

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, November 8, 1988.

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mr. Mark Minenko (Chairman of the Committee of Supply): Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has considered certain resolutions and directs me to report the same and asks leave to sit again.

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Minnedosa (Mr. Gilleshammer), that the report of the committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Speaker: Prior to oral questions, may I direct the attention of Honourable Members to the gallery. We have from the Talmud Torah/I.L. Peretz Folk School, thirty-seven Grade 5 students under the direction of Mrs. Beatrice Gardener. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks (Mr. Minenko).

On behalf of all Honourable Members, I welcome you here this afternoon.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

Kopstein Report Information Availability

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): My question is to the Minister responsible for the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (Mr. Cummings). In a memo that was dated March 23, 1988, from the former Acting CEO of MPIC to all departmental managers within the corporation, it was suggested that all communications directed toward Judge Kopstein be filtered through the CEO or one of the senior managers of the corporation. Now this amounts to muzzling a whole platoon of middle managers in the corporation who would have a lot to say about the senior management of MPIC.

My question to the Minister is simple, Mr. Speaker. Did members of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation know about this memo?

Hon. Glen Cummings (Minister responsible for the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation): This memo was dated March 23, which was under the jurisdiction of the previous Government. I had not seen this memo until it was presented to me yesterday.

I think that the air needs to be cleared somewhat because, since having received this memo, I had an

opportunity to talk to Mr. Lane who was the signatory to the memo. He has indicated to me in writing that the commission-staff interchanges were conducted in the absence of senior management, i.e., David Kidd, Barry Galinzoski and himself, and no direction was given to staff that would have interfered with the flow of information. Commission officials and consultants attended the corporate offices that they wished to attend and were provided office facilities at MPIC. In other words, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lane has assured me, and I am seeking further assurances from the other vice-presidents, that the commission had access to all of the managers at any time that they chose, and that the information was allowed to flow freely.

* (1335)

Mr. Carr: That information contradicts the memo, where it states very clearly that all members of MPIC departmental heads are to funnel anything they want to say, and any requests by the judge or his officials to the CEO or one other senior manager.

Cooperation of Managers

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): Now I want to ask the Minister if he is concerned that Judge Kopstein did not get all of the information from middle managers that would have been required for a full and thorough evaluation of the management practices at MPIC?

Hon. Glen Cummings (Minister responsible for Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation): As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, in any conversation that I had with the judge prior to the release of his report, he indicated that he had been receiving full cooperation, and any information that he required was being made available. Since yesterday at noon, I have again talked to Judge Kopstein and he assured me, as he did in the news report to which I am sure the Member is referring, that he did not feel that his commission and their need to know was being impinged in any manner.

Scope of Information

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, is the Minister satisfied that Judge Kopstein had access to an appropriate scope of information from all of those individuals who worked in senior and middle management of the corporation, so that his recommendations about senior management and about middle management were able to include the best advice available, and that advice was free flowing?

Hon. Glen Cummings (Minister responsible for Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation): Mr. Speaker, Judge Kopstein, it would seem to me, was the best judge of whether or not he was receiving the necessary information. He feels that he was not impinged upon.

I want to add another piece of information to the situation which will perhaps clarify it for the Members

opposite. Mr. Lane assures me that this memo that went out was at the very beginning of when the commission was gearing up in order to prepare for him to receive information from the corporation. In fact, Mr. Galenzoski became the facilitator to make sure that those people within the corporation who the commission's agents wished to talk to were available when they wanted them, so that the information was not being filtered in any way. It was being enhanced by the fact that Mr. Galenzoski acted as a facilitator to make all people available to the corporation who wished to be interviewed by the commission.

Crown Corporation Act Public Meetings

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, with a new question to the Minister responsible for The Crown Corporation Accountability Act (Mr. Manness), this morning at the committee hearing we heard the chairman of the Manitoba Telephone System tell us how valuable it was for members of the senior executive for the corporation and the CEO to go into small towns in rural Manitoba so that the people had a chance to question those officials on the operations of that corporation and he, as a matter of fact, singled out a town such as Deloraine. The new Crown Corporation Public Review and Accountability Act makes no mention of the mandatory requirement of public meetings. If the Minister will not legislate the requirement, would he at least recommend to the boards of Crown corporations that this Government encourages such meetings with the public so that executives can be accountable to the shareholders of those corporations, the people of Manitoba?

Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister responsible for administration of The Crown Corporation Accountability Act): Mr. Speaker, the simple answer to the question is yes. That is just good public relations and good marketing. As we have said, nothing in the legislation prohibits any of the Crowns from going to the community and dialoguing in an open fashion with the ratepayers. Again the answer to that question is yes.

Crown Corporations Accountability

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, the new legislation empowers a seven-member council, a kind of supercommittee, to oversee the operations of Manitoba's Crown corporations. Yet the same legislation outlines the accountability of the boards through the Minister of the Crown. I would like to ask the Minister, to whom are these Crown corporations accountable, to the Minister, to the supercouncil, or to both?

* (1340)

Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister responsible for administration of The Crown Corporations Accountability Act): Mr. Speaker, I wish that the Member opposite would see fit to put his views, as I am sure he will, to Bill No. 37 on the record when he

chooses to speak toward it. Let me say that what we have attempted to do is to try and separate management from accountability, because in our view there will be less opportunity for politicians, indeed for the people in power to try and obfuscate some of the goings on with respect to Crown corporations. This is the model that we have chosen. We consider it to be one of the most progressive, one of the most open, one of the most accountable in the nation, specific to the question.

In the management sense, the Crown will be directly responsible to the Minister in charge. In an accountability sense, to make sure that the corporations, the Crowns, indeed the councils, report in an open, honest, frequent fashion, there will be a Minister in charge of accountability.

Complaints Review

Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge): With a supplementary to the same Minister, the Act requires the Crowns to maintain a record of all complaints that are received by it. In the case of the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation, last year there were some 80,000 inquiries, many of them complaints that went into corporate head office. The legislation also empowers the supercouncil to review all of those complaints. My question to the Minister is, are we not perhaps creating a bureaucratic monster here?

Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister responsible for administration of The Crown Corporations Accountability Act): I find it passing strange, Mr. Speaker, that the Member opposite would say that we are creating a bureaucratic monster. We are not giving the "supercouncil," to use his words, \$2.5 million to build a bureaucracy. So we are not building a massive bureaucracy, as a matter of fact, exactly something to the opposite.

Again, specific to the question, we are not directing that the supercouncil should review all of the registry of complaints, and yet they have the power, if they so choose, to look into those complaints and report in an open fashion to the people of Manitoba.

City of Winnipeg Act Amendments

Ms. Maureen Hemphill (Logan): My question is to the Minister of Urban Affairs (Mr. Ducharme). I would first like to congratulate the Minister for the decision that he made where he said would not allow expansion of the urban limit line. I do want to say though, Mr. Speaker, it is the only decision that could have been made under the circumstances.

In light of the fact that we have adequate information that suggests we have land for development inside the City of Winnipeg to last us until the 21st Century, in light of the fact that that development plan outside of the urban limit line goes against our own adopted Plan Winnipeg, adopted by City Council, and the fact that any continued development would add millions and millions of dollars of taxes to the people of the City of Winnipeg, would the Minister please tell us—

An Honourable Member: That is exactly what he said.

Ms. Hemphill: Yes, I know it is, which is why this Government should now bring in the amendments that are required to The City of Winnipeg Act that they promised this summer. My question to the Minister is, will he now bring in the vitally necessary amendments to The City of Winnipeg Act in this Session?

Hon. Gerald Ducharme (Minister of Urban Affairs): First of all, the question and the comments in regard to the development plan, there is a plan in place that was adopted by council as a by-law in April of 1986 after five years of discussion at City Hall level.

In the Act, to the Member to clarify some history in the City of Winnipeg Act, we asked that a plan of Winnipeg be submitted as part of that plan, and at that time there can be a change to the plan at any time if they see fit. All I am saying is that the City of Winnipeg, besides that there are extreme changes needed, all they have to do is pass a by-law, go through their public hearings and adopt another plan. That is where I think the Member for Logan (Ms. Hemphill) is a little confused.

* (1345)

Amendments Delay

Ms. Maureen Hemphill (Logan): I would like to clarify. I am actually looking at the Minister and at this Government to do what they promised they would do this summer.

My question to the Minister is, why has he and this Government changed their priority which they indicated this August that a top priority was going to be given to the amendments to The City of Winnipeg Act and now are delaying them to the next Session? The major and important reforms, why are they put off and delayed to the next Session?

Hon. Gerald Ducharme (Minister of Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I do not know where the Member for Logan (Ms. Hemphill) got her information. I have always been very, very clear on any time questions have come up in this House or to the press or anybody else that there will be changes to The City of Winnipeg Act, but only those changes that will affect and put in place in regard to elections or voters' lists, etc., so that the City of Winnipeg can start getting their rolls ready for the election and the fall election of '89. The other changes will come through at the next Session.

Election Expenses Disclosure

Ms. Maureen Hemphill (Logan): My last question to the Minister is to ask him whether or not he will support the Bill that is being presented in this House that is to deal with the election reform for election expenses at City Council. Is he concerned enough about what went on there in making that last decision? And will he and his Government support this Bill when it comes to the House because that is what the people of Winnipeg

and the people of Manitoba want to see, some leadership in the City of Winnipeg activities?

Hon. Gerald Ducharme (Minister of Urban Affairs): I have made it quite clear that we will bring forward all the concerns in regard to The City of Winnipeg Act, not bring in piecemeal.

The Member has suggested that campaign contributions are very important at this time. I say they are very important at the time of an election. If someone is making campaign contributions to city councillors right now, I would call them something else.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member for Logan, with a final supplementary question.

Ms. Hemphill: I would like to ask the Minister, in light of the point he just made, whether he contacted the City of Winnipeg prior to his announcement to determine whether any councillors had received campaign contributions from developers.

Mr. Ducharme: Mr. Speaker, in regard to the subdivision that I just particularly turned down or the amendment to Plan Winnipeg, the only consultation I have had with City Hall was to advise the Mayor, which is my duty, first thing this morning by telephone and send over a letter by courier in regard to this so he would not read about it in the newspaper. I have not had any discussion in regard to the procedures at City Hall because that did not determine my decision in this particular regard.

Multiculturalism Task Force Report Release

Mr. Mark Minenko (Seven Oaks): My question is to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation (Mrs. Mitchelson). Over the last several months, the Liberal Party has asked this Government to spell out its multiculturalism policy as the Liberal Party had earlier this year. This Minister advised us in September of this year that she is awaiting the Task Force on Multiculturalism before taking any action. I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the task force report is ready.

My question to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation is, when can Manitobans expect this Conservative Government to table their multiculturalism policy in the House, and when can we expect the task force report to be tabled in the Legislature?

Hon. Bonnie Mitchelson (Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation): The answer to the second question is very soon. As a matter of fact, the reason we were waiting to make that report public was because we needed the French language translation. That is just now ready. If the Members of the Liberal Party do not think it is important to have reports translated into French, then let that be their problem, but my responsibility as Minister is to ensure that we have that in place and ready before it is tabled in the House or it is made a public document.

Mr. Speaker, sure, the Liberal Party had a policy of multiculturalism but the fact is that the Liberal Party

did not form the Government of Manitoba and the Liberal Party is not responsible for ensuring that we meet the needs of the ethnic community. I have indicated in the past and I will indicate again to the Member that we are going to ensure that we consult with all members of the ethnic community down to the grass-roots level and not just consult with those who are Conservatives in the ethnic community. We want to ensure that all members of the ethnocultural community have their concerns addressed before we develop a policy.

Mr. Minenko: Mr. Speaker, with respect to French language rights, I do not think there is any question as to what the Liberal Party position is on that.

* (1350)

MIC Meeting Deputy Minister Attendance

Mr. Mark Minenko (Seven Oaks): I am advised that the Deputy Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation has attended meetings of the Manitoba Intercultural Council. My question to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation (Mrs. Mitchelson), can the Minister advise this House what is the purpose of having the Deputy Minister attend meetings of the MIC? Can all umbrella groups receiving lottery funding be expected to have the Deputy Minister attend their meetings as well?

Hon. Bonnie Mitchelson (Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation): Mr. Speaker, I want to be quite clear and open and frank. I attended meetings with the MIC, as did my Deputy Minister. We just had an audit done by the Province of Manitoba and the auditor addressed some specific issues of loose accountability within MIC. My department is working with MIC to ensure that all of the auditor's concerns are being addressed. How can we possibly work with them if we do not meet with them?

MIC Grant Freeze

Mr. Mark Minenko (Seven Oaks): A supplementary to the same Minister, the Minister has had that special audit of the MIC for several weeks now. The audit advised that the system for approving and disbursing grants has served Manitobans reasonably well, and yet I understand that certain grant monies are being held back, are being frozen. Will the Minister release this freeze on grants and allow the various organizations in the ethnocultural community to continue their good work on behalf of all Manitobans?

Hon. Bonnie Mitchelson (Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation): I believe that the grants that the Member opposite is talking about were addressed at a meeting of the CRAC committee of MIC just this last week, so in fact the grants to the ethnic communities are being disbursed.

Right to Farm Legislation Status

Mr. John Angus (St. Norbert): On October 17, during the discussion on the Agriculture Estimates, quite a bit of discussion took place regarding the need for right-to-farm legislation and I believe there was unanimity in the need for such legislation, or perhaps as the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Findlay) suggested, maybe changes to The Nuisance Act which would have the same effect. My question is to the Minister of Agriculture. Can he tell me the status of such legislation and will it be brought forward in this Session?

Mr. Bill Uruski (Interlake): Is he a nuisance or is he not?

Hon. Glen Findlay (Minister of Agriculture): To help the Member for Interlake (Mr. Uruski), no, nobody is a nuisance.

Seriously, of the Member's question, yes, we did discuss it in Estimates and, before Estimates had started, I had instructed staff to start looking at developing right-to-farm legislation and the options of improving the regulations under The Nuisance Act. To this point in time, we have not had a Session to get back together to look at what is the appropriate option to follow.

Municipality of Springfield Housing Development

Mr. Laurie Evans (Fort Garry): As the Minister is fully aware, there has been a problem in the Rural Municipality of Springfield which necessitated the rescinding of a by-law which was too restrictive as far as the farm population was concerned when it came to the disposal of waste. I understand now that there is another hearing to be held by the same municipality next week concerning a request for a housing development southeast of Dugald.

My question is to the Minister. Will there be any action taken to ensure that a decision is not made by that municipality which once again will lead to this urban-rural conflict as far as urban sprawl is concerned?

* (1355)

Hon. Glen Findlay (Minister of Agriculture): The situation that developed in the R.M. of Springfield with regard to the council passing some very restrictive legislation on how farmers would dispose of manure caused great concern in our department. The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Cummings) and I met immediately with the reeve of the council and talked to him about what the consequences were of the by-law that they were proposing.

I am pleased to say, yes, they have withdrawn the present by-law and staff of the Department of Municipal Affairs and staff of Agriculture have met with the council to try to develop an appropriate by-law that deals with the rural-urban situation in that municipality. To my knowledge, they are continuing the consideration and

having meetings with the farmers. The council is having meetings with the farmers, with and without our staff, trying to arrive at a consensus that everybody can live with, with regard to the urban-rural concept.

Right to Farm Legislation Independent Land Commission

Mr. Laurie Evans (Fort Garry): As the Minister indicated in an earlier discussion during the Estimates, the Legislature does not have the authority to overrule any by-laws that are established by the municipality. My question then is to the Minister. Will he include in the right-to-farm legislation the establishment of an independent land commission that will have the authority to look at all of these proposals and bring back recommendations so that there are not problems created by this rural-urban interface in terms of land sprawl and so on?

Hon. Glen Findlay (Minister of Agriculture): Certainly, we will look at that option, but whatever we prepare or would want to propose, we will take it to the farm community, take it to the municipal councils, to get feedback as to what is going to be appropriate legislation that meets the needs, that does not unduly suppress the potential for development, because there is a definite conflict and it will be very difficult to strike that middle ground that everybody is going to be satisfied with. We, through consultation, will do whatever we can to get as close to that middle ground as possible.

Free Trade Agreement Legal Opinion Misleading

Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): Yesterday, the First Minister tabled what he said was a definitive opinion on the Free Trade Agreement and its impact on Hydro, when clearly that was not the case because nothing in the opinion dealt with the question of the proportionality clause, Section 904 of the agreement. Nothing dealt with the ability of Manitoba Hydro to use preferential rates. It did not deal with a whole host of other questions that have been raised about the impact.

My particular question is to the Minister of Energy and Mines (Mr. Neufeld). In the information released that the Premier (Mr. Filmon) delivered to the House yesterday, the title of it was, and I quote, "Hydro Export Policy Won't Violate Trade Pact." Mr. Speaker, in the very same legal opinion that was tabled by the First Minister (Mr. Filmon) it says: "We think it would be difficult, though perhaps not impossible, for the U.S. to successfully argue that a two-tier pricing system applied by a utility is actually a minimum export price or an export restriction as that term is meant under the agreement. Further, in addition, dispute settlement applies in general cases where either party considers that measure"—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Storie: —one measure—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Does the Honourable Member have a question? Would you kindly put your question?

Mr. Storie: My question is to the Minister of Energy and Mines (Mr. Neufeld). These two statements do not coincide. They do not agree. They are in fact in direct contradiction of each other. Can the Minister of Energy and Mines tell this House why the First Minister of this province has chosen to mislead the people of Manitoba on this issue?

Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier): Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is and the Member knows full well that in the overall conclusions and recommendations of the summary of legal opinions put together by the firm of Cassels, Brock and Blackwell—that is the same firm that was hired by the NDP, absolutely the same firm that was hired by the NDP, so that we are not hiring another firm seeking a different opinion. This very same firm says a two-tier pricing policy approved by Manitoba Hydro's Board, providing that prices charged to Manitoba customers will be at cost while prices to U.S. customers will be the best market price available, does not appear to contravene the Free Trade Agreement.

That is their conclusion, their definitive conclusion, and no amount of twisting or misrepresentation by the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) is going to change that legal opinion.

Aluminum Smelter Preferential Treatment

Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): The Member continues to add insult to injury by misinforming the House about who did what in terms of legal opinion. The NDP did not contract for any legal opinion.

My further question to the Minister—(Interjection)—My further question, if the First Minister (Mr. Filmon) will contain himself, is to the Minister of Energy and Mines and the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro (Mr. Neufeld). If it comes down in this province to a determination by the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro that to have an aluminum smelter in this province requires a preferential rate for a period of time, even if in giving that preferential rate—

Some Honourable Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Storie: —there is a net economic benefit to the province—

Some Honourable Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Storie: —will the Minister tell this province how he is going to defend the fact that we cannot do that if the Free Trade Agreement were to come into effect?

* (1400)

Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier): Mr. Speaker, we have had a wonderful revelation today. The former NDP administration fought the Free Trade Agreement on the

basis that it would have an adverse effect on Manitoba Hydro's ability to export energy and now the Minister responsible, the former Minister responsible, is saying that they never asked for any legal opinion to arrive at that conclusion. That is irresponsible, absolutely irresponsible!

Secondly, with respect to the position that he said he is taking, that he wants the ratepayers of Manitoba, all of his constituents in Flin Flon, and all of our constituents in this Legislature to have to pay 5 percent or 10 percent more on their hydro bills to subsidize a U.S. multinational corporation to set up a plant here, that is sheer insanity. If he is going to suggest that, now we know why they were defeated and resigned to Opposition forevermore in this Legislature, because the people in Manitoba do not want that kind of policy.

Mr. Storie: It is an unfortunate indictment of the Premier's limited intelligence that he does not understand what a net economic benefit is to the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please.

Free Trade Agreement Legal Opinion Limitations

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon, with a supplementary question.

Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): My further question to the Minister of Energy and Mines (Mr. Neufeld) is, could the Minister of Energy and Mines indicate why other serious questions about the impact of the Free Trade Agreement were not asked to this particular law firm, why questions about the proportionality impact of the Free Trade Agreement, why questions respecting Manitoba's sovereign right to do as it pleases with its energy resources were not asked? Why questions relating to the ability of this province or the federal Government to impose energy policy, why were those questions not addressed in the legal opinions sought by the First Minister (Mr. Filmon)?

Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier): The fact of the matter is that this former Minister, the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), is acknowledging that he did not ask any questions or legal opinions when he was the Minister responsible. He opposed the Free Trade Agreement without having any legal backing for his position on the Free Trade Agreement and its effects on Manitoba Hydro.

Very clearly, Mr. Speaker, the reason we did not ask a legal opinion as to whether or not we could resign and force the people of Manitoba, the ratepayers of Manitoba, to indefinitely subsidize a U.S. multinational corporation to set up their aluminum smelter here was because we thought that was the most insane public policy that no Government should ever want to do. We do not want an opinion on that because that is not good public policy for Manitobans and Manitobans should not accept and would not accept that policy, so we did not ask for a legal opinion because we never want that to be the case here in Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order!

Computerized Mapping Production Slowdown

Mr. Herold Driedger (Niakwa): In a press release—I will try and be much calmer here. In a press release dated February 9, 1987, the Provincial Surveys and Mapping Branch announced that they were in the process of converting to a new digitalized computerized mapping system. They forecast a tenfold increase in production and a dramatic decrease in the cost to taxpayer and consumer as a result of this conversion. I am sure no one in this Chamber will question the desirability of more accurate maps being produced more frequently and at less cost.

My question to the Minister of Natural Resources is, why then has the actual output of maps since this announcement was made shrunk from the average of 30 maps produced by hand each year to only three? The announced projection was 300. Why have only three maps been produced by this new process?

Hon. Jack Penner (Minister of Natural Resources): Good question. I am going to ask my department that same question. When I have the information, I will get back to you.

Churchill Map Project Resources Diversion

Mr. Herold Driedger (Niakwa): With a supplementary question, why has the Churchill Map Project been put on hold? Only three of eight maps have been produced. Why have resources been diverted to southern Manitoba? Why are the most popular areas of the province not even being scheduled for mapping at this moment?

Hon. Jack Penner (Minister of Natural Resources): Again, it is a question I am going to refer to the department, the Mapping Branch, and get back to you when I have the answers.

Mapping Project Southern Manitoba Scale Change

Mr. Herold Driedger (Niakwa): With another supplementary probably for notice, and I understand that. Why has the one to 2,000 scale mapping project for southern Manitoba been abruptly changed in midstream to one in 10,000 scale project, which is not only inappropriate but also more expensive?

Hon. Jack Penner (Minister of Natural Resources): Same answer, Mr. Speaker.

Wuskwatim Project Environmental Impact Study

Mr. Steve Ashton (Thompson): My question is to the Minister of Energy and Mines (Mr. Neufeld), and it follows the announcement by Manitoba Hydro today that it is commissioning environmental impact studies in regard to the Wuskwatim Dam. There is concern

that this Government is predisposed toward putting Conawapa on the back burner, proceeding with the Wuskwatim development and maintaining coal-burning plants which would have serious negative environmental impacts on Manitoba.

My question to the Minister is, will the study by Manitoba Hydro look at the complete environmental impacts of Wuskwatim, including the effects of flooding, including the effects of possible mercury contamination and also including socioeconomic impacts, as has been the case with previous dams? In addition, will the Minister commit this Government to consulting with Northerners once the environmental impact studies have been completed to ensure that Northerners have full and complete participation in the development, as took place with Limestone, to ensure that Northerners do have a say in terms of what happens with future developments?

Some Honourable Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Harold Neufeld (Minister responsible for The Manitoba Hydro Act): Mr. Speaker, it is Manitoba Hydro's intention to keep all of their options open. Part of that option is Wuskwatim. In that, they are doing an environmental impact study. It will be a complete study. After that is done, they will decide on their course of action.

Wuskwatim Project Meeting with Northerners

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member for Thompson (Mr. Ashton), with a supplementary question.

Mr. Steve Ashton (Thompson): My supplementary question to the Minister is exactly in regard to what will be happening at that point. Will Manitoba Hydro, will this Government be meeting with the communities that will be affected because certainly Wuskwatim precedes Thompson, Nelson House? Other communities will be affected by flooding. It is clearly documented that there will be far more environmental damage than there will be from Conawapa. And further, will the Government commit itself to ensuring that a similar agreement to the Northern Flood Agreement will be signed if it does proceed with the environmentally damaging Wuskwatim development?

Hon. Harold Neufeld (Minister responsible for The Manitoba Hydro Act): It is precisely because we do not know what the total impact will be that we are doing the impact study. When we find out the impact, then we will make our decision.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member for Thompson (Mr. Ashton), with a final supplementary question.

Mr. Ashton: I hope that will involve Northerners.

Laid Off Employees Legislation

Mr. Steve Ashton (Thompson): I have a further question and it follows the announcement, again another layoff notice in Manitoba affecting 34 Dominion Store employees and follows previous questions I have asked the Minister in regard to plant closure legislation. I would like to ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Connery), will he meet with representatives of the 34 laid-off employees who received their notice of layoff this week? Will he meet with representatives of the 470 Wescott workers? And will he finally commit this Government to doing something about the laid-off workers in Manitoba, giving them greater protection that exists currently under legislation?

* (1410)

Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Labour): Well, Mr. Speaker, the Member knows very well that our department meets with any groups. We have never turned down a request to meet with them.

With the Wescott organization, the Member knows very well, as I said in this House, we have a committee that is in place working with the company. The company has designated two people to work with the provincial Government and the federal Government to see what can be done, if and when those layoffs really do take place. Hopefully, the company will be sold and those jobs will be maintained. Our Government is working very hard to ensure that those jobs do not disappear.

Goulds Point Development Plans

Mr. Ed Mandrake (Assiniboia): I have a question for the Acting Minister of Highways and Transportation (Mr. Findlay). The Minister of Highways and Transportation is aware of the Moose Lake, Goulds Point Recreational Association. On August 18, 1986, this Minister supported the proposal of a road from Middlebro to Goulds Point. He is quoted in Hansard as saying: "The American people on the Ontario side are developing left and right. We virtually do nothing." My question to the Acting Minister is, would the Minister of Highways and Transportation (Mr. Albert Driedger) still support the stand that he took on August 18, 1986?

