the hon. Leader of the Opposition referred to it — where the ERCB insists that in the development of Genesee, Edmonton fully utilize the transmission facilities on that route before any additional applications for lines are considered by the ERCB. In other words, they're asking that maximum use be made of corridors that are in place for transmission of energy.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister, with regard to the priority placement of the line relative to agricultural land, private land, public land. Will the position paper outline the government's preference as to land utilization, relative to power line corridors or other types of corridors?

MR. SHABEN: Yes, it will, Mr. Chairman.

Agreed to:	
Total Vote 7 — Energy Resources Conservation	\$14,525,000
Total Vote 8 — Women's Information	\$184,058
9.1 — Program Support	\$2,875,300
9.2 — Development and Production	\$4,846,400
9.3 — Media Utilization	\$4,622,300
Total Vote 9 — Multi-Media Education Services	\$12,344,000
10.1 — Program Support	\$683,350
10.2 — Disaster Preparedness	\$1,366,500
10.3 — Emergency Response	\$50,000
Total Vote 10 — Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response	\$2,099,850
Total Vote 11 — Public Service Employee Relations	\$303,606
Department Total	\$83,252,447

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Premier, I move that the votes on the Executive Council items be reported.

[Motion carried]

#### Department of Labour

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Chairman, just a few very brief introductory observations. First of all, this set of estimates provides for some staff expansion, and I would like to point out that one area of expansion will be the provision of five additional employment standards officers. We have experienced a backlog of requests for assistance by employees who have had some difficulty getting their complaints satisfied. We believe that that increase in staff, combined with the consequences of The Employment Standards Act, which we passed and brought into effect on March 1, 1981, will provide for a more efficient and effective response.

I might note that the umpire system is in the way of being put in place and should shortly be there, according to the latest information I have. All are looking forward to a much more expeditious treatment of those kinds of salary and wage complaints. We've also embarked upon a very extensive educational and information program, and I trust that members have seen the ads in the papers wherein we're endeavoring to acquaint employers and employees with the labor standards. In the matter of labor relations, I'd like to point out that we had a very extensive series of meetings in 1980, culminating in production of a document in 1981 which outlined what might be done to improve grievance arbitration in the province.

With respect to the Labour Relations Board, all members would be aware that a new chairman is coming on stream on June 1, Mr. Ross McBain from Calgary. Mr. McBain is well respected in the labor relations community, and I'm pleased to acknowledge his willingness to undertake service for the public in this respect. While I'm about that, Mr. Chairman, I wish to acknowledge as well the good service Mr. Don Gardner, former deputy minister, provided as deputy minister with the department for a number of years, and prior to that in other capacities.

With respect to the general safety services area, again we are increasing the boilers inspection staff, the electrical inspection staff, and particularly the fire prevention officer staff. Five of the seven new positions in fire prevention training will be for enhancing and expanding the programs at the Alberta fire training school. We have virtually completed the facility at that school. We'll extend the training program period by two months and, as a consequence, will be able to develop programs in officer training and extend the programs now under way in basic firefighting and hazardous materials handling.

With respect to the Human Rights Commission, I would observe that, given the new legislation of last year, the commission is now busily engaged in developing guidelines. There has been recognition on the part of both the Human Rights Commission and the Labour Relations Board that better information to the public on areas of common concern, but about which there has been some mystic about handling and processing of complaints to both those boards, would be helpful. Both are involved in putting out information brochures. I have distributed to members of the Assembly the first one, on employment processes, which was put out by the Human Rights

Commission.

Mr. Chairman, I'd be pleased to respond to questions.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Chairman, just two quick comments. With regard to the third-party demand for wages, which was part and parcel of Bills 79 and 80 introduced last fall, I think they're a very progressive move toward satisfying the complaints and demand for wages by fringe employees we see around Alberta who work for, I would call, itinerant employers, albeit from the north side to the south side of Edmonton. It seemed to me they continually ripped off individuals who really had no alternative except small claims court, the very people who could least afford to take a day off to go to court. I think that's very, very positive.

With regard to the minimum wage, that has just been raised, could the minister advise the committee where Alberta sits relative to other jurisdictions with regard to the minimum wage.

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Chairman, at the time the change was made, we were second highest. As of a date in the near future, I think we'll be in third position and, shortly thereafter, either third or fourth, I'm not sure. There have been a number of changes announced to occur very soon. Most of them will not approach the level we're at. But Saskatchewan already exceeds it. I believe sometime early this summer Quebec will bring into effect a minimum wage which would be higher than Alberta's.

