



Third Session — Thirty-Second Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

33 Elizabeth II

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Speaker*



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MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Thirty-Second Legislature

Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation

Name	Constituency	Party
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ANSTETT, Hon. Andy	Springfield	NDP
ASHTON, Steve	Thompson	NDP
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Monday, 4 June, 1984.

Time — 8:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY - CULTURE, HERITAGE AND RECREATION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, P. Fox: Committee come to order. We're on Section 2.(g)(1) - the Honourable Minister.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: This afternoon, I had taken a question as notice regarding the Flin Flon Band Parents' Association, regarding a grant they received in 1982-83. That was a grant of \$750 under what had been, at that time and for many years previous, a program called the Outreach Program. The purpose of that specific grant was to assist the members to attend the Assiniboine Optimist Band Festival in the City of Winnipeg. That grant program is no longer in effect, and it's part of the revised grant programs that I talked about earlier, the Co-ordination Assistance, the Skills Transfer, the Public Events Sponsorship.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Mr. Minister, for that answer. Before we left, when we were dealing with Section (f), there was some discussion that referred to Regional Services.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's the item we're on now.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Yes, and this is the item that was more or less completely transferred from Recreation into this department. Under Fitness and Recreation, it had a budget of - well, the actual budget as shown here in 1984. There was \$1.4 million estimated in the Estimates last year, so there is relatively no change in that particular budget. But I would like to ask how many regional offices there are in this department.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The offices are as follows: There is an Eastman office operating the Eastman Region.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Excuse me. I wonder if it would save some time if the Minister could mention Eastman, and how many people are involved in those offices.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, I was going to do that. Eastman Region is operated out of Beausejour; it has a regional manager, a regional consultant and administrative secretary - three people. The Central Region Office is in Morden; it has the same complement as Eastman. The Interlake Region is operated out of Gimli: it has the same staff as the other two offices. The Westman Region is operated out of Brandon: it, too, has the same staff complement. The Parkland

Region is operated out of Dauphin, and it has the same staff.

The Norman Region has offices in The Pas and Thompson; it has a regional manager, four regional consultants and two administrative secretaries. The regional consultants are in The Pas, Thompson, and Flin Flon. The staff is basically the same as existed under the former department with one addition, which was a person that was a cultural resources officer located in Flin Flon. It was under the Department of Culture and it has now been integrated into the regional delivery system of the combined departments. All the other staff were transferred from the Department of Fitness, Recreation and Sport.

I'm sorry, I failed to mention that there's a regional manager for the Winnipeg region operating out of Winnipeg.

MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos: The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: When you use the word combined, these offices are now handling all the requests for Cultural Affairs, as well?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, they're the regional resource for the combined apartment. They're for all activities of the department, culture, heritage, recreation; they are, in essence, the first line response in terms of the community, in terms of any information, assistance they may require. They, of course, will call upon specific technical resources in the various branches, whether it be heritage, libraries, recreation services or other branches of the department, they would then call on the services if there needs to be more specific or detailed information.

They also, by agreement, provide the support for the Department of Fitness and Sport, or the Fitness and Sport Branches of the Department of Health, any programs they have for communities outside of Winnipeg are provided through the regional offices.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: This group works for Fitness and Health as well then, but they are basically in Fitness and Sport, not necessarily with the Health Department.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Just the programs of the Fitness and Sport Branch, if you will, of the Department of Health.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Is there any part of their salaries charged to Fitness and Sport or are they all on this one?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, they're all provided for here.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: What are the demands like for the requests, say in - now that the Member for Pembina is here and he reminds me - how are the demands, say in Pembina, or in Morden, versus say the requests from Northern Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Basically the demands of staff in an area like the Central Region are more administrative in nature in terms of the assistance they provide to the various organizations, and less on the development side. In the North, the greater work is in the development area and less in administration.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: You used the word "development." I know your staff is not just sitting there waiting for people to come walking in the door, they're out working with all the community people, but is it really an explanation of what's available to the different regions and the people within the region with the councils, municipalities, or towns being aware of it and then them deciding whether they would like to participate in any of the programs? Or is there a type of selling job being done - let's put it that way - that's probably the wrong word but I think you know what I mean.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Part of it is as the member outlined, that's part of the function, letting community organizations know what may be available for them. Another function is to provide assistance to organized groups and communities. As the member is probably aware, there are a number of recreation organizations, recreation commissions, recreation branches of various towns, cities, municipalities in Manitoba that have their own resources in terms of putting on programs and managing facilities. Our staff provides assistance to the staffs of other organizations, so part of it is providing information on what's available for development of new opportunities in communities. A lot of it is what I referred to before, of administrative nature, providing services to what is already in place.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: As far as Winnipeg is concerned, we have the City of Winnipeg Parks and Recreation Department. You mentioned you have one person in Winnipeg, and I imagine he spends most of his time in Winnipeg. Is the situation still the same in that if, say, a Winnipeg community club looking for some assistance or to do something in the recreation area - I know that they have to work through the City of Winnipeg - but is there any assistance from the province to any of these organizations or do you just stay away from it?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The assistance is provided directly through the City of Winnipeg Parks and Recreation. The staff resources of the department liaises and is a resource or connection point for the City of Winnipeg Parks and Recreation. That person also works with some of the recreation organizations that are provided assistance through the department like the Boys and Girls Club.

We also provide leadership training funds, a small amount of \$25,000 to the City of Winnipeg for a number of leadership development courses and seminars that are worked through the Winnipeg recreation manager.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Is this funding that goes to Winnipeg from the province part of the grants that go through Urban Affairs, or is there a grant from this recreational department?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, it's strictly from the department to the City of Winnipeg out of appropriation in this department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Is this the appropriate section to ask questions on regional arts organizations, Regional Arts Councils?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: We've actually passed that but I'd be willing to answer the questions here.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I appreciate that, thank you. In the financing, the funding to Regional Arts Councils, is there a rule of thumb that you could go by which would indicate the amount of provincial funding through grants versus local funding through business support, etc., community support? Is there a rule of thumb that you try to go by?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, there is a Community Cultural Council Grant Program which provides up to \$1.00 per capita to a maximum of \$20,000 based on cost shared with municipal governments for the operation of councils. There is also an incentive grant of up to \$2,500 which is based on any additional fund raising that are from non-government sources. It's kind of an incentive grant to match private fund raising activities.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Okay, so then the secondary is a dollar for dollar matching with private donations or local support, and the other one is up to \$1.00 and what is the criteria, is it matching as well?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Matching with municipal government. The other is matching with the private fund raising, however they may raise those funds, but they are not from government sources.

MR. D. ORCHARD: The reason I'm asking is that I had the opportunity just very recently to attend the Tiger Hills Organization, your Deputy was the hostess for the evening. I have to say that that was the first function I had attended at their invitation, I've missed the other two or three that they've invited me to. But I was very . . .

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I attended the year before you did.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I understand that. But I was very impressed with the level of community support that the Tiger Hills Association has. With the addition on their program that evening they have, I would guess, three full pages of various individuals and businesses throughout the region that they serve, who support their association. I was wondering if that was typical of the regional councils or whether they've done an exceptional job, in terms of community participation and fund raising.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: First of all, I should just note for the member, the program that he attended was a festival program which is through the Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals. The Tiger Hills Community Cultural Council had an involvement in that, but it was not their program per se. Notwithstanding that point, the level of support to those organizations is, I would say, on average, very

good throughout the province, in terms of the support from the public, from private companies and from other community organizations.

Support from municipalities per se, ranges - in some areas it's very strong, in other areas, it's very low, it just ranges by area - there tends to be greater support in the larger communities, towns and cities and less support in the rural municipalities.

MR. D. ORCHARD: The matching grants - is there a limit, an upper limit?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: \$20,000.00.

MR. D. ORCHARD: \$20,000 is the upper limit. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(g)(1)—pass.
The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: On the recreational programs, is there a limit of funding in relation to the cost of the project that you have decided to support? In other words, if it's a recreational program, a new rink or facilities of something of that nature and there's a price tag on it, is there an upper limit, 50 percent or something of that nature, in the recreational programs?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I think the member's referring to what was in place previously, the Recreation Facilities Grants Program, which was in effect for a two-year period and, as I indicated earlier today, that's the program that we're presently reviewing and hope to have in place to finalize the guidelines and have it announced within about the next four weeks.

Under the previous program, the practice was - and it'll be somewhat similar this year, there may be some changes by the time it's finalized - it basically provided levels of support up to the maximum of \$20,000.00. The terms were funneled, if I can use that term, through municipal corporations, either municipalities, towns, cities, based on their definition of need for recreation facilities in their communities. They could either use it directly on a municipal recreation facility or they could have those funds flow to a community recreation organization in their community, but the determination was made by the municipality.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Okay, so it was up to \$20,000.00. Under the other programs was there any special projects that would go to more than that, working with the municipalities or the towns?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: And you are presently going to be announcing a new program regarding recreation facilities? I know the Minister is not going to announce it tonight, but are your plans still to work through the municipalities and the towns, or directly with organizations?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The present plans are to have it through municipalities.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(g)(1) - the Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I didn't realize that was an area that could be discussed at this time. Just let me make sure that I understand we are talking about the similar kind of program. If a community, for instance, was to make renovations to their community hall or their curling rink or their skating rink, is that the type of program we are discussing here now?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The program we are discussing now is a replacement for what was formerly called the Recreation Facilities Grant Program, '82 to '84; prior to that it was called the Recreation Facilities Grant Program, '81; prior to that it was the Sports Facilities Program, 1980. The history of it, in one form or the other, goes back to 1972 and it has taken various forms, have had various funding formulae and various amounts of money set aside for it. They have all been out of lottery funds, so what I am referring to is a replacement program for what was in that long line of programs going back to 1972.

MR. D. ORCHARD: You are hoping to have that kind of program announced within, say, a month's time?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's correct.

MR. D. ORCHARD: And would it be fair to assume the only change maybe from previous ones is this might be a Jobs Fund initiative?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Not at all, it will be an initiative of the department through lottery-based revenues.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Can I just ask the Minister what has the function been? I mean, we are replacing a program and there seems to have been some limbo regarding the program. What was available to the towns and communities regarding recreation facilities, well, parks or anything for that matter, in this past while?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: This program concluded at the end of the last fiscal year. There are still payouts taking place in terms of projects that were approved and the formal final applications are just being processed now. So the lag period is between the end of the last fiscal year and the commencement of this fiscal year. They have always been programs that have been set for a specific time period, either one or two years, announced and then put in place and then concluded and re-evaluated. There has always been some alteration in terms of either funds or formula. As indicated, at one time it was strictly for sports facilities, then it was broadened to recreation facilities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(g)(1)—pass; 2.(g)(2)—pass; 2.(g)(3)—pass.

2.(h)(1) Provincial Archives: Salaries; 2.(h)(2) Other Expenditures; 2.(h)(3) Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, the Provincial Archives are pretty straightforward. How many people are working within the Archives now?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There are 36 staff.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: There were some problems that were brought to light within the Provincial Archives some time back. Have those pretty well all been straightened out at the present time?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I believe the problem that the member is referring to was the thefts that occurred at the Archives. Some matters related to that are still before the courts, so I can't comment on the specifics of that.

There have been, though, significant changes in the overall security of the Archives. Plans that were in place for a number of years, in fact, going back four or five years, there have been plans for capital upgrading at the Archives which, among other things, is providing for better security. Those things have been speeded up as a result of that unfortunate theft, and there has been increased security in terms of staff and in other security measures that have satisfied the Provincial Archivist that the holdings are as secure as they can be under the circumstances.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: In your layout of your department, you have Information Resources, Legislative Library and Legislative Archives. Is there another department in there working? I think the Minister knows what I mean. We've got Information Resources, Legislative Library and Provincial Archives. What is the Information Resources on here?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That is really a heading for the two branches. There is no staff as such in the Information Resources. The head of the Provincial Archives is the head of the Information Resources Branch of the department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(h)(1)—pass; 2.(h)(2)—pass; 2.(h)(3)—pass.