Hon. Glen Findlay (Acting Minister of Highways and Transportation): On behalf of the Minister of Highways and Transportation, I will have to take that question as notice.

Feasibility Study

Mr. Ed Mandrake (Assiniboia): Thank you. The Minister and myself met with the association on August 22, 1988. This Minister was advised that \$150,000 worth of fishing and hunting licences were sold annually in this area. My question to the Acting Minister, did the Minister speak to the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Penner) about the proposed development of Goulds Point, and will the Natural Resource Department

allocate money from this year's budget so that the association can conduct a feasibility study on cottage areas and recreational facilities at Goulds Point?

Hon. Glen Findlay (Acting Minister of Highways and Transportation): I cannot speak on behalf of the Minister as to whether he spoke with anybody else after the meeting, so I will take the question as notice.

Highway Cost Sharing

Mr. Ed Mandrake (Assiniboia): My final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, he will probably take this as notice also and that is understandable. I have spoken to U.S. officials and they have indicated their willingness to share the cost of the construction of the road to Goulds Point. My question to the Minister is, will he speak to the Minister of Transport so that he can in turn then speak to the Minnesota Government officials about the cost sharing of the construction of the road to Goulds Point, as this road will provide better accessibility for our American friends to the northwest angle.

Hon. Glen Findlay (Acting Minister of Highways and Transportation): All I can say to the Member is, yes, we will definitely make the Minister of Highways and Transportation (Mr. Albert Driedger) aware of the opportunity to cost share in the road, and he will get back to you as soon as he can.

Mr. Speaker: The time for oral questions has expired.

NON-POLITICAL STATEMENTS

Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition): Could I have leave to make a non-political statement?

Mr. Speaker: Does the Honourable Leader of the Opposition have leave to make a non-political statement? (Agreed)

Mrs. Carstairs: Today is a 50th anniversary. Regrettably, it is not an anniversary which anyone wants to celebrate. It is the anniversary of perhaps one of the greatest examples of man's inhumanity to man.

In 1933, on April 7, Hitler decreed the dismissal of the Jews from Government service and from universities. By 1935, they had been forbidden to intermarry but beginning today, 50 years ago, began under the direction of the S.S. the systematic destruction of the Jewish people in Germany.

This event must be remembered by all of us, not because any of us contributed to it but as an example that all of us must reach into our hearts and our minds to ensure that it does not happen again, and all of us are faced frequently with examples of this type of anti-semitic feeling which still exists. The Premier (Mr. Filmon) and the Leader of the NDP Opposition (Mr. Doer) and myself all received a letter on October 4 which could only be interpreted as anti-semitic literature.

If we are not vigilant, if we do not remember events such as this one that began some 50 years ago and ultimately led to the destruction of six million people,

then we forget our humanity and we become lesser human beings. I know that everyone in this Assembly wants to rededicate ourselves to the principle of humanity on this particular occasion.

Hon. Glen Findlay (Minister of Agriculture): Yes, Mr. Speaker, could I have leave for a non-political statement?

Mr. Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Findlay) have leave? (Agreed)

Mr. Findlay: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and all Members of the Legislature. It is indeed a pleasure today to rise and ask that all Members of this Legislature recognize the farm women of Manitoba.

Farm women are a very diversified, articulate and competent group of people. Unfortunately, over the years, much of their efforts have gone unrecognized but they have over the last three years had a very successful annual conference. The reason I am rising today is to recognize that they are having it in the City of Winnipeg for the first time.

There are over 500 farm women going to attend this conference. In the past two years, they have had to turn people away because there has been more willingness to attend than there have been spaces to accommodate them. Certainly on this the first day of their meeting, I would like to have all Members of the Legislature recognize the contribution of women in the farming community, both past, present and in the future, to their role as wives, as mothers, as homemakers, as farmers and as community leaders.

There are many contributions made from that direction, and I know the strong voice that they are assembling through their annual meeting in the City of Winnipeg over the next three days will exemplify that on into the future. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Government House Leader.

Hon. James McCrae (Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, I rise to seek the consent of Honourable Members to make a non-political statement.

* (1420)

Mr. Speaker: Does the Honourable Attorney-General have leave to make a non-political statement? (Agreed)

Mr. McCrae: Mr. Speaker, it was my very great pleasure, as Minister of Cooperative, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, this morning to attend Daniel McIntyre School in the City of Winnipeg to make some presentations to five students at Daniel McIntyre who have taken part in my department-sponsored contest to make a television commercial dealing with consumers.

It was my very great pleasure to present \$50 cheques to the five people involved at Daniel Mac school, and those people are Lynn Lai, Tai Woo, Fatima Teixeira, Melissa Catacutan, and Yasmun Singh. Now these

students at Daniel McIntyre were part of a contest, and those involved with judging were my department and the Manitoba Consumers' Bureau and Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Canada), and the Consumers' Association of Canada.

I think all Honourable Members would agree with me that it is important that young people today become interested in many aspects of society, but certainly consumerism is becoming more and more important as we carry on.

I would like to tell Honourable Members that the winning 30-second commercial will be produced and broadcast by CHMI, that is MTN in Portage la Prairie, and it is expected to be aired in December.

Again, I congratulate the students involved and invite students from across Manitoba to get involved next year.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Hon. James McCrae (Government House Leader): I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation (Mrs. Mitchelson), that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented.

MATTER OF GRIEVANCE

Mr. Harry Enns (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I choose this opportunity to express a grievance at this moment.

I am aware of the tradition and custom that the grievance motion, which is an opportunity available to all Members of the House to express a matter of specific concern to him is usually exercised by Members of the Opposition, inasmuch as the grievances are normally directed against the action of one's Government or the Government of the Day. I do so on this occasion nonetheless rise to express a grievance that I direct to my Government and to the Minister responsible.

I do so, prompted largely because of my respect for a former colleague of mine, the former Member for St. Norbert, the former Attorney-General of this province, whom some of you will recall and remember. Certainly the public record is filled with his deep and continuing concern, indeed his foreboding warnings to the then Government about a policy direction that was being contemplated and eventually undertaken that comes and brings me to the point of my grievance, and that is the tragedy that is happening to Manitoba youngsters of Native ancestry.

Mr. Speaker, I direct this grievance, because I have to, towards my Government and towards the Minister responsible, but let me say and make it very clear that in no way can the present Government or the present Minister be held accountable for the tragic circumstances that have involved the life of two youngsters, Manitoba youngsters of Native ancestry, the traumatic repeated rape of another youngster. But,

Mr. Speaker, it nonetheless falls on the shoulders of the present Government and the present Minister to do something about it. Mr. Speaker, the Free Press editorial has it right in the sense that something has to be done about it.

Mr. Speaker, I have never presented myself, nor do I on this occasion, as any particular expert on the very complicated and difficult problems facing the resolution to some of the long-standing social problems involved that the Minister currently responsible faces, that this Government faces. I do not make this grievance with lack of sensitivity toward my Native brothers, who I believe have for good reason looked upon a specific program and a particular part of the program of child care that is of great concern to them and to their culture. I speak directly to the Member for Rupertsland (Mr. Harper) who is of that ancestry and who knows better than I do whereof I speak, but I look for him to support me and to express the same concern that I do because we are talking about the lives of Manitoba youngsters.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that five years ago when—and I think it can only be described—a radical departure of child care was undertaken by the then NDP Government, we in Opposition, and particularly my former colleague and friend, the then Member for St. Norbert, repeatedly cautioned, warned the then Minister of the NDP administration of the potential difficulties arising from that action.

Mr. Speaker, I will not attempt to suggest that we can simply go back to the delivery system that was then in place, although certainly I would not consider it unwise of the present Government or indeed the present Minister to reexamine those changes that were made five years ago, but I accept the fact that there is a greater demand and a greater need for community involvement, for community participation in this very important, very sensitive question of child welfare. I am not prepared to condemn or to write off the experiment that the then administration introduced some five years ago that decentralized, if you like, the delivery of child care and created the present system of a number of child agencies to look after this important aspect of our social policy.

But there was one specific policy, Mr. Speaker, that I remember so well my colleague from St. Norbert and others of the Opposition at that time taking such extreme exception to, and that is the forcible breaking up, the forcible reuniting of foster children who had bonded with their foster parents, forcibly using of our courts to return these children against their will to the setting of their cultural groupings, and in this case mostly back to the reserves from whence they came, in some cases, many years from the time that they had left those original homes.

Mr. Speaker, we have now seen the tragic circumstances that follow in the pursuit of this policy of a youngster of Native ancestry, forcibly removed from her Alberta home, faced with a situation that she had to live through and will live through for the rest of her life, upon her return to her original reserve. They had a boy, frozen in the cold snows of The Pas, and we now have the tragic death of Margaret Chubb.

Mr. Speaker, better heads and better minds will try to sort out and resolve the policy that is called for, but

I am dismayed that no one raises the issue in this House. Is it because we are all playing politics and are afraid of talking about a problem that is in our midst and of our making? I can understand former Members of the administration responsible for this program not being among the first to raise and draw public attention to the failure of this aspect of the program. I have greater difficulty understanding the Official Opposition for not voicing concern about this matter, or are we indeed all currying favour with a particular block of voters at this particular time.

* (1430)

Well, Mr. Speaker, Manitoba children—and I prefer to refer to them as Manitoba children, not of any particular ancestry—are currently at risk so long as that specific policy is in place. I earnestly call on this Minister, on this Government, to at least suspend immediately that specific policy of this program that calls for the forcible reuniting of children, that calls for taking foster children, who fortunately are finding love and care in foster homes, simply because it fits for the greater policy within the department.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the subject matter drawn to our attention by today's editorial in our major newspaper, a tragedy that three youngsters have experienced, urgently calls for some action on the part of Government, and my Government happens to be the Government responsible for that action.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank Honourable Members and yourself for the opportunity to exercise this privilege that, I remind all Members, is open to all of us, to look within ourselves, to set aside the question of concern about political favour with any group of citizens of Manitoba, and to accept our responsibilities to the children of Manitoba whose lives are at risk.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for Minnedosa (Mr. Gilleshammer) in the Chair for the Department of Education; and the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks (Mr. Minenko) in the Chair for the Department of Health.

* (1440)

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY—EDUCATION

Mr. Chairman, Harold Gilleshammer: I would like to call this meeting to order of the Estimates of the Department of Education. I believe the Honourable Minister (Mr. Derkach) has some information.

Hon. Leonard Derkach (Minister of Education): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On October 24, three areas were taken as notice and we said that we would provide information in the area of literacy.

I have some handouts this afternoon: first of all, a list of literacy projects funded by the province in 1988-

89 and those funded by the Department of Secretary of State 1987 and 1988; secondly, an historic review of literacy programs supported by the Adult and Continuing Education Branch since 1980; and No. 3, a breakdown of expenditures for literacy programs.

In addition, we have responses to questions raised in Estimates on November 7 and several things here: first of all, a list of Small Schools Pilot Projects in 1988-89; courses were developed by MCALC; funding guidelines for Winnipeg Core Area Initiatives; a list of community college courses cancelled in 1988-89; a list of number of students on waiting lists at the community colleges; and a list of courses offered in satellite centres.

Yesterday, Mr. Chairman, the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) brought forth an issue and pointed to a letter that had been received by the department or by myself as Minister. I would like to advise that no such letter has been received by the department or by myself as Minister today. So if the Member for Flin Flon has a copy of that letter where it shows that it has been addressed to us, we would appreciate seeing it because obviously, if it has been addressed to us, it must have been lost.

Also on November 3, the Member for Flin Flon asked about the number of professional and technical staff in the assessment unit, and I wish to advise, Mr. Chairman, that I made an error in the response in that there are eight professional and technical people in the unit. The assessment unit has three professional staff, one of whom is on leave of absence following his two-year educational leave; one technical person; three support staff, one of whom is bilingual; and one position that is a 75 term staff editor.

Mr. Chairman: Proceeding then with part 5. Post-Secondary, Adult and Continuing Education.

Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): Yes, I have a copy of the letter. There is a personal note attached to it but the letter is dated October 27, 1988. "The Honourable Len Derkach, Minister of Education," etc. "Dear Sir, I am writing on behalf of Flin Flon Teachers' Association to express"—perhaps the Minister has not received the letter but it was copied to Judy Balabas, president of MTS, the Superintendent of Schools in Flin Flon and to myself. So perhaps for some reason the mail has not come through, but I will make the appropriate amendments to this letter and forward it to the Minister for his information.

Mr. Chairman: On part 5. Post-Secondary, Adult and Continuing Education, (c) Red River Community College: (1) Salaries, \$27,597,000—the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

Mrs. Iva Yeo (Sturgeon Creek): I have had probably more inquiries presented to me or concerns presented to me in the last six months revolving around various concerns with Red River Community College than with any other part of the education system. A lot of it is—I do not know whether the term "abstract" is the right term or not, but it is very hard to put my finger on what the concerns are. I was told that administratively

PACE is in a bit of a mess, that there are budgetary allocations that may not express the actual expenditure in one particular area, that if one part of the organization runs out of money that they just lift it from the other part. I am wondering if the Minister has also had concerns expressed to him with regard to the budgeting and the funding of PACE.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, no, I have not received any calls in the last six months with regard to individuals being concerned about budgetary items within PACE, and certainly I am not aware of any such calls to date.

Mrs. Yeo: Has the Minister had any concerns expressed to him about borrowing FY money between departments and then billing the departments back? Has any of this come to his attention?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Chairman.

Mrs. Yeo: Has the Minister heard anything about ACCESS Programs, that there might be a cost overrun from one department to another?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Chairman, no such comments or phone calls have been brought to my attention.

Mrs. Yeo: What kind of accountability is there from PACE to the Minister's department? What kind of communication is there between PACE and the Minister's department?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, there are several ways of making sure that the branch is accountable to the department and to myself as Minister. First of all, we have the internal audit process which goes on. I have an Assistant Deputy Minister who is responsible for PACE. We also have the Provincial Auditor who does a thorough examination, and I think there has been a fairly respectable level of accountability to myself, as Minister, in terms of reporting as to what is going on.

Recently we have had an internal audit of the ACCESS Programs, Mr. Chairman, and I have not had any of the concerns that have been raised in the last question brought to my attention.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me what academic credentials the ADM of this department has?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, the Assistant Deputy Minister of PACE has a Bachelor of Arts from McGill University and is currently working on her Masters Degree from the University of Manitoba.

Mrs. Yeo: Is interdepartmental exchanging of funding allowed? Is that something that is sort of an acceptable procedure?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, I really do not know what the Member means when she says "interdepartmental."

Mrs. Yeo: Can the money be taken out of one budgeted allowance and put into another within a department?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, there are transfers between such departments as Community Services and

Education or Northern Affairs and Education in an appropriate manner but also there are, if you are talking about within branches of the department, there are transfers, allowable transfers, within branches of the department.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me whether the Canada Manpower-type of funding still exists at Red River Community College?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, it does, Mr. Chairman.

* (1450)

Mrs. Yeo: If there are so many spaces taken up by Canada Manpower and some are left, can they be filled in with other applicants? Is this allowed?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is normal practice.

Mrs. Yeo: I have had some concerns raised to me about one program in particular, the Telecommunications Program, where I understand there are only 16 students in a class. I am not sure whether that is the number that is currently enrolled, but it is my understanding that is the number that is usually permitted and that these seats are basically already filled or already spoken for because of either Jobs Strategy or Canada Manpower. Is this true?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, there are 16 students enrolled in the program. Eight are federal-sponsored students and eight are provincial-entry students.

Mrs. Yeo: I have also had concerns raised by people who have been trying to apply for other programs, people within our own province who say that they apply and apply and are turned down because the seats are already filled. Is there some appeal mechanism? Is there some way that a student who really does wish to enter a particular program and continues to be turned down can appeal this process if they are, in fact, qualified or meet the qualifications?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, there are waiting lists in many of the programs that are offered at Red River and I think that the list that was distributed would show the wait lists that are present right now. In addition, it is the responsibility of the institution to train numbers of people that there is a market for in the job market, and certainly there is a matching that is attempted in terms of the programs that are offered. So, yes, there are wait lists and certainly the entry is on a first-come first-serve basis. Certainly I have, myself, received several requests from students for reconsideration that have been passed along to Red River or to PACE.

Mr. Storie: On a point of indulgence, Mr. Chairperson.

Mr. Chairman: We do not recognize points of indulgence, but we will recognize the Member for Flin Flon.

Mr. Storie: Thank you. As long as you recognize me, that is more important.

The Minister handed out a sheet that outlined the current waiting status for a number of courses and along the top there are a number of acronyms. I am wondering, just so I could do some research while my colleague is asking questions, if I could have what those mean. What does prep mean?

Mr. Derkach: Preregistered.

Mr. Storie: Oh, preregistered, that makes more sense.

Mr. Derkach: Okay, waiting list: PROC, in process; INCA, incomplete; REJP, rejected failure to pay fee; REJW, withdrawn; REJ, all other.

Mr. Storie: Those do not make sense.

Mr. John Angus (St. Norbert): So, taking the very first page, you have Business Accountancy, the code, the date, then you have a waiting list of 30 people in that program. Is there anything on here that shows the capacity of the program, the total number of seats available in that program are? Is there an indication there on this sheet?

Mr. Derkach: 68, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Angus: How do I know that from looking at this?

Mr. Derkach: Where it says "Quota."

Mr. Angus: I see, okay, thank you.

Mr. Storie: One other question, the REJP is rejected, have not paid their fee. Does that mean that there is a fee up front? If these individuals had paid the up-front fee, would they be on the waiting list?

Mr. Derkach: There are some programs that have a pre-registration fee in order that the seats be retained for that individual.

Mr. Storie: One final question, how large is that fee?

Mr. Derkach: Fees are a standard \$50.00.

Mr. Storie: The pre-registration fee is \$50.00.

Mr. Chairman: On item (c)(1), shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: I think we were listening to the Minister say that the market directs where some of these seats go and I gather, for instance, if there are 16 seats in telecommunications, the idea is that there probably are only 16 jobs out there for new telecommunications-prepared individuals. No?

Then I would ask for clarification as to how the decision is made as to how many seats are allocated for a particular program.

Mr. Derkach: There are several ways of determining, Mr. Chairman, what the market demand is. One of them is through the advisory boards for each of these

programs which meet regularly and give the direction as to the kind of market demand that is out there.

Also, through Canada Employment, we gain sort of the overview of what the demand might be for individuals in a particular program. But besides that aspect, there are also considerations of classroom size, the number of students you can put into a classroom, the equipment that is available to teach that particular course, if it were in the field of cosmetology, for example, the number of seats that you have in the particular classroom; if it is welding, the number of welders, whatever. So all of those are taken into consideration when the courses are structured and also determine the number of people who you can have in a program and will also reflect the number waiting, I guess, who want to take that program.

Mrs. Yeo: The number of students waiting and needed to fulfill the requirements to become child care workers, I understand, is incredible. What efforts are being made to increase the number of seats available at our various community colleges—and we are talking specifically I guess right now about Red River—for the training of child care workers?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, yes, we recognize the fact that there is a waiting list in the Child Care Training Program, certainly not more unusual than it is in some of the other programs but nevertheless there is a wait list. We are looking at ways in which we could possibly provide in the future more training spaces.

We also have another bit of a problem in the rural areas and that is that by expanding spaces, for example, in some of our other areas, we do not have enough areas to put these people into to get their practicums.

* (1500)

Mrs. Yeo: I understand that the rural areas, there is some difficulty. However, right now we are talking about Red River Community College which is an urban centre with many, many child care facilities in and around.

I also understand that there is a wait list of students who want to enter the program but also, even more important I think, is the fact that the day care facilities themselves are very anxious to have properly trained diploma child care workers to fill the spots that are available. There is a great need in the community for an increased number of prepared child care workers. I was rather surprised that in September there were not more seats available for training these people. Certainly I hope that this is something that will be in place by at least September of 1989 because then it will be, I think, June of 1991 before these people are prepared to go out into the field.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, it is true that there is a waiting list and certainly there is a demand out there for trained child care workers. We are not going to deny that. But there are wait lists in many of the other programs and certainly we would like to accommodate more students. However, we cannot do it for this year.

We are at the present time actively pursuing ways in which we can offer more training spaces. However,

that kind of process takes a while to develop. We have to ensure that we have not only the space but staff and programs to offer, places available to conduct practicums, and all of this organization takes some time. So we are working at that at the present time and, hopefully, in the future we will be able to offer at least another section within the first year.

At the present time, there are 142 who are on the waiting list at Red River.

Mrs. Yeo: I did not realize the number was that high. Does Red River Community College have a toddler day care facility that they were intending to have? Has that been organized as yet?

Mr. Derkach: At the present time, Red River Community College is attempting to raise some funds so that they can, in fact, have a toddler day care facility in the college.

Mrs. Yeo: There was a recommendation, I believe, that the college would adopt a proactive approach to affirmative action when filling all the vacancies. Has this, in fact, occurred? Is there a proactive approach to affirmative action?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is a proactive attitude and process in place in terms of affirmative action.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me if all positions within PACE are filled by competition?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There are however the contract positions which are somewhat different, but all existing SY positions are filled by competition.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister explain what he means by "contract positions"?

Mr. Derkach: The major one, Mr. Chairman, is the evening school or the evening classes that are being conducted, or short-term kinds of courses that may be offered.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me what sort of a competition there was for the Director of Distance Education and Technology?

Mr. Derkach: There was no competition held for that position. That was a transfer within the department, along with the staff year.

Mrs. Yeo: So when the Minister said to me that for all positions, except for contract positions, all positions are filled by competition, this is one example where it was not by competition, where it was by appointment?

Mr. Derkach: There there will be positions from time to time where we will fill from within or transfer from within the department but I would think that, if that is not possible or if we cannot do that, then all other positions would—our attitude is that we would certainly want to advertise it and have a competition for that.

An Honourable Member: I think we are obliged to.

Mrs. Yeo: Are most candidates appointed on the sole basis of merit?

Mr. Derkach: The short answer to that I guess is, yes, but the Civil Service Commission is certainly there to make sure that we, in fact, do comply with the regulations.

Mrs. Yeo: Again, I have had some concerns raised by a number of people that this in fact does not happen. Not being closely involved, I cannot comment, but I thought this was part of the purpose of the Estimates, to get the Minister's opinion on some of these things. I am glad to hear that the Minister believes that merit is the most important thing and that this is the main reason for appointments. Do all organizations that come under the umbrella of PACE have sexual harassment policy statements?

Mr. Derkach: There is an internal policy being developed at the present time which would cover that area for the PACE Branch.

Mrs. Yeo: Could the Minister tell me what Red River Community College is doing to introduce more programs designed specifically for women? What sort of action is being undertaken?

Mr. Derkach: There is now a department head with regard to women's issues, I guess, and through CJS certainly we are offering programs for women such as the pre-employment programs.

Mrs. Yeo: Over the summer, just prior to the Session beginning, I received a few phone calls from individuals who were concerned because they had assumed that they had been hired by the community college to teach various courses but they had not had their teaching certificate or whatever it is that the Minister has to sign. The Minister did act fairly quickly after a short discussion. Can the Minister outline to me what is the process whereby a teacher is hired? What sort of a process is under way before they can know if they definitely are on the payroll or not? What happens?

* (1510)

Mr. Derkach: In all staffing, we want to ensure that there is some accountability for the position that is required and that in fact it does go through the appropriate channels. First of all, the staffing authorization would come through the college and then be channelled through the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for community colleges. Then after that has been approved, it would go to the Deputy Minister and right now the Minister has responsibility to sign all staffing authorizations. So the final step would be the Minister's signature on the staffing authorization.

Mrs. Yeo: Just so that I understand the bureaucracy—and now I see what is meant by red tape—the instructor goes to the college and is interviewed and is told that they have a position. But before they can go any further,

it then goes to the ADM, then to the Deputy Minister and finally to the Minister for approval. Is that correct?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Chairman, that is incorrect. What happens is that before anybody can be interviewed, first of all, the college must get authorization from the Minister to go ahead and hire or be entitled to hire for that particular position. So the authorization entitles the college or the institution to go out and seek an individual for a particular position.

Mrs. Yeo: Again, because of my concern for the individuals who wanted to organize their lives and their careers and were sort of left on hold for a significant period of time before being informed that they actually had been accepted in the position—as a matter of fact, one individual told me that he in fact, without having the signature, had taught several of the classes because the classes had begun before he was actually informed that he was hired.

I will wait for Hansard and will read the Minister's initial response, but I thought that he had said that before his signature is affixed to the document that it goes through the college, the ADM, the DM and then the Minister. It seems to me that with that kind of bureaucracy that it is understandable that an application or a document could be held up in somebody's basket, particularly in the summer when people tend to go on holidays. If this is in fact what happened last summer, I hope that there will be steps taken so that it will be avoided happening again in the summer of '89.

Mr. Derkach: There are always situations where you are going to get a backlog of applications or authorizations or whatever the case may be.

In my own particular case, I taught in a school for at least two months before I signed a contract. Sometimes that kind of a situation is not acceptable but certainly that happens. In this particular instance, I think we have embarked on what is called Market Driven Training. These are usually short courses that require some quick action on behalf of the college in terms of making sure that there is an individual in place to offer the program. On the authority of the Assistant Deputy Minister, there in fact may be times when an individual does take a position before the final authority is given, but certainly that kind of message would be relayed to the Minister, that staffing authorization is on its way to be signed so that there is some communication between the Deputy Minister and the Minister and the Assistant Deputy Minister in those situations.

I would have to be the first one to admit that our system is not perfect. We have done several things to try and speed the process up. As a matter of fact, when the Member had brought this matter up in the House, we were in the process of trying to streamline it by marking the application forms that were for Market Driven Training to make sure that those received priority in terms of attention, because we do get a host of them at once. So because they are especially marked, they are treated as urgent because those are the kinds of things where there is not a great deal of lead time.