MR. R. SPEAKER: I'd like comment on just two areas. One is with regard to fire prevention in hotels, apartments, high-rises, motels. Could the minister indicate what new plans may be put into effect in the coming year? The other area I'd like to have a comment from the minister on is with regard to human rights, The Individual's Rights Protection Act and the Human Rights Commission. As I understand it, in the last year at least six persons have resigned from the staff. I wonder whether those positions have been refilled. Secondly, has a new director been put into place at this point in time?

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Chairman, on the question of fire safety and fire prevention and protection, particularly with respect to high-rise buildings. As hon. members may know, there are some 13 different systems in the Alberta building code which are either alternatives or complementary, in a way, with respect to fire protection. One of these involves sprinkler systems. Others involve pressurization of stairwells to prevent smoke from passing throughout various parts of the building.

To come directly to the point, with this background — and these systems have been in place as requirements for new buildings since 1975 — this summer the National Research Council will be reviewing some of the buildings which were constructed under this system of alternatives, to try to determine their effectiveness; that is, whether they are performing to the expected standard that was provided for in the regulation. That's as a consequence of some of the history of recent experience.

This year the Canadian fire chiefs' association will be evaluating the alternatives available. Because they are a sort of private operation, I gather they're going to be looking at differences between the national fire code of Canada, for instance, and some of the practices in the United States, to try to evaluate why the differences and, if there is a preference, which it will be.

In Alberta we will be looking at two areas. One is the

evacuation of persons who may be disabled; I'm thinking of nursing homes or extended care facilities. We'll be examining the adequacy of evacuation provisions especially at points during which a minimum of staff will be available. We'll also be looking at some of the newer cities of Alberta and the adequacy of their firefighting capacity for high-rise or taller buildings, which may be a development in those areas. As well, a plaque is being developed which we hope will be suitable to be put on every hotel room door so the occupants of the hotel room will have a better understanding of procedures to follow in the event of need. I think the observation has been well made that many of the problems arising from hotel fires have been lack of understanding on the part of staff on how to proceed.

With respect to the Alberta Human Rights Commission, there were a number of resignations. Some of that accrued as a consequence of a desire on the part of some of the staff to be making policy and finding there was going to be only one set of policy makers, and that was the responsibility of the commission and this Legislature. They chose to seek employment elsewhere.

The other question the hon. leader asked was the position of the director. Applicants for that position have been in the interview process today, I believe tomorrow, and I think last Friday. I can't give the hon. leader any better response than that, except that I am advised it's very close to a final decision stage. Ads were quite widely provided. A large number of applicants submitted applications. These were prescreened down to eight or so; I'm not sure how many. These are the persons who are currently being interviewed.

There has been some seconding of staff from the Department of Labour to the commission to speed the investigative process, because there is a backlog there. As well, as I indicated, the commission had requested some special assistance in the development of guidelines for the public, and that has been provided. I believe that while the ads may be running for some of the positions that are vacant, there is a hope that a new director might be available to participate in the completion of that selection process to complete the additional vacancies.

Agreed to:

1.01 — Minister's Office	\$140,940
1.02 — Executive Management	\$342,040
1.03 — Personnel	\$188,290
1.04 — Finance and Administration	\$801,200
1.05 — Systems	\$278,820
1.06 — Communications	\$48,730
1.07 — Research	\$672,680
Total Vote 1 — Departmental Support Services	\$2,472,700
Total Vote 2 — Labor Relations	\$4,187,895
Total Vote 3 — General Safety Services	\$12,174,220
Total Vote 4 — Industrial Relations Adjudication and Regulation	\$867,620
Total Vote 5 — Individual's Rights Protection	\$960,660
Department Total	\$20,663,095

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Chairman, I move that the vote be reported.

[Motion carried]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, if the committee will bear with us for just a short while, the Minister of Utilities and Telephones would be called next.

**Department of Utilities  
and Telephones**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did the minister wish to make any comments?

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make just a few comments with respect to the priorities of the Department of Utilities and Telephones and some of the activities the department has been involved in and plans to be involved in in the current fiscal year, and to make some comments with respect to the estimates we're discussing this evening.