2.(j)(1) Legislative Library: Salaries; 2.(j)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, we have had some discussion in the House regarding the Legislative Library, of the announcement that was brought forward originally that the Legislative Library would be open to the public. They have an article in the paper of the Free Press, May 10th, which says: "Open the Library Again." There has been some indication that the Minister has decided to change the original thinking regarding the Legislative Library. What is the position of that at the present time?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: As I indicated in the House, the government is going to ensure that there is public access to the Legislative Library. There is provision in these Estimates for staff reductions that, if fully implemented, may have meant a reduction in the access to the public.

We have indicated that we are in the midst of an examination of the role and services of the library. It has been undertaken internally with a Department of Finance analyst who has substantial library background. This person is working with the Legislative Library and

other department staff to refine options and their implications for my consideration. As a result of that, there may be some alterations and would have to be some reassessment of the proposed staff reductions.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: the Minister wouldn't have all of the letters that I have received regarding the decision to close the library, but it seems that the Provincial Library is a source of information that is really second to none in a lot of areas within the province. The study that has been undertaken, is the Minister satisfied that the study is being taken in-house? I know that he mentions the Department of Finance, but is there anybody from the Manitoba Library Association or any other associations that are very knowledgeable about libraries that is being utilized or consulted during the study?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The consultant will be consulting with some of the major users of the library and the organizations that have a particular interest in the Legislative Library. That will be part of the work that the consultant will be doing relative to the Legislative Library.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Is the library operating at the present time as it was before until you receive the report?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, business will continue as usual.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(j)(1)—pass; 2.(j)(2)—pass.

2.(k)(1) Translation Services: Salaries; 2.(k)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Translation Services. The Minister, in his opening statement, I believe was referring to Translation Services really for all languages. According to the discussion during Estimates last year, this Translation Services Department is also involved with the translating of legislation.

I wonder if the Minister could just outline the Translation Services he's referring to when we refer to all languages. Is this a service to all different ethnic communities, I would say, that have requests for translation of legislation?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The general translation section of this department deals with everything except legal translation. It deals with the translation of material from English into French, from French into English, and other languages. They have the capabilities for other languages, being Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese, Laotian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Khmer which is Indo-China, I'm told - and that relates to material that is needed for government publications, various government department in terms of correspondence which is either received or sent from the government, departments providing information through some publications and languages other than English or other than French. It also includes interpretation services for the courts, Legislative Assembly, public hearings, etc.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I think this is very good. I was just smiling to myself, I wondered who did the translating

when we got letters in my department that needed translating, but it is this group within the department. I just know that they used to come back translated.

How many people are involved? Are there people there that speak many languages, or do you have one for every language, or do you farm out some of the translations?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The staff in general translation is made up of seven French translators, 2 English translators, 1 interpreter. Assignments regarding other languages are contracted out. We have available resources on a contract, on a fee-for-service basis in the other languages. So, they're not all staff of the department.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, I have one other question regarding the French Translation Services. There's no question that the Province of Manitoba has to be translating legislation. I was of the understanding that we had more translators on staff than that.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I was referring to just the general translation section. There is a separate legal translation section that is compromised of a total of 10 authorized positions; they're not all filled at the present time.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Is the Minister having problems finding translators or has it got easier to find translators? I know that it wasn't an easy thing to find a person a couple of years back, able to translate legislation from one language to another, from French to English, especially when you were handling legal translations. Is that situation getting any better? Are they easier to find?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: In terms of general translators, there is no difficulty in getting sufficient staff. There is still difficulty in getting legal translators and it's not getting any easier. It's still difficult to get qualified legal translators.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Did I hear the Minister correctly, say that the other language translators, other than French, are available not only to translate correspondence or requests for information from government in that language, but are they available also for court proceedings? Did I hear correctly?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm informed that we have never had any requests for assistance. We work under the direction of the Attorney-General's Department in Court Services. I know that there is a capability through the International Centre that provides some assistance to people. I don't know if it's done directly in court, but we have never had any requests, and if we did then we would attempt to respond to that.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Probably though you'd respond by referring to them to, for instance, a federal department which may well have that capability more so than yourselves. Would that be a fair assumption?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Our department would take the lead on that though we may have to find the resources

elsewhere in terms of Federal Government or federal agencies or community organizations.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Is this group involved in any of the citizenship courts where seven languages might be needed?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(k)(1) - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Is the increase in the Salaries basically because of the requirement for legal translators?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, it's all related to the increase in legal translation to deal with the translation and revision of . . . legislation regulations and to related documents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(k)(1)—pas; 2.(k)(2)—pass.

2.(m) Manitoba Intercultural Council - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, in the discussions last time and there have been some different occasions when the Minister has announced the number of different ethnic groups in the Manitoba Intercultural Council - there were, I believe, about 10 - if I can find it - that were - maybe the Minister has it - that had chosen not to join the Intercultural Council. I'm wondering if there's been any change in that that, if there have been new additions during the past year?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I don't have the list that I supplied last time, but I'm informed that the one change of a community that did not have formal representation on the council that now has, is the Sikh community.

I now have the list if the member's interested in . . .

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I don't want to put the Minister to the problem of having to read everything all over again, because I did read it. I even remember him saying when it was discussed that he learned something every day. There were a couple that you didn't know about.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I have it here if you . . .

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I wonder if the Minister could just tell me if it's been

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'll do that.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: The council goes back a little way, it's not that far back, it's December 21st of 1983, and I believe you have a director for the council now who has been on staff since last year.

The Order-in-Council December 21, 1983, 1382, says Cultural Heritage and Recreation, remuneration to Chairperson, Vice-Chairman, Vice-Chairperson and members of the Manitoba Intercultural Council. Most of the time, as a matter of fact, even in the Minister's department, when I've seen boards and commissions that have been appointed and with reference to

remuneration, such as, the Film Board, etc., there's always been an amount that has been set for the council members and I haven't been able to find anywhere what that amount is, as far as the Intercultural Council is concerned. We just have here that it's remuneration for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and members of the Manitoba Intercultural Council.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I don't have the detail before me at the moment. The rates for the council are - and these are full-day rates - \$130 per day for the chair, \$110 for the vice-chair and \$70 for a member. These rates were adopted in accordance with guidelines that were set down by the Department of Finance and Treasury Board and they related it to what exists for other boards.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: And I'm sure that Minister has it there, how many are on this council?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The membership of the council is 52 members and there are 30 alternates that are, in essence, not on the council, but they alternate for members on the council; and there's an executive of 15 people, the ones that meet on a regular basis. The full council, that is the 52 plus alternates meet two to three times a year. Again, the council's only been in effect formerly for less than one year so they've had two council meetings in that year.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: It's only the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the 15 regulars on the council that would have any remuneration for the meetings, would there?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The remuneration is paid on a regular basis to the executive members as they participate in executive meetings and to the full council members as they attend the two to three full council meetings; and they have a number of chairpersons that are on the executive that get remuneration for subcommittee meetings that they hold.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, in other words, at the meetings, the two to three a year, let's say the two a year that everybody meets at, you'd have 52 people that would receive at least \$70 a day.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: So you have the 15 of the main council and then you would have subcommittees that meet fairly regularly.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The subcommittee chairs are on the executive, are part of the 15.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Are part of the 15. Mr. Chairman, I would have to say to the Minister that's a pretty big sized committee and I know that the executive that are working steadily, the main people within the organization, should be compensated for being on the board, but isn't there some justification for people giving their time, if they're not on the regular executive? It seems to me that's a pretty big sized meeting and everybody gets at least \$70 a day on those two to three.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: As indicated, the full council only meets two to three times a year. I would just respond that this was a recommendation from the council and one that we reviewed to determine whether or not the rates would correspond with other such boards, agencies of government; according to the Department of Finance, Treasury Board, that was the case.

This is a big task that is being undertaken, in terms of the work the council is doing, in terms of advising the government, and I don't believe it's an unwarranted expenditure, in terms of the effort that these individuals from the various communities are putting in, in terms of the broader communities that they represent. I know when the council discussed this item I was at one meeting when they discussed those concerns to ensure that there was remuneration for council members that would allow them to fully participate as council members because they are obviously people that are busy in their own communities in other activities.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: If I'm multiplying right, it's almost \$3,500 a day to have that council meet and it meets two or three times a year, and then there's the meetings of the regular council.

I'd like to make it very clear to the Minister that I am not against having boards being compensated for the work that they do, but here we have a situation where they have a board that has a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and 52 members - 15 are probably presidents or vice-presidents of one group or the other. I can understand those people representing their groups on the board, but I have a little bit of trouble with the fact that everybody that meets to contribute to your department on this subject, that some of them aren't doing it on the basis of the benefit that their organizations are getting from the government, or maybe out-of-pocket expenses if they have to miss a day's work would be justifiable, but that seems like a pretty hefty meeting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does the member have a question?

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, I am afraid that I just have to say to the Minister that number of people on a board meeting two or three times a year, plus the executive meeting probably much more regularly, becomes a fairly expensive board during the period of a year. I think the Minister should take a look at it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (m) - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would have one question about the Intercultural Council. I know the work that they are doing. I have met some of the people that are on the council and I have read many of the programs that they are sponsoring and putting forward on the basis of the cultural community, or intercultural community, within the Province of Manitoba.

I am concerned about one thing and I would ask the Minister if he is making it known or imparting to these organizations that there is no question that Manitoba is a great mosaic and has many cultural and ethnic groups within the province that we are very proud of, but I would hope that he is making sure that the situation does not arise where we have many small groups

working within themselves and not working with one another as much as they should be. I might say that the thing is that we're all Manitobans first, and we are all very proud of it, and I wouldn't like to see any situation where we set up smaller groups to the detriment of everybody working together for the betterment of Manitoba. I would ask the Minister if he is conscious of that situation?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, I am very conscious of that situation. In fact, that is precisely one of the reasons that was behind my thoughts and the government's thoughts in forming the Intercultural Council. I placed emphasis on the word "intercultural" in the council's title, that was a deliberate decision to call it the intercultural council, rather than the multicultural council or some other title, was to ensure that there was interaction between the various ethnic groups that make up our Manitoba society. That is one of the mandates of the council, to foster greater understanding, greater communication between the various groups in Manitoba society so that we can guard against the concern the member raised.

I think that we have generally been able to do that in the province, and I would hope that the Intercultural Council can ensure that there is adequate communication and discussion and thereby understanding between all the groups that make up Manitoba society, so that we are not faced with the situation here in this province that faces other countries in the world.

I know the news, of late, in countries in the Middle East, indeed, within a country like India, is somewhat disturbing as to what takes place between groups within one society. I think that through vehicles like the Intercultural Council and through other agencies and through members of the Legislature we have to guard against those kind of things developing in our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(m)—pass.

2.(n)(1) Manitoba Film Classification Board, Salaries;
2.(n)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, in the Minister's opening remarks, I believe he was referring to the Manitoba Film - no, I am sorry, that would come under the next one, telecommunications within the province.

The Film Classification Board, Mr. Chairman, is one that the Minister knows that I raised in the House on Friday, and I quoted from his statement of last year where he mentioned that he was taking a very close look at the video tape situation within the province.

I think that we discussed the word "censor" between the two of us with your answers and my questions. The word "censor" is sometimes a word that we don't all like, but we do know that Ontario has just expanded the authority of their Film Classification Board, which is a censor board, to take in video tapes, and the Province of Manitoba certainly is not immune to this problem that we have of these terrible tapes within the province.

I am just wondering, first of all, what the Minister is contemplating when he changes the Film Classification Board, and I am very aware that we get very close to

the Attorney-General's Department under this subject because it could be a case where there is prosecutions for selling illegal tapes, etc., if the law decides to make those changes.