Mrs. Yeo: I have had a few concerns brought to my attention with regard to the Power Engineering course. There were a couple of individuals who stated that they were not happy with the quality of the instruction they received from three of the four instructors in the program. Is the Minister aware of this, because I understand the department head of Power Engineering is aware of these problems, but I am wondering if the Minister is aware of these or the ADM or the Acting Director of Red River Community College. If so, what action is being taken to try and correct this problem?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, when you have a system as large as Red River, Keewatin or Assiniboine and if you put all three of them together, certainly there are instances when concerns of performance by teaching instructors does come to the attention of the Minister. When that happens, that is referred to the appropriate academic head or head of the department or the president or vice-president or the dean of the particular community college to investigate. I can indicate that the situation the Member brings forth is, at the present time, being reviewed and will be dealt with.

Mrs. Yeo: So I gather from that comment that the Minister is aware of that concern. Okay.

The bookstore at Red River Community College is certainly operating in maybe not too effective a way. Are the students at Red River Community College given access to browse within the bookstore? Is there an opportunity for them to move about and examine the books?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Chairman. Because of space difficulties or availability of space, that is not possible. Therefore, students are not allowed to browse around in the bookstore.

Mrs. Yeo: Why is it not allowed to be a money-making thing, thereby promoting a variety of books rather than just textbooks and the documents that the teachers prepare, the notes that the teachers prepare?

Mr. Derkach: At the present time, we are strictly trying to concentrate on the needs of the students in terms of the training programs that are available in the community college. It is a money-making proposition in that there is a 15 percent profit margin on the sale of the books.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me the state of the Red River Community College Library? There was some discussion about building a new library and I am wondering where that stands.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, I think that announcement has been made in the past three or four elections. I am not quite sure how far back it goes. The drawings have not been completed for the LRC and I can tell the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo) that those drawings will be completed this year, so that then we can proceed toward the realization of the project at some point.

Mrs. Yeo: Would the size and state of the current Red River Community College Library have something to

do with complaints that I have received about poor organization and administrative procedures there?

* (1520)

Mr. Derkach: I do not believe so, Mr. Chairman, but I really cannot answer that question. I think that is a question that only the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo) could answer to herself.

Mrs. Yeo: It has been some years since I have been in the library at Red River Community College. Having taught there a few years ago, I have only been back, I think, once or twice since then. I am new at this game and can only go by the complaints that are brought to my attention, and I was just bringing them to the attention of the Minister.

Mr. Derkach: Thank you very much.

Mrs. Yeo: Is there any thrust on the part of this particular governing Minister to promote perhaps a greater autonomy of the board of Red River Community College?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, that has certainly been something that has been talked about since I became Minister of Education, and it is certainly an interesting concept. I am not opposed to looking at that kind of a concept and will be examining it as we move along through the next few months.

Mrs. Yeo: There is a Northern Nursing Program, I believe, that is provided through Red River Community College to help the critical shortage of trained nurses in northern Manitoba. Can the Minister tell me if this program is still in the plan, still is going to continue?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this program is ongoing. It is the ACCESS Program that is delivered through Red River Community College at Thompson.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me if there is any intention to expand the services of Red River Community College into other regions of the province, the ACCESS Programs into other areas? I might add I am thinking more specifically, I guess, about Eastman.

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman. That list I think has been tabled with the information that was given today in terms of the programs that are available in, for example, the Eastman Region. Certainly there are always demands from various regions to expand programs in those centres, particularly through the Canadian Jobs Strategy. Certainly those are examined as they come in and then certainly if those can be provided, they will be.

Mrs. Yeo: Is there difficulty, Mr. Chairperson, in finding quality teachers, good teachers for these ACCESS Programs?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Chairman. There has been no unusual difficulty in trying to fill the positions that are available.

Mrs. Yeo: I was just going to thank the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) for giving me such latitude. I am done right at the moment.

Mr. Chairman: Shall the item pass?

Mr. Storie: A couple of questions, I guess, the Minister tabled a list of off-campus courses that are being offered. I guess I would like to know whether we could have, beside those, the number of students who are taking those courses. It is not urgent. It is not something I need tomorrow, just it would be nice to be able to attach them to the courses that are being offered.

The other question that I was going to ask is, are these courses in the main given by people from these communities or are we having people travelling from the community colleges?

Mr. Derkach: We will provide the numbers for the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie)—not today, we will have to do it tomorrow. I might add that in as many cases as we can, we try to get instructors from the local communities. If that is not possible, however, we have to go outside the community to get any instructors. So if you were to take a look at the general aspect of it, I guess it is kind of a mix.

Mr. Storie: The other thing that strikes me is that we have a lot of—the number of communities that are actually touched by one of our community colleges is quite striking. I think it is a tribute to the people who have pushed the concept of off-campus education and the right of people to have access locally to education opportunities.

I guess the question I would ask though is, where does the impetus for a particular course come? It seems to me that some of these make a lot of sense. You have agriculture courses in Pilot Mound, Ste. Rose and Swan River, but it seems to me that, given the concern of all of us over literacy and the need for adult basic education, some of these communities, if not all of them, would be targets for some form of adult basic education effort, some upgrading effort. Maybe the answer is that there is no initiative on the part of the community to establish such a course.

I wondered whether the community colleges, particularly Red River in this instance, are making any effort or are prepared to make an effort to see those kinds of courses established, because it seems to me that they are not an expensive kind of course to deliver. We certainly should be able to find the personnel to deliver them, and there is an actual, certainly a perceived need for delivering those kinds of courses.

Mr. Derkach: We do not go out and try to initiate a specific course in a community for the sake of having a course in a community. The need comes from within the community. I guess it is based on the community itself and the kinds of things that the community sees that are important to it, together with the needs as are brought forth through the Canadian Jobs Strategy in some communities. So it is kind of a mix, I guess, if you take a look at the overall aspect. The community

may identify a need within it, whether that be literacy or adult basic education or whatever the program might be, and we follow through from there.

Mr. Storie: It is just, I guess, interesting that there are really relatively few adult basic education courses, even though there are a lot of communities and if it is the kind of problem where 25 percent of our population—I am not sure I believe that figure, but that is a figure that has been bandied about as accurate—then obviously it should be a need and it may be a question of whether the community colleges are talking to the right people in the community.

Certainly, if you go to Pool Elevators and say, what kind of a course do you need around here, they are going to say we need Ag 1. But perhaps if you went to the Friendship Centre or some other local community group, you might get a different response. Just leave on the record that I am certain that it is an area where there is a need. Maybe it is a question of finding individuals to support it and promote it. It seems to be something we should be doing.

Moving to another area, the information—

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Minister.

Mr. Storie: —if the Minister wants to respond to that, he can.

Mr. Derkach: Yes, I would just like to respond to that in saying that I think the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) is right in that people who have learning difficulties or low levels of literacy or would fall into the category of illiteracy probably would not come forward in most instances. I guess this gives justification for the Task Force on Illiteracy, because it is a task force that is going to go out there and interview the kinds of individuals who may need literacy programs. Then, by the task force coming back to us, we will better be able to develop programs for those very communities that the Member for Flin Flon has pointed to.

Mr. Storie: The next area of concern, I guess, is when I went through this list—unfortunately, this list was not set up so that it would be easy to do any kind of quick calculation manually but it appears as though, if you take out the number of students who are rejected from the system, anywhere between 60 percent and 70 percent of the students who indicate an interest for a specific course do not get that course.

In some cases, if you just work from the numbers that have applied and the numbers that were accepted ultimately, certainly five or six to one are rejected. I wonder whether that is a satisfactory state in the Minister's view. It appears to me that the waiting lists are getting longer. We have a situation where in 1988-89 at Red River alone there are 126 spaces that are being eliminated. There are 6.5 staff years being eliminated. Yet we see what I perceive to be increasing student waiting lists, increasing time delays before people can get the courses that they want. I want to know what the Minister has planned to deal with this problem.

* (1530)

Mr. Derkach: I guess there are many reasons why all students who apply for a particular course do not get accepted. I think we could probably list a whole host of reasons, whether it is not the right qualifications, perhaps a student not understanding what prerequisites are necessary for the program but simply thinking that this would be a good program for me to apply for. It may be that, for example, as has been identified on the sheet here, that some do not pay the fee that is required. I guess we could go on and on and state many reasons why every student who applies for a program is not accepted. Certainly, the waiting lists are there. They are not something that has just occurred overnight. I am sure that the Member, when he was Minister of Education, had those kinds of waiting lists as well.

We understand that there is a greater demand today for this kind of training and we have to address it. I think there are various ways in which we can address some of the needs. They do not all have to be through students coming directly to the community colleges and I think some good work has been done in that regard, in that we have established such things as the Parkland Campus, for example. We have established the regional offices or centres where students can get training outside of the community college itself. I think Distance Education is an important way of delivering programs that do not necessarily have to be delivered right within the college.

So yes, we do have plans to address the problem in terms of trying to be more flexible and trying to deliver more programs into the communities so that students do not necessarily have to travel into the centres to take their programming.

Mr. Storie: The Minister kind of avoided the question of whether in fact the waiting lists are increasing. It would be interesting perhaps to do some sort of historical perspective on what has happened to the waiting lists, certainly since 1985 when CEIC announced its policy of reducing purchases by 40 percent. Certainly, there have been other constraints on the community colleges, but I am wondering where the impact is being felt the most.

That leads me to some questions about other services at the community college. There is a Native Students' Resource Centre, and a Resource Centre for the Handicapped. I am wondering whether there has been any change in staffing, any change in services offered through those two offices.

Mr. Derkach: In a previous question by the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo), I had indicated yes, that we have hired an individual to provide services for the women's programs. We have also hired additional staff to accommodate student services, so there is an attempt to provide better and more timely services to students who have those needs.

Mr. Storie: More specifically, how many counsellors are there to provide services to the Native Students' Resource Centre?

Mr. Derkach: We have two Native counsellors who are available to provide that service for Native students.

Mr. Storie: What has been happening to the Native population in terms of—

Mr. Derkach: Red River?

Mr. Storie: Community College.

Mr. Derkach: The Native student population at Red River has been increasing, and it is up to about 600 students at the present time.

Mr. Storie: It might be argued that as the student population increases we should be seeing a corresponding increase in the support services that are available if they are to succeed in the community colleges.

Mr. Derkach: I guess that argument can be made at any time. I guess I could just say that Red River Community College has also another counsellor from another community college so we are up to three now.

Mr. Storie: The Minister mentioned that they have someone in the women's programming office, a coordinator personnel. I am wondering what specific courses that person, what specific services, if not courses, is that person responsible for. A sort of question in the same vein, what has been the experience over the last year and what does Red River expect to have for courses, the pretrades training for women, the pretechnology for women, the women's oriented courses. What is the expectation for those courses in terms of numbers that are going to be accepted versus the numbers that were accepted over the last few years?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, the Director of Women's Programs is—I guess the role of that particular individual is to attempt to get more women students into non-traditional courses. Also, one of the other aspects of that role or that position is to work with the federal Government to seek ways in which we can attract more women students into those kinds of non-traditional programs that are available at the community college.

Mr. Storie: I appreciate that would be her goal. I guess my question was, what has been the result? Are there in fact more pretrades training programs? Are there in fact more women taking training in the pretrades programs or more succeeding? Are there in fact more courses?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there has been an increase in the number of students who are taking apprenticeship programs and non-traditional type programs for women. Certainly, the numbers are still small but progress has been made and, hopefully, in the next while, in the next year or so, we will see a significant increase by—and it will be sort of as a result of a women's coordinator who can help to attract women into those particular programs.

Mr. Storie: Another short question, is Red River Community College involved in any way in an office in the Inner City of Winnipeg?

Mr. Derkach: I guess there are two things that are happening. First of all, there are programs that are being delivered to the central core area of the city. There is not necessarily an office to do that. The programs that are being developed are being delivered.

Secondly, in the CIIT Building, there is an office there and it is mainly concerned with the English as a Second Language programming.

Mr. Storie: Two other short questions, No. 1, is Red River Community College developing or have they developed completely computer-managed learning modules? I know there was some work in that direction.

Mr. Derkach: Some of that has happened, Mr. Chairman, at the community college. There has also been some funding received from the federal Government to develop modularized programs at the college.

* (1540)

Mr. Storie: But at this point, you cannot say that the community college has some stand-alone computer-managed courses that individuals—

Mr. Derkach: There are two areas that have been developed: one is the food services courses; and the other one is the related courses area has been modularized.

Mr. Storie: Now the next question is, is there the prospect that these courses would be made available on floppy disk or disk drive that could be sent to Tadoule Lake, wherever, rural or northern Manitoba, to be used—

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, I guess this is all linked in with the Distance Education model and therefore the technology at Distance Education is being set up so that we can deliver that kind of programming through that method.

Mr. Chairman: Shall the item pass?

Mr. Storie: One more question before I leave this, could the Minister indicate whether any of the things that Ray Newman said about Gary Polonsky at his going-away are true?

Mr. Chairman: Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: I was waiting for the Minister's response to that question. While the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) was asking his questions, I was quickly looking through some of these sheets that we received. Under Nuclear Medicine on the sheet with the heading, Community College Course Reductions, it has 10 students. I assume that means that the course has been reduced by 10 students and that the 12 students in this other package are currently registered which means they usually accept 22 students, and they have decreased it by 10. Is that how I would read that?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, the Nuclear Medicine Program, the first year of the program has been

discontinued because there was no apparent demand in the province for those kinds of skills or for those kinds of individuals with that kind of training. For the demand that is out there, we are offering the second-year program here in which we have 10 students enrolled. We are also beginning a process of discussing an interprovincial agreement with other provinces where we perhaps could purchase spaces to have the first-year program delivered in other jurisdictions, because that way it would be far more effective and efficient for us to have that first-year program delivered.

Mrs. Yeo: This second-year program is really just the second year of a two-year program that began last year. Once this year is complete, it is my understanding that there will no longer be any training for nuclear medicine technologists in Manitoba?

Mr. Derkach: That is correct, Mr. Chairman, and that is why we are embarking on the interprovincial agreement so that those students who do want to take that program can still have an opportunity to get it.

Mr. Chairman: Shall the item pass? 5.(c)(1)—pass.
Item 5.(c)(2) Other Expenditures, \$6,571,600.00.

Mr. Storie: Just one other question and this may not be the right place to ask but seeing that there are staff from Red River here, there is another item in the Estimates, item 5.(p), the Market Driven Training, and there is \$2 million set aside to look after that.—(Interjection)—That is later. I know, but obviously that relates to or does it not relate to activities at Red River Community College, the community colleges?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, I think we can address that at a later time when we get to that section. That is the section that actually affects all three community colleges rather than the one. We will have staff here.

Mr. Storie: Because it does deal with Red River Community College, perhaps we could deal with the questions here or we can spread them out because each of the colleges may have their say. My question was, is this an allocation identified in the Estimates simply to give the colleges flexibility so they do not require Treasury Board approval for each individual course that comes forward, so that individually they do not have to be authorized "Supplementary Supply be granted"? Is that what the intent of this is?

Mr. Derkach: That money is set aside to allow the community colleges some flexibility in terms of getting the Market Driven Training Programs on stream without having to go through the cumbersome bureaucracy of getting approval for each and every penny that is spent.

Mr. Storie: So that is a method to appease the Auditor and Treasury Board and to prevent all kinds of work being done by staff for preparation of individual applications?

Mr. Derkach: It is more of a practical approach to providing the kinds of programming in terms of Market

Driven Training in a more responsive manner. Certainly, it is hoped that this will also be acceptable to the Provincial Auditor and that we are doing things aboveboard.

Mr. Storie: Mr. Chairperson, I am not quarrelling with its appearance in the Estimates. If it does anything to facilitate the need for the college to be flexible in terms of providing courses when courses are requested or appropriate, it is a good thing. I guess the question would be, are there specific Market Driven courses? Are there courses out there that are going to be offered to individual private corporations, community groups, whatever, that we know now will be tapping into this \$2 million from Red River? If there are, could we have a list of those courses?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there are those kinds of programs and we can provide that information and will provide that information.

Mr. Storie: To what extent has that \$2 million allocation already been assigned?

Mr. Derkach: I can say that most of the allocation has been used at this time.

Mr. Storie: So it is likely that we will see somewhere a Cabinet paper authorizing additional spending for Market Driven Training then from the Minister of Education? Is that fair?

Mr. Derkach: I guess that is speculation, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to indicate in the response that all of these funds that have been set aside, although they will be used, are cost recoverable.

Mr. Storie: Yes, I recognize that.

Mr. Chairman: Shall the item pass?

Mr. Angus: Mr. Chairperson, through you to the Minister in relation to the Market Driven Programs that have been indicated, earlier you had mentioned programs that referred to a Jobs Fund. We are talking, at the current time, in relation to federal contributions and funding towards education.

It has occurred to me that there are programs that are being funded through monies that are going to the private sector that are duplications of those that are being offered at Red River Community College. I am thinking of computer-aided courses, things of that nature, skills, retraining programs that are offered by the federal Government. Does the Minister have any plans or any desire to coordinate and bring together under his department these programs to eliminate the redundancy and to eliminate the competitiveness, I guess, between programs? It seems to me federal money that is going to the private sector to duplicate programs that are being offered at Red River Community College, as an example, where we have already invested the capital and the training and have employed people to offer these programs is a misuse of taxpayers' money. I was hoping the Minister might be able to comment on that.

* (1550)

Mr. Derkach: There is no such thing as Jobs Fund. I just wanted to correct the Member that there is not that.

Through the Canadians Jobs Strategy though, the only place that we might find any duplication would be if spaces were being purchased from a different institution for a particular program. But within Red River Community College, there would be no such duplication of programs offered by the college, for example, for provincial students or for federal students.

Mr. Angus: Excuse me for bringing up something that was clearly another program that you have disbanded. I am not sure of the exact terminology. But it does seem strange to me, Mr. Minister, that we, as taxpayers, find ourselves oftentimes funding through federal programs and/or Core Area Initiative Programs and/or other available sources, programs that are being offered in the existing school system, whether it is Red River Community College or the South Winnipeg Technical-Vocational organization or any of those. I realize that some of those may not be in this particular section of this set of Estimates, but the question is nonetheless relevant. It seems to me that when we have built these institutes with taxpayers' money and we have funded the education of instructors or funded instructors to offer these programs, that it is a duplication. I was wondering if the Minister had any plans to bring these programs together and ensure that we are not duplicating the investment of tax dollars.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Chairman, inasmuch as possible, the department does monitor what kinds of programs are being purchased through the CJS, and certainly we are, I guess, always cognizant of the fact that there may be duplication. Where that happens, we want to eliminate it as much as possible. But I guess there are instances where one can point to a particular program being offered through CJS in one area, and then another institution offering that program. But if those courses are filled, then we know that the demand is there. If there is a waiting list, then we know that you need those courses.

I guess I could point to, for example, the Child Care Training Program. We know that we have a waiting list there, so simply offering that program in another institution would not mean that it is necessarily being duplicated. It is just that it is another way of offering a program which is required or which there is a demand for. But inasmuch as possible, our department does monitor the programs that are offered through the Canadian Jobs Strategy to ensure that we do not get unnecessary duplication and unnecessary costs are not incurred.

Mr. Angus: Is it permissible to ask for the Minister to table a listing of those programs that have been offered, whereby the CJS funding has gone to the private sector with the amounts of money and the number of participants? I am asking the question, even if you cannot table it. I do not think it would be privileged information, and I do not necessarily have to have the

specifics of the information. But it may highlight those areas where the Minister should consider investing his limited resources to fulfill needs in the area of that sort of education.

For instance, if you are finding that you are spending incredible amounts of money through the Canadian Jobs Strategy Program for day care programs, it would indicate to you that perhaps that money could better come into the community college area whereby you could expand that program specifically.

Mr. Derkach: I know it is all taxpayer dollars whether it is federal or provincial but CJS is federal monies that come to the private sector. We might know what courses, we could tell you what courses are being offered through CJS, but it would be very difficult for us to identify or to specifically name the amount of money or quantify the amount of money that is being spent in each of those programs. I reiterate that inasmuch as possible the department does monitor all CJS programs in the province, whether they are offered here at Red River, Assiniboine or Keewatin or South Winnipeg Tech or wherever, to ensure that there is not unnecessary duplication of programs and unnecessary spending or waste of money.

Mr. Angus: Mr. Chairperson, through you to the Minister, I appreciate that you are monitoring, and I guess the question is somewhat baited. If you are monitoring them, what are you monitoring if you cannot tell me the extent of the investment? Can you tell me the numbers of participants? Can you tell me the different types of programs? I am not suggesting that the Minister has this information at his fingertips. If he would like to get a report together for the committee and make it available, I for one would be interested in that money.

I think the Minister has indicated his interest and his desire to coordinate the investment of public funds and I think that it would be a responsible position for him to get that list, look at the needs that we already have within the province and find out if there is any federal money available to help us put those programs on in our areas where we can offer them at the technical schools and the colleges.

(The Acting Chairman, Darren Praznik, in the Chair.)

Mr. Derkach: I guess in a general sense I could say that we do very well in accessing federal funds for programming in this province, but there is no way that, for example, we can get the information from anyone as to how much money the federal Government is offering to a particular industry through CJS to train those students. Our responsibility is to ensure that we have the programs available when we are required to, or when the request is made of us. Also, the monitoring part of it is focussed on the quality of the programs that are being offered at the college to ensure that there is no unnecessary duplication, to ensure that we have appropriate staff in place, the pedagogical content of the program that is being offered. All of those things have to be taken into account when one does an evaluation of a course, no matter what it might be.

I think it would be very difficult for us as a department to go to the federal Government and say, we want to know how much money you are giving to each industry so that we can better make a decision as to whether or not we are spending this money wisely. The industry buys the training from us and we provide the training. I just could add, Mr. Acting Chairman, if you do not mind, that they could buy the training from us but they could also buy it from other sources as well.

Mr. Angus: I appreciate what the Minister has said and I would hope that he would be able to pick up the telephone and phone the people at the Canadian Jobs Strategy and ask them to have lunch so that you can get your acts together in relation to the training that is going on. It seems to me an elastic band that is being stretched both ways, that we have the technical colleges and the capital investments to provide the facilities, we have the people who are qualified to offer the courses and we are looking to provide that service, and then right across the street through the private sector the federal Government is putting money in, and it seems to me that we should be able to get those two things together.

* (1600)

Mr. Acting Chairperson, the Minister has undertaken to remove wherever possible the duplication of efforts, and I applaud that initiative and will leave it with him to sort of get that together. I do not want to browbeat this particular issue to death, but the facts are there are a number of programs that are being offered on the street today by organizations which are being funded by federal dollars, which is an absolute duplication of those programs that are being offered in the institutes that I have mentioned.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, certainly we do meet with CEIC on a regular basis to discuss the CJS programs that are required and so forth. But it would be very difficult for us, as a department I might say, to try and force the hand of the federal Government to say you can only buy training spaces from us at such and such a college, and I do not know how that would be received. I do not imagine very well.

It is free enterprise in terms of where they buy their programming from, whether it is from us or from a private vocational school. But certainly, I guess I can tell the Member that I will take that matter under advisement and certainly try to ensure that we are not being wasteful in this province, in the way that we duplicate programs, at least at the college level where we have some jurisdiction.

Mr. Angus: A final word then, Mr. Acting Chairperson, through you to the Minister, we should either give up ours or ask them to contribute to ours. So let us either turn it over to the free enterprise market and let them handle it and do it, and spend our money, the money we got and allocate it in a different or better fashion, or go to the federal Government and say stop funding those programs because we have already got those programs in place. I suspect, Mr. Minister, that is the type of coordination I am proposing that you investigate.

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairman, I hear the Member loud and clear and what he is trying to say. I would just like to say that the Canada-Manitoba Agreement will be renegotiated in the terms of looking at those kinds of issues. We will do that.

But also I have to indicate that in the Canadian Job Strategy all of the programs that we offer are cost recoverable, so I want to make that very clear. If we offer market driven training program through CJS, all the money that we put into it is cost recoverable to us.

Mr. Angus: Let us see if I have got this straight, or let me ask you to explain that a bit further. What do you mean, cost recoverable?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairman, I guess maybe the best way to explain it is to use an example. But if a company wants to have us deliver a program for their employees, they would come to us or to the community college and they would ask for the cost of delivering a program and the materials and that sort of thing. That kind of process would take place in that the community college would cost the program out and give them the cost of supplies and so forth. Then the company that was wanting the training would go to the federal Government with that proposal. The federal Government would then, through their arrangement with that company, supply the money for the training for that particular program at the community college level. That would include materials, the teaching, the cost of the instructor and any other costs that may be associated with the delivery of that program.

Mr. Angus: That is exactly my point, Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Acting Chairperson, that if that money that is going into our resources to develop our resources and our program is being funneled off to another area where we are really splitting the amount of money we have got and it is probably being ineffectually invested. If we took the lump of money that we are investing into those programs and put it in one area, either into the private sector and let them fulfill those needs or into the technical schools, we could probably get a larger return on our investment. Notwithstanding that, I am satisfied the Minister is going to be looking into the agreement and giving consideration to those things. Thank you.

Mr. Derkach: I do not understand the last point that the Member for St. Norbert (Mr. Angus) made with regard to funnelling all the money into one particular area. We are, as a college I think, attempting to get as much of the Jobs Strategy training programs as we can. We have a facility there that can provide the training. Certainly the federal Government is aware of it. But in that, we have to make sure that we do not give all of our training over to Canadian Jobs Strategy so that we have provincial entry students who do not qualify for Canadian Jobs Strategy who can also take part in those programs that are being offered. So there are some spaces left for provincial entry students in all these programs.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass?