First, with respect to the increases in manpower that are noted in the estimates, I think it would be appropriate to draw to the attention of the members where these individuals are going to be involved and what work responsibilities they will have. Three additional people were required in the rebates branch to administer the remote area heating allowance program. This program was introduced late last year, and it provides for rebates to individuals who are using heating oil and propane and don't have access to natural gas. We added five individuals in the communications section. The Associate Minister would be prepared to comment on that at a future time, Mr. Chairman, if necessary.

One accountant was required to assist in our records program. In the Gas Alberta branch, which is responsible for providing natural gas to the rural gas utilities and does billing for approximately 40 of the rural gas co-ops, we added two individuals. Also we added one person in our training program. Training utilities officers and managers of the rural gas program is a very important aspect of the work of the department. So those are some of the main additions in staffing that were required and are reflected in the increase in the number of employees in the department.

I'd like to make some comments about some of the activities we've been involved in and are continuing. I already mentioned the remote area heating assistance program. It commenced in October, so we're not fully certain of how many applicants there will be. The applications for rebates are coming in at about 100 a day, and we're dealing with them as quickly as possible. We've established a remote area appeal committee that deals with appeals on refusals of rebates. That committee is now functioning.

Continuing with the construction program on natural gas, last year was one of the outstanding construction years. Eleven thousand new services were installed, bringing the number of services in Alberta since 1973 to well over 60,000 rural farm families and families who live in rural Alberta who now have access to natural gas. The total capital expenditure on the program is approximately \$200 million to date.

We've been very active in the western electric power grid, and that's been discussed at some length in the Assembly. We're continuing to make progress. The joint studies by the three provinces were completed in December. The three provinces have been instructed by the premiers to try to reach an agreement as quickly as possible.

A couple of other areas we've been involved in: the Dunvegan hydro development on the Peace River. We invited proposals mid-summer last year; received two. One of the proponents identified some potential difficulties with bank stability. We commissioned a study to find out whether this was actually the case, since our studies completed in '77 didn't point out those potential difficulties. The study confirmed there may be problems, so we haven't made a decision with respect to proceeding with Dunvegan. The Slave River studies, to determine whether it's feasible to construct a hydro-electric dam somewhere on the Slave River near the Northwest Territories border, have been accelerated. We're working closely with the Energy Resources Conservation Board to do an evaluation of all the potential hydro sites in the province, both small-scale and large-scale, in order to assure Albertans of maximum use of renewable sources of energy for generating electricity. We are continuing to work with the rural electric council and the union of REAs to find methods of improving rural electrification and the systems in the rural parts of Alberta.

Mr. Chairman, those are the highlights. I'd be happy to respond on any of the votes or to any general questions.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Chairman, if I may. As a rural MLA I certainly welcome the rural area heating allowance program, but I'm concerned. The minister indicated that he has three staff to assist in his program to process the applications, that are coming approximately 100 per day. I wonder if the minister would consider some extra expenditures in the way of communications allowance. I recently visited in the communities of Janvier, Conklin, and Fort Chipewyan, and I've even corresponded or communicated to these various centres in writing. But I find that very few people are availing themselves of the opportunity because they don't really understand the program, or know about it, and they're not familiar with it. I'm not saying the program is not a worthy or well-accepted program. I just feel that while it's out there, we certainly want the people to take the opportunity of utilizing the program. I'm sure the minister wouldn't want that not to be recognized. I wonder if the minister could offer us some assistance for communications to those rural areas that are not fully conversant with the program.

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, that's a useful suggestion by the Member for Lac La Biche-McMurray. We'll look at ways that that can be done. We designed the application form in a very simple way, and we have had as wide a distribution as we thought possible. But perhaps it needs additional information to the very isolated areas so that they're aware of the program. We'll consider it.

Just on the matter of staffing, the three individuals are in addition to the four already on staff, who dealt with the normal rebates of the natural gas price protection plan.

MR. BORSTAD: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. I wonder if I might ask a question on the Slave River. Is the study on that project completed? What is the comparison of costs between the new cost, because of bank instability on the Dunvegan, compared to the Slave River? What would the additional costs be for the transmission line to hook up the Slave River?

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, the Slave River study is not complete, so it would be impossible to give compari-

sons between the two projects. The difficulty in giving a cost figure for Dunvegan is that we're not precisely certain as to the extent of construction design changes that would be necessary to overcome the potential problems of bank stability. So it's not possible to give a cost for either one at this time.