Is the Minister planning to put video tapes under the Film Classification Board?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That is the area that is under active discussion and review at the present time. I would expect that within the next two months we will have the results of the study that is being undertaken in terms of the possible classification of video tapes by the Film Classification Board. We are also looking at other aspects with regard to communications, technology and film classification as they relate to the various film product forms, their distribution and exhibition. We are looking at the retail aspect, we are looking at the reproduction in community - it's not a good term - in commercial establishments, such as, hotel beverage rooms and other places. I would expect that once all the results of that study are in we will be taking some action with regard to the classification of those products.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: There is no question that it's pornography at its worst. One of the concerns that I have, and many people have, is that young people, children in fact, are able to go in and buy these tapes at their will at the present time. If the Classification Board decides that it's a restricted video tape, would there be moves taken to see that it would be against the law to sell them to children? I'm not sure how the law works but I can remember passing by-laws in the City of St. James-Assiniboia that said no druggist could sell cigarettes to minors; I believe the city passed by-laws that said that they could not sell glue; I believe that we passed legislation that said you couldn't sell firecrackers and skyrockets to young people. Is there any move or any thinking along the lines of, first of all, getting this out of the hands of young people, which is something that is destroying their minds the same as the cigarette I'm smoking isn't healthy for them, or that firecrackers could take their hand off?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why is the member continuing to smoke then?

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, I don't — (Interjection) — it's a very easy question. I don't think that smoking is going to have an influence on my life from the point of view of going out and committing rape or harming somebody physically, and it isn't something to smile about.

That is basically what those types of tapes can do to the mind of young people when they're growing up and I think it's a very very serious situation.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Well, as I indicated, we have the study under way. As the member is aware at the present time, in terms of public exhibition of film, there is the classification system in place for films that are shown in movie theatres and that provides restriction for people under a certain age for certain types of films. One of the options that's being explored is to look at

having that same kind of provision in place with respect to the rental or sale - although rental is the major area - of video tapes through the various video shops that exist. There's also the public exhibition of a video tape in some establishments that has to be dealt with.

I'm planning to bring forth a rather minor amendment to The Amusement Act that will give the power to the film board to do that. There has to be a definition in The Amusement Act with respect to video tape because it wasn't included at the time of the original legislation because that really wasn't a film form at that time.

So the area that we're looking at is how we can ensure that there is public information in terms of the kind of material that is being rented through video rental locations because there has been concerns raised also by adults, in terms of not knowing the kind of material that they are renting, don't get out of the brief description that comes with the material. Adults have indicated that they would like to know, the same way as when they look at going to a movie, what level of classification a particular movie has. They would like to see the same thing for video tapes. So one of the options we're looking at is to provide the same or similar classification system for video tapes as exist for film in terms of the public exhibition and also for home use.

The obvious other factor is that if an adult were to rent a film and take it home and show it to underage people there would be a difficult problem in enforcing that in someone's own home.

The other aspects that I mentioned in reply to the member, I believe it was last Friday, that the Criminal Code still exists in terms of pornography. There has been, as I indicated by the Attorney-General, stepped-up enforcement of the Criminal Code provisions with respect to pornography. It's an area that we are concerned about in terms of pornographic material, in terms of the material that depicts violence toward women or toward human beings. It's something that we are looking at providing some provisions for through the Film Classification Board to deal with it. It has to be dealt with in that venue, that avenue, and also dealt with through the Criminal Code and the enforcement of the Criminal Code.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is the Member for Sturgeon Creek complete in this line of questioning? There are some people that want to be recognized. I believe the Member for Wolseley first raised her hand.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I'm wondering, in terms of classification, if the issue of violence against women is taken into account in terms of classifying films, rather than the usual definition of pornography? Is violence taken as a criteria that would put a film or a video tape from one category to another?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: In terms of video tapes, that is under review right now. But, in terms of film, in last year's report there were 81 films that were classified "Restricted Adult" in 1982-83 - 45 were because of depictions of sexual activity; 36 because of depicted violence. So that is presently something that is taken into account by the Film Classification Board under their legislative mandate.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I guess I wonder what definition of violence is used because often we hear that violence,

in terms of stabbings, or beatings or fights between men, or gunshots, etc. are violence; but when it tends to be more subtle kinds of violence, for instance, I'm thinking of one where a video tape I saw on TV that happened to be on because my 14-year-old was watching the latest video things at midnight, or whenever they're on on the weekend, where all the people turned into ghoulish characters right in front of our eyes. The young women of the couple who was leaning on her male partner for support and protection, as was depicted, all of a sudden looked at the male partner who turned into some kind of werewolf that also turned in on her and was attacking. You know, of course, my 14-year-old thought this was all super, and I don't know whether this was Michael Jackson's Thriller or whatever. But I thought, in terms of violence, the way that it was all set up was not sort of your traditional shooting with guns and bashing over the head with a crowbar.

A MEMBER: That's okay?

MRS. G. HAMMOND: It was absolutely a grotesque subtle kind of terrorism. I wonder if those kinds of pictures are taken into account and it would then be rated in a different classification.

Actually to see this on CBC, I think it was, I was absolutely appalled. It would be different if I had bought and paid for a blue channel coming into the house, but to have this on the regular networks, let alone going to a movie theatre and paying to see this, I wonder what classification those kind of subtle terroristic attacks on women, which class they'd be rated in?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Generally the board, as the member is aware, is made up of a number of individuals who, at any one time, three sit on review of the many films that come through. They basically look at the classification "Restricted Adult" for those films that have a degree of aggravated assault to them. They also look, not only at specific scenes, but the overall in terms of the film.

I guess one way of giving an indication of the board's activities in this regard, as a result of decisions of this board, there's been five appeals from board decisions and they were all in the area where the board gave the Restricted Adult category to films that depicted violence. The majority of those appeals were rejected. The reason for the appeals was that the film distributors felt that the classification was too restrictive, if I can use that term, in their view. In fact, in many of the cases, our classification here was more restrictive than that of other provinces like Ontario. Part of the basis of the appeal of the motion picture distributors was the fact that this board was too restrictive in terms of its decisions.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on the restricted area of the Film Classification Board. When it comes to something that would be considered as pornography, does it just go out and can be shown? How would a charge be laid if a film goes out under "Restricted?" Does the Film Classification Board inform the police that they view this as a pornographic movie or what happens?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That really is a matter for the Attorney-General. The process, as I understand it, is that the police respond to complaints from the public in terms of possible violations of the Criminal Code. The police then investigate it and, I presume, provide the Crown Attorney with information as to whether or not they feel there are grounds for action to be taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Maybe the Attorney-General can enlighten.

HON. R. PENNER: Well, in a sense a supplementary question, it used to be the case and I'm wondering if it still is the case at the Film Classification Board, where it believes that a film is at best marginal, sort of red-tags the thing for the exhibitor, saying, look, restricted, but you should know that you might be charged for showing this film.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm informed that that was never the case that the Film Classification Board referred any films to the police.

HON. R. PENNER: No, not referred to the police. No, no. When they sent the can out, "Restricted," to the exhibitor, they would send a note to the exhibitor saying, look, in our view this is pretty marginal and you could be charged, but you do so at your own risk.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I have been informed that that practice was stopped two years ago as a result of a legal opinion from the Attorney-General's Department that . . .

HON. R. PENNER: That person is no longer with the Attorney-General's Department. In fact, I think the main problem now is not so much movies as video, because there have been some successful prosecutions of exhibitors of movies deemed to be in contravention of the sections of the Criminal Code dealing with obscenity. Basically, what one finds in the movie theatres nowadays is, in the main, to the extent that it's sexually explicit, what falls into that amorphous group called soft porn, but in any event it doesn't quite come within the stringent provisions of the Criminal Code.

We certainly do respond or the police do respond to complaints. There is a unit in the City of Winnipeg Police Department that views these things, day in and day out, virtually. They are pretty hard-nosed about it and, if they feel that it is in any way likely to be successfully prosecuted, that's referred to the Crown.

We have instituted a policy as of November where we don't want the Crown to second guess the police. Where a recommendation comes in from the police, the prosecutor, unless there are sort of obvious reasons for not, they'll prosecute. It used to be the case that this process was rather dilatory. The police would view and say, well, we think this is pretty rough stuff that ought to be prosecuted. Then two Crown prosecutors would view it and might go along or might not. We have cut out that second step, feeling that the opinion of the police group which is based on a lot of experience is good enough to launch a prosecution.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I am pleased to hear they've cut out the second step. I would like to get back to the

red-tagging. What I want to know is on the videos - will the videos then go into the home and then someone has to complain after they've seen it? Or will the Minister be considering that the Film Classification Board red-tag it and send it directly to either the police or the A-G's department before it gets onto the retail market and is put into the home to either a suspecting or unsuspecting public?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I can't answer that question specifically because, as I have indicated, the study has not been concluded. I can only relate it to the present practice with respect to the classification of film.

The films are classified to the appropriate level and then are exhibited by the exhibitor. So if there is a concern over a Criminal Code matter, then there has to be a public complaint or, I suppose, the police on their own volition can review matters. One of the options we're looking at is a similar process in place for video. One of the options that we could institute is the classification of video in the same way that film is classified.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I think that the video market is going to have to be done a little bit differently. You're not talking about putting this into a public theatre. This is going into private homes, in the main. I am really feeling that if you want to crack down on pornography that, although the Minister on - and I've got the Hansard here - Friday, indicated that: ". . . as far as having the Government of Manitoba making determinations for the people of the province with respect to what they can read or cannot read or what they can see or cannot see, I don't believe that is the role of government."

Well, I'm telling you, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, that that is exactly what women are looking to have done. There has just got to be some way of cutting the red tape between the Film Classification Board and the retailer.

I've got the presentation of the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women before me. On Page 3, and I'm not reading the whole paragraph, it says, "As victims of sexual slavery in the pornography industry, we do not believe that women's freedom and sexual identity is a commodity which can be sold to men as an expression of their own freedom." Although we're not talking about censorship as such, what we need is a short-cut on this, or else we're going to end up having these pornographic materials heading into the home, heading all over the place, and no one's going to know until they get it into their own home and by then, they're all over town. It's a far different medium than the movies and I think it must be treated so. I think there's going to have to be a different tack taken on this and I certainly hope that the Minister is going to look at this in a far different way because it's got very far-reaching effects and I don't think this material should be allowed to be sold. I think they should be red-tagged and I think that there's no way that they should get onto the retail market without that happening.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I share the concern expressed by this member and other members, by various

organizations that I've met with that have made representations to me, that we certainly have to look at taking action with respect to this area.

As I indicated, we are dealing with the question of videotapes. I would expect to have responses from the study in place later this year. There has to be an increased responsibility, not only on government's part, but on the private sector, which are the retailers of this product. There has to be, certainly, responsibility by the private companies that are selling and renting this material, that they are taking in material that is in violation of the Criminal Code, that there should be a responsibility that they not break the law; and there certainly has to be increased vigilance and increased activity by the police, in terms of responding to this.

The member quoted one sentence or one part of a brief on the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women. I should also indicate that that organization is not in favour of censorship. They're in favour of increased regulation in terms of the classification of videotapes. They're in favour of increased prosecution in terms of the Criminal Code, but their position is not one of being in favour of censorship of that material.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I agree. They don't want it censored because they want these people prosecuted and that's one of the reasons that they can get them. As far as retailers showing responsibility, obviously they're not, so I don't think you can look in that area to share the responsibility, if you will. I think this is one of the things that's going to have to come directly through government intervention and I do believe that if you're looking for the retailers, unless there's a number of convictions out of hand, then you may find a little bit of responsibility. I do believe that this is one area where the government is going to have to pretty well stand alone and do something themselves.

I have a question here, and one is, who is doing the study?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There is a committee formed of representatives from the Attorney-General's Department, staff of the Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation and the Film Classification Board that are involved in the various aspects of the study.