Mr. Kevin Lamoureux (Inkster): For the Minister, I was wondering if he might be able to help clarify something for myself. Over the past several years, the Red River College and student body has been expecting their library to be expanded. I was wanting to know if he might be able to inform me when the idea of the expansion was first brought to the Red River College and the current status of the expansion?

Mr. Derkach: I guess the Member was not here when we addressed this issue, but we have already answered that in a previous question. I had indicated for the Member's edification that we have allocated some funds to complete the final stage of drawings and that will be completed by this fiscal year end.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass?

Mr. Lamoureux: My apologies for not being here when you first raised it. The question is, when was it actually first brought up, the expansion?

Mr. Derkach: I think the announcement, or the intention was announced back in 1984, certainly long before I was even in provincial politics. I think the year was 1984. When I took over the office of Minister of Education, there were some plans done for the LRC but they were not complete. We have allocated some \$175,000 for the completion of those plans by the end of the fiscal year.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass? (Agreed)

We now move onto Item No. 5.(c)(3) Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations \$413,000.00. Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: I would just like an explanation of this particular term if the Minister could just tell me what is meant by this.

Mr. Derkach: This is money that is recoverable from Community Services for training that is provided for such groups as disabled people.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass? 5.(c)(2)—pass.

We now move on to item 5.(d) Assiniboine Community College: (1) Salaries, \$7,123,300.00. Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: Mr. Acting Chairperson, I notice that under Professional/Technical, the number of staff years is down by two but the dollar figure is up fairly significantly. Could the Minister explain this discrepancy?

* (1610)

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, there were two positions that were eliminated, one being an instrumentation mechanic and the other one an autobody repair instructor, both instructors. The reason they were eliminated was that there was no demand

in the marketplace and certainly, in the other case of the autobody repair instructor, that is done through the Canadian Jobs Strategy. So there is no need for the duplication.

With regard to the increase in cost, that is as a result of course of the normal increases of the general salary increases and the merit increases.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): 5.(d)(1)—pass.

We now move on to item 5.(d)(2), Other Expenditures, \$1,560,200.00. Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: I have a question there about the decrease in Supplies and Services. I am wondering how that was achieved and if the teachers at the community college are going to have to forfeit some of the supplies that they use.

Mr. Derkach: The advice I was given was that they are bringing their own. Strike that from the record. Mr. Acting Chairperson, as I mentioned before with the elimination of the two programs, there are also decreased costs in terms of Supplies and Services. That is kind of related in terms of supplies that are not required when you have fit programs.

Mrs. Yeo: Is there any problem with this elimination of the two programs or was there just not felt that there was a need to have the programs?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Acting Chairperson, there is no problem with the elimination of these programs because there was no demand in the marketplace.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me if the fire college is included in the programs that are offered at Assiniboine Community College? Is this connected with KCC?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Acting Chairperson, that is under the Department of Labour.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: One other question—well, maybe one, maybe more than one depending on the answer. When we discussed the insufficient numbers of child-care seats at Red River Community College, the Minister in his response did say that there was difficulty in the rural area because of the lack of clinical, if you will, or practical spaces for the child-care workers who want to take the course. I think he was referring then to Assiniboine Community College. I am wondering what is being done to address this shortfall in number of spaces, being that there is a need for increased numbers of child-care workers in the surrounding communities around Brandon.

Mr. Derkach: There is an attempt by the community college to work with more day care centres and to probably expand the area that they work in, in terms of getting more day care practicum spaces available for their students.

Mr. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me if there is a toddler care, a child care centre located within the community college?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Acting Chairperson, there is a toddler day care program offered there, or a centre.

Mrs. Yeo: Can the Minister tell me how many children, how many preschoolers are located in that particular spot?

Mr. Derkach: In an approximate way, Mr. Acting Chairperson, I would think there are about 25 or 30.

Mr. Acting Chairman: Shall the item pass? Item 5.(d)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; item 5.(d)(3)—pass.

We now move on to Item 5.(e)(1) Keewatin Community College: Salaries \$4,725,600, shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: Is there any thought to having an elected board of trustees for Keewatin Community College?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, I think I addressed this issue in the previous question that was asked about the autonomy and the flexibility of community colleges and my response is still the same, that certainly that is not an idea that I am opposed to and I will be looking at it very seriously over the next year.

Mr. Storie: Mr. Acting Chairman, before the President of KCC gets away, I was not here and I wondered if the Minister had been asked the question about the future of the Parklands Campus, how it is proceeding, the numbers of students who are currently attending the campus, whether there are plans to extend the facility? It would be a shame if the president drove from Brandon and was not asked those important questions.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): First of all, I would just like to remind the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) to wait until he is acknowledged by the Chair before he makes his remarks and, as well, the matter has been dealt with before by the committee. Does the Honourable Minister wish to respond?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Acting Chairperson, I am happy to respond to that. We have 150 students registered at the Dauphin campus, Parklands Campus. There are five courses being offered right at the present time at the campus. It is very, very well received in the area and certainly there is a lot of interest in the potential of expanding the programs that are being offered at the Parklands Campus. So, in terms of interest on the part of the community, Mr. Acting Chairperson, certainly no vested interest on my behalf.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): If we may return to the item which we are presently reviewing, item 5.(e)(1) Keewatin Community College: Salaries. Shall the item pass?

Mrs. Yeo: There was a concern raised to me with regard to the relationship between education planning for

Keewatin Community College and the Employment Services and Economic Securities, that ES squared thing, if you understand my convoluted questions. Is there a relationship between the planning for education programs at Keewatin Community College, a relationship between the community college and Employment Services and Economic Security?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, at the present time there is training in the North being offered through Employment Services, which is called the New Careers Program. They tend to be short of courses that are run in the northern areas of the province.

* (1620)

Mrs. Yeo: If a program or plan, would it be the Education people who would look after planning it or would it be the Employment Services and Economic Security people who would actually do the curriculum or setting of courses?

Mr. Derkach: If the Employment Services Department offered the program, then they would develop it as well. But there are instances where we as a department can get involved in terms of developing a program. But in most instances those short-term programs that are offered through that department are developed by that department as well.

Mrs. Yeo: That brings me to the statement of the individual who raised the complaint to me. Her comment was that education belongs in Education and that often when you get ES squared tinkering with setting courses or curriculum that they are not the education experts and that there are some difficulties that arise.

One of the things that was brought to my attention was that although the students who move through these programs write an exam, they may be quite successful in the exam, but when they move out into the employment area, the Department of Labour then tells them you have to write our exam all over again. I am wondering if the Minister knows anything about this, and if this allegation is true.

Mr. Derkach: The Department of Labour only has apprenticeship type of examinations that they conduct.

But with regard to the general comment that the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo) makes, this is an approach that has been taken in the past. Certainly, there is a need perhaps in some areas to coordinate some of the training that goes on in the province. For example, the Limestone Training and Employment Agency has now become the Northern Training and Employment Agency and has been transferred to the Department of Education, so that we do more coordination between the various delivery agencies in terms of programs that are delivered, especially in northern Manitoba.

Mrs. Yeo: There, to my knowledge, is no child care program offered through Keewatin Community College, although they say that in that community there is one of the greatest needs for trained child care workers.

Is there any thought on the part of Keewatin Community College to implement fairly swiftly a child care program?

Mr. Derkach: I have been at Keewatin Community College on two occasions now, and certainly there is definitely a need for taking a very serious look at the probability or the practicality of delivering a child training program through Keewatin Community College. What form that will take at this particular time, I cannot say, but certainly I recognize the need for it and that will be something that will be studied over the next several months.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass?

Mr. Storie: I have a number of questions. Some of them relate generally to community colleges, some of them more specific to Keewatin. The first one was with respect to the advisory committees that were being established around the community colleges. Keewatin Community College is in a rebuilding process, I think would be fair to say, in terms of their community relationship. Over a period of time, groups have been anxious to have more formal input into the courses that are offered and the activities at the community college. One of the ways that was being used to incorporate the college into community, if you will, more adequately was the advisory committees.

I am wondering if the Minister can indicate whether those committees still exist, whether the Minister has made any appointments to those committees, have there been any changes.

Mr. Derkach: At the time of the election, as I understand it, the appointments had not been finalized to those boards and consequently, when Government changed, so the reappointments or the lists, I guess, just died. In other words, they did not go forward.

I can indicate to my honourable friend in a general sense, I support the principle of community involvement in a program that might be offered at Keewatin or at Assiniboine or the Parklands Campus. So therefore, we are looking at the terms of reference of those committees and we will be examining as to whether or not we will use the same format as was used by the former Government, or perhaps the format may change to some degree. But I am not anticipating any earth-shattering or very significant changes at this time.

Mr. Storie: I am disappointed to hear that they have not been put in place. I thought, in the case of Keewatin at least, that there was certainly a list of people who had agreed to serve and represented obviously more than just the interests of The Pas but the entire North, representatives coming from other communities as well. I would hope that if there is any kind of restructuring of an advisory board that it takes into account the quite significant variety of interest groups who would like to be a part of that. They include obviously the Town of The Pas and the band. I know Chief Lathlin has expressed his interest on many occasions, as have others involved in the Swampy Creek Tribal Council and the MKO and other communities. So I hope that

if it is reformulated, it is reformulated with the entire North in mind.

Another question relating to the activities of Keewatin Community College in other communities, there are two other satellite facilities, three I guess: one in Thompson, one in Flin Flon and one in Norway House. I am wondering if we could have an outline of the status of those satellite facilities. How secure are they? What activities are they involved in? We have a list of some of the activities in the Flin Flon area. I am wondering what the long-term future is for those satellite communities. Is there an aggressive program to expand their reach into other communities? What are they working on?

Mr. Derkach: There are efforts that are ongoing by Keewatin Community College to continue to offer programs in those communities that the Member has pointed out. In addition, the community college has identified or hired individuals in those communities to be a link between that community and the college. Certainly, the president, Mr. Lussier, has been very aggressive in promoting the college and in ensuring that remote communities, where access is a problem, do have an opportunity to have programs conducted in those centres. I cannot give the program list to the Member today, but certainly I can provide that at another time.

* (1630)

Mr. Storie: I guess what some, including the representative of KCC in Flin Flon, for example, are anxious to know is whether in fact this Minister perceives the current status so that there are satellite communities for workers working in specific communities as being a worthwhile endeavour and something that will continue?

Mr. Derkach: I think that message has already gone out in that the president himself has taken a fairly active and aggressive role in trying to promote programs in the satellite communities.

As a matter of fact when I was up at Keewatin Community College about a month ago, we did have a tour through the facility and at that time one of the electrical programs that the college offers had all of their equipment taken to one of the satellite communities to provide a program for that particular community. So certainly that work is ongoing. There has been no slowdown in that regard. Certainly, we want to ensure that we can provide those remote communities that have difficulty in accessing Keewatin Community College or the training centre in Thompson, or cannot access programs that are suitable. We ensure that those communities can get those programs. I might say that when we talk about the literacy programs that will be developed, we will also be focusing in on those communities. Distance Education is one mode that I am sure we can reach those communities better.

Mr. Storie: There is a KCC staff located in Flin Flon. I am not sure about Norway House. There are a number in Thompson. I am wondering if we could have the

numbers and the assurance of this Minister that to the extent that there are staff already allocated in those satellite offices that they will be there into the future.

Mr. Derkach: I think the Member is trying to get me to say that they will be there forever and a day, and I cannot say that. As a matter of fact, I guess I have to state at this time that we want to take a look at the way programs are delivered in northern Manitoba, so there is a better coordination of programs that are delivered. Through a more effective and efficient way of delivering programs, we can probably offer better and more programming to a wider range of communities in northern Manitoba.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass?

Mr. Storie: I am awaiting a more specific answer to the question of how many staff are in Thompson, Flin Flon and Norway House. You will get them?

Mr. Derkach: I indicated to the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) that we would provide that information for him, but I cannot provide it for him in written form at the present time.

Mr. Storie: If that information is going to be provided, I will certainly accept that. I hope that the Minister's enthusiasm for the Parklands Campus and the satellite facility of KCC in Dauphin is replicated in facilities outside of the Parklands area.

Mr. Derkach: Do I detect a negative tone at all?

Mr. Storie: No, no, positive. Mr. Acting Chairperson, I assure you that my comments are entirely intended to emphasize the Minister's positive commitment to a satellite community college facility.

A further question on a couple of the courses, specific courses that are offered by KCC, one is the child care worker and the information the Minister gave us earlier lists as the quota of 20 for the child care worker, Code A, 6A, whatever it is and 5 for a child care worker—looks like extension course—and one accepted. I am wondering what that means. Is there no course currently being offered by KCC?

Mr. Derkach: At the present time, there is no diploma program offered at Keewatin Community College for child care training. There was some part-time programming being offered, I understand in the past, but certainly with the changes in regulations that is not happening at the present time. We do not have a diploma course as such offered at Keewatin at the present time.

* (1640)

Mr. Storie: This branches out obviously. I would hope that the meetings the Minister has had with the Manitoba Child Care Association and others who are interested in seeing the objectives of The Child Day Care Standards Act enforced, the Minister would be

working to make sure that to the extent possible the courses dealing with child care workers become a priority, not only in Winnipeg obviously but also in Brandon and in The Pas, northern Manitoba, where it is much more difficult for those interested in taking those kinds of courses to attend places where they are offered, be it Winnipeg or elsewhere.

I guess it is becoming more urgent because of the fact that we know that all of the needs in terms of training have not been met. I know that we have come some way and this Minister has indicated that he is interested in seeing us move along that path, so I would hope that there is something that can be done to create an interest in establishing those kind of courses as priorities in the not too distant future. I will leave that question. The Minister may want to comment on it.

The other one has to do with the Diploma Nursing Course. The Minister has had correspondence, as I have had and as other Ministers of Education have had, on the question of establishing a Bachelor of Nursing Program in The Pas. The Swampy Cree Tribal Council, I recognize they have some different objectives but I guess, if we cannot do it through KCC, I am wondering whether the Minister has started his work with the Department of Northern Affairs. His department and the Department of Northern Affairs have as one of their goals to prepare objectives for the next generation of the Northern Development Agreement, which comes due in March of 1989.

I am a little surprised that the Minister is now meeting in December with Swampy Cree Tribal Council. I am surprised that has not occurred earlier. I am wondering whether that means that we have not set any objectives for this set of negotiations. Has the Department of Education and the Department of Northern Affairs not met to establish some ground rules for what we see as a priority in this agreement? Does that mean that the Swampy Cree Tribal Council has little hope of being on the agenda when those negotiations start in earnest because, if that happens, that would be a sad commentary on the real interest of this Government of developing that kind of expertise in the North?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) makes some insinuations that he really does not have any grounds for. I have indicated to him that I have met with Swampy Cree Tribal Council on one occasion already, and I will be meeting with them a second time on the 2nd of December.

With regard to discussions with the Department of Northern Affairs, we have discussed that in a preliminary fashion with the Minister but, once again, it is just not a simple matter of putting the program in at the snap of a finger. I think the former administration was faced with this same dilemma since 1983, I believe. I think that even at that time or—it is several years ago now, yes, 1985, okay—I am sorry, I stand to be corrected. Certainly it has taken a long time to even get to this stage. In six months, there is no way that we could expect the Government to all of a sudden say, yes, we have a program going at The Pas or at KCC or at Thompson for the Bachelor of Nursing Program.

I think in a broader sense we have to take a look at how we deliver programs in northern Manitoba, what

is the best way. We have heard the Opposition talk of course about a polytechnic. Certainly, that is something that I am not closed-minded about. I want to explore the pluses and the minuses to that kind of a concept as well. I think that in the area of education and human resource development, we have to be very open-minded about the kinds of ideas that we can explore and take a look at the most effective and efficient way of program delivery, so that the people in northern Manitoba have an opportunity to a quality education in all areas of training as well.

Mr. Storie: I am pleased to hear that the Minister has met previously with Swampy Cree Tribal Council. I point out whether the Minister would wish the circumstances be so or not, the fact is that this Government is faced with the task of establishing a position for the Province of Manitoba, hopefully, a position that reflects the interests of a lot of people across the province and certainly in northern Manitoba with respect to the next Northern Development Agreement, if there is in fact to be one. I would say that we have now seen three successful agreements going back 15 years, and I would hope that we would have a success to the current Northern Development Agreement.

Has this Government not prepared a plan for that set of negotiations? I remind him that the deadline is March 31, 1989. I recognize it is a short time frame, but the suggestion today that you are still looking at this idea may not, in fact, be putting you in a better position but in a worse position. At some point, you have to make a decision about what you are going to present to the federal Government. Sooner or later, that has to happen. The question is, is this going to be one of the priorities? Is the establishment of this kind of a program going to be a priority to have as a fixture of the Northern Development Agreement?

Mr. Derkach: The priorities are being established right now in terms of the Northern Development Agreement, and certainly our department, through PACE, is being consulted on the needs of Human Resource Development, and this is going to be a key element in the negotiations through the Northern Development Agreement.

So, yes, we are setting our priorities. Work is being done right now on the whole area of consultation between the two departments, and we understand when the deadline is and certainly we will be moving toward that deadline in the hope that we can successfully negotiate an agreement which is going to be of benefit to the residents of Northern Manitoba.

Mr. Storie: I will leave that question, because I believe my colleague from Niakwa may have some questions.

But I had one other question before we leave this. One of the concerns that I have heard expressed by teachers, by counsellors, by parents, by students in Northern Manitoba, and it does not just relate to Keewatin but I have heard it more often addressed with respect to Keewatin, and that is the question of prerequisites.

It seems, and we saw on the list here of all the students who are waiting, the students who have not

paid their early registration fee and so forth, one of the concerns is that it seems that prerequisites are being used to limit the number of students who are eligible for courses.

Now perhaps in Southern Manitoba where most high schools or most students have access to high schools where all courses or a broader array of options are available, where they can get calculus or physics, physics 300 or maths 300—physics 300 is a better example perhaps or chemistry 300—every single year. The Minister knows that in lots of high schools in Northern Manitoba and rural Manitoba those options simply are not available all the time. The student cannot get the same kinds of options that they can in larger centres. There is a perception out there that the prerequisites are often used just to be able to say, well, let us just cut off these 50 people, they will not be able to apply now because we have changed the requirements for this course.

There is a belief that sometimes the prerequisites are not exactly established with the course in mind so much as the instructors' desire to have better prepared students, where you have welding courses or mechanics courses, but they have a requirement that, to the average person and perhaps to the average teacher, it does not seem reasonable to have those requirements.

How are prerequisites determined by Keewatin, by the community colleges? How are they determined? Is there any flexibility? In Keewatin's case, is there any sensitivity to the fact that people come from schools where all options are not available? Are those kinds of things taken into consideration?

Mr. Derkach: Certainly we are very cognizant of the concerns regarding prerequisites and I understand. I would be very disappointed if our department were to use that kind of an approach whereby, just to sort of cut off the entry, we raise the prerequisites for some programs.

I have to say in all sincerity that I think Keewatin Community College is doing some very positive things in bringing upgrading programs into the college and ensuring that we in fact are allowing as many students as possible to come in who may not necessarily have the necessary foundation and develop sort of their requirement for the program right within the community college.

* (1650)

So that kind of work is ongoing. In discussions with the president from Keewatin Community College, this was one area that we talked about, and certainly we discussed the need for more flexibility in terms of the types of students we accept into the programs and then perhaps develop their skills right at the college. If they were lacking in math skills or in science skills, we could do that right at the college, so that we can get these people out into the work world where they want to be and where they can become productive members of society as quickly as possible.

Mr. Storie: Just the one question, if the Minister could be more specific, who establishes the prerequisites and how are they changed?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, there are a variety of methods that are used. First of all, I guess I should point out that in some programs such as, and the example is nursing, there is a national accreditation level required where we do not have a great deal of flexibility in terms of the entrance requirements that are set for that program. However, in most programs, the entrance requirements are set through the Assistant Deputy Minister, but certainly the advisory committees that are established for these programs have some input into advising the Assistant Deputy Minister in terms of the requirements that they think should be a prerequisite to those programs. Once again, I have to reiterate the fact that this is an area that we have talked about briefly with Keewatin Community College and that, hopefully, we can somehow get more flexibility into many of the programs that are now being conducted at Keewatin.

Mr. Herold Driedger (Niakwa): It would have been probably more appropriate to ask these questions when the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) was on the topic because this is just for point of clarification.

With respect—

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Could I ask the Member to move his microphone up. We are having a hard time picking up his statement.

Mr. Herold Driedger: Yes. The question probably would have been more appropriate just when we were talking about the Bachelor of Nursing Program. I just want to clarify the comment made by the Minister with respect to the fact that you cannot introduce a program at the snap of a finger. I just want to determine for myself, is the proposal, the information that we have from the Swampy Cree Tribal Council with respect to the commitment by the federal Government of \$300,000 in each of five years. Is that correct? Has that money been put on the table?

Mr. Derkach: Yes, Mr. Acting Chairperson, that information is correct, but I have to indicate that is \$300,000 toward operating costs.

Mr. Herold Driedger: Yes, I would assume so, too. Has the School of Nursing developed the appropriate curriculum, as indicated, a culturally appropriate curriculum for this Bachelor of Nursing Program?

Mr. Derkach: Mr. Acting Chairperson, the five-year degree program for nursing was developed through the University of Manitoba, and it was done through Swampy Cree, but the University of Manitoba developed the program for them. It was a federal contract or federal funding was involved in the development of this program.

Mr. Herold Driedger: But the curriculum has been developed?

Mr. Derkach: That is correct.

Mr. Herold Driedger: Then obviously this program is not really a program that has been developed at the

snap of a finger. I mean, I think what we have here is a program that has actually been gone a fairly lengthy time in development. Funding has been provided in the development process, and also there has been some kind of degree of commitment on the part of the federal Government to supply operating funds, and it is now incumbent upon the province to decide whether to contribute its share or not. I understand you are still in the process of making that decision.

A supplementary question on the same topic though, are the funds that would be contributed by the province, the \$200,000 that are being requested in each of five years, these funds, would they have to come out of a new funding allocation or out of a new pot or are these part of the existing Northern Development Agreement?

Mr. Derkach: No, Mr. Acting Chairperson, this would be new funding that would have to be established for the support of that kind of a program.

Mr. Herold Driedger: Just again for clarification, is it possible in the negotiations that you are currently having with the Department of Northern Affairs to determine the objectives for the renegotiation of the Northern Development Agreement that some degree of anticipatory funding could be built into that process?

Mr. Derkach: I guess if the Member for Niakwa (Mr. Herold Driedger) is asking whether this can be included as part of the agreement, the new negotiated agreement, that is certainly a possibility, I suppose, in terms of the negotiations that will go on, but that is certainly something that has not been addressed at this time.

Mr. Herold Driedger: I just might suggest that maybe it should be addressed. I see by the clock we are nearly at the end here. I have just a couple of more questions on Keewatin College, and then I will be prepared to allow the question to be put.

With respect to the professional and technical support staff at Keewatin College, what percent is actually of aboriginal people, either Native status or non-status or Metis?

Mr. Derkach: I cannot give a specific percentage. I could be out, but I think it would be no more than about 5 percent.

Mr. Herold Driedger: I am not an instant mathematician so I would imagine 5 percent that we are looking at, 5 percent if we were on 100 percent would be about five people so, out of 76, we are looking at about three. What percentage or what numbers are we looking at for the people of Native ancestry in the administrative support areas?

Mr. Derkach: I think we should take this question as notice if the Member for Niakwa (Mr. Herold Driedger) does not mind. I could get back to you with the specific numbers. That is not information that we generally keep on hand in terms of the breakdown of staff, how many are Native and how many are non-Native, but certainly I would be pleased to report back as to what the actual breakdown is.

* (1700)

Mr. Herold Driedger: I understand the statement. My objective is simply to find out what amount of, I guess, role models or what numbers of role models there are in a component of the Keewatin Community College for the largely, what I would be assume to be, Native students within the whole program. I was going to ask if the one staffperson at the top was, but at any rate—

Mr. Derkach: I guess in terms of role model, the president of the college is Native, and certainly I might add that recently there has been an individual hired who is a graduate of the Core Area Program. So we are attempting to hire instructors and role models as such for the Native students who do attend there, but at this point that is somewhat of a difficult task.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Praznik): Shall the item pass? (Agreed) Item 5.(e)(2) Other Expenditures, \$1,081,400—pass; 5.(e)(3) Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations, \$15,000—pass.

The hour being five o'clock, it is time for Private Members' Hour. This committee shall rise.

SUPPLY—HEALTH

The Acting Chairman, Mr. Gilles Roch: Order, please; order, please. I now call this section of committee to order. We have been discussing the Estimates of the Department of Health where I believe we are on 2.(a). Am I correct? The Member for Ellice.

Ms. Avis Gray (Ellice): I am wondering if the Minister could indicate with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Programs and Operations, the last few individuals occupying this position have been physicians, is that a requirement of that job, that the ADM be a physician.

Hon. Donald Orchard (Minister of Health): No.

Ms. Gray: The staff year that was deleted from this management section, which the Minister mentioned the other day, could the Minister indicate the staff year was deleted and did the person move with that staff year? Why, if so, did that person move from that position?

Mr. Orchard: I am informed that it was a voluntary move. A vacancy was filled and it was filled without competition over at the Manitoba Health Services Commission. That position subsequently was deleted in terms of an effort to streamline management within Program and Operations Support by leaving one executive director position instead of two.

Ms. Gray: I understand with the executive director who is currently there, they have now added an assistant executive director. Could the Minister indicate how that is streamlining?

Mr. Orchard: I guess from the standpoint that there is one less SY.

Ms. Gray: Would the Minister then tell us where the SY came from for the person who is the assistant executive director?

Mr. Orchard: From the approved SY count that was there.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister indicating that before, when there are two executive directors that now there is only a workload for one but in fact there is also workload for an assistant so that there are still two SYs required to carry out the job?

* (1440)

Mr. Orchard: I am given the information that the assistant to the executive director is a secondment from the regions for a professional development and, after an approximate one-year period, that position will be filled with line staff appropriation.