Agreed to:

1.01 — Minister's Office	\$138,139
1.02 — Associate Minister — Telephones	\$125,673
1.03 — Deputy Minister's Office	\$244,371
1.04 — Special Projects Branch	\$137,382
1.05 — Assistant Deputy Minister — Gas Utility Division	\$83,074
1.06 — Assistant Deputy Minister — Finance and Planning	\$85,242
1.07 — Communications Policy Branch	\$233,730
1.08 — Natural Gas Audit Services	\$64,789
1.09 — Administrative Support	\$437,576
1.010 — Development and Training Branch	\$148,759
1.011 — Records Management Branch	\$281,075
Total Vote 1 — Departmental Support Services	\$1,979,810

Vote 2 — Gas Utility

Development:

2.1 — Financial Assistance for Natural Gas Development	\$38,840,000
2.2 — Engineering and Technical Support Services	\$2,034,905

**23 — Gas Alberta**

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to ask the Chairman what the government policy is with regard to where there's a franchise area within a co-op and Gas Alberta is providing the gas. If there's an independent company that would provide gas to an individual, could the minister explain the policy with regard to a small company providing an individual with gas? Do they have to go through Gas Alberta, or can the consumer make the arrangement with the gas company themselves?

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, if I understand the question precisely, rural gas co-ops that are post-Act co-ops, that is post-'73, are required to obtain their natural gas through Gas Alberta. Independent utilities or other utilities may purchase gas from whomever they wish. So within a franchised area served by a rural gas co-op that is post-1973, they are required to obtain their gas through Gas Alberta.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. One particular gentlemen who got in touch with me was 14 miles [away]. They had to put a line in through the gas co-op, and he had a gas well right on his property. Is there any provision where they can make exceptions in cases like this so the gas co-op — I appreciate they can get grants to put in the line, but it's going to cost about \$14,000. In a case like this, would there be any method of working out to save the installation of that length of pipe, putting that line in, to work through an individual private company?

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd have to understand the complete circumstances: whether the gas has the dehydration equipment, whether it's an operating well, or whether it's a shut-in well. Some of the rural gas co-ops are supplied directly from wells, but the wells are operated under agreement with Gas Alberta. So there is that possibility of supplies coming from wells rather than from a pipeline system. But I'd be pleased to discuss it with the member so I know the full circumstances.

Agreed to:

2.3 — Gas Alberta	\$2,309,244
2.4 — Finance and Business Advisory Services	\$605,810
Total Vote 2 — Gas Utility Development	\$43,789,959

Total Vote 3 — Natural Gas Price

Protection for Albertans \$12,368,245

4.1 — Electric Development Services \$1,098,877

4.2 — Financial Assistance for  
Electric Development \$2,052,500

Total Vote 4 — Electric Utility  
Development \$3,151,377

Department Total \$61,289,391

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that the estimates be reported.

[Motion carried]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

[Motion carried]

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

MR. APPELBY: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions, reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1982, sums not exceeding the following for the departments and purposes indicated:

Executive Council: \$2,888,153 for Executive Council administration, \$9,842,522 for occupational health and safety, \$14,148,400 for workers' compensation, \$3,375,058 for support to native organizations, \$8,541,800 for personnel administration, \$15,000,000 for natural sciences and engineering research, \$14,525,000 for energy resources conservation, \$184,058 for women's information, \$12,344,000 for multimedia education services, \$2,099,850 for disaster preparedness and emergency response, \$303,606 for public service employee relations.

Department of Labour: \$2,472,700 for departmental support services, \$4,187,895 for labor relations, \$12,174,220 for general safety services, \$867,620 for industrial relations adjudication and regulation, \$960,660 for individual's rights protection.

Department of Utilities and Telephones: \$1,979,810 for departmental support services, \$43,789,959 for gas utility development, [\$12,368,245] for natural gas price protection for Albertans, \$3,151,377 for electric utility development.

MR. SPEAKER: Having heard the report and the request for leave to sit again, do you all agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, it's proposed the House sit tomorrow evening and that we continue in Committee of Supply. We would call Economic Devel-

opment first and, following that, Municipal Affairs. In order that members will know what might transpire later in the week, we also intend to call supply again on Wednesday. In the event Municipal Affairs is finished, we would next go to Solicitor General.

[At 10:15 p.m., on motion, the House adjourned to Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.]