Obviously, the Attorney-General's Department is providing legal advice in relation to this area. We also have the use of two consultants, one of whom is a person, I'm informed, who has some specialized knowledge in this area, by the name of Julian Rittington from Vancouver, and also a person from the film video industry here, Erna Buffie.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Was there any consideration of putting any of the women from the Status of Women on the committee?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There has been consultation, both at my level with them and also the working committee. They concurred with the selection of the main consultant. They, in their view and their experience, said that there's no better person across Canada to conduct work in this area from their knowledge of this person and of others in the area.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Will the Minister consider putting out a White Paper, as such, when there are some

recommendations, so that more consultation can go on when there are firm recommendations?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I would take that under consideration, in terms of how we deal with the recommendations. I would not, nor am I in a position now to make a commitment in terms of how we might deal with the recommendations, but I will certainly take that suggestion, that recommendation into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if you would allow the Attorney-General to enlighten me on something that I mentioned earlier, now that he's here, regarding this situation. You'll recall I did say that this particular subject does get into a fine line of his department. Could that be allowed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Normally, the Minister responsible is the Minister whose department is under consideration, unless of course the Attorney-General

HON. R. PENNER: The question could be addressed to the Minister.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: The adult problem is certainly there and serious, but the problem I mentioned earlier is that young people are walking into stores and being able to buy these videotapes at will.

There is a situation where the person selling them doesn't even know what's in the videotapes. They come in and they change them, just the same as they change the magazine stand and the Minister is quite right that some of them don't even know what's in them and the public want to know.

If they are tagged, and when you finally come to a decision, I mentioned earlier that, on council, we used to pass a by-law that said the drugstore couldn't sell, in St. James-Assiniboia, cigarettes to minors. We passed by-laws that said that they couldn't sell firecrackers or sky rockets, etc., and there were by-laws that said you couldn't sell glue to minors, to children. There was a by-law, I believe, at one time that said he couldn't sell rubbing alcohol to people. Is that still possible for the city to pass that by-law that anybody that would sell those out of their store, if they knew what it was, that they could be prosecuted?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question should be directed to the Minister responsible.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I'll ask the Minister, can they be prosecuted?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I don't know.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, it's something we have to find out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Attorney-General has a question.

HON. R. PENNER: Yes, it's a question, but you'll have to look long and hard for the question mark.

The city can pass, it seems to me - and I raise this as a question - the city can pass a by-law within its jurisdiction. For example, some cities have passed by-laws saying that sexually explicit material has to be eight feet off the ground or something of that kind, so you need a pretty tall kid to get it and be corrupted; but the cities which have tried, through a municipal by-law to legislate, in effect, a prohibition, ran afoul of the Constitution and such by-laws have been struck down, so that it really depends on federal legislation and the Criminal Code, in terms of prosecuting the obscene material and the carrying out of that prosecutorial policy by Departments of Attorneys-General here and elsewhere.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I thank the Member for Fort Rouge for his question. I will provide a response to the specific question once I get, sir, legal advice in terms of what is possible from appropriate sources in the Attorney-General's Department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. A. KOVNATS: I would like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister. It was what used to be called the Film Censor Board and is now called, I believe, the Film Classification Board; who is on that board, how many people?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There's 15 people on the board, including the chairperson.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Not to get into too great a detail, how are these people chosen to serve on this Classification Board?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Their appointment is through Lieutenant-Governor Order-in-Council. I'm prepared to provide the details of the present people on the board and, from my knowledge, give some of the very backgrounds that those people have in terms of providing a balance for the board if the member is interested.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Do these people who serve on the Classification Board receive any remuneration for doing so?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, they receive \$25 per film viewed.

MR. A. KOVNATS: When the film distributor - I'm not sure. Does the film distributor submit his film for classification prior to viewing in the Province of Manitoba, and is there a charge for him to have his film reviewed?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, they have to; and, yes, they are charged \$16.50 per thousand feet of film.

MR. A. KOVNATS: If there is more than one print of a film are they charged the same rate for the second print?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No charge for second prints.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Therefore, the people reviewing the films are professionals, as they get paid; the people who are submitting the film are paying to have their films classified; what do they get in return for the payment for having their films classified?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: A classification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They get a classification rate. The Member for Niakwa.

MR. A. KOVNATS: As attitudes and considerations change from year to year, what direction does the Provincial Government, if any, towards the people who make these classifications?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, there hasn't been any direction given to the board. The board is selected to try to provide somewhat of a cross section of people from Manitoba society and, hopefully, they reflect the views of Manitoba society.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Can the Minister advise whether any film that has been submitted in the last year has been condemned or not allowed to be turned loose onto the public of the Province of Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The Film Classification Board here does not have that power, they merely classify the film into various levels of classification. What I indicated earlier, in response to another comment, was that there has been a number of films that have been classified and then appealed, the classification appealed by the distributors as being too restrictive, but no films, as such, are not allowed to be shown. They are classified as to the level that the Board, in its wisdom, feels it should be classified as and then the distributor is free to show it.

If the film is found to be, or if there's concern that it is in violation of the Criminal Code with respect to pornography, then that is a police matter and the police can launch their action, prosecution, in terms of the showing of that film.

MR. A. KOVNATS: By agreement, can any of the film be deleted by agreement . . .

HON. E. KOSTYRA: . . . I'm sorry I didn't . . .

MR. A. KOVNATS: By agreement, can any part of the film be deleted or removed, obviously to receive a different classification?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: A distributor can do whatever they would want with the film. The board itself does not get into any cutting of films.

MR. A. KOVNATS: What I'm suggesting is that if the distributor removed some of the film and then submits it to the Classification Board, and the Classification Board gives it a classification, can the distributor exchange that film for another which has all of the good parts still in it and show it in Manitoba under a different classification?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm not sure I understand all of the question, so I may not be complete in my response and my answer.

If a distributor wanted to take out certain portions of a film to have it reclassified to a different level, they could apply for reclassification with the film as they edited it, but they would have to show the film that is classified, they cannot show another print that was not subject to the classification process.

MR. A. KOVNATS: What safeguards does the government have in seeing that the original film that was classified is the one that is shown in the theatres?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There is inspection by staff of the Film Classification Board where they actually go out into movie theatres and make checks on film in terms of the running time and they can match that against what was recorded when the film was classified to ensure that it's the same film or the same print.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Who are these inspectors?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Mr. George Ruswinkle who is to the left of me here.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Are these qualified projectionists?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, of course.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Why, of course?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Because they would have to know the equipment and the set-ups that exist in motion picture theatres.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(n)(1)—pass; 2.(n)(2)—pass; 2.(p)(1) Telecommunications Development, Salaries; 2.(p)(2) Other Expenditures; 2.(p)(3) Grant Assistance - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, earlier, the Minister said that the Telecommunications Department would be making or supervising the making of films, or contracting the making of films for Native culture, history of Native culture, history of labour, history of Manitoba, generally. Have they been doing this before? He mentioned it in his opening statement. Is this an ongoing program within the department?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: My comments did not relate to film or to telecommunications. They related generally to the area of history and archival activity. It did not relate at all to telecommunications or to film.

The reference I did make to telecommunications was the responsibility that was transferred to my department and shows under Item (p)(3). That is the Grant Assistance that is provided to Native Communications Inc. That Grant Assistance was formerly administered through the Department of Northern Affairs and was transferred in this last year to my department, to this branch. That was the reference I made in my opening remarks.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Maybe I have left it too long, maybe it's under - but I just notice in the Orders-in-Council,

and I guess that we might have passed it, the Culture, Heritage and Recreation, on February 29, 1984, a grant to a maximum amount of \$10,000 to the O'Meara Production Ltd. to assist the organization with the cost of making a film - Arnold Spohr and the Winnipeg Ballet. In other words, that does not necessarily fit into this, this just comes under the Historical Culture Department?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That particular grant was made through the Manitoba Jobs Fund for that production. In fact, that production is premiering at this very moment at the Playhouse Theatre tonight.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, just a few questions. Under the Salaries section, I take that is the same staff as last year?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There was one increase in staff. It shows the same in terms of salaries because it was a transfer of a staff person from the Department of Labour to my department, to this branch. So it was just a transfer of staff from the Department of Labour.

MR. D. ORCHARD: What function did that person have in the Department of Labour and what function does it have in this branch?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I believe this person was a special advisor to the Assistant Deputy Minister in the Department of Labour.

The member may recall last year, when we dealt with my Estimates, I made reference to a staff person was seconded to the Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation because of his previous experience with the CRTC. The person that has been transferred to our department is that same person who had worked on secondment to our department on, I guess, a couple of occasions over the past year and was in a position in the Department of Labour where his services weren't needed in the position that he advanced, and there was an agreement between the Department of Labour and our department to have him transferred into our department.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Then this Salaries line represents two people?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Three people, which includes a secretary.

MR. D. ORCHARD: You mentioned the grant assistance being to the Native Communications group. That's the only people supported under the Grant Assistance?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, there's an increase of 37 percent proposed in that grant.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Could the Minister indicate what the status is of the amendments, I believe we passed last year, to The Telephone Act? Have they been proclaimed?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: They have been proclaimed and as I think, as the member knows, or maybe where there is a court challenge to one of the amendments.

MR. D. ORCHARD: How closely involved is the Minister in this section of his department in the ongoing negotiations with the suppliers of cable television services in the province and in the City of Winnipeg?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The direct negotiations, as the member is aware, take place between the cable companies and the Manitoba Telephone System, and staff of the branch are involved on a regular basis with the Manitoba Telephone System in terms of being updated on the status of the discussions and negotiations with respect to the replacement agreements. I have had direct meetings, direct involvement with the presidents of both of the cable companies at various times in terms of those negotiations. So we are aware of the negotiations, but the actual direct involvement is between the Manitoba Telephone System and the cable companies. There has been an agreement by both cable companies and the Telephone System to extensions to the present replacement agreements that have, in essence, expired. There are ongoing discussions and, in some cases, negotiations on the replacement agreement.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, this is almost like a soap-opera serial, these negotiations between government. I know they were ongoing when we were government and we had a given package of legislation, and it wasn't proclaimed, but it was our belief that the kind of protracted disagreement between the Telephone System and the cable companies that has been going on now for probably the better part of three years, three-and-a-half years maybe even, would have been under the legislative framework that we proposed and passed.

Some of the unresolved points would have been referred to the Public Utilities Board for an impartial third-party adjudication because I think the Minister - well, maybe I shouldn't say this, he might agree or he might not agree - but it's possibly not easy for a Minister or a government to be completely objective in the discussions between and the negotiations between the private sector cable companies and the Crown corporation, because after all as Ministers of a government we tend to take on a role that is protective of the Crown corporation.

That is why our intention under the legislation - I believe it was Bill 78 - was to attempt to add that third-party impartiality so that we could get on with the resolution of agreements between the Telephone System and the cable companies, so that for instance as a hopeful outcome of successful negotiations, we might have a pay television offering east of the Red River where such just doesn't exist because of a dispute between the system and the cable company.

Could the Minister indicate whether the government is contemplating any direction whereby unresolved matters of negotiation might be referred to the Public Utilities Board for adjudication?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm tempted to deal with some of the preamble in terms of some of the assumptions that the member made. I think that the government is not merely acting to protect the Crown corporation, but looking at the public interest as it is or can be

served by the Crown corporation and as it can be served by the private sector companies that operate most of the cable systems throughout the province.

In terms of the specific question, we have had discussions and they are continuing with the MTS Videon to look at the possibility of the Public Utility Board adjudicating the differences that may exist between the two parties with respect to that agreement. Those discussions are still continuing. In fact, they've taken a somewhat different track because they've now got kind of back into the issues directly between themselves, Manitoba Telephone System and Videon - they were originally looking at a way of coming to some agreement on defining the issues that could be placed before the Public Utilities Board. We were looking at the possibility of providing Order-in-Council power to the Public Utilities Board to adjudicate the differences that exist between the MTS and Videon. That is kind of on the back burner, if I can put it that way, because they are now back into some ongoing discussions with respect to the principal's agreement and the replacement itself.

So, we are prepared and we're willing to consider using the Public Utilities Board as an adjudicator if the parties - that being the telephone system and the cable company; in this case Videon were prepared to agree to the process, agree to defining the issue so that the PUB could in essence adjudicate and also agree that they would accept the decision as final and binding.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, I don't want to put the Minister on the spot, but is he able to offer the speculation as to how quickly this replacement agreement in some of the upgrading construction, any idea of the time frame you might have of having those negotiations completed and some more services offered to Winnipeggers particularly?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: It's a difficult question to answer. Let me attempt it in this way.