Ms. Gray: Again for clarification, is the Minister indicating that the assistant executive director is doing professional development activities? I do not understand his last comment about moved into the line appropriation.

Mr. Orchard: The individual who has been seconded to that position—an opportunity for professional development.

Ms. Gray: Oh, oh.

So again for clarification, the Minister is indicating that the former executive director volunteered to move from his position; there was no encouragement from the department to do so?

Mr. Orchard: That is what I am informed. If my honourable friend had other information, we would be pleased to hear it this afternoon.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Acting Chairperson, I have heard information that is contrary but that is fine. We will leave the record such as it is.

Could the Minister tell us, the Chief Public Health Nurse, is there currently someone in that position who is assuming those responsibilities?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Acting Chairman, there is an Acting Chief Public Health Nurse.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us who that individual is?

Mr. Orchard: Linda Drew, Mr. Acting Chairman.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate has the role or chief job responsibilities of the Chief Public Health Nurse changed substantially in the last four to five years?

Mr. Orchard: There has, Mr. Acting Chairman, been more involvement in legislation and policy development by that position.

Ms. Gray: Would the Minister be able to indicate to us, other than more legislation and policy development, I would assume that some of the responsibilities—and the Minister can correct me if I am wrong—of the Chief

Public Health Nurse may have changed, given that over the last four or five years we have seen the addition of very major directorates within the Department of Health, such as the Health Promotion Directorate and Maternal and Child Health Directorate and given that we have these two directorates as well as the Communicable Disease section, I am wondering if the Minister could indicate to us just what are the main responsibilities of the Chief Public Health Nurse.

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Acting Chairman, the Chief Public Health Nurse provides advice on community nursing practices and provides consultation to Public Health nurses in the regions. The Chief Public Health Nurse is a member of the Community Health Services Division executive, participates in the formulation of decisions and plans of the executive, interacts with regional staff particularly on nursing practices and standards, and provides consultation to senior nurses in the regions. The Chief Public Health Nurse also participates in the planning for education of all health professionals.

(Mr. Chairman, Mark Minenko, in the Chair.)

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, when the regional operations and staff seek information or clarification on new program initiatives, Public Health nursing programs, whom do the regions seek that information from? Do they go to the individual directorates or would they automatically go to the Chief Public Health Nurse?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, that would depend on the information sought.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister indicating then that basically the Chief Public Health Nurse's advice would be sought on nursing practices and standards, whereas program development and evaluation would be out of her jurisdiction?

Mr. Orchard: By and large, that would be a reasonable assumption.

Ms. Gray: One of the expected results indicated in this section is that there is the allocation of resources which are consistent with the established priorities of the department. I am wondering if the Minister can highlight for us basically the main priorities that his department has established, particularly the program and operational support. Could he highlight for us what those main priority areas are?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, Communicable Disease Control; Maternal and Child Health; Health Promotion; Hearing Conservation; Gerontology; Continuing Care; Medical Equipment and Supplies; Dental Health; Environmental Health; and Health Information.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, within the Health Promotion and Health Information, now that is a very in-depth area and there is certainly a lot of scope that could be attached to health education and Health Promotion. Could the Minister indicate to us, are there particular initiatives within Health Promotion and health education which have been established by this Government as priority in the coming fiscal year?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, and I will make a deal with my honourable friend. As we approach Health Promotion, we can discuss them in broader terms.

Ms. Gray: I have no trouble discussing them in broader terms as we move to that directorate. All I am simply seeking right now is just a basic idea of what those particular priorities are and I am prepared to discuss those priorities in detail as we move on. My question still is could the Minister at least indicate to us what those main priority areas are within Health Promotion and health education?

Mr. Orchard: As with any administration, including my predecessors, including Progressive Conservative administrations in other provinces, including Liberal administrations in other provinces, including Social Credit administrations in other provinces, there is a general policy direction and thrust which is supported by this Government and this political Party. I do not think in uniqueness or isolation from the other political Parties in this Chamber of a general direction in terms of maintenance of wellness, prevention of illness rather than curative medicine that, in a number of provinces assumes, for instance, different directions and different thrusts.

We have a concept and an idea that we think will be effective in terms of promoting a healthier lifestyle and a safer and healthier lifestyle, healthier occupation, if you will, in terms of the workplace health. That is part of a new thrust that we have envisioned and will be unveiling in the near future. It also involves, for instance, the continuation of some quite useful preventative programs, such as the smoking campaign, diabetic education campaign, cardiovascular health campaign, and it will focus resources towards developing an attitude of wellness promotion among Manitobans.

* (1450)

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us has his Government decided to follow along a similar line to the federal Government in actually targeting some particular groups for Health Promotion and planning individual or community programs around some of those specific priorities?

The Minister has mentioned the smoking campaign, cardiovascular health, diabetic education. I am wondering if there are any other new program initiatives, and I am specifically referring to the area of adolescents and weight control, the ever-increasing numbers of individuals of adolescents in our society where not only overweight is a problem but underweight and diseases, such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia, are a problem. Has this particular Government, similar to the work that is being done by the Government, thought of any initiatives to actually provide programs to target this particular population need, the adolescents in regard to this particular type of problem?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, but not specifically to the two eating disorders my honourable friend referred to. Let me share with my honourable friend a concept that I think

will be valuable, providing we can develop it within the resources that we have at our disposal. I believe that healthy lifestyles begin at a very young age, and I go younger than the adolescent. I believe in the elementary school population, we have an ideal opportunity through a method which appears to be reasonably successful in developing attitudes and providing educational information, that being the comic book format, if you will, and currently we are into discussions in terms of a nutritional lifestyle-related comic book, which we hope we can develop targeted specifically at the elementary school-age group.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, does the Minister view it as his department's role to actually provide staff resources at a field level, to actually assist teachers in the provision of education, such as in the area of healthy lifestyles, or does he see it as a role of his department to provide consultation services to the Department of Education and have the Department of Education ensure that in fact the teachers do provide the training? Could the Minister please elaborate on how he sees those services being delivered, given that there are the two departments, Health and Education?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, my tendency would be to have the latter, rather than the former.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister, in answering that question, prepared to ensure that in fact there are adequate resources there so that we can actually provide programs where we are accomplishing something and it is not a hit-and-miss approach which we have seen in the past through both departments?

Mr. Orchard: If my honourable friend is asking me to identify every available need and to staff the department to provide that throughout the province, I am going to have to tell my honourable friend that no, that probably is not going to be an outcome. However, if she would like to suggest how many SYs and how many dollars she thinks ought to be dedicated, I would be pleased to listen and take her advice seriously.

There will be, through the regions, continuing consultation with the school divisions, but I think my honourable friend would have to agree that probably with the contact already established in the classroom by the teacher and the respect that is normally engendered in that relationship that, if we can provide the assistance and support to the teaching staff through the school divisions, they would be efficient deliverers of Health Promotion to students.

Ms. Gray: No, I am not indicating that with every particular need there should be SYs attached to the department and therefore programs can be delivered, that would be an ideal situation. What I am saying is let us not attempt to tell Manitobans that in fact we are delivering programs in Health Promotion and disease prevention if, in fact, we are really not doing an adequate job. Better to say no, we are not, because we do not have the required number of resources, rather than try to make Manitobans believe that we are providing wonderful prevention programs.

I am wondering if the Minister could indicate, within this particular Program and Operations Support, are

there staff who would work with regional operations to develop programs whereby evaluation mechanisms could be built in so that in fact we can evaluate whether or not the few programs that we are providing are achieving what they set out to do.

Mr. Orchard: I hope I understand my honourable friend's question in that she is asking how we can evaluate the efficacy of Health Promotion programs. I have to tell my honourable friend I have asked that question and that is one of the more imprecise outcome studies that there are, and I do not know whether, for instance—and let us take the federal program that ran for 10 years, Participaction. I do not know what impact that had on increasing the general level of health and wellness among Canadians. I do not know whether anybody can provide you with a—here it was 98 percent of Canadians who were unhealthy when we started and there is 95 percent now, therefore, we have 3 percent better.

Furthermore, I do not know whether anybody can indicate how much less those 3 percent impacted in terms of cost on the system. That is one of the more difficult decisions one has to make in terms of spending money on Health Promotion, a goal that we all believe in, but is one of the more imprecisely measurable outcomes that I am dealing with in the department. In Home Care, you can generally, for instance, analyze an outcome of so many dollars in Home Care, may well save so many dollars in the hospital or the personal care home system but you cannot be definitive in Health Promotion. There is one program analyst who attempts to do that throughout the various directorates.

* (1500)

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate with the programs the new initiatives that are established, is it a requirement that part of the proposal for the programs does include an evaluation component, even though those evaluation components in some cases may be collecting data that is soft as opposed to hard? Is it as least a requirement that when programs are developed there must be an evaluation component as well as part of that program?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.(1)—pass; item 2.(2)—pass.

Item 2.(b)(1) Communicable Disease Control: Salaries—the Member for Kildonan.

Mr. Gulzar Cheema (Kildonan): Could the Minister explain to us the amount he is spending on advertising and could he explain to us what kind of media spots have been purchased?

Mr. Orchard: None in this area, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister explain again that out of this \$239,000, how much money is being spent on media in terms of brochures, in terms of spot purchases on radio or TV, or what other kind of media he is going to use to campaign against, most specifically, against AIDS.

Mr. Orchard: Radio, television and print.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister indicate to us how much money has been spent so far?

Mr. Orchard: Of the \$239,000, very, very little because we have not undertaken the media campaign to this date.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us when will the media campaign start?

Mr. Orchard: We are targeting early in the next calendar year.

Mr. Cheema: That means for this year we will not have any brochures; that means we will not have any TV time; that means we do not have any radio time; that means we will not have any time on the buses, ad purchases on the buses; that means we will not have any time on school news writers; that means we will not have any time on community centres or in hospital waiting rooms. Then how are we going to communicate with the public? Can the Minister explain to us why there is delay?

Mr. Orchard: My honourable friend is half correct. There will not be any television or radio because that campaign is not ready to go. Print campaign is, as I indicated to my honourable friend, ready this month and will be distributed, as will be hopefully in addition to the pamphlet itself, some information sheets.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister indicate to us then, other than pamphlets, what avenues is he going to use to convey the message to the public at large because brochures will reach to only a certain section of the public? Is he going to buy some time in the newspapers, or in the ethnocultural press, is he going to buy some time on the ads on the buses? That is my special question: are we going to include that even for next year or not?

Mr. Orchard: There is ongoing support at the community level from staff in Communicable Diseases who will be in attendance at informational seminars for teaching staff, school boards, hospital staff, community meetings.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, the province is not working in isolation. I think my honourable friend will be aware of ongoing AIDS advertising—it is on television as well as radio—that are not part of the provincial Budget but are rather part of say a federal Budget campaign. Indeed some of the electronic media outlets have, in my understanding, donated some time as a public service.

So for my honourable friend to attempt to paint such a dire-straits picture is not accurately reflecting the level of opportunity for education that is there. Because we are not advertising on radio and television 12 months of the year does not mean to say that our AIDS campaign and our education campaign shuts down.

As I indicated a couple of days ago, we have relocated resources from the Department, the Village Clinic, in

terms of the AIDS information line. That is an effort to expand public education.

My Director of Communicable Diseases and her staff are available to field public requests and indeed throughout the Health Care system there are individuals in the various hospitals who can provide and do provide information.

There are a number of our staff within the department, within Cadham Lab who from time to time attend conferences, provincially, nationally on AIDS education and information re the latest research developments, the latest data base that has accumulated, so that the process does not live or die on the basis of a one-minute spot on a television station. The program is ongoing.

The program is expanding in terms of its information base at all times and it is expanding in its ability to communicate with people throughout the Province of Manitoba. That is why there were six staff positions relocated internally to provide regional support for AIDS education.

As I say, our campaign provincially does not live and die on a one-minute television spot, which we run for approximately a six-week period of time once a year, Mr. Chairman, nor will it stop because there is not the provincial presence on the electronic media. Our efforts are ongoing in a number of directions and we think are reasonably successful.

If my honourable friend wants to criticize it, he certainly can in terms of naturally we could dedicate more resource to AIDS education. We could triple our advertising buy and dedicate \$750,000 to it, and that would be applauded by quite a number of Manitobans.

In Government, one balances those choices of resource allocation between many needs. I think if my honourable friend simply took the time to read over some of his questions in Question Period, he would fully recognize that his request for resource dedication is not singularly to the AIDS campaign.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, I do not agree with the Minister here because AIDS is a crippling disease and it cripples the human potential at the prime age, and the only possible way of preventing this disease is attack by prevention. The Minister has indicated that the federal Government is doing a few things and he indicated the schools are doing other things. Out of this budget, he has allocated \$239,000 and he is not going to start anything for this year. I fail to understand because, as he has indicated, we have raised the question in the House and we have asked a specific question about the brochures information.

If you cannot communicate to the public, as he indicated yesterday, that brochure is one of the good things, one of the best ways to communicate. If we do not have brochures coming out from the provincial Government for the teaching of the public in the schools or in the community centre or in the hospitals, then how are we going to improve the quality of attack on AIDS? I would like some clarification from the Minister on why we have to wait for next year?

* (1510)

Mr. Orchard: I will accept only one aspect of my honourable friend's criticism, in that the media campaign will not get under way until the first quarter of 1989. In no way do I accept his other criticism that nothing else is happening. As I have indicated to my honourable friend, there is professional education ongoing, there is a program within the school system ongoing, there is a new AIDS pamphlet which I am very hopeful will be available this month as well as fact sheets, in addition to that, which we hope will be available shortly after the pamphlet.

Just let me give you one example of professional education. We have a training program this month for Public Health nurses. There is an ongoing program to train counsellors, utilizing resources from both Government and non-Government agencies. There is a physician's manual that is available today dealing with AIDS. The interim guidelines for AIDS management in the hospital system are being revised in consultation with the hospital workers.

A workshop on AIDS for physicians is being planned by the MMA. That is in cooperation with both Government and non-Government agencies for mid-1989. Those activities are going on. It is not as if my honourable friend is living and dying on the one-minute commercial on television which he appears to be doing.

Mr. Cheema: I think we could keep on debating that TV one-minute commercial but that is not the whole issue here. The point is that of communicating with the public and when already from May 9 on where you had six months, and out of this six months it took us at least four times questioning you in the House to draw brochures out.

The other question I am asking, what other avenue are you going to use to convey the message to the public? You are putting the whole thing on the other associations, the MMA or the hospital or the counsellors. But what is the prime objective from your department and how are you going to achieve it? Why do we have to wait until 1989?

Mr. Orchard: There is an advertising budget substantially increased for this year, which will be available in this fiscal year, next calendar year to be exact. There is a renewed pamphlet which is available which has not, as my honourable friend would indicate, been made available because he and his colleagues in the Opposition have been urging us to develop it. That was under way in the development process prior to the sitting of this House, prior to my honourable friend's first question.

If I have any apology to make it is that it has taken more time than I would like to have the pamphlet ready and available, and I accept responsibility for that as Minister, as I have done in the House. I can only make apology to not having pamphlets available right now. But that is not because of any urging of my honourable friends. That is unfortunately just a lack of ability to deliver as quickly as I would like to have seen. That is something that I have to get used to from time to

time and my honourable friend will get used to it in Opposition as well.

Secondly, fact sheets being prepared to accompany any request for information on AIDS in terms of what do you do if you are tested positive, etc., etc.—the common questions involving AIDS. How do I access a test? What does the test mean? That information is being updated on fact sheets and shall be available shortly.

The media campaign preparation is under way. We have dedicated six staff resources throughout the regions to provide greater community liaison with health care providers, with education officials and with the general public. We have provided support and will be continuing to provide support, for instance to the Village Clinic. We have recently transferred the AIDS information line to them as part of an ongoing and multipronged effort to provide AIDS education. My honourable friend is finding fault with any of those. Please tell me which one you do not like, which one you would like us to scrap, and where you would like us to put it.

Mr. Cheema: We would like all of those things in place and that is why I am questioning the timing of those things. I will still repeat my question that definitely our role is not just to criticize. We are asking you for positive things, that you have all the ideas. Why do you have to wait for another six months?

My next question is, last year the information on AIDS was sent with telephone bills, are you considering something like that this year, or is it going to be for next year again?

Mr. Orchard: That is not being considered.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, why not?

Mr. Orchard: We are hoping to have an effective media campaign, brochure and information sheets.

Mr. Cheema: I definitely disagree here with the Minister because you are putting so many efforts to improve the media campaign. There is one method which was tried last year, was very successful and you do not want to go through the same channel. It is not going to be very expensive. It is an easy, accessible way and it will make sure that all the households receive the information. I think it should be even upgraded and sent maybe twice or three times a year. That was one of the Minister's earlier statements, that brochures took so long because newer information keeps on coming. The best thing will be probably to prepare a fact sheet and then keep on adding a few things in addition to that. Could the Minister reconsider his view on sending the brochures with the telephone bills, please?

Mr. Orchard: I will give my honourable friend's suggestion full consideration.

Mr. Cheema: The Minister has indicated that there is a toll-free hotline in place at the Village Clinic. Is that toll-free line covering only Winnipeg or in Manitoba?

Is there going to be a similar line that is going to be placed at other places like Brandon or in northern Manitoba?

Mr. Orchard: The toll-free line is for all of Manitoba.

Mr. Cheema: Now this toll-free line, what is the method that is going to be used for people who are hearing impaired?

Mr. Orchard: I am advised that suggestion was under consideration by the staff and no action was taken because they have not had any request from hearing-impaired Manitobans that they were unable to meet. There was no indication that their information was not being received.

Mr. Cheema: Are we going to wait for their complaints so that we can start this program, because a similar program is in place in Ontario and the success rate is quite good. My next question is, what kind of mechanism do we have to satisfy people who are visually impaired?

Mr. Orchard: We do not have any brochures in braille. It would be telephone communication or verbal communication.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us, for AIDS treatment, what drugs are available in Manitoba?

Mr. Orchard: Just AZT.

Mr. Cheema: What process of review is in place to monitor the development of new drugs?

Mr. Orchard: That evaluation is a federal responsibility and is ongoing, as I understand it on a regular basis. There have been to my knowledge no new experimental licensing of any new drug regimes. There have been, as my honourable friend is well aware, some substantial speculation about new drugs and I guess that opens an area of interesting discussion.

* (1520)

Maybe my honourable friend might want to share his thoughts because I undertook this discussion with members of the Village Clinic. Those individuals who have tested positive for the virus and are symptomatic of the disease, are very, very, very fearful for their personal well-being. In that state of mind they are, I suppose, akin to the individual who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. In that state of mind those individuals want to latch on to any avenue of hope that is available. The delicate balancing act that the federal approval authority have to go through is to weigh the desires of individuals who in all likelihood are ill terminally because to date I do not believe anyone has, once acquiring the full symptoms of AIDS, ever survived for more than a period of time. That makes those individuals extremely vulnerable to, sort of, the miracle cures.

One might be able to say, fine. If you wished, I suppose you might say well, why do we not let them voluntarily

try those "promised cures" and see if they will work. Maybe the individual, through desperation, might wish to try that, but in the bigger picture we are responsible, particularly in Canada with our universal Medicare, with the treatment of those individuals should any detrimental side effects appear. That is a very delicate balancing act and I had that discussion with the individuals from Village Clinic. It is a quandary that they face and they expressed the natural hope that there would be more experimental drugs that might be available for use, but they certainly appreciated the quandary and I believe generally supported the present approving system of approvals.

As I say, the state of mind of an individual does not necessarily make the best long-run decision when faced with the symptoms of AIDS and they are willing to try, in some circumstances, almost any kind of cure. I have to indicate to my honourable friend that I think probably the greatest amount of balance is now being achieved between licensing of experimental drugs and protection of the individual. With AZT there are some severe side effects that are there and that is known and recognized, but yet there is some considered value to those recipients of the drug to make those side effects, I suppose, a reasonable risk to the individual if the individual can take them.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, it is a very difficult decision for a patient and at the time for the physician also, at the terminal stage to try some of the experimental drugs. Personally I have a different view here. I think still if some patient wants to try the drugs and the physician feels comfortable with those experimental drugs to be tried, will those drugs be covered under Medicare or not?

Mr. Orchard: Probably, if the drug regime has received federal approval.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, other than drugs, there are also underground treatments, the so-called underground treatment market to deal with the needs of AIDS patients. Is the Minister aware of this and what is the policy of this Government to track some of the different forms of some of the unacceptable ways of treating AIDS patients.

Mr. Orchard: Although this was not a subject of discussion with individuals from the Village Clinic, I am told by the director that there are individuals who will be trying drug regimes from other countries and we have really virtually no way of attempting to control that phenomenon. That is individually driven from, I might say, some degree of desperation on the individual's part.

Mr. Cheema: Another way of dealing with the prevention has been tried in Ontario recently. There was a group of physicians who were campaigning for the needle exchange program and they say that has been quite effective in some parts of the States. Now, could the Minister tell us, will he consider such a program in Manitoba?

Mr. Orchard: Not at this stage. We have no single cause individual in Manitoba who has received or has

been infected with the AIDS virus simply from intravenous drug use.

Mr. Cheema: I will have a question later on about the causes of AIDS in Manitoba but I have another question now with regard to the prevention. The latex gloves have become a very popular item among the service providers, such as the police force, ambulance and firefighters. Could the Minister tell us who is responsible for making sure that the quality of latex gloves is comparable with the Government's policy, and who is monitoring the quality?

Mr. Orchard: Those latex gloves have to be up to a purchase agent's standards, and substandard gloves would be returned for credit and replacement by suitable quality gloves.

Mr. Cheema: Maybe I did not clarify myself in the question. The demand for these latex gloves has increased tremendously. It was a problem in Ontario, I think two or three weeks ago, and some companies are trying to overproduce them. Who is making sure that the quality of those gloves is still comparable to prevent the transmission of disease, more specifically, in the people who work in the front line like police officers, ambulance drivers, firefighters or even the school teachers? Who is making sure that the quality is still acceptable?

Mr. Orchard: My honourable friend's question was specific to latex gloves and I am told that a lot of the front line service providers that my honourable friend mentioned do not necessarily need latex gloves. They need a barrier but not necessarily latex gloves. Surgeons are the most common users of latex gloves.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, I disagree with the Minister because most places are using the latex gloves and that has been documented very well in most of the recent articles. Now, my next question will be, who is responsible for the training of police officers, firefighters, ambulance drivers to make sure their education with regard to AIDS is updated regularly, and could the Minister tell us if there is one coordinator or a coordinator for each and every department?

Mr. Orchard: The city, with the assistance of Village Clinic.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us then, if the city and the Village Clinic are responsible, then how can the Minister make sure that the AIDS policy for prevention is being followed as set by his department, and who is ultimately responsible? Is there a special coordinator for AIDS education, promotion and coordinating the cases in Manitoba?

Mr. Orchard: We are in that section right now, Mr. Chairman, where that responsibility lies.

* (1530)

Mr. Cheema: Maybe the Minister could clarify for me, is there one coordinator to coordinate all the services

for AIDS education, prevention, reporting of cases, not only in the Department of Health, but the departments of police, firefighters? Who does communicate to the school?

Mr. Orchard: I think my honourable friend's original question was who makes sure that the standards of training in firefighter, police, front-line worker protection are adhered to, who does the training program? Well, it is the training program, I have indicated who provides it and it is this Communicable Diseases Control Branch that assures that the standards are being adhered to.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister please indicate to me if there is any special coordinator within the Department of Health, and to be more specific, within the Department of Communicable Diseases, who is ultimately responsible for AIDS education promotion, as well as the treatment and the notification of cases?

Mr. Orchard: The director is ultimately responsible, Dr. Margaret Fast.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister indicate to me is there any booklet for all the health care professionals, including physicians, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists—is there any specific book available and how often do we update that book?

Mr. Orchard: As I indicated to my honourable friend earlier on, there is a physicians' manual and then the interim guidelines for management of the various health care workers in place and are currently being revised.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us how often these guidelines are being revised?

Mr. Orchard: This is the first revision, but once a year we will revise it.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us then what support services are provided to the staff who have the responsibility of identification and tracking the cases of AIDS?

Mr. Orchard: My honourable friend is probably aware that the contact tracing under AIDS is voluntary. There is one individual on staff who is involved in consultation with the physicians and indeed with those individuals who are positively identified in terms of providing them with education, as to how they ought to reorganize their life and lifestyles.

Mr. Cheema: The Minister has indicated there is only one person who is responsible for tracking and following those cases. Is that true?

Mr. Orchard: That is true, and I repeat for my honourable friend that there is not mandatory tracing. It is a voluntary program. That is the way AIDS was made a reportable disease in a different manner than chlamydia or other STDs. It is not mandatory contact tracing; it is voluntary. One individual does do the work for the 160-some-odd positive individuals who have been so far identified in Manitoba and they perform that job in consultation with the individual's physician.

Mr. Cheema: The Minister has indicated that this is not a mandatory reporting. Now, could he tell us then how the public will be notified about these certain cases then. Is there an ethical reason, or a moral reason for not reporting, or a legislative reason for not reporting, the cases? Where is the hitch? Why are these cases not being reported?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, let me clarify what my honourable friend's question is so we can be more precise in the information. Is my honourable friend referring to those individuals who have developed the full symptoms of AIDS, in other words, are ill?

Mr. Cheema: That is right.

Mr. Orchard: As compared to those who are simply—

Mr. Cheema: Being tested positive.