Just recently in terms of the negotiations that were taking place between MTS and Videon in terms of the replacement; they've now both agreed to look at a new way of rebuilding the system, which will be much cheaper than what both parties had looked at originally because of some new developments.

As a result of this latest turn or twist to the discussions, I'm somewhat hopeful that they will be concluded in a reasonable period of time.

This is something that has just developed in the last while in terms of them shifting to some new, what appears to be common ground.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, when the Minister indicates that the direction appears to be towards referring mutually unagreeable portions over to the Public Utilities Board - providing both MTS and the companies decide that that would be the place to go. Now my memory may not be correct on this, but didn't the province in December 1982 pass an Order-in-Council, which essentially prohibited such reference to the Public Utilities Board, and then some month-and-a-half later replaced that Order-in-Council with another directive?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: As I recall those Order-In-Councils - and my memory is failing like the honourable member's

is - I believe one of the Order-in-Councils related to allowing the PUB to adjudicate but giving the PUB direction in terms of the ownership of the equipment. That was contained in that Order-In-Council with specific direction from the government in terms of the ownership, which then resolved itself because of the changes that were made in the Manitoba Telephone System bill in the last Session, which the member is aware enshrines those provisions in legislation.

But I would have to get those Order-In-Councils for reference. I don't recall the details of them. I was involved in that in a general way, but not a specific way at that time.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, I think that basically that's correct and now with the new provisions passed last year, the government gave to the Manitoba Telephone System the upper hand in those sort of negotiations, particularly on the security systems for pay television and that sort of thing.

The Minister indicated ongoing discussions between the telephone system and the cable companies and I refer to a press release that the Minister put out on February 10, 1984. It's dealing with the attempted delivery of television signals out to Birds Hill via microwave, and I believe Greater Winnipeg Videon made application to the Federal Department of Communications for licence approval. MTS consequently or subsequently ploughed co-ax cable out there.

You've indicated, Mr. Minister in the press release that the MTS study showed the co-ax cable costing \$138,200, and I would assume that's an annual cost. Okay, I'm not making assumptions because I don't know what it means, but the cost is \$138,200 in your press release for the co-ax cable in contrast with a \$470,000 for the microwave. Could the Minister indicate the nature of those charges?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The details of those costs were that the costs with respect to the cost to complete the hookup between the Manitoba Telephone System as it exists from the City of Winnipeg to a point just short of Birds Hill and connecting it to the Village of Birds Hill is the \$138,000.00. The cost of the microwave includes the cost of the microwave plus the cost of taking that system all the way back through to serve the area that would have to be served through that system.

I might just add, those were the estimates of the relative cost as provided by the Manitoba Telephone System to me at the time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, H. Harapiak: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: A couple of questions on that, was the \$470,000 - the Minister indicated he got that figure from the Telephone System. Was that confirmed by the cable company?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That was not confirmed by the cable company. In terms of their application to the Department of Communications, none of that information was on the public file or the public record

in terms of that application. So we were not able to determine what the actual costs to the company would be, outside of what the Manitoba Telephone System was able to estimate.

MR. D. ORCHARD: A small point, but you're attempting to provide information to the people of Manitoba, relying solely on the one source and not confirming it with the other might have - and I'm not being overly critical - bore the merit of having it confirmed.

But more importantly, do I understand in the explanation for the two costs that the \$138,000 for the co-ax cable is basically the cost for the Inner City co-ax cable from a point outside Winnipeg to a point outside Bird's Hill? That doesn't include costs of the local broadband network that is needed regardless of how you get the signal to Bird's Hill.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's correct. It is not included in either of the costs.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Okay, I maybe misunderstood the Minister, because I thought he meant to say that the 470 was not complete - okay?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: It includes the trunking costs, but not the distribution costs to the area.

MR. D. ORCHARD: The microwave is likewise, a point outside of Winnipeg to a point outside of Bird's Hill?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The microwave has to trunk back a distance in order to duplicate what the cable would do. There is the connection from the Greater Winnipeg Cable office on Nairn Avenue. They were planning to do it at a point in the Village of Bird's Hill, and then they would have to trunk back and then distribute the system. So it equates to the costs of that microwave system plus the trunking back that they would have to provide.

MR. D. ORCHARD: But the 470,000 does not include the local broad band network within the community of Bird's Hill, the local distribution system?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, it doesn't include the broad band system to the rest of the community. That would be common. In fact, they were asking for the Telephone System to provide that if they were to proceed with the microwave.

I should add a couple of points. I don't know if the member was still commenting on this or questioning on this section. One is that the DOC has not provided the approval as of yet for this service.

The second issue - and we've dealt with some detail - I think it is a broader issue that's of concern to the government and, I think, to the people of the province in terms of allowing for the development of private microwave systems in the province. It is of concern to the government to have private microwave systems that could be developed in the province to not only provide cable television service, but to get into other areas of service that are provided by the Telephone System, such as indeed telephone service or other two-way communication systems which could see the

dismantling of the overall system if that was to proceed to any kind of extent. That is what was behind the position of the government with respect to the microwave hookup between the City of Winnipeg and the Village of Bird's Hill for the purposes, in this case, of cable.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Just as a comment, it would seem to me if these numbers are correct, and we have to assume they're fairly accurate, I can't understand what would be the motivating force behind Greater Winnipeg to spend roughly close to three times the capital cost to provide cable television signal delivery to Bird's Hill, unless it represents some rather protracted and difficult negotiations with the Telephone System, that they threw up their hands in frustration, if you will, and decided to proceed on their own, by-passing the Telephone System because, after three-and-a-half years of negotiations, they perchance saw themselves getting nowhere.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I can't and I would not want to presume what is behind the decision or the reasons behind the decision of the cable company to proceed in that fashion. I could outline some possible reasons, and they are just that - possible reasons.

One could be the situation that was outlined by the member, but I would just remind him that Greater Winnipeg Cable was licensed to serve that area for, I think, close to 10 years. At no time that I am aware of did they attempt to move ahead and provide service until this call came from the federal Department of Communications for the possibility of private microwave systems.

There is concern, as I indicated, that this could see further development of private microwave systems. It could be that the cable company could look at different sections of the City of Winnipeg, as an example, that could be serviced by having a microwave system going from one area to another area. From the government's standpoint, the concern is the control of the electronic highway in terms of having it available for common use. That is something that is of concern, and was behind the decision with respect to the application by Greater Winnipeg Cable for the private microwave.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I suppose only the two parties would really know - one party, I suppose, would know.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to switch topics just a little. What is the current status on community use of satellite-receiving dishes? I believe individuals can, without fear of prosecution, own and pick up satellite signals for their own home use or home consumption. What's the status for communities that, for instance, aren't served by cable television right now? Is there a prohibition on the receipt of satellite television?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: You're asking me, I think you realize, to comment on Federal Government policy in terms of . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos: That's beyond the Minister's jurisdiction.

MR. D. ORCHARD: That might be moot. I think the Minister would like to discuss this . . .

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I still think it would be worth having some response to. As I understand, the present situation is that the Federal Government will allow for the use of satellite receiving dishes for communities to receive signals from Canadian satellites. But they still restrict the use for community use of satellites that are picking up the so-called unauthorized American signals. That is, as I understand, the present situation.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Is it fair then to say that the Federal Department of Communications and Mr. Fox would say to, the most common examples are the northern and remote communities, that you can use a satellite receiving dish and distribute the signals to the community, but you've got to pull the CANCOM signal; is that a fair assumption?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's basically correct.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Has the CANCOM signal - Is it now complete with the three American channels similar to what we get in Winnipeg on cable?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There's three American channels. They still don't have the four that we in the City of Winnipeg or other communities receive.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I know this may be a little difficult for the Minister to answer. He may not want to answer, but I think it's fair to say that there are American satellite, unauthorized signals, being distributed, in some of the northern and remote communities. Is basically the Department of Communications, as long as it's not a practice that is spreading to other communities, just basically, not enforcing the rather tough stance they took some 18 months ago? Would that be a fair analysis of the current status?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: As far as I know the CRTC is not taking any action with respect to any operations in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Back about - maybe even two years ago now - the Member for Thompson got a press release and what-not and it caused quite a stir because he seemed to indicate that there was a divergence of what was happening in terms of American satellite and television signal reception in Thompson in particular; and what the Federal Department of Communications so wished. As a result of that, it appeared as if the federal department were going to take a "get tough" attitude. At that time the former Minister, I believe it was the Member for Brandon East, had an allocation in his Estimates which would support any legal action that those communities might be involved with if the CRTC attempted to close down their chosen television menu.

Has the government's attitude or policy on that changed that if the federal department decided to get tough, would the province support the communities in exercising a choice in their television fare or would the passively back off and leave simply the CANCOM signal as being the only one that would meet approval?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That sounds hypothetical.

MR. D. ORCHARD: It may not be, Mr. Chairman.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The situation as it was at that time is that there was no availability through the Canadian Sattelite System of the comparable service that exists in some southern communities in Manitoba. The position of the government at that time was that until the Federal Government was prepared to provide that service that they ought to allow the communities to have access to a service that provided some equal service to that in some communities in southern Manitoba. With the advent of CANCOM 3-plus service, or 3 service I guess it is; those communities, most of those communities have now switched to the CANCOM system. I know that's the case in the City of Thompson and in a number of other northern communities.

MR. D. ORCHARD: So then would it be fair to assume that if any community didn't make that switch, the province would not support any action for them to maintain their choice at this time?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The concern of the government is that communities do have access to a service that is comparable to what is available in other more organized or more urban centres of the Province of Manitoba. If those service were not available to the communities, then we would want to ensure that there is availability of comparable services.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, I think now with CANCOM offering the three American channels that that comparable criterion has been met and someone pulling in super channel for distribution could possibly run afoul of federal CRTC enforcement. I just ask the question, would government policy provide support to that community to maintain, for instance, delivery of super channel or now that CANCOM has three American channels, is the government's position to back off basically?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I would just respond the same as I did to the last question that the position was adopted at that time when there wasn't comparable service. That situation hasn't arisen lately because there hasn't been any situations that I'm aware of that communities have said that they don't have any access to comparable service.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(p)(1)—pass; 2.(p)(2)—pass; 2.(p)(3)—pass.

Resolution 48: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding \$16,751,500 for Culture, Heritage and Recreation for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Item No. 3.(a)(1) Queen's Printer, Manitoba Gazette - Salaries; 3.(a)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Sturgeon Creek — pass.

Item No. 3.(b)(1) Management and Brokerage - Salaries; Item 3.(b)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Just very quickly, Mr. Chairman. I'd ask the Minister, by the description up top both brokerage and tendering function of the government

printing and internal reproduction and stationery supply services; does this group do the buying for these services rather than the purchasing department which is in Government Services?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: This was at one time - Queen's Printer was part of the Department of Government Services, and was moved a couple of years ago into the Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation. In terms of stationery supplied, they are the purchasing agent and the central brokerage for the respective departments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Pass.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(b)(1)—pass; 3.(b)(2)—pass; 3.(c)(1) Operating Salaries; 3.(c)(2) Other Expenditures.

3.(c)(3) Less Recoverable from Other Appropriations - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Just what does the Operating entail? What does it entail?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Operating entails salaries for 72 staff in the Queen's Printer. The Other Expenditures relate to the general administration of the Queen's Printer operations, costs associated with the purchase storage, distribution of photographic stationery supplies, stationery, statutory publications, equipment rentals, maintenance, operating supplies, data system utilization.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Then I would ask the Minister - I wrote it down and I think I told him I was writing it down - he mentioned Creative Services which is now in the Queen's Printer and I wonder if the Minister could enlighten us on that.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's located as part of this Section 3.(c). What it is, is the consolidation of the government's creative and technical services, that previously exist in some specific departments. All of these staff have been transferred into a central unit at the Queen's Printer and they continue to provide duties for their former departments while also providing Creative Services to all government departments.

This provides a greater use of the creative and technical skills that are available to all branches or to all departments of government.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Creative Services basically says that it's the assistance to departments as to what equipment is the best, which systems should be used, etc?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, it's Creative Services, art and design, work for specific projects that departments may be working on. If I could use the example that comes to me relatively easy are the various brochures and publications that are put out by some of the larger departments like Natural Resources, Park brochures, other kinds of publications, Tourism publications, they provide both print and other forms of media, audio,

the full range of photographic assistance. There are two photo technicians in this branch.

The photographers used to be part Information Services. They're now part of this Creative Services Branch, so they have the ability to provide a kind of multi-media assistance.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: When the Minister mentions brochures, etc., is that not usually done by the advertising department the government uses or the advertising department that the specific department is using?

And to just follow up, these people that are in Creative Services in operating here have come from several different departments into here?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: In terms of the first question, some of the major publications or major brochures are developed through agencies through specific advertising agencies that are given the contract. Other levels of publication are developed internally by government departments and the Creative Services Branch provide assistance in that regard. I used the example of an in-house one such as the brochures that are for Parks Department. There are other major brochures for public information programs that are developed through agencies, depends on the scope, the number and the purpose of the brochure.

In terms of the second question, the staff was transferred from Executive Council from the Department of Agriculture, Economic Development, Health, and Natural Resources.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Okay, then I follow it from Economic Development came the one or two people that were there that work in Creative Services, they're now all in this department?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(c)(1)—pass; 3.(c)(2)—pass; 3.(c)(3)—pass.

Resolution 49: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$906,400 for Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Queen's Printer, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

4.(a) Expenditures Related to Capital Assets, Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets; 4.(b) Capital Grants - the Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, I'm sure the Minister could give us a quick rundown of the Capital Grants.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The Capital Grants are as follows:

The Multicultural Capital Grants is \$175,000, that was what I made mention of earlier today that was transferred back from the Jobs Fund. The Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation, that is the corporation that has responsibility for the Concert Hall, the physical plant of the museum, the building which houses the Museum of Man and Nature, and other buildings and properties around the Concert Hall, has a grant of \$197,000 for Capital Costs related to the ongoing renovation and repair to the Centennial Centre. The Museum of Man and Nature has a Capital Grant of

\$100,000, I also made mention of that earlier today. There's a provision for \$48,000 that we set aside for specific emergency capital repair costs that may arise during the year to facilities that are under the Provincial Government's control or ownership and that may include the Brandon Centennial Centre Corporation, the Centennial Centre itself, the Museum. In the past the Ukrainian Education and Cultural Centres received capital assistance under this, and the Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre, and in the past the Winnipeg Art Gallery has. So there's \$48,000 that is at this specific point unallocated but is set aside for capital repairs that may be of a more emergent nature.

A MEMBER: Pass.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina, just one question.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Possible several, Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Followed by several.

MR. D. ORCHARD: If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you.

Has this contingency or emergency fund existed every year?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I don't know if it's existed every year. Last year we had the exact same amount set aside of \$48,000.00. The year previous there was an amount set aside, I don't recall the specific figure. Some years funds have been set aside specifically for capital repairs to the Art Gallery or to other institutions.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Does past practice indicate that money is always expended?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, the demands have always been greater than the amount of resources allocated. It's really a small amount, \$48,000 is a small amount when you are dealing with major facilities of the type that I mentioned. So they're really there just for specific emergency repairs that may be needed during the year.

In fact, I am just made aware that the Brandon Centennial Centre Auditorium has recently come to us with a request for grant assistance that would have to come from here for repairs to their roof. Apparently, they have a problem with a leaking roof there that has arisen recently.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)—pass; 4.(b)—pass.

Resolution 50: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$654,100 for Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Expenditures Related to Capital Assets, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Back to the Minister's Salary. The staff of the department are excused. Item 1.(a) Minister's Salary.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to compliment the Minister and his staff for the day we've

spent. We were able to do it in a day, because the answers were there. The Minister obviously knows what is going on in his department, and I would compliment him and thank him very much.

I will probably be in trouble with my colleagues tomorrow for that - probably a change from my nature - but the Minister has done a good job and he deserves it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, everybody.

Resolution 47: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,212,800 for Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Administration and Finance, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Committee rise.

SUPPLY - HEALTH

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, H. Harapiak: Committee, come to order. We are considering the Estimates of the Department of Health. We are on Item 6.(2) - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, just as we broke for dinner hour we were concluding our discussions of the Support Services line of the Estimates for the Foundation and discussing some of the educational work being done on behalf of the Foundation's mission and the Foundation's field through the Education Advisory Council. The Minister had mentioned at that time in response to some comments of mine that a new education program, Tuning into Health, was ready.

I believe he said that it was his understanding from the Minister of Education that it was going into the elementary schools, which is certainly good. It's desirable that there be some program aimed for the elementary school population, because I think the problem that we face in this field has gradually crept down in age groups to the point where it's not so much the high school students that we have to be concerned with anymore, it is junior high school and younger.

So I would ask just for confirmation on that point, did he say that was where that program is intended to go, into the elementary schools? As a follow-up to that, are there programs planned for the junior high schools?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I did say that this program was going to start this fall in the elementary schools, but I also added that the committee who has been brought back to work will then concentrate on developing a program for junior high.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Line 2, we're on.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Line 2, Support Services—pass.

Line 3, Program Evaluation and Development - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is this the area, Mr. Chairman, under which any possible program for junior high school, for example, would be developed?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is the leadership of the Foundation, the executive director's office and the administration generally working at the challenge of developing an education program for junior high school, or is that something that's simply being done by the Education Advisory Council and that will then come forward from that Council if, as and when they have something? Or is the executive director's office and his administrative group in Program Evaluation and Development actively working with the Education Advisory Council, with the community, with professionals in the health field to develop the best kind of approach and concept that can be created for getting into the junior high schools with a meaningful preventive and education program?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend is absolutely correct. This committee acts as an advisory committee to the board and the executive director, as I mentioned, and the staff. So that is developed with their advice and help, but the Education Department will also be very much involved in the development of this program.

I might say, to help, although we did cut this in different lines, that now under the Program Evaluation and Development there's the director, Evaluation and Research, Training Unit, Treatment Program consultant and Prevention Program consultant.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed, I'd like to bring to the attention of the Legislature that we have a visitor in our midst, the Minister Responsible for Native Affairs in the Alberta Government, the Honourable Milt Pahl.

On behalf of the Legislature, I welcome you here this evening.

SUPPLY - HEALTH (Cont'd)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Some critics have argued, Mr. Chairman, for some time - and I know the Minister is not unfamiliar with the argument - that the Alcoholism Foundation was not set up to do prevention, that their forte has always been treatment and that they're not equipped, that the Foundation itself is not equipped, either in terms orientation or attitude or personnel to go into the schools and do the job in the schools that has to be done in the prevention field.

This may, to a certain extent I suppose, be a resurrection or a continuation of the old argument of some years ago when there was considerable conflict between the aims and objectives of the AFM and the aims and objectives of the old Alcohol and Drug Education Service, ADES, which did specialize in and concentrate on going into the schools and teaching

prevention, or attempting to carry the message of prevention to protect our young people from the lure and the trap of alcoholism and to head off the problem before it existed and therefore before treatment was necessary.

I know that there was quite a conflict in philosophy for some years and I encountered it as Minister of Health between 1977 and 1981, wherein the ADES people felt that they had the best technique for taking the message into the schools and for alerting the young people in the schools to the problem and that the AFM was not properly attuned to the school-aged population to do that sort of thing.

Furthermore, as I indicated earlier, they felt and others have felt that the AFM in fact was never intended to do that, but was designed to concentrate on treatment of the problem after the problem appeared. I know that the Minister and I could get into probably a pretty lengthy philosophical dispute over the degree to which ADES was phased out of its separate existence and was merged into the AFM because that happened under our administration and during the time that I was Minister, and I firmly believe that we were doing the right thing at that time.

However, I'm not one who thinks that all these decisions, once made, are necessarily cast in stone and irrevocable. If things don't work out the way you intended, then you should adjust them and make the changes that need to be made. In recent months, I've had some representations from persons who have indicated to me that they think there is room for the separate concept, whether it was under ADES or not is irrelevant but the separate concept of an arm or an agency that is specialized on that preventive role - that is specifically and exclusively designed and equipped to go into the schools and do it as an ally of AFM, but not as part of AFM.

I'm wondering whether this debate or dispute is really going on at a serious and a professional level, whether the Minister has been confronted with it or his department or the Foundation itself has been confronted with it; whether in fact it really exists or whether it's just something that has come up in discussions that some people have had with me, but which is not really justified.

Has the Minister had any approaches or any suggestions, either from his own senior personnel, his own staff at the Foundation or from outside sources that would suggest that there are two separate roles that should be separated and should be pursued separately and that there should be some thought given to developing a separate preventive arm and having it operate, not independently, it would operate as a complement of the treatment program, but having it operate exclusively as a preventive agency or a preventive organization rather than having the Alcoholism Foundation perform that role itself. Is that philosophical debate still going on at a serious level?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, Mr. Chairman. I'd say that I have no problem agreeing with my honourable friend. I have had no representation to be honest with you and we feel that the little pamphlet that was prepared this year that talks about the numerous services of the Alcoholic Foundation of Manitoba in the *raison d'être* of the Foundation, and they list here:

"To assist individuals who are affected by the use of alcohol or other chemicals to make the best possible use of the treatment and rehabilitation services by the AFM and other groups and agencies." Therefore that covers the treatment.

"To distribute information about the recognition, treatment and prevention of problems involving chemical use and the services available through the AFM and other groups and agencies concerned about these problems." This is education and prevention.

Finally, "To conduct and promote research and evaluation programs in the treatment and prevention of problems involving chemical use. I'm very pleased with the direction that the Foundation is going now. I'm very pleased with their work. I think they're accomplishing very much.

The presentation that was made, and that came forward also in some of the presentations that were made through the Pascoe group, was that maybe the AFM should be incorporated. It should become part of the department. I wish to add as I said on Thursday, but very emphatically, that through the committee set up and chaired by the Deputy Minister, Mr. Edwards, we perceived again that there were a lot of concerns about that.

I might say that the department and myself have rejected that suggestion and it certainly will not need a recommendation that we will make to the government when we deal with the Pascoe Report. What we might do is get some kind of co-operation and maybe a little closer working together when we're dealing with administration and those kinds of things, but it is intended that the AFM would stay exactly the way it is now and keep on delivering the services and be concerned with the four areas that I mentioned and that that meets with the approval of my honourable friend.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, as these programs are developed and got ready to go into the schools, how will they actually be taken into the schools by the AFM? Will the AFM instruct teachers who will then teach the courses, or will the AFM develop personnel of its own who will go into the schools and deliver the courses, either as part of the curriculum or as extra-curricular subjects?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, dealing with the children or the school age, the decision of course is made first by the school division, the school board. If they want the program, then the Alcoholism Foundation will teach the teachers who will become the instructors to the children. Also very importantly, they work with the parents of these children also, but the responsibility of teaching in the school is the responsibility of the Department of Education. The AFM will develop with their help, of course, the program and instruct and train the teachers to be instructors themselves.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Program Delivery—pass?

MR. L. SHERMAN: No, no, we're on Program Evaluation and Development.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My question would be on this particular issue when we're talking about Evaluation and Development, how many people have been treated under this program, and how many people after they were treated were cured so to speak, did not go back to their old ways of life?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this would be coming in the next section when we're talking about the treatment.

If I understood the question correctly, my honourable friend wanted to know how many had been treated, that will be in the next line.

MR. A. BROWN: The reason I ask that question is again . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Can you wait until the next line?

MR. A. BROWN: Okay, we're on Program Evaluation now. How do you evaluate a program? Are you keeping statistics? Are you doing a follow-up on those people who have been treated to find out how they're coming along in the community, or how are you evaluating the program?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, that's what research and evaluation is all about. You start the research to get the proper statistics, and follow through and see the results of different programs, and follow through with the statistics available and see if it works.