Mr. Orchard: —positive for the HIV. In terms of the AIDS cases, they become known as part of the medical records because at that time they are generally in need of substantial medical attention and there is neither an attempt to advertise or to provide confidentiality at that stage of the game. They simply become known in the system as individuals who have developed the AIDS symptoms and require medical assistance to assist them with the disease.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, then if those individuals are not notified, or they are not on the list, suppose a person who is in terminal care, and he needs ambulance services, so the ambulance service is being called, how does the ambulance person know that this person has a disease or not? How is that person being protected?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, therein lies the public dilemma associated with the AIDS epidemic because, quite frankly, if I was to pass out and require mouth-to-mouth resuscitation right this afternoon, after this relentless onslaught and barrage, anyone here treating me ought to take precaution because they would not be positive and completely assured that I may not be a positive carrier of the HIV. So that within the medical system, from the police to the firemen to the ambulance services, their training involves around understanding the risk and protecting and providing services to the individuals in a fashion and in a manner which will reduce the risk of transmission to themselves as the care provider.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, that is applicable to all forms of diseases, but what I am asking, a very special question, how do we protect the front-line people who are going to approach a person who is terminally ill, that person is infected with the AIDS virus, and that individual has more chances of contracting the disease, how do we protect them? Where is the centre's history and what is the Minister's personal view on that?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, again, the same answer, and that is the dilemma. And I guess probably the great ethical debate on AIDS centres around this very issue.

The argument that has been put forward, and is accepted as, I suppose, national and international wisdom in approach to the AIDS epidemic is that you have to maintain confidentiality because if you do not you run the risk of presumably further driving the epidemic underground. In the hospital system, in the ambulance system, in the emergency system, one does not know if the individual so treated is a carrier of the AIDS virus. Within the hospital environment, once an individual has developed the symptoms of the disease, then that knowledge is there and available for the care providers, but in the instance of an individual who has simply tested positive to the virus and is asymptomatic, there is no knowledge, in general, that individual when going into surgery, may well be an AIDS virus carrier.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, I just wanted to clarify that on Friday, May 13, 1988, there was an article in the Press. The Press indicated that the Minister indicated that quarantine favoured for AIDS patient, we are talking about homicide is written—Mr. Orchard. I know later on the Minister corrected that he did not mean that. I just wanted to have that clarified for the record: is that the Minister's approach; is that his view that the AIDS patient should be quarantined or not?

* (1540)

Mr. Orchard: No, Mr. Chairman, and what was specific in the questions that were posed that day was that I believe Alberta was the province and they were exploring their legislation in the case of the rare individual who has been identified as a carrier of the virus who—and that individual will not curtail activities which would spread the virus in a knowing fashion. Our legislation allows us to deal with individuals like that. Other provinces have similar legislation. I believe it was Alberta, at the time, apparently had no such provisions in their legislation and they were debating the possibility of the same. That does not apply to individuals with AIDS.

However, in the interest of public health, if you have an individual such as was recently, I believe, arrested in Nova Scotia, where the individual had AIDS and continued to carry on a number of relationships in which he was spreading the AIDS virus knowingly, the Public Health authorities stepped in and curtailed his activities. That is the legislation that was being referred to and that is the legislation that we currently have in Manitoba.

Mr. Cheema: To be more specific here, this is just a hypothetical example about it. Say a patient with a terminal case of AIDS and, if the similar situation comes as in Nova Scotia in Manitoba, does the present regulation give the Minister or this Government enough authority to quarantine such a patient for the safety of the public?

Mr. Orchard: That is part of legislation that is probably 20 years old.

Mr. Cheema: About four weeks ago, I asked a question to the Minister in this House regarding his views on hospices for the terminally-ill patient. If the Minister

would read the Hansard, he probably did not understand my question or he has maybe a limited knowledge on hospices. He said that the hospices segregate patients and they are not a right way of treating patients. I would like the Minister to let us know what is his view on the hospices and why not consider hospices for the terminally-ill patient? A similar situation has developed in various parts of Canada, to be more specific in Toronto. The K.C. House was opened about three or four months ago and that has about 12 beds. That concept works very well because you keep the patient in their own environment. They are provided with the treatment as it would be provided in the hospital. Will the Minister consider such a program, if need be, in Manitoba?

Mr. Orchard: The key words are "if need be." I hope I never have to consider such a program.

Mr. Cheema: If we have a terminally-ill patient and that means that this system has worked very well in other parts of the country, why would we not consider such a program in Manitoba? Could the Minister give us the reasons why not?

Mr. Orchard: I think my honourable friend answered his own question in his first question where he said, "if need be."

Currently we have, I believe, 12 individuals in Manitoba who are demonstrating the disease symptoms of AIDS. Those individuals are not constantly in hospital, but they are in and out of hospital. At the present time, that appears to be as reasonable a way to provide care as need be in Manitoba. We are not talking the circumstance of numbers like they are in Toronto. That is why I said in my first answer I hope I never have to as Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) approve a hospice program which would mean that the number of Manitobans with the symptoms of AIDS requiring medical attention remains at the 12, and that is even too high, but I would hope that we do not see an escalation in demand so that we never have to consider that as a program option.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, I thank the Minister for that answer. Could he tell us how many cases have been tested in Manitoba and what is the target group to have the test done for AIDS antibody?

Mr. Orchard: In total to date in Manitoba we have had 6,609 Manitobans tested and 177 of those individuals have tested positive to the AIDS virus. If my honourable friend wants the breakdown of the risk group involved, I can provide that to him and save him asking the question. In terms of the major risk category of homosexual, bisexual, there has been 1,554 tests done and 135 of those have been positive. That means that 135 of the 177 positive diagnosis are homosexual, bisexual.

In the intravenous drug user, there are 531 individuals who have been tested to date and some of those may have been an individual in another risk category, but only three of the 531 have tested positive. In the combined group of homosexual, bisexual and

intravenous drug users, we have had 67 tests to date, nine of which have been positive. I think one can see in terms of the sheer numbers that is somewhere around one-eighth or 14 percent of the homosexual, bisexual, intravenous drug users have tested positive, whereas in the homosexual-bisexual community it is 135 out of 1,544 which would be somewhere around 8 percent. As you combine risk activities, certainly the risk of infection increases.

In terms of blood and blood product recipients, we have had 108 individuals tested in Manitoba, 11 of which have tested positive. Global endemic individuals, 129 tests, five of which have been positive. In the other category, and I would presume these are Manitobans who have not particularly associated themselves with any risk group but simply wished the personal knowledge, 4,220 tests have been undertaken to date, 14 of which have been positive. The total is 177 positive, 6,609 tests in total.

(The Acting Chairman, Mrs. Gwen Charles, in the Chair.)

Mr. Cheema: Madam Acting Chairperson, could the Minister tell us what mechanism is in place to follow these 177 patients who are positive? To be more specific, what is the mechanism to follow these patients if they are moving from one place to another, say, from Manitoba to Ontario or to Saskatchewan? Is there any central registry where the names of these patients are being kept?

Mr. Orchard: Interprovincially there is no ability to follow those individuals because we do not know who they are. The identification is by coded number, not by individual name and address. Only the individual's physician knows the diagnosis and the individual themselves.

Mr. Cheema: Madam Acting Chairperson, it is again an issue which I do not think we will be able to solve in this House but definitely, if these individuals are positive, their responsibility towards public health is also important.

* (1550)

My next question is, in Nova Scotia and also in New Brunswick, they are testing the general population also. They want to see what is the total positive rate of antibodies in the general public other than the risk group. If a similar program could be conducted in Manitoba just for a comparison study so that we know at least, other than the risk group, what are the other areas we could identify.

Mr. Orchard: My honourable friend gives me information that I was not aware of in terms of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. I am informed that prenatal testing will be undertaken in the province as part of a national initiative for—I guess it would be an epidemiological study basis on AIDS.

Mr. Cheema: What is the policy of this administration to take a blood sample without the knowledge of the individual just for an AIDS test?

Mr. Orchard: That procedure is against the law.

Mr. Cheema: What are the programs available for the patients with hemophilia and their families to educate them for the prevention of AIDS?

Mr. Orchard: That is, by and large, being done by the Hemophilia Society.

Mr. Cheema: Who is coordinating those services? At least, there should be some responsibility from the Minister's office also, because how can we prevent the disease even if we do not have input from the Department of Health? Can the Minister tell us, is there not some role by the Department of Communicable Diseases?

Mr. Orchard: Yes.

Mr. Cheema: I have no further questions on this same issue, and maybe the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan) would like to ask some questions? -(Interjection)- The Member for Churchill does not have any question on the same issue. Maybe the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray) would like a question on AIDS before we go to another topic?

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate, has there been or is there a firm policy developed for AIDS in regard to direct service workers within the Department of Health in regard to guidelines for sanitation, etc., good methods? Could the Minister indicate, is it mandatory that these direct service workers use latex gloves or use a barrier? The Minister mentioned a barrier. Is it mandatory that a barrier be used with the direct service workers?

Mr. Orchard: The guidelines that I mentioned to my honourable friend for Kildonan (Mr. Cheema) earlier on that are currently being revised are the guidelines used by the direct service workers, and currently in-service is taking place or is part of, for instance, Home Care service delivery workers.

In terms of the mandatory use of latex gloves, that is not mandated across the board by direct service workers, so I am informed.

Ms. Gray: If direct service workers wish to have access to those gloves, are they then automatically provided for them?

Mr. Orchard: They are provided when needed. Do not ask me though when you make the assessment of when they are needed.

Ms. Gray: No, my question, would they be provided if the request came from the direct service worker?

Mr. Orchard: I am informed that they would be provided if the activity undertaken was considered to be a risk for which the direct care provider ought to take personal protection.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister then indicate to us for home care attendants, and particularly orderlies who

are involved with complex care of individuals in the community, could the Minister indicate if gloves are provided in all cases where that care is of an intimate nature, so as to prevent any type of communicable disease from spreading?

Mr. Orchard: Madam Acting Chairman, I am informed that the guidelines are applicable in terms of dealing with individuals with infectious disease, and the rubber glove aspect is to be part of their protection and service provision regime.

Ms. Gray: How does one know if a particular client in Home Care has an infectious disease necessarily?

Mr. Orchard: I have to relay the information to my honourable friend, that in communication with the physician, a client's status is part of the information, with the exception I will have to indicate to my honourable friend, of a positive identification for the HIV virus which is not mandated to be passed on or is not passed on, and that the case coordinators make the service deliverers aware of any circumstance in client care that would put them at risk. They are to take the appropriate caution. If my honourable friend has any examples either now or previously of failure of case coordinators or their supervisors to do that, I would appreciate knowing that.

Ms. Gray: I do not think it would be the failure of the case coordinators or the supervisors. It would be the failure of the medical information that may or may not be forthcoming. It would certainly depend on how often the particular individual or client may have seen his or her physician. I am sure there are circumstances where we do not know that individuals in the community or workers for that matter may have a communicable disease.

Could the Minister indicate for us, with the direct service workers that we hire through the provincial Government, are there any provisions that those individuals have medical check-ups or are checked for any communicable diseases, particularly direct service workers as you oftentimes have in hospital situations? Do we ask for a medical examination before we hire those individuals?

Mr. Orchard: No.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate, has the feasibility of asking for medical examinations and a good clean bill of health before we hire direct service workers, has that ever been contemplated by the administration of this department?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, and the decision was made to follow the same policy as the hospitals.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us what the policy is for hospitals? Is there a requirement for individuals who work in personal care homes for any type of medical examination?

Mr. Orchard: The hospital policy is the same as the department's policy. I will have to ask Personal Care

Home about their policy when we get to the Personal Care Home line, and then we will tell my honourable friend.

* (1600)

Ms. Gray: I will take that question as notice. The Minister had indicated that the hotline had been transferred over to the Village Clinic. Was this a request of the Village Clinic?

Mr. Orchard: It was an arrangement with them.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate who initiated this and what was the purpose for transferring that over to Village Clinic?

Mr. Orchard: It was part of the discussions as to how we can approach the information aspect, for instance, when the media campaign was under way, it did take some considerable staff resourcing within the department because the calls went up to how many per day—around 300 per day—and that caused the department some internal staffing arrangements that had to be made and the arrangement with Village Clinic for the transfer of the line is to, in a lot of ways, remove from the department the necessity of fluctuating staffing requirements, hiring terms, or secondment, or reallocation of staff within their duties and responsibilities.

So Village Clinic has the responsibility of meeting the needs for staffing that line and that will no doubt go up as we have an advertising campaign and that is their responsibility. There is a maximum that we put on the funding and it will be accounted for so that if the staffing requirements had been less than anticipated, our transfer of funds to Village Clinic will be less than the \$70,000, on an annualized basis, that is part of the evolution of that AIDS information line.

Ms. Gray: The Minister said that there are six SYs that will be available to assist in AIDS education. Are there individuals now currently occupying those six SYs and have they started to provide that educational service?

Mr. Orchard: One out of the six is undertaking those duties.

Ms. Gray: Would the Minister tell us who that individual is and I understand that these positions were to go to the regions, am I correct? Could the Minister indicate where this one position is, where the other five will be located, and also where did the SYs come from in order to be able to use these six SYs for AIDS education?

Mr. Orchard: The first individual is in the Winnipeg West Central Region, and the other positions—that is a full SY to go to Winnipeg West Central. In addition, Winnipeg West Central will have another half SY assigned; Communicable Disease Control itself will have another SY; the Eastman Region will have a half SY; Central, a half SY; Interlake, one SY; Parklands, a half SY; Westman and Thompson, each with a half SY.

Ms. Gray: The Minister has indicated that one and one-half SYs are going to Winnipeg regions and one

region in particular, West Central, is that an indication of things to come in regard to the three regions?

(Mr. Chairman in the Chair.)

Mr. Orchard: I will let my honourable friend speculate at will on that, Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Gray: I did not really expect an answer on that question. The one SY going to Communicable Disease Control, could the Minister tell us what type of professional or individual is being hired for that position?

Mr. Orchard: I am informed it is an AY2.

Ms. Gray: I had asked the Minister previously if he could indicate to us where the six SYs were, where they came from or where monies came from in order to be able to utilize these six SYs for AIDS education. Could he tell us now where all they came from?

Mr. Orchard: Health Promotion Directorate has dedicated one; Brandon Mental Health Centre a half SY; Dental Health two SYs; Regional Operations one SY; Information Resources a half SY; and Winnipeg Region one SY.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate, can he assure us that these six SYs that have been redirected from other areas of his department were in fact extra or were not needed so that they could be redirected for AIDS education?

Mr. Orchard: Well, I think my honourable friend's latter statement is the appropriate one. They could be redirected for AIDS education.

Ms. Gray: Can the Minister assure us that these other areas such as Regional Operations, Brandon Mental Health Centre and the Health Promotion Centre will not be adversely affected with the loss of these SYs?

Mr. Orchard: Within the assurance that is always forthcoming when you have staff transfers, the proponents or the opponents, if you will, of that are always going to make the case, rightfully or wrongfully, that shortages are going to result in service reduction. This was given some considerable thought and dedicated attention by senior management in each of these areas. It was decided that given the priority on AIDS education, that the resource could be (a) made available without significant reduction of a level of service delivery and certainly to the benefit of providing a greater capability on AIDS education throughout the province.

Ms. Gray: Therefore, we have six SYs that have been dedicated to AIDS education and one SY or one-and-a-half SYs have been assigned to Winnipeg West Central. Could the Minister indicate, the one-and-a-half SYs in the Regional Operations and the Eastman Central, etc., are they professional staff, are they clerical staff?

Mr. Orchard: We have got DLNs, AY2s, HS6s, LN2s and LPNs being transferred. They go to the positions of AY2s, HS4s.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us what the HS6 position was and the HS4s? Are those Public Health nursing positions?

Mr. Orchard: The HS6 was a nursing consultant.

Ms. Gray: The nursing consultant, what branch did that position belong to?

Mr. Orchard: The Health Promotion Directorate and the individual's name was Lynne Kobold-Palser.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us, is that individual no longer employed with the department?

Mr. Orchard: That is the individual who is going to take on the regional work.

Ms. Gray: Okay. My understanding of that individual who actually has done quite a bit of work in regions and has not always been a nursing consultant at the directorate level. Now that this person is going to be assigned to Winnipeg West Central, could the Minister tell us for those other regions within the province who have not been given these resources for AIDS education, how will they deliver any programs in that area since they have not been given extra resources?

Mr. Orchard: Through the Communicable Disease Control Directorate directly.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister indicating that the Communicable Disease Control Directorate actually does service delivery in the regions?

Mr. Orchard: No, not service delivery but consultation with the groups. If, for instance, let us take a—where is a region that has not been covered? I think we have covered them all.

Ms. Gray: Norman, I think.

Mr. Orchard: Norman is not, that is correct. Let us say that the Norman Region, the local teachers' association wishes to have in-service and they could quite comfortably contact the Director of Communicable Disease Control. Individuals, very professional, because I have listened to some of their presentations can be made available, or certainly advice as to who could put on a seminar would be provided from Communicable Disease Control.

* (1610)

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, there is a difference between consultation services and actually direct services, and my understanding is that some of these SYs going to the regions, from what the Minister has said, will they not actually be doing service delivery in the area of AIDS education, whereas with the other regions who do not have these extra resources, they only have access to consultation services? My question is, how was the decision made which regions would receive actual resources for service delivery, and which

other regions would be left out and would only have available to them consultation services?

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, these decisions were made in consultation and discussion with the regions. For instance, Norman, in terms of their assessment of need, indicated that they would probably need .3 SY. The decision was made that we could probably with adequacy for the short run provide that service, as I have indicated earlier, through the directorate.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, going back to the salaries where there are seven SYs in the professional area, would the Minister be able to indicate to us the position titles of those seven SYs?

Mr. Orchard: One director, one assistant director, five Public Health nurses, one food protection, nine administrative support staff, and one Public Health educator, which is currently vacant.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, with these seven SYs, there is one position that is vacant. With the position that is vacant, the health educator, what qualifications is this branch looking for the health educator position that is vacant?

Mr. Orchard: The qualifications sought are either a Master's or a Bachelor's in a health-related field.

Ms. Gray: Mr. Chairperson, one of the areas which Communicable Disease Control deals with is the Lifesaving Drug Program. I can appreciate the Minister's comments that this program is under review. I am wondering because we receive many calls about Lifesaving Drug Program, if the Minister could indicate for us exactly what is the financial criteria that is used in order to determine if someone is eligible for the program. I do understand that there is a medical criteria as well, but I am asking him to tell us what the financial criteria is.

Mr. Orchard: I am informed that if the individual's or the family's income is not sufficient to cover their drug costs that they are eligible under the program.

Ms. Gray: The Minister has indicated if the individuals are not able to cover their drugs, then they are eligible. Is there no assessment done as to how individuals have spent their income and what their income is in order to determine whether they can afford to buy their drugs?

Mr. Orchard: There is an assessment done in terms of family income and how that family income is disposed of in terms of providing for basic living costs and, if that provision plus the drugs exceeds the disposable income of that family, then they would be eligible for the program.

Ms. Gray: When an assessment is done in regard to how the family income is disposed of, is debt load taken into consideration; i.e., if families happen to be in a position where they have accumulated numerous debts for perhaps a variety of reasons and therefore have very little cash flow each month, would those

individuals possibly be considered as opposed to the individual who maybe has \$20 more dollars of cash flow a month but in fact has managed his resources very well and that is why he does not have any debt? I am wondering if the Minister could clarify what specifically is considered under the financial criteria of this program.

Mr. Orchard: If my honourable friend is asking whether we have people with \$200,000 house mortgages on the program and unable to pay for their drugs because of the excessive house mortgage, I am informed that is not the case.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us, for individuals who are on the Lifesaving Drug Program and have been on for years and years and years, is there a regular review done of their medical and financial criteria to determine if in fact they are still eligible?

Mr. Orchard: In Winnipeg they are reviewed every three years and, of course, that is one of the things being investigated by the Internal Audit.

Ms. Gray: The Minister is indicating that they are reviewed every three years in Winnipeg. Could the Minister tell us who does that review?

Mr. Orchard: A Public Health nurse.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister indicating that the Public Health nurses review the financial eligibility for these clients?

Mr. Orchard: Very well, Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Gray: The Minister can correct me if I am wrong. I was under the impression that in fact the financial assessment was done in Winnipeg, in the regions, by home economists. Has that changed recently?

Mr. Orchard: In Winnipeg it is the Public Health nurse; in the regions it may even be a home economist.

Ms. Gray: Would the Minister like to clarify for himself the difference between who does the assessments in the City of Winnipeg Public Health Program and in the provincial jurisdictions Public Health Program?

Mr. Orchard: In Winnipeg, all of the assessments are centralized to a Public Health nurse who has been doing that for approximately 18 months, and that is the entire City of Winnipeg. In terms of the regions, the individual doing the assessment is designated by the regional director. It may be a Public Health nurse, as is the case in Winnipeg, or indeed a home economist.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us, since when does the department feel that Public Health nurses have experience in financial assessment and dealing in financial management, and is that an appropriate use of Public Health nursing time?

Mr. Orchard: I guess that will always be open to the professional debate amongst the various professions. I am sure home economists would consider themselves more competent to do that than Public Health nurses, and Public Health nurses would think the home economists do not know enough about medicine to do that assessment. I guess where we are coming down is that the system appears to be working reasonably well with a Public Health nurse in Winnipeg; and the jurisdiction in the regions outside of Winnipeg, the individual is decided by the Regional Director, and I would assume he is picked on the basis of personal capability to carry out the assignment as much as his professional background.

Ms. Gray: Just to correct the record, I am quite sure the Public Health nurses do not feel that home economists are not qualified to do the medical assessments since neither Public Health nurses nor home economists do that assessment. It is a physician who makes the initial recommendation and then it is reviewed by another physician within the Department of Health.

I am raising these questions and I am glad to know that there is a review being done of the Lifesaving Drug Program, because I find that what we see is lack of criteria or very little criteria in this particular program, so that we end up with inequitable treatment to individuals out in the community because they are judged based on different criteria. We set up situations where some people are refused by the program and are in similar circumstances to other individuals who may be accepted to the program. I am also pleased to hear that at least the cases are reviewed once every three years because, when I recall, there were individuals who had been on the program for eight and nine years where their financial situation had significantly changed and they were certainly still on the Lifesaving Drug Program.

I am wondering if the Minister could clarify for us, with the STD directorate or staff in the directorate, could he indicate, do these staff actually provide direct service in the communities in regard to sexually transmitted diseases, the education of, or do they simply provide consultation and resources to other community groups and regional operations.

Mr. Orchard: Those individuals provide community consultation.

Ms. Gray: Therefore, is the delivery of education in the area of STD exclusively carried out by Public Health nursing staff in regional operations and the centralized STD unit?

Mr. Orchard: Provincially, the directorate takes on provincial responsibilities such as conferences, etc., but for regional workshops, etc., that would be regional staff.

Ms. Gray: Because of the advent of the disease of AIDS, certainly Governments and public as well have been paying more attention to the need for education in communicable diseases. Unfortunately, in the last

few years, I think other communicable diseases other than AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases have been put in the background in regard to providing educational services. Could the Minister indicate, are there any programs which have been developed through communicable disease control specifically for education of the population in regard to sexually transmitted diseases, particularly for adolescents and school-aged children?

Mr. Orchard: There is an STD brochure which is available. As well, there is availability of education and resource education through the school system in terms of STDs as well.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us what type of education and resources specifically are available through the school system? Is there a curriculum that is available?

Mr. Orchard: I would feel less than competent in answering that, but I do believe Education Estimates are ongoing right now if my honourable friend wanted to ask the Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach).

Ms. Gray: Surely the Minister and his four senior staff must have some idea as to what is going on within the school system, since our Public Health nurses who are responsible to the Department of Health obviously work in the school system on a regular basis. I would think that your department would want to be informed as to what actually is available within Education, and oftentimes we do see some joint collaboration between Education and Health. I am wondering, among the five of you, if someone has information as to what is being provided in the schools.

Mr. Orchard: This department provides public education on communicable diseases and preventative measures by means of pamphlets, seminars, presentations and campaigns and involvement with the school health curriculum.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate, does his department, have they worked with the Education Department to actually ensure that a component of communicable disease and STD, that education in that area is mandatory in the school system?

Mr. Orchard: That is policy of the Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach) and has been discussed over there at some length and I believe my honourable friend's colleagues were part of the criticism in terms of mandatory versus voluntary.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us what his position is as Minister of Health in regard to whether those types of education and programs should be mandatory in the school system?

Mr. Orchard: It would be my hope that all individuals in Manitoba gain the necessary knowledge to adequately protect themselves from STDs and from AIDS, whether that be through the school curriculum or through personal endeavour to obtain that education.

Ms. Gray: Given that affirmation, could the Minister then indicate what pro-active steps he, as Minister of Health, has taken to in fact ensure that does occur within the school system?

Mr. Orchard: By providing pamphlets, seminars, presentations and campaigns involved with the school health curriculum.

* (1630)

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate, is it the Public Health staff who provide that information in workshops within the school system, and if that is the case, could he indicate what approximately—he may not have this information here—but could he indicate how much time Public Health staff spend in the school system providing these types of programs?

Mr. Orchard: It is provided by staff, in consultation with the teaching staff, and I cannot indicate what percentage of time might be involved. However, we might be able to give my honourable friend a rough guesstimate of that the next time we meet.

Ms. Gray: One of the areas that has been raised by a number of people in the community is, of course, immunization for children, and certainly I believe the Minister has indicated that there are procedures in place in regard to the type of information that parents do receive before their children are immunized, particularly by our own staff within the Department of Health.

I am wondering if the Minister could indicate for us, tell us specifically, what protocols or procedures are in place to ensure that in fact parents are knowledgeable about the implications and ramifications of the various immunizations that their children would be receiving and may be receiving from our Public Health staff.

Mr. Orchard: Information is provided from Communicable Disease Control to the vaccine provider and it is the expectation that the provider would pass that information on to parent and child.

Ms. Gray: When the Minister indicates "vaccine provider," is he including Public Health nurses in that? And since Public Health nurses are staffed within the Department of Health, are they given specific protocols in their manuals, or is there a policy that specifically outlines what they should be telling parents? Would the Minister be prepared to table that protocol or that information?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, yes, and yes, Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate to us, have there been any reviews or what evaluation mechanisms are in place to ensure that in fact staff are giving parents the appropriate and the full information in regard to immunization?