MR. A. BROWN: I understand then from what the Minister said that there is a follow-up of the cases to see how effective these programs are.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, just a couple of other questions on this line, Program Evaluation and Development, are teachers being trained now by the AFM in, for example, the course that's entitled "Tuning In To Health," or does everything remain on hold until a school division decides that they want to sign up for the course?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Well, actually maybe I didn't explain that correctly. The training is going on now, will be going on all summer so the program can start actually with the students when the schools reopen this fall.

MR. CHAIRMAN, P. Eyler: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, my other question had to do with, I guess, the technical capability, one would call it, for proper program evaluation and development in this day and age, are we into computerized information systems in this branch of the Foundation or is there any plan to do that? How is modern evaluation and program evaluation and development carried out at the present time?

The budget being requested is approximately the same in '84-'85 as was voted for '83-'84, so it doesn't

look as though there's any investment in new equipment such as computer equipment contemplated for this year, but is the Foundation and is this branch of the Foundation already into that kind of a technical capability?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we are into computerizing the data and information that we get and also the self-evaluation of the client also is taken into consideration.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Just so I understand the Minister, the Minister said yes, the Foundation is into computerized information systems?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 6. Line 3—pass; Line 4, Program Delivery - the Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: I wonder if the Minister could give us a rundown of the expenditure on program delivery. For instance, I'd be interested whether Alcoholics Anonymous, are they a part of the program delivery system? What are the agencies that are getting funding under this particular item?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That's the next item.

MR. A. BROWN: Could the Minister then explain what program delivery is?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It's the program delivery and prevention across the province and I'll give you some of the activities.

"The AFM believes that treatment for the illness of chemical dependency necessitates its active involvement for a period of six months to two years. With this in mind, clients are assessed as to the need for intensive residential treatments or supportive non-residential treatment dependent upon the progression of the illness and community supports of the client.

"This primary program is then followed by after-care counselling for an extended period of time. Residential treatment programs are offered in Winnipeg, Brandon, Ste. Rose, Thompson, with non-residential and after-care counselling offered in all locations throughout the province.

In Winnipeg, 30 male treatment beds and 15 female treatment beds are utilized in residential services, while in Brandon 22 treatment beds are available, in Ste. Rose 22 beds and in Thompson 14 beds. The residential treatment services draw their clientele from all areas of the province, but more particularly from a network of outreach staff located for servicing the following communities: From Winnipeg it serves Portage la Prairie, Gimli, Beausejour, and the surrounding communities as well as Winnipeg itself. Brandon serves Rossburn, Minnedosa, Shilo, Carberry, Deloraine, Killarney, Boissevain, Virden, Melita, Elphinstone, Binscarth, Foxswarren, Russell, Erickson, and Newdale. Ste. Rose will serve Gilbert Plains, Roblin, Ochre River, McCreary, Alonsa, Dauphin and other surrounding communities. Thompson will serve Flin Flon, Cranberry Portage, Wabowden, Nelson House, South Indian Lake, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake, Gillam, Ilford and other surrounding communities.

Clients are also referred from other community gatekeepers who have a close working relationship with the Alcoholic Foundation of Manitoba.

A Youth Non-residential Program is offered in Winnipeg, using the same objectives as the adult programs, but due to the difference brought about by age and maturity, as well as demand of numbers, is located separately from the adult program at 1041 Portage Avenue.

As well, the foundation staff and in-house Chemical Dependency Treatment Program at Headingley Correctional Institute seconded one staff member to Alcohol Recovery Inc.- that's a halfway house - one male and one female; and has alcohol workers at Stony Mountain Penitentiary fully funded by the Federal Government but delivered by the AFM.

One of the major developments of '83 was the expansion of the Second Offender Driving While Impaired Program through all Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba offices throughout the province. The demand for services in the area has also increased the client caseload in many of the offices as the program is set up as an intervention service.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Mr. Chairman, these beds that are utilized for residential treatment, are these beds in hospitals? Are any hospital beds utilized for this treatment, or are these in halfway houses or other areas?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Their own facilities that I have mentioned. They are not in hospitals. I mean I am not saying that clients are not admitted in the hospitals at times if there is an emergency because it is a sickness, but the treatment is done in our institution, the one that I have mentioned, and halfway house.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the requested vote in this appropriation for this year is .5 million higher than the voted amount for '83-84. Can the Minister advise the committee of the reasons for that, other than the normal cost price spiral? Are there substantial tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of dollars going into new programs in '84-85?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think one of the main reasons is certainly the new program that we have, and I would like to make this announcement. It is the Driving While Impaired Program.

Research has proven that alcohol is involved in 50 percent of the traffic fatalities and at least 30 percent of traffic injuries can account for up to 10 percent of all property damage claims. Clearly, then, a major problem is being created by individuals who drive while under the influence of alcohol.

Research also indicates that up to 30 percent of convicted impaired drivers suffer from alcoholism and are in need of treatment. It is estimated that this group of people is made up of 20 percent of first offenders, but 50 percent of second offenders and 90 percent of third offenders.

The remaining 70 percent of convicted impaired drivers are made up of two groups. One group is made

up of individuals who are considered heavy drinkers, may not be alcoholics, but are definitely in need of an intervention service that will point out to them the dangers of their continuous heavy drinking. The second group of individuals, mainly the social drinkers, are in need of an education program - that would be the prevention - that highlights for them the danger they are creating for society when they drive after drinking.

Almost 6,000 individuals are convicted each year in Manitoba for impaired driving offences. As it is generally accepted that only one in 2,000 impaired drivers are actually apprehended, these arrests would suggest that there are millions of separate incidents of impaired driving in this province every year.

The Attorney-General's report on this issue has made several recommendations: The Alcoholism Foundation has been requested to address these recommendations by expanding their existing Second Offender Program and by instituting a new program for first offenders. People who are convicted of an impaired driving offence and wish to have their licence reinstated, will be required to take one of the programs offered by the AFM. It was the second offender, but now it includes the first offender also.

Both the First and Second Offender Programs will include a one-hour individual session, a seven-hour group session and a one-hour individual session to conclude the program. The First Offender Programs will primarily be of an educational, informational nature, while the Second Offenders Program will deal more specifically with the effects that alcohol has on the individual's life, with a view toward convincing the individual of the need for appropriate treatment action. The cost of these programs will not be borne by the average taxpayer as it was in the past, to a point, but the impaired drivers themselves, through a fully cost-recoverable relicensing fee. It is expected that these programs will be operational by the fall.

We should expect a revenue of \$260,000 for that, the cost of this new program.

MR. L. SHERMAN: The cost will be \$260,000, over and above the recoverable cost that is coming through the licensing fee. Is that correct?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, it will be recoverable, Mr. Chairman. It will be what we have and plus this 260, will give us the amount to conduct the program, but it will be fully paid. The cost will be 375 and, with what we have added to the 260, it will add to 375.

MR. L. SHERMAN: The cost will be about \$375,000 and there'll be \$260,000 recoverable through the licensing fee, so does that mean the net cost is \$115,000 or it means the total cost is around half a million.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Sorry, I misled you and myself with that 260. Scratch that; it's 375 of new money, 91 of old money, for a total of 466, all of which is recoverable from the offender.

MR. L. SHERMAN: All of which is recoverable from the offender. That isn't one of these recoveries from Canada. That's recoverable from the offender.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: In the past, they've been subsidized through extra money that we have. Now

we'll recover all that because they will pay the exact cost.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So what the Minister is saying is that this whole new program, in effect, will pay for itself through recoveries through the licence fee. I don't want to terminate discussion of this program, Mr. Chairman, but then let me just go back to my original question for a moment.

On this appropriation, we're looking at a request for a half million dollars of new money. Now some of that will be a result of the cost-price squeeze. I know that, the increase in costs of delivering these programs, but that would be a fairly small portion of that half million dollars. We're looking at several hundred thousand dollars of new money being requested for program delivery. My question of a few moments ago, not that this is a secondary program, by any means, this is a very important program and I want to look at it for a minute with the Minister; but first of all, where is that new money going, the new money that's being requested in program delivery?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I think it would be best if I break this in detail. There's an increase of \$528,000.00. There's \$130,800 for General Salary increase, plus the increment and that's offset by a reduction of six staff years. There's an expansion of existing second offenders driving while impaired, \$260,000, Other Expenditures, Capital Renovation Equipment Program re Driving While Impaired Program to 1031 Portage, \$100,000; new long-term Disability Insurance Plan plus cost increase of other fringe benefits, \$93,100; Stony Mountain Institution Contract Employees, offset by Federal Government Revenue, \$30,000; Other Operating increases primarily due to cost increase, \$13,900; reduction in part-time employee costs and contractor fees in treatment centres, that's a reduction of \$46,700; reduction in printing of education materials, that's a reduction of \$32,700; and reduction in staff development and travel expenses of \$20,000, and that comes with an increase of \$528,400.00.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So it's conceivable that as of March 31, 1985, Mr. Chairman, we could find ourselves under-spent in program delivery. Is that correct? There's \$260,000 here assigned or designated for expansion of the Second Offenders Program, just to name one item, and all of that is going to be cost recoverable under the licensing fee, and of course that has to be paid for first; but if it's all cost recoverable then we can end up, at the end of the fiscal year, by being under-spent on this appropriation. Does the Minister anticipate that?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, if you look at the Estimates, I think on Page 90, you will see that Less: Recoveries of \$539,600.00. That's where the recovery comes in, on the right-hand column, (1).

MR. L. SHERMAN: I see. Those are not recoveries from Canada.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Those are recoveries from fees and licensing . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Generated by the programs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Okay, thank you.

Mr. Chairman, I'm very interested in the Minister's announcement on the Driving While Impaired Program. I had been intending to ask him about the extent of the Second Offenders Program and the success of it at the present time. Does the Second Offenders Program apply to all second offenders in the province? That is, do all second offenders have to make themselves available to the AFM and take counselling and rehabilitation from the AFM before they can get their licences back, or is it just that they do it if they're appealing for an earlier return of their licences, if they're appealing for a reduction of their penalty?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the second offender up to now has been in the major centres. Now it'll be all through the province, they will have to take that course and pay for it before they get their licence back and the first offender will be the way it was for the second offender, that is to start with in the major centres, and we hope eventually through the whole province.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Then the first offender is the one who is covered under the Driving While Impaired Program. The Driving While Impaired Program applies to the first offender. Is that right?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Both of them.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Would the Minister have any illustrative statistics, not in detail, Mr. Chairman, but any statistics that could illustrate for the committee the breadth of this Second Offenders Program, let's say in 1983-84, the fiscal year just ended, how many persons of that category, how many second offenders would have gone through AFM rehabilitation?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Under the Second Offender?

MR. L. SHERMAN: Under the Second Offender's Program.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Second Offender in '82 was 444 - excuse me, Mr. Chairman, and '83, 1,230.

MR. L. SHERMAN: It is helpful to have those comparative figures, because they illustrate the growth and extent of the program, and the degree to which it has been expanded.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister mentioned in response to an earlier question on this same subject that there was a reduction in staff years in this component of the Foundation. I don't have in front of me any comparative breakdown of staffing positions, staff years in the AFM for the coming year as against the past year. Are there a number of areas in the AFM staff complement where there are changes being proposed for 1984-85, either increases or decreases in personnel?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That's right, Mr. Chairman, I forgot to give that information. I did for the department, not the division. There is a reduction of six staff years.

One is a reduction of staff resources in After Care Program, and as a result counsellor contact will terminate sooner. There is a reduction of staff resource in the Headingley Jail Program, resulting in a scaling-down of the program; elimination of in-school program in the elementary grades, the Tuning into Health Program school curriculum will replace this individual classroom approach, and trained teachers to present this program to their students themselves; that's one more. Then Program Delivery Division again, elimination of secretarial, the receptionist assistant in Gimli. Field staff will utilize a telephone answering service and handle former administrative duties themselves; that's one staff year. Another one to reduce Brandon and Ste. Rose cooking staff complement by adjusting shift schedule and assigning some duties to clients and other staff. Finally, the sixth one, reassignment of staff year to facilitate organizational change. We gain some in other places.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Excuse me, I don't want him in a state. This was in that area, but for the total of the Alcoholism Foundation, it was 173 in '83-84, and we have a total increase of two - 173.5, it's now 175.5. The sixth, those were reductions in that particular program that we're talking about, but the total will be an increase of two.