Mr. Orchard: I am informed that the supervisors in each region are undertaking that and I am led to believe that job is being carried on as one would expect.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister tell us, are there particular reporting mechanisms in place so that when the Public Health nurses immunize children in school, or actually in child health clinics, is there a particular reporting mechanism should there be what may be perceived as an adverse reaction of that particular child?

Mr. Orchard: Yes, that, as I indicated in my debate the other day to my honourable friend's colleague, the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo), that reporting requirement is in place and the adverse reaction registry is hopefully up and running, I think January of next year. As I indicated in my debate on the resolution, that ought to give us what we consider is the best reporting system in Canada. Currently Alberta has what is considered to be the best reporting system, and when ours is up and running it ought to be as good as any in Canada.

Ms. Gray: Is the Minister then indicating that a new or revised reporting system is in the works and that we could expect one in the near future?

Mr. Orchard: That is correct.

Ms. Gray: Could the Minister indicate if this revised reporting system is part of the concerns that have been expressed by parents in regard to vaccine damaged children and with even some of the concerns that have been expressed through the Manitoba Medical Association in regard to lack of information which parents receive?

Mr. Orchard: Certainly the concern over vaccine reaction no doubt helped to stimulate the development process. There is a national initiative under way to assure uniform reporting procedures because that is extremely important to federal Government as the approvers of the vaccines, that they have a uniform and equally valid reporting system across Canada, but the reporting system in Manitoba was under development prior to the national initiative.

Ms. Gray: Those are all the questions I have at this moment. I will turn it over to the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan), who seems to be waffling all afternoon about whether he has questions, but now he seems to have some, so he can go ahead.

Mr. Jay Cowan (Second Opposition House Leader): I am certain that the official critic for the Opposition will not mind my putting on the record what has actually transpired this afternoon, so that uncalled for and untruthful remark by the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray) does not stand unchallenged. She will have to learn that when she makes remarks in this House she will either have to stand behind them with some substance or she will have to not try to take advantage of a situation about which she knows very little.

The Opposition critic, as has been the practice between him and I in these Estimates at least, has indicated to me that they had some questions to ask. I indicated to him that I had some questions to ask but that I would wait until they had finished their

questioning, so what I have been doing over the past two hours, or approximately two hours, is not waffling as to whether or not I had questions, but in actuality was waiting for the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray) to break her train of questioning on an issue so that I could step in and ask on a different issue, and then proceed back to another issue. We have been trying to work that out in a cooperative fashion with the Member for Kildonan (Mr. Cheema) with respect to how these Estimates unfold, so I would not want the record to be distorted, certainly not purposely so, through ignorance by the Member for Ellice. I want to make that point at this particular juncture.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray), on a point of order.

Ms. Gray: I would like to clarify for the record, I find it quite interesting that the Member for Kildonan (Mr. Cheema) and myself have been communicating very clearly over the last few days in regard to how we would proceed, and it is quite obvious that the messages which we are getting from the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan) are quite opposite, so somewhere there is obviously a communication difficulty. I also find it very interesting that the Member for Churchill sits in his seat and oftentimes when we say to him informally, "Do you have questions," he will sit in his seat and say, "No, no, no, but hurry up, we must get through these Estimates." Now, I must indicate to the Member for Churchill that the—

Mr. Chairman: Does the Honourable Member have a point of order?

Ms. Gray: The point of order, Mr. Chairperson, is that in fact the Official Opposition seized the purpose of Estimates to ask specific questions and seek information. We do not use the Estimates as a forum, as does the NDP, to expound paragraphs and paragraphs without asking questions, but rather they like to hear themselves speak.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please; order, please. The Honourable Member does not have a point of order.

Mr. Richard Kozak (Transcona): On a new point of order.

Mr. Chairman: I have already ruled on the point of order raised by the Member for Ellice.

An Honourable Member: On a point of order, Richard, that was not a point of order.

Mr. Kozak: Regrettably, Mr. Chairman, it is not a new point of order. I feel the Member for Ellice expressed herself well.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The Honourable Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard), on a point of order.

Mr. Orchard: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, if my honourable friends from Churchill and Ellice wanted to go to the hall and have their dispute settled out there like reasonable individuals—

Mr. Chairman: The Minister state his point of order.

Mr. Orchard: —my honourable friend from Kildonan (Mr. Cheema) and I could get on with passage of the Estimates and the reasoned discussion we have had this afternoon.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Minister does not have a point of order. The Honourable Member for Springfield (Mr. Roch), on a point of order.

Mr. Gilles Roch (Springfield): No, I have some questions.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

Mr. Cowan: To the point of order raised by the Honourable Minister, Mr. Chairman, just in response to the procedures that we follow with respect to Estimates, Mr. Chairperson, and there is a difference of opinion. We, in the New Democratic Party, do not consider this to be a classroom nor a learning experience. We consider it to be a forum for debating issues that are of importance to Manitobans, and we know that there is a time limit of 240 hours during which time all of the Estimates must be considered. So we appreciate the fact that my friend, the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray), has —(Interjection)—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I would ask the Honourable Member for Churchill to keep in mind the Rules of the House with respect to the Estimates, and if he could steer his comments to the Department of Health.

Mr. Cowan: I think you will find, Mr. Chairperson, and I appreciate your advice, that I am talking about the general tenor of the Estimates of the Department of Health, and I think that you can do that at any juncture at any point in time in the discussion about the Estimates, but I will be very brief, appreciating the fact that there is a time limit. What we believe is important—and I am going to do it in one moment—is to have a debate on some of the more pressing issues and more generic issues and then, from time to time, I think it is required to delve into some detail on specific issues, and we see no fault in that process.

But I do believe that it is important, given that there are different ideologies with respect to how you handle communicable diseases, with respect to how you handle the whole area of the health care system between the three different Parties in this Chamber, that there is a full debate on the issues, not only on the details, not only on the "nitty-gritty" of the particular subject area that may be of a particular fancy to one individual or another. So I think that is what we have seen over the last number of day and, quite frankly, it is not particularly bothersome, except that I have heard so many times Liberal Members in this House say we have to move the Estimates along, we have to move the Estimates along. They were somewhat impatient that I find right now their reluctance to move through these Estimates with any sort of dispatch, reflecting upon the major issues as they come up, to be somewhat contradictory with what they have said before.

Mr. Orchard: They like me.

Mr. Cowan: Well, now the Member for Pembina says, from his seat, that they like him, and I think perhaps that may be part of the nature of the process before us. He is a very likeable person from time to time and on other occasions he is not so likeable, but we have had that debate before and I think he probably thinks much the same about me only perhaps he does not think I am as likeable quite as much as is he. And that is something that one would . . .

Mr. Orchard: I do not think I have said anything bad about you since Friday.

Mr. Cowan: Obviously the Member for Pembina (Mr. Orchard) forgets Monday of this week. However, that is not what is before us.

What is before us is Communicable Diseases, and I have a few brief questions to ask with respect to tuberculosis. The Minister will remember that I had asked him earlier where I should ask these particular questions, and he suggested Communicable Diseases would be the appropriate area.

* (1640)

The question basically is does the department maintain statistics with respect to the incidence of tuberculosis on an ongoing basis and have they seen any difference in either increases or decreases with that particular disease over the last little while?

Mr. Orchard: My honourable friend has refreshed my memory and I have to apologize to him, because when he asked these questions before, we neglected to pass them on to Dr. Fast to have the answers for you.

Mr. Cowan: You can take them as notice.

Mr. Orchard: It has been relatively stable but, as I indicated to my honourable friend earlier on, the incidence is highest amongst our northern Native communities.

Mr. Cowan: The reason I ask the question is because I have, over the past little while, been advised of a couple of new cases outside of the Native areas with respect to tuberculosis, and I could not confirm whether or not they were tuberculosis or the message had become somewhat muddled as it made its way to me as Health critic. I would ask him just a series of questions and if he can take them as notice and come back at a later time, that would be helpful.

The first question of course is, is it a stable level of incidence now? Secondly, I would ask him if they have had any recent new cases outside of the reserve communities and Metis communities. Thirdly, I would ask him if there has been a reduction in the number of cases over the past number of years in the reserve and Metis communities.

That, as the Minister indicated and as we know, is an area where tuberculosis was most prevalent over

the past number of years. It seemed that it was being generally eradicated in areas outside of the reserves and Metis communities. That does not make it any less a problem area. As a matter of fact, it probably makes it more so a problem area because when you have a disease that confines itself to one particular group within society in that fashion, you then have some societal responsibility to ensure that we all have equitable access to health care and we all have the same sorts of living conditions and health related supports in place that would ensure that we can eradicate it in those specific areas as well, so it becomes a major problem in that sense.

The questions I have basically for the Minister are questions that he can take as notice and come back to me at a later time in the Estimates and perhaps we can discuss them during his Salary or at another point in time if we are still on Communicable Diseases and those statistics become available. I would like the detail over the past, say, five, ten years in that area.

Mr. Orchard: I think that can be provided on fairly short notice, but to indicate to my honourable friend, his first question about the incidence being stable, that is the case. I can give you five to ten years back; it has been relatively stable for that many years back. That seems to be the indication.

There is incidence other than from the Native and Metis communities but both non-Native, non-Metis communities, the incidence is stable. There has not been any rising trend. It has been a stabilized trend, but we will provide my honourable friend with the statistics for the last five to ten years so that he has them.

Mr. Cowan: I appreciate that information. Just to make the point, there are a number of other questions with respect to communicable diseases that I would want to ask over the course of the debate in this particular area. I do not want there to be any misconception or any distortion with respect to the fact that I am giving the floor up now so that the Member for Springfield (Mr. Roch) can make his comments, because I note that when I took the floor last he had a number of questions that he wanted to ask. I assume that we will be coming back to this section at the next meeting of the Estimates review for the Department of Health.

I tried, Gilles.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, I want to make it very clear that when we started the Estimate debate today I requested the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan) that we are debating the AIDS issue. I think he should have come back with the questions today, so that we do not have to go through these questions time and time again. My questions are going to be very specific and very short and I do appreciate his concern but we should debate things right now. There are two Parties that are debating, we should come with a third Party also so that you could have your input into a very important issue.

My question is just one more, on AIDS, there. Is there any possibility or are there any thoughts from this

department of creating street-worker positions so that the communication can be done, say to the prostitutes or to the other target groups, if there is any specific positions allocated?

Mr. Orchard: That is what Village Clinic has essentially been doing.

Mr. Cheema: I believe what you said, but I am annoyed.

Mr. Cowan: I have one quick point and then I will yield the floor to the Member for Springfield (Mr. Roch) again.

So let the record be clear. I think it is important that these things be worked out as they become problems. I particularly resent the comments from the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray), which I think started this whole round of discussion off and I believe they were uncalled for.

In the debate on the Branch of Communicable Diseases, the Member for Kildonan (Mr. Cheema) indicated to me that he had a number of questions that he wanted to ask today. I said fine, go ahead. I do not think that it is necessarily appropriate for him to suggest, when the other Opposition Party should ask their questions, quite frankly. I indicated to him today that I did have a number of questions on AIDS but I wanted to review what was said by the Minister in the Hansard which is an opportunity that is available to all of us before bringing those questions forward to the House so that I do not have to cover ground which had already been covered today. That was so that the Estimates would move along as quickly as possible. I do not want to be asking the same questions that they were asking. The Member for Fort Rouge will know that he and I were involved in the discussion on House Business for some time while those questions were being asked.

There would have been a possibility had I stood up today that I would have covered ground that had already been covered. I did not want to do that, so I want the record to be very clear. I certainly resent the distortion and the suggestion that in any way we were waffling on the part of the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray). What we were trying to do is allow her an opportunity to complete a train of questioning and then we would stand up and ask our questions. That is the way we have tried to proceed throughout this particular debate.

I do reinforce the fact, however, that time is limited and that we need to discuss the more generic, global issues in the debate. That is why this particular forum is called the Estimates Debate and not the Estimates Classroom. That is why it is called a discussion rather than a learning process. I appreciate the fact that some people want to use it for a learning process, but I just wish that they would acknowledge while they are doing that, that in fact there is a time limit which constrains all of us. We will debate the major issues and the global issues, and if it takes us a half hour to make our point, we will take a half hour to make our point, because we believe issues such as free trade and other issues which we debated the other day are important issues which the public should want to hear us out on.

We also believe that there comes a time when the Liberal Party will have to stand up and say what it

meant when it talked about meal charges during the campaign and charges of that sort. There is a time when the Minister will have to stand up and defend his answers. There is a time when we have to stand up and defend that which we did or did not do. That is the forum in which we operate. That is the benefit of this forum to the public in that they can get a look at the Parties and what they have to offer and make a realistic rational decision on the basis of what they see.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Cheema: I just want to clarify, for the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan), that he indicated to me from the beginning that he wanted to ask some questions and to answer to his question that he wanted to evade the issue. I am not imposing on him any of my ideas, but as we were discussing the things, I just wanted to make clear. But it is up to him to do whatever he wants to, go ahead, but certainly—(Interjection)—That is fine, that is up to the Member for Churchill.

Mr. Chairman: Order. I would ask all Honourable Members to direct their comments perhaps more particularly to the department of which we are considering the Estimates.

* (1650)

Mr. Roch: Maybe after this interesting debate, these questions might not sound important, but they are important to the people involved.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Roch: The question I have here, it is a reoccurring problem in the schools and it has to do with head lice. I guess it has been happening since almost time immemorial. It falls, I understand, under the jurisdiction of the public nurses within the school system. I was wondering what is being done to try and get the problem under control.

Although I have had complaints specifically in my constituency and in doing some checking, I found out that it has been happening in various schools throughout the province, both in the public and private schools.

Mr. Orchard: The Public Health nurses are involved with the school divisions in an advocacy role. I can send my honourable friend an information package which would give him the protocol.

Mr. Roch: I thank the Minister for that answer and I would certainly appreciate getting that. Apparently, in some cases, special shampoos have been given out, in some schools anyways, until the supplies have run out in some cases. The cost to some people—it is about \$35 for this particular type of shampoo. For some, after a while it gets quite expensive, especially if they come from a clean environment and they have to go back. They send their kids back to school and they come back and the whole problem is there. If I could get that information, I would certainly appreciate it.

Mr. Chairman: Is it the will of the section to pass this item?

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister tell us, on the Lifesaving Drug Program, what are the drugs available and what is the cost per drug?

Mr. Orchard: The Lifesaving Drug Program is costing \$878,000 for—here we are, \$924,000 in total for the lifesaving drugs. Now, some of the drugs under the program are: for respiratory problems, ventolin and theodor; for cardiac problems, capropril and other ACE inhibitors, timolol and other Beta blockers, inderal, calcium channel blockers like diltiazem and niphedimine; for epilepsy, we have carbamazepine, valproic acid—I hope you are writing down the chemical formulas—dilatant; for gastrointestinal problems, we have asacol, cimetidine—you make a funny T. This is not typed and some of the obvious problems that occur from time to time in our education system are apparent in this printing. For cancer, we have chlorambucil, tamoxifen, azathioprine; for cystic fibrosis, we have antibiotics, cotazyme and other pancreatic enzymes; for bleeding disorders, we have DDAVP and disferal.

Mr. Cheema: What is the criteria for selecting of patients for these lifesaving drugs?

Mr. Orchard: I am sorry, I missed that question.

Mr. Cheema: I said, what are the criteria for using these special patients for these lifesaving drugs as far as financial things are concerned? Can the Minister explain to us in more detail, what are the financial criteria and who makes the final decision?

Mr. Orchard: They face the same criteria that I gave to my honourable friend yesterday and to his honourable colleague today.

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister indicate who makes the final decision? Can he please indicate to us again who makes the final decision?

Mr. Orchard: The ultimate decision is made by the director.

Mr. Cheema: Is there any input from the patients' advocacy groups? Is there an input from the personal physician? Is there an input from the other community organizations to decide which patient gets the lifesaving drugs?

Mr. Orchard: The need is identified by the physician.

Mr. Cheema: Mr. Chairperson, would the Minister indicate to us the other reportable communicable diseases and their incidence, if there is a major change in the incidence from last year?

Mr. Orchard: The actual cases of gonorrhoea in 1987 were 2,847. That is declining by approximately 200 per year, and we are projecting 2,641 cases for this year. Last year, the reported cases of infectious syphilis was 15. That was down substantially from 51 in 1986, and

we are projecting some 30 cases for this year. In terms of chlamydia, that is going in the opposite direction where there were 6,600 actual cases in 1987, and we are projecting 7,000. That has been growing because chlamydia has only recently been a reportable disease.

* (1700)

Mr. Cheema: Could the Minister indicate to us what are the programs for teaching specifically for gonorrhoea, for chlamydia or other sexually-transmitted diseases in the school age group?

Mr. Orchard: That question was posed by honourable friend's deputy Critic of Health, the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray) not half an hour ago.

Mr. Cheema: Just for clarification, could the Minister please indicate to us what are the major programs to educate the public, to be more specific, to the school age group regarding the sexually-transmitted diseases, in terms of gonorrhoea, chlamydia and the other forms of sexually-transmitted diseases?

Mr. Orchard: This department provides public education on communicable diseases and preventative measures by means of pamphlets, seminars, presentations and campaigns and involvement with the school health curriculum.

Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition): I do not think the Minister may be able to answer this, but I will take a written answer some time in the future.

I was in a Brandon Mall 10 days ago. I was approached by a kidney transplant, who indicated that the only way that he could get his cyclosporin was through the Health Sciences Centre. He and his wife did not understand why there was not an emergency supply available should he run into problems at the Brandon General Hospital. I could not answer the question and I do not really expect the staff to be able to answer it at this particular point, but I would like to be able to provide such an answer to this individual.

Mr. Orchard: Just for clarification, the individual was on the Lifesaving Drug Program presumably?

Mrs. Carstairs: I cannot tell the Minister that, whether he was on the lifesaving program or whether he just needs this drug, but it is a lifesaving drug for him.

Mr. Orchard: There is some confusion as to whether that ought not to be available in Brandon, not simply through the Health Sciences Centre. So we will have to check that out and we will provide my honourable friend with an answer on that. We could pass this, Mr. Chairman, if it—

Mr. Chairman: The hour being 5 p.m., it is time for Private Members' Hour. Committee rise.

Call in the Speaker.

IN SESSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Mark Minenko (Chairman of the Committee of Supply): Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has considered certain resolutions and directs me to report progress and asks leave to sit again.

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Burrows (Mr. Chornopyski), that the report of the committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

Mr. Speaker: The hour being 5 p.m., time for Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS DEBATE ON SECOND READINGS PUBLIC BILLS

BILL NO. 2—THE BUSINESS NAMES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Speaker: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 2, The Business Names Registration Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'enregistrement des noms commerciaux, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

BILL NO. 3—THE CORPORATIONS AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Speaker: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 3, The Corporations Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les corporations, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

BILL NO. 13—THE MANITOBA HYDRO AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Speaker: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), Bill No. 13, The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Hydro-Manitoba.

Mr. Helmut Pankratz (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to speak on this Bill. Unfortunately, the Member who introduced this Bill, I think he had only one thing in mind at that point in time, to do whatever he could to distort the realities of our Free Trade Agreement, as the Bills state something to this effect, that it is restricting the supply of hydro to possibly be able to sell it to the United States.

We have heard Members opposite put a lot of half-truths on the record in a lot of cases. There was no such a thing in my life when I was raised that there were half-truths. They were either truth or lies that had been stated. As much as I would like to state that, I would not want to indicate that any Member in this House has indirectly put lies on the record. I would

have to state though that I feel some of them come very close to that. At this stage and time when we in this province or in this country are facing an election and people for their own personal gains and/or Party gains will put things on the record, I find it very disappointing that is what people will try to do to possibly get re-elected or for political gain anyhow.

In 1986, we had the former Premier of this province indicate that he had sold to the United States \$4.5 billion worth of hydro sales. This was before the election. That same Member today is running in a new riding in the Province of Manitoba, in Selkirk, and I would hope very much that the people in that riding would make it known for what actually he has put on the record. It brings me back to what I said before. It is very hard to believe that it is possible to put on the record half-truths, because these sales to date still have not been made but they were made before the 1986 election. During the election campaign, they were made, so he said and this is what is on the record. I am just going by what was put on the record at that point in time.

We have seen Members opposite making statements in regard to, for instance, this Bill 13, The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act. Here we are getting to the Bill where the power supply, the corporation may enter into a contract under certain types of agreements with power generated in Manitoba only if the power is supposed to be a surplus, a reasonable and foreseeable demand of Manitoba and other purchases in Canada. Those sales that were made in 1986 which never became a reality were made, I understand, at a point in time when they were agreed with Northern States hydro company to be 20 percent below the cost of their own production, 20 percent below their costs. It had nothing to do with what the cost of that hydro was supposed to be within the Province of Manitoba. I think something of this nature—now when we get a Bill here before us which states that the price to be charged for power supplied by the corporation is sufficient to recover the full cost to the corporation, this goes totally in the face of what in 1986, these so-called agreements which were supposed to be agreements and which never materialized.

* (1710)

I think that we do not have to go very in our records to state that the general public to a great extent has been misled with a lot of these statements that have been put on the record. We can go on now even with our free trade. We can go on, and then we see what Simon Reisman, the person who negotiated the Free Trade Agreement, what he is stating about free trade and what is happening today. It is totally, I think, disgraceful to the Province of Manitoba and also to Canada how people for their own political gain will put half-truths—I will try to use that word—on the record for their own personal gain.

We can see how South Indian Lake was diverted at a point in time, and I must state that the Member for Lakeside (Mr. Enns) put it on the record when he was speaking to this Bill how basically the original diversion of the Churchill River to the Nelson River, the water

that was supposed to be flowed, and because of interference by a political party, the former Government I sort of recall, by their influence—well actually it was both Parties, I believe, at that point in time which were interfering at that point in time. Today we are getting around 20 gallons to 25 gallons per second of water less flow down the Nelson River, which is costing the Province of Manitoba millions and millions of dollars. I think that is another way where we, for the future in this province and any more water projects that will be built along the Nelson River, will all be suffering for that same supply.

It would be interesting to note what that political decision of that time has cost the Province of Manitoba to date and possibly, even like the Nelson River, it can have possibly five or six more power plants along the Nelson River which it is capable of handling. When those will eventually come on stream maybe in the next hundred years, the water supply will never be there to what it could have been if the plan would have been followed which was originally designed by the engineers of the Province of Manitoba without political interference. It was that political interference naturally which diverted less water to the Nelson River, which we are short of actually right today, Mr. Speaker.

This Bill also indicates that power under contract to purchasers in Canada are met before meeting its obligations to supply power to a purchaser outside of Canada. By all means, anybody who is going to be elected to provincial Government or federal Government will always have the country at heart first. At least he should be because that is the oath that he swears when he originally gets elected. I think it would be unreal to think the contrary.

When you see what they were negotiating with—I can see where they are coming from when they are putting a Bill like this before us. They were selling the power exactly contrary to this Bill that the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) is introducing in this House, 20 percent below the power of cost to Northern State Power. It had no bearing on our cost. Today, he basically is scared that those agreements that the Premier of the Day indicated that we were having, that were in place, that we would possibly go through with those deals. That is why he must be bringing this Bill before us, because this is totally contrary to the Bill that he had at that time. We have seen by the previous administration a tremendous increase or, I should say, the exodus of large corporations.

I believe there is only one major trucking firm that is totally Manitoba plated. The rest of them use other provinces and plate their trucks in other provinces so that they can get around, for instance, a lot of things like payroll tax, which naturally we in Government today have already eliminated to some degree but which we will have to work with and, hopefully, be able to totally eliminate in the future. What this did to some of these truckers was that if their trucks were dispatched here to Manitoba, they had to pay the payroll tax on these drivers. This is giving them a totally unfair competition in the trucking industry.

Then I would like to touch on another base which I think files in the face of this agreement again, another

one, which is selling power for a certain amount, Manitoba tendering. When it comes to MTS, it was an agreement made with some of the companies that 65 percent of all the tendering should be with Manitoba firms, that the tendering process with any company outside of Manitoba that they would not qualify. Sixty-five percent of all the tendering had to be Manitoba, 35 percent which is the the balance of it, if the 35 percent was within 5 percent, it still would also go to Manitoba. So that leaves basically that you are tendering with whom? With whom are you tendering? When you send out a tender and there is one company in the Province of Manitoba that is building the product, basically with whom are you tendering? That makes a mockery out of the tendering system, Mr. Speaker.

I feel that this Bill, the way it has been presented in the House, actually flies in the face of the previous administration's total management that they have put in place in the past seven years while they were in Government. Their agreements, their tendering, the payroll tax, different things, it did not allow free true competition in the first place. Here they want to bring forward a Bill which will only allow power to be sold if you can recover the full cost of the corporation of supplying the power as provided under section so and so, whatever.

I believe that we on this side of the House in Government today will react. We have been questioning their motives when they were in Government. Today, I believe, when we will be dealing and the Minister of Energy and Mines (Mr. Neufeld) has indicated and he has put on the record also how he is reacting to these negotiations with the companies and also in respect to the smelter, if we would be able to get to it to the Province of Manitoba that, No. 1, the mandate of Manitoba Hydro would be to supply the cheapest power rate for the people in the Province of Manitoba, the citizens, the aged and so forth. Mr. Speaker, I believe that if the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), actually what he should do today, he should withdraw this Bill because it flies in the total face of their administration of the previous seven years. I think if he does not withdraw it, well naturally it is on the record the way it is here today and I think he will have to live with it by all means. Hopefully, we will be able to convey that to the people of the Province of Manitoba what an irresponsible Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) he is possibly, and we can with that indicate to the people in the Province of Manitoba that we are concerned that they shall, through Manitoba Hydro, through that corporation, we want to strengthen their mandate and allow them to operate with least Government intervention and bring hydro to the people of the Province of Manitoba at the cheapest rate possible. Thank you.

* (1720)

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question? The question before the House is—the Honourable Attorney-General.

Hon. James McCrae (Attorney-General): I rise this afternoon to participate in the debate on Bill No. 13.

As I rise, I note guffaws coming from the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), which is typical of his handling of the whole free trade issue from start to finish, a political issue, pure and simple to that Honourable Member, nothing to do with what is good for the people of Manitoba, bad for the people of Manitoba, or any other, just a great opportunity for the Honourable Member to take up the time of this House listening to his diatribes and tirades about free trade in an attempt to—I should not say in an attempt, but leaving the impression in people's minds that there is something to fear.

That is precisely why I rise in the debate, Mr. Speaker, because I believe Honourable Members are discussing these matters relating to free trade at a very important time in the history of this country. So in a perverted kind of way, the Honourable Member is doing a service by bringing forward this Bill and giving Honourable Members in this Chamber an opportunity to debate something fundamentally important, not only to Manitobans but to all Canadians. I am sure all Honourable Members on both sides of the House and on both sides of the issue welcome the opportunity to discuss a matter so fundamental.

It is interesting to me when I hear comments from day to day from some Honourable Members who find themselves, for whatever reason, in opposition to the Free Trade Agreement entered into between the Government of Canada, or the Prime Minister of Canada and the Government of the United States. It is passing strange to me when I hear so many Honourable Members say that what we are doing is we are selling out to the United States and that the United States benefits from the Free Trade Agreement and Canada loses.

We have just been through about a year or more of campaigning for a federal presidential election in the United States of America and I wonder, since the administration supported by Vice-President Bush, since that administration is the administration that is supposed to benefit so much from this free trade deal, I wonder why we have heard so little of the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States in the presidential election campaign in the United States. Honourable Members opposite say that the Free Trade Agreement is such a boon to the United States so that they can take advantage of our country and rape and pillage our people. How come we have not heard anything about that from the presidential candidates in regard to the Free Trade Agreement?

Honourable Members opposite also take the opportunity in any free trade debate to suggest that the health care programs that we Canadians have come to expect and we feel we deserve, that somehow those health care programs are in jeopardy. Well, I think it is fair to suggest that one Mr. Tommy Douglas had a fair input into the birth of the Medicare system that we have in this country. So too, Mr. Speaker, did one Emmett Hall. Emmett Hall has spoken out rather clearly about that particular aspect of the Free Trade Agreement in recent days, making it crystal clear that in no way will the health care of Canadians be in any way jeopardized by the Free Trade Agreement.

We can go through chapter and verse of the various aspects of the Free Trade Agreement that Honourable Members opposite are complaining about and wringing their hands about and, in each case, Honourable Members opposite are unable to make the case in any empirical way that would back up their statements.

So, Mr. Speaker, because of all of that, Honourable Members bring in a Bill such as the Bill as we have before us in the name of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), which somehow is supposed to protect Manitobans from the ravages of the Free Trade Agreement which even Honourable Members in his Party recognize will have a positive effect on employment in Manitoba, will have a positive effect on consumer prices in Manitoba, will have a positive effect on the price of those consumer goods in Manitoba. These same Honourable Members then find some reason, because they cannot find any good reason to oppose the trade deal, they find some other reasons to oppose it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please.

The Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae) has the floor and I am sure, if Honourable Members would like to carry on with their private conversations, there is ample room out in the hallways. I am sure Honourable Members like to hear.

Mr. McCrae: Mr. Speaker, I suppose the other tactic is to attempt to drown out those Members of the Legislature who find themselves to be supportive of an—

An Honourable Member: Shame!

Mr. McCrae: —initiative which will bring thousands of person years of employment to our province.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am trying to hear the Member's comments and I want to for the record indicate to the Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae) that it was his own caucus Members who were creating the ruckus behind him, not Members on this side. My point of order, Mr. Speaker, is that there is a question of relevance that has to be raised and the Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae) has obviously not read the Bill.

Some Honourable Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Storie: He is entering a debate which is not germane to Bill 13 and I would ask him to be called to order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs, on the same point of order.

Hon. Gerald Ducharme (Minister of Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have been sitting here directly behind the Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae), and it is because

of the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) that I could not hear what he was saying.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please. Honourable Members do not have a point of order. I raised this matter myself because there were Members on both sides of the House who were carrying on with their private conversations, neither one side nor the other.

Mr. McCrae: Sir, I appreciate your support and the support of the Honourable Minister of Housing (Mr. Ducharme) for an orderly House. I think that is probably the best way to have a debate like this but for some reason some Honourable Members opposite, certainly the ones over in the far north end of the Chamber, tend to want to disrupt the debate. At least, the Liberals in our Chamber are polite enough to sit and listen and I am hoping that they will actually learn something from what they hear in this debate. Up until now, the evidence is there, they have a lot to learn.

While I do not set myself up as a member of the teaching profession like the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) or the Honourable Leader of the Opposition (Mrs. Carstairs), I do feel that I too have something to say and I would like it, if not heard by Honourable Members, at least be recorded in Hansard. Some of the noise that comes from the opposite side has a tendency sometimes to drown out what might be coming through the microphones.

I stand today to make a plea on behalf of the people of Brandon, if not all of the people of Manitoba, to the Honourable Member directly. I make a plea to him not to provoke actions on the part of the electorate or of a Government in this province which will deny the right of the people of Brandon to see further orderly development of their community.

It is very disturbing to me when I see a representative of the labour movement, for instance, in Brandon, an old friend of mine from my City Council days, but to make reference to three specific corporations in our city which he suggests will be adversely affected and the employment at those plants adversely affected, that is troubling. It is refreshing the next day to read in the paper a complete repudiation by the general managers of all three corporations as to what this particular labour leader had to say.

That does tend to cheer one up somewhat, but sometimes the damage is done by making the allegations in the first place. Honourable Members opposite know that. Very often, you do not have to substantiate allegations, just scare the wits out of people and you can get the point across. I see the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) nodding his head in agreement. That does seem to be what the tactic of Honourable Members opposite is when it comes to matters related to the Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. Speaker, early on in the debate, I suppose about a year ago, I took the trouble of learning everything that I could about the Free Trade Agreement and making decisions on my own based on analysis done. The Honourable Members opposite keep finding some way to raise issues that have been long since taken care

of, long since dismissed by those who are in better positions than myself or Honourable Members opposite to make judgments about the Free Trade Agreement.

I can refer for instance to Behlen Industries in the City of Brandon which is in the business of manufacturing. I can refer to the company that I referred to late in the last Session just previous to the demise of the previous Government, relating to Brandon Manufacturing, and how the product manufactured by that company is subject to a very large tariff.

* (1730)

In order for them to do any orderly development of market for their product, a reduced tariff between Canada and the United States would be a natural thing to do and a natural market to pursue when we consider that a lot of the present manufacturing capacity is sent down east to Ontario, which is good. I appreciate seeing that kind of business happen. But a very natural flow of goods, were there to be a freer form of trade between our two nations, would be south of the border where there is a very large market for the type of goods created in the City of Brandon.

Let us not forget, we are talking medium-sized businesses when we are talking about business in Brandon. We are not talking big business. We are not talking raping and pillaging the resources of our country. We are talking about putting people to work. That is one of the reasons I got into politics was to attempt to help the people in my community and to help in the orderly development of my community. If I am going to believe anyone when it comes right down to the credibility of the whole issue, if I am going to agree with anybody about which way to go, and if jobs are an important factor in deciding about the merits of the Free Trade Agreement, I would far sooner believe a Prime Minister whose Government has presided over a country which has created a thousand jobs a day since it came into office in 1984, far sooner than I would want to believe a Party Leader of a Party which formed a Government under which Canadians saw 20 percent interest rates, under which Canadians saw double-digit inflation and economic woes of every description in this country.

Just the mere suggestion that that particular Party might become the Government of Canada has sent out some shock waves and wakened people up. Maybe that is a good thing that happened, because with a few weeks to go or two weeks to go before election day when Canadians have to make that all-important decision, maybe some of those indicators will be indication enough to some Canadians that, hey, maybe there is something there to protect. It is not health care because health care is protected. It is not our cultural industries because they are protected.

What is there to protect is the trade that we now have with the United States. Some people say that the United States is the wrong country to be trading with. Those people belong to the same Party as our Honourable Members opposite in the Liberal Party that said, oh, let us pursue another economic link—I think they called it—or some other option over in Europe.

Well, for Heaven's sake, Mr. Trudeau tried to do that; at least he said he tried. Maybe he did not try but I assume he did. He failed miserably in that attempt; he failed. Now his Party, those who come after him say forget about the U.S. option, try this European option, the one we tried, the one we failed so miserably to create for Canadians, or to develop for Canadians, so that people could be put to work. No, let us try that one again.

I would rather go with something which demonstrably works, which demonstrably will work. Nobody on the opposite side is going to say that there is a net loss in employment in this country. If they have, I have not heard it yet. Maybe they are going to start saying that next. They have not said it so far. If they want to start saying it now, let them. But they cannot; they know they cannot. There is a net gain of employment for Canadians. Honourable Members opposite in both Parties recognize that there is a net change in terms of consumer prices, a change for the better for consumers. I see Members opposite in business, in the business of creating goods for sale to consumers.

They want to make those goods available to our friends south of the border to help create work on this side of the border, just as much as we would like to have a better supply, a better variety of goods to choose from. Canadians deserve that, too. They deserve the things that they have, they deserve the social programs they have, they also deserve to have a Government which is willing to move forward into the future to pursue an option which is demonstrably better than what we have today, No. 1, but also serves to preserve what we already have. Now, if we are talking fear campaigns, we certainly had plenty of it. This Bill is an excellent example of the fear campaign that has been going on. I think many people will admit that it is easier to spread the negative and to make the negative believed than it is the positive.

I remember for many years, working in the House of Commons, listening to those Liberal Members on the Government side in those days, telling us in the Conservative Party, you should not be talking about these 20 percent interest rates because there are some good things going on, too. Fair comment, I agree, fair comment. But Honourable Members opposite have not been very open when it comes to discussing the positive elements of the Free Trade Agreement.

If we can do anything in this debate on Bill 13 or anything in the debate on Bill 20 or at any other opportunity in the next little while to attempt to show to the people of this country that there is no boogeyman out there, that what we are looking at is a vision into the future and the protection of what we have into the future for our children and our grandchildren so that they can stay home in their communities like Brandon rather than have to come to Winnipeg to find their work or even head to Ontario. It is not so terrible to go to Ontario or to Winnipeg, but why do you have to? Would it not be nice to stay in our communities, in our province and raise our children where we want to raise them? I am telling you, Mr. Speaker, the Free Trade Agreement provides a better opportunity for that in the future than what we have today.

Mr. Speaker, it is very hard to stay on topic when we discuss this Bill because there is very little substance to this Bill. This Bill means nothing; this Bill does nothing. I strongly encourage Honourable Members to relegate this Bill to that place where it belongs, which is not before Honourable Members in the Legislature. It is not worthy of consideration either positive or negative. I would ask the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) to withdraw his Bill so that Members of this House can go on to debate about something meaningful.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please.

Mr. Storie: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon, on a point of order.

Mr. Storie: The Member has impugned my motives for introducing this legislation. I am wondering if the Member would submit to a question.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Minister's time has expired.

Mr. McCrae: On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae), on a point of order.

Mr. McCrae: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Just as it is a serious matter to impugn one's motives, it is just as serious to be accused of impugning one's motives. At no point have I attempted in any way to impugn the motives of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon. I would suggest—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please.

Mr. McCrae: —that he take back the comment and apologize.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; order, please. The Honourable Minister does not have a point of order. The Honourable Member for Gimli.— (Interjection)—

Order, please. I have ruled on that point of order.

Mr. Storie: Did I have leave to—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I said the Honourable Minister's time had expired. The Honourable Member for Gimli.

Mr. Edward Helwer (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Lac du Bonnet (Mr. Praznik), that debate be adjourned on this Bill, Bill No. 13.

MOTION presented and carried.

BILL NO. 16—THE REAL PROPERTY AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Speaker: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill

No. 16, The Real Property Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les biens réels, standing in the name of the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Cummings). (Stand)

BILL NO. 20—THE WATER RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Speaker: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. Norbert (Mr. Angus), Bill No. 20, The Water Rights Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les droits d'utilisation de l'eau, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae).

Would there be leave to leave it standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General? (Agreed) The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

Mr. Harry Enns (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I want to demonstrate my capability of coming to heel by beginning my comments following the direction of my House Leader (Mr. McCrae) that he just placed on the record with respect to Bill No. 13 when he suggested the Bill had no business being on the Order Paper. The Bill that I intend to speak on, Bill No. 20, equally has no business either.

Some Honourable Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Enns: Mr. Speaker, we understand, of course, why it is on the Order Paper. It does allow us to touch on one other issue that has been raised on the great Free Trade Agreement debate that is ravaging the country. That is simply by pointing out that even though the subject matter of concern in the Honourable Member for St. Norbert's (Mr. Angus) Bill, that is the export of water, has been clearly, demonstrably shown that is not an issue at risk, that is not a question contemplated in the agreement, that no foreign power will at any time dictate to Canada or future Canadians as to how to manage their water resources. But even having taken that argument, as my colleagues in the federal House have allowed themselves to be influenced by that argument, they passed the Bill to satisfy those concerns, to satisfy those concerns that are being expressed by opponents to the Free Trade Agreement because certain items not specifically mentioned, not dealt with in the trade agreement, did not have specific exemptions.

What this demonstrates, Mr. Speaker, it does not matter if the Free Trade Agreement showed the similar exemption clauses for the very issues that Honourable Members opposite are raising in their scare tactics and their fearmongering tactics, would not have precluded from the argument that we are involved, would not have precluded individual Legislatures trying to milk a bit of politics out of the situation by raising that concern, raising that level of fear—in this case in Manitobans—about a non-existent concern.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker, Mark Minenko, in the Chair.)

* (1740)

Water is not dealt with in the manner contemplated by this Bill in the Free Trade Agreement. To make that

doubly plain to Canadians, federal legislation was introduced, if not passed, the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party (Mrs. Carstairs) indicates to me. Surely that indicates the full intention of a Government to pass that kind of legislation and nothing preventing, having so indicated, should the next Government be a Government of a different political persuasion. Certainly, as indicated, certainly as given indication as one of the least difficult situations that new Government would face, is agreement on this particular matter to pass that kind of legislation, having introduced it in the first place.

So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is not at issue. That is why this Bill really is not an appropriate measure before this Chamber. Further on and furthermore and more importantly, and really that speaks to the heart and substance to those who oppose the Free Trade Agreement, that while I do not generalize in this allegation, but they are basically banking their opposition, very often in an subliminal fashion—I could never say that word, but if I say it quickly the Members will understand what I mean.

It is built and based on a foundation regrettably, and with the knowledge that Canadians have been subjected over the past several decades to an insidious anti-American program and campaign in this country. Being aware of that, or at least some of them being aware of it, the planners, the movers, the shakers of the strategy of opposition, know that banking on that basis, their particular attacks against the Free Trade Agreement, their attacks against cooperating with our best trading partner, their attacks against anything that involves our friends, the Americans, will likely find fruitful reception in the Canadian psyche, Canadian mind. I say that very seriously because that is what I believe is what is taking place, that is what I believe is being reflected in current opinion polls. I say Canada is the poorer for it.

I say the Bill and Bills of this nature, the kind of attacks on the Free Trade Agreement, are an insult to our American friends. They are an insult to the actual practice and tradition that we, as Canadians, have every reason to rely on and to bank on, particularly in the area of water. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do want to contain myself to the principle of the Bill, we are talking about water export. Specifically, with respect to water, have our American friends shown themselves to be responsible, cooperative and willing partners in the sharing of this continent's water resources.

Since 1909, with the signing of the International Boundary Waters Treaty and subsequent action throughout these many years, they have shown themselves to be anything but responsible, friendly and cooperative. For anybody to say anything different simply has not experienced specific situations where conflict arose between our two nations with respect to, in this instance particularly, waters that flow either side of the boundary back and forth or impact or actions or projects initiated by one country or another could have that impact of, in some way altering in a non-beneficial way, the waters flowing into our country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it was my privilege to have been involved during the mid-Seventies in this Chamber, and

some Members will recall the perceived concern that Manitobans and Canadians had about a major project initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, namely the provision of substantial irrigation benefits in the State of North Dakota, our southern neighbour, through the project called the Garrison Project.

That subject matter filled many pages of Hansard in this Chamber. It brought, even in those politically polarized days, a degree of unanimity in this Chamber. All-Party delegations were assembled to meet with our American friends in Bismarck, North Dakota and on two occasions at least that I can recall delegations from this Chamber representing all Parties and including our federal Parties travelled to Washington to meet with policy makers at the very highest level to discuss and to put forward Manitoba's Canadian concerns.

We were received—it was my privilege to have been part of those delegations—with courtesy, with understanding by our American friends, despite the fact that this project was conceived as righting a long, long wrong imposed on those residents of the State of North Dakota who had given up some of their rights to Missouri River waters for other projects further downstream in South Dakota, but were promised 30, 40, 50 years ago that their time would come, their turn would come where they could use these waters, their waters, to help improve the economic situation in that state, to provide irrigation waters for several hundreds of thousands of acres in a state that is part of the Palliser Triangle that suffers from periodic droughts.

This was motherhood to Senators like Mark Andrews, of Republican or Democratic persuasion, for decades in the State of North Dakota, and when they finally received the necessary legislative approval from their Legislatures and from their federal Legislature to proceed with the project, their northern neighbours, the Canadians, the Manitobans all of a sudden raised a great deal of concerns.

I point out, the concerns were largely perceived, but I do not take issue with them because, regrettably with environmental issues, we just simply do not take unnecessary gambles or chances. When visions of the gizzard shad were about to destroy our Lake Winnipeg fisheries, despite the fact that they have never been known to survive under ice, despite the fact that once in recorded history in the last hundred years they got as far as the southern border of South Dakota, nonetheless these visions of potential biological pollution and other problems were sufficient that the Americans fundamentally and basically altered their plan. They compromised, reduced the scale of their project so that an inter-basin transfer of waters would not occur. That was done cooperatively by a neighbour that is 10 times larger than us. That was done because in my judgment Canada should be so fortunate to have a responsible neighbour like the U.S. and people like ourselves who will respond to reason when difficulties arise between two sovereign nations.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I mentioned earlier on in the comments about the blatant and sometimes not so blatant flow and deliberate, in my opinion, injection of anti-Americanism into our culture, culminating I suggest a few years ago when it was found amusing by Members

of this Chamber, by Members of the then Government, including Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Premiers of this Chamber to smirk and smile and generally take enjoyment in front of television cameras while demonstrating in front of the U.S. Consulate here in Winnipeg and watching the burning of the replica of the American flag—not the high moment, not conducive to the kind of cooperative resolution of problems that we from time to time undoubtedly will have.

* (1750)

I can recall having the advantages of an American Consulate General in this city. I can recall the help of a particular Consul, Mr. Carpenter, was in those very negotiations on the Garrison, who arranged for us, who helped the Manitoba delegation meet the appropriate contacts, the appropriate Senators in Washington, who was at all times helpful and courteous and unresponsive to Manitoba's needs. I can recall his successor, Mrs. Lillianne Mullen, who was a courteous, very capable diplomat representing her country in a way that all diplomats in all countries could be proud of.

I can recall that one of the social highlights on the Manitoba scene, one to which most Members of the Manitoba Legislature regularly were invited to, to share the pride, share the fun and share the hospitality of our American friends on the July 4 celebrations at the home, usually at the private home, of the American Consul in Winnipeg. That, Mr. Deputy Speaker, has all disappeared. That has all gone by; that is history - (interjection)- well, it is a tired old speech, the Honourable Member for Flin Flon says. But the truth of the matter is where then comes this virulent attack on our American friends. Why this constant doubting of their motives? Why always paint the worst scenario of what the Americans are going to do?

Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, from the highest level, from the former Prime Minister of this country in one of his innumerable trips to Moscow that suggests that Canada is under military threat from our U.S. neighbours. That kind of blatant and uncalled for anti-Americanism has poisoned to an extent that Canadians are not going to admit to themselves the relationships between our two countries.

I say that is not called for, certainly not by the actions of the American Governments, certainly not on the issue of water—to come back to the Bill—certainly not in the manner and way in which we have been able to responsibly resolve our differences. And so, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I suggest that this Bill, like Bill No. 13, has no place on our order number. Thank you.

Mr. Darren Praznik (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) is looking for some new material, I certainly have lots to provide him within my remarks here today.

It gives me great pleasure to join again in what I think this House is seeing as a free trade debate. I had the opportunity to speak on the anti-free-trade Bill proposed by the New Democrats and today I would like to concentrate on the remarks and the position of the Members of the Liberal Party. I have had my

arguments with the Members of the New Democratic Party, now it is time to go after—well, I guess the so-called Manitoba side of the Liberal Party. We are not quite sure where that is.

This particular Bill brought forward by the Member for St. Norbert (Mr. Angus), as is clearly indicated in the way the legislation is drafted, is there solely as a piece of anti-free-trade legislation which this province, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and indeed the country does not need. I think the words of Simon Reisman in an article, which appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, state very clearly: "Like social programs, large scale water diversion was never a subject of our negotiations and," Mr. Deputy Speaker, "very clearly is not part of the agreement."

What the Free Trade Agreement does in the area of water is very simple. Over a 10-year period, it removes the .4 cent a litre on Canadian beverage water, the tariff we place, and also removes the 10.2 percent duty on water we import from the United States, hardly a flood. If the Members opposite think this is so terrible, the people in my constituency and in the constituency, I believe, of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye (Mr. Pankratz), who work in the beverage water industry which is trying to develop in Manitoba, certainly have a strong message for them.

I would like to read from a speech delivered by a great Liberal, Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the subject of free trade. I think the Members opposite from the Liberal Party, the Member for St. Vital (Mr. Rose), the Member for Transcona (Mr. Kozak), would enjoy these remarks immensely. Let me quote from, I am sure we will agree, one of the greatest Liberals of them all. This Member said: "When I was in Europe, we saw the Common Market. That is free trade in action. As a matter of fact, between Belgium and Holland, they have a completely open border. They have no problems. They have kept their sovereignty. They have kept their cultural identity." They keep saying what free trade will do to us, the opponents of free trade.

Well this very great Liberal, Mr. Deputy Speaker, goes on to say: "Well, I will tell you, I will tell them, Madam Speaker, what free trade does not do. It does not affect our sovereignty. It does not affect our system of social programs. It does not affect our ability to deal effectively with regional disparity. It does not affect our cultural identity. It does not affect our agricultural marketing systems, and it does not prevent us from pursuing new and better trading relationships with other countries. Those are the facts. I think what is said to the contrary, Madam Speaker, is not factual." And that great Liberal of which I speak, the Member for Transcona (Mr. Kozak) should not be surprised because the Member for Transcona sits right next to that great Liberal, the Member for Springfield (Mr. Roch). Those were the remarks of that great Liberal just a few months ago when he also sat on the Opposition benches.

An Honourable Member: That was different.

Mr. Praznik: It was different. Why it was different, I am not sure, but obviously it was different.

Our friends across the way, the friends in the Liberal Party who think they can gallivant across the country

and this province, Mr. Deputy Speaker, spreading innuendo and falsehoods about this particular agreement, and we know the Member for Springfield knows that those are falsehoods, their actions are being heard. It is actions like theirs that have resulted in the further fall of our dollar. It is actions like theirs that are going to result in an increased interest rate. It is actions like theirs that are going to hurt our young families and our business communities. It is about time they took this whole business seriously instead of making it into one big political act.

We have heard the Members of the Liberal Party, particularly the Leader of the Liberal Party nationally, Mr. Turner. We have heard their candidate in St. Boniface, Mr. Duhamel, talk about finding other trading options, not putting all our eggs in one basket. All Members of this House, I am sure, get this little circular from the Canada-Japan Trade Council. I do not know how many Members in the Liberal Party have actually read it. Let me quote and read into the record of this House this very important fact. It is talking about a study that looks at Japanese direct investment in Canada. Let me quote for you: "The good news for Canada is that there has been a major change in Japanese attitudes and perceptions towards investing in Canada." The report notes: "Many of those interviewed expressed considerable satisfaction that FIRA had been dissolved and commented on the good work being done by Investment Canada. Interviewees also focused on the importance of assured access," I underline, Mr. Deputy Speaker, assured access, "to the U.S. market from Canada. And in the context of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, it is of particular interest."

A Japanese bank is quoted in the report as saying that the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement is very important to Japanese investors who view North America as one market. If the Free Trade Agreement

goes ahead, it will enhance the attractiveness of Canada as a place to invest. A research institute remarked, "The Free Trade Agreement will have a positive impact and, because of cost advantage, Canada may attract some Japanese manufacturing investment to serve the entire North American market." So much for the third option. So much for not putting our eggs in one basket. If the Members across the way, particularly their Finance critic, would read this piece of information, he should be out on the hustings campaigning for free trade instead of against it.

Now I realize my time is drawing near, but there is one comment I would like to make before the day runs out. Maybe there is a reason why the Liberal Party is playing this game, obviously to win a federal election. This particular article was pointed out to me by my friend, the Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway). It is an article that appeared in the Winnipeg Sun: "Bourassa Predicts Grit Flip-flop."

The Liberals know, the Member for St. Vital (Mr. Rose) knows, in their heart of hearts that this agreement is good for Canada, but they refuse to say it now for cheap political reasons. How disgusting! I challenge the Members opposite, particularly the Member for St. Vital, to get up in this House and tell us that this agreement, that free trade is not good for Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. When next this matter is under debate, the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet (Mr. Praznik) will have seven minutes remaining. This matter is standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). Is there leave for this Bill to stand in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General? (Agreed)

The hour being 6 p.m., this House is now adjourned and stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. tomorrow afternoon (Wednesday).