MR. L. SHERMAN: The Minister probably gave us this figure a few minutes ago or before the dinner-hour break, but since I didn't have a staff breakdown in front of me, Mr. Chairman, it's a little hard to stay on top of it. The Program Delivery component will witness a reduction of six staff years this year. The overall Foundation will witness an increase, provided the Minister gets his Estimates approved, of two staff years, so in other words, there are eight new positions being created. Is that correct? In total . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'm saying, the listing - Mr. Chairman, I think you will see that in Program Evaluation, there's a difference of one.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Oh, okay. Thank you, I have the list now and it makes it much easier to read.

So essentially the increase being requested is coming in the prevention, community and mobilization services area; that's in Program Delivery. It's in the community mobilization area where you are asking for 148 positions as against 145?

Mr. Chairman, what is the capability situation at 1021 Portage Avenue now? The AFM's headquarters and main administrative component and main outreach component for the City of Winnipeg is now presumably fully established and ensconced and in the new headquarters building at 1021 Portage Avenue. What about programming from there?

The intention has always been to operate a very extensive youth program from there and an adult program. The youth program, in particular I think, was designed to function almost on a walk-in basis where

youthful citizens were able to come for counselling and perhaps therapy, at least for counselling and group instruction, almost on a day-to-day basis before, during or after school or before or after work commitments, job commitments that they had. Is that kind of a youth program in place and operating now?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is non-residential treatment, the youth program. The question - was it 1041 Portage? - the program that during the past year-and-a-half the facility has been offering a 15-bed primary care unit and a 30-bed male residential treatment program, as well as the Youth Non-residential Treatment Program. The premises have also been made available to interested community groups for the holding of community education programs in its auditorium, thereby increasing community awareness of the Alcoholism Foundation and its liaison with community groups.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Just for the sake of the Hansard recorders, Mr. Chairman, I guess we had better get the address right because there have been several references to it. I've been referring to it as 1021 Portage Avenue, and the Minister has been referring to it as 1041. I think it's actually 1031 Portage Avenue. Is that correct?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It's a really complicated thing. There is no such a thing as 1021.

A MEMBER: Well, there is, but we don't own it.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: 1031 is administration, and 1041 is the treatment building.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Good.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: We should buy 1021.

MR. L. SHERMAN: All previous references should read 1031 and 1041.

Mr. Chairman, what is the situation with respect to the Willard Monson Centre, the former Alcare Resort Centre in Ste. Rose du Lac? Is Willard Monson thriving, and do they have sufficient staff and sufficient alcohol treatment workers available in residence to do the job that centre is designed to do, namely, to function as a very vital, major residential treatment centre not exclusively for clientele from outside Winnipeg but certainly available to rural communities, to rural clientele and to those Winnipeg clients who for one reason or another attend that centre?

Willard Monson grew out of a great deal of enthusiasm when the takeover of the Alcare Resort Centre was completed. I would hope that enthusiasm and that level of interest is being maintained, and that the excellent level and quality of staff is being maintained there. Could the Minister report on that?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, there is no change at all in that program. It is still the 15 beds in Ste. Rose, the same number of staff, and it's for a short-term stay.

MR. L. SHERMAN: But they are not having any staffing difficulties?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No.

MR. L. SHERMAN: They've got sufficient staff. Good. Are the halfway houses, well, residential houses in Winnipeg still being maintained at their former levels? River House, Nassau House, to name two - I think there was a third one in the Fort Rouge area - that functioned as short-term residential facilities, and one of them was a women's residential centre. Are they still operating that way?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: River and Nassau, yes, but Stradbrook was sold last year when we opened up on Portage.

MR. L. SHERMAN: And of between River and Nassau, is one of them women's residential, or are they both men's?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: River.

MR. L. SHERMAN: River is women's, okay. Mr. Chairman, can the Minister report to the committee in general terms as to the comparison between the alcohol abuse problem and the drug abuse problem, taking the AFM centre on Portage Avenue for example, 1041 Portage Avenue, and the programs that are conducted there for adults and youths? Are we looking basically or overwhelmingly at alcoholism as against drug abuse, or is there a significant amount of programming in the drug abuse view?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: The information I have is that in the adult, it is still more the alcohol programs; and in the youth it might be that they take more than one drug, either liquor and a chemical drug also.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Does the Minister have any general overview or information that could help us understand the current size and scope of the drug dependency problem, for example, among the youthful population? Does he have any comparative or illustrative figures that would indicate that the AFM and other social agencies are uncovering more of it or less of it? Does it seem to be at the level of the previous years, recent years, or is it on the increase? Has it plateaued? Does the Minister see it as a building, growing crisis, or does he feel that we have the weaponry in place now to cope with it and contain it?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, that's where I have no trouble agreeing with the statement that was made earlier by the member that prevention and education is so important because every year it seems to go up with the youth now with more than the one drug to as high as a 30 percent increase.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So that the figures for the latest year, which could be '83-84 but might be '82-83, reflect a 30 percent increase in the use of one particular drug among the youth population, the juvenile population of Winnipeg, or of Manitoba - but presumably in this case the Minister is talking about Winnipeg - over the previous year. Is that what he is saying?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That's right. It's actually two drugs with those that are taking liquor and drugs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Will the program that is being developed to go into the elementary schools in those school divisions who requested, namely, Tuning into Health, and will the program that Mr. Ramsey and his colleagues are working on for junior high schools be a program that zeroes in on that drug problem as intensively and as extensively as our programs perhaps have attempted to zero in on alcoholism? In other words, is the emphasis going to be as heavily on drugs and drug abuse for the youngsters for the treatment and preventive and education programs that are aimed at those youngsters as will be the case where alcoholism is concerned?

Obviously, the figures would indicate that should be a minimum case, that we should be emphasizing prevention of drug use and education in that field perhaps even more heavily than is the case with alcoholism.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Well, actually, what it does, it's education and prevention and it covers alcohol and all drugs. We'll have to remember that that's prevention and education, that covers the whole thing, the danger of the thing.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Would those rather alarming figures the Minister gave us about a 30 percent increase refer specifically to Winnipeg, or is that a figure that's applicable to the province in general?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I wouldn't want to mislead. It is certainly not encouraging, but in a certain way, when you look at 30 percent, and I believe I did say a 30 percent increase, but I should have explained it's 30 percent of those that are seeking help, coming to us to seek help. So it might be that it's not an actual increase but it's 30 percent more clients; that's for the foundation. I hope that it doesn't represent just the increase but that more people are getting aware of it and are taking advantage of this help.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So the caseload is up by 30 percent

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes.

MR. L. SHERMAN: . . . where two drugs in particular are concerned.

But would that be the case in The Pas, would it be the case in Thompson, would it be the case in Dauphin as well as in Winnipeg? Would it be the case, roughly speaking, in Manitoba generally or is the Minister speaking specifically here just of the Winnipeg community?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, it's pretty well all over the province and there is an awful lot of pressure on government and on the AFM to start programs in different parts of the province because of that. So I guess the biggest concern will be the funding of these programs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is there anything in here that would reflect or indicate any kind of increase or redistribution of alcohol treatment workers and, by definition now,

drug treatment workers, in other words, chemical dependency treatment workers into other parts of the province?

In recent years we did add on a gradual basis, year by year, or we attempted to add year by year one or two alcohol treatment workers to additional communities that had been pressing for them and in need of them. Presumably, that need hasn't gone away, maybe some of the locales and some of the geography has changed, but is there anything in the Minister's plans for this year to get alcohol treatment workers or chemical dependency treatment workers into communities - rural, remote, Northern and what have you - not currently served and in need of same?

I think if some communities in the North, in particular - I don't care to identify them at the moment - but I have been there as Minister, and the Minister to whom I am addressing my remarks has been there and has been confronted with it by citizens and hospital officials in those communities with their worry and their concern over this problem. They fall into that category of communities in this province that need alcohol treatment workers and drug treatment workers. Is there anything contemplated in fiscal '84-'85 to get any of that input and assistance into some of those communities?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, as the members of the committee know that the new Young Offenders Act has been brought in by the Federal Government, and I feel the Foundation will be involved in respect to counselling and treatment of chemically-dependent youth. Now various options have been considered during the preparation, the planning stage of the act and the Foundation is also liaised with different departments of this government and we're waiting final direction on that. The negotiating has been done mostly through the Attorney-General and the Community Services Department and we're waiting direction on that. We think that this is the area with additional, we should receive the additional funds because of this new act and be able to initiate more programs in different areas of the province.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, is the Foundation and/or the Minister's office and/or the Department of Health generally working at the problem of drug use or abuse or dependency among the elderly? Not so much a drug use or abuse that is entered into voluntarily, but one that results from the widespread prescription and overprescription perhaps of a variety of drugs and medications for people with various medical problems resulting in a surfeit of medication for people to the extent that it is debilitating and damaging to them and entirely unnecessary and, in some cases, winds up with them being dependent on those drugs.

There's been an identifiable problem across the country, across the continent, I think, in recent years with respect to overprescription and oversubscription to drugs and medication in some areas of the elderly population with certainly unnecessary and frequently unfortunate results. I know that the pharmacists of Manitoba have launched a program of their own to help reduce that problem. I know the College of Physicians and Surgeons has been alerted to it and active in attempts to monitor it and reduce it for some

time. Is the Alcoholism Foundation involved in any initiative of that kind?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, there is, I think, pretty well as defined by my honourable friend, there is a drug use and the aging process where you work with the elderly and the people that work for them that are not aware of the effect of drugs on aging. It also will teach these people how to gain the greater benefit from a visit to their doctors and the role of the pharmacist also is mentioned how medically-required drugs can be taken safely as well as with the most benefit for the users.

Now in 1983, we had total participant in the drug use and the aging process training. There were 14 that were trained, but in the total participant in general education section for senior citizens in the same year, the number was 726.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, what about the problem in the workplace? I know that in recent years the AFM launched some specific initiatives to get at alcoholism in the workplace and the impact of it on the employee, the employer, and the whole workplace itself, could the Minister report to the Committee as to whether those initiatives are continuing, and are there any illustrative comparisons which would indicate that they are reaching a wider clientele now than was the case in the past or would the reverse happen to be the case?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I don't have the comparisons but that program that was defined that is working with the union representatives, managers, etc., of the people of the workplace. In 1983, there were 963 cases.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is there a capability out of AFM headquarters on Portage Avenue to train and instruct workplaces and personnel at workplaces, labour leaders and management personnel in setting up those kinds of programs? Does the AFM go into workplaces and set them up, or do representatives from those workplaces come to the AFM and seek help. I'd just like an idea of what kind of spectrum there is in place or available to provide that kind of service in a workplace in any kind of extensive way.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, yes at the facilities at 1041, there are two people that do only that full time. They work with different firms, with unions, with employer groups - there's one in Thompson and Brandon but that's part time - they have other responsibilities besides that, but they also work in that program with management and employee representatives.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I think the only other question that I would have on this subject has to do with the concept of workshops as distinct from the workplace.

Alcoholism and drug dependency and chemical dependency workshops or seminars, is the AFM developing and delivering workshops on a travelling basis into communities throughout Manitoba, in

particular rural and remote and Northern communities. That was certainly an initiative of past years, but looking at fairly restrictive Budget here this year, '84-'85, much of the increase in which and for which is apparently designated quite legitimately for the Second Offenders Program and the Driving While Impaired Program, is there going to be a capability and a capacity to take seminars and workshops on chemical dependency into various Manitoba communities and was that carried out to any great extent during 1983-84? I know that it was in the late 1970s and the early 1980s - early 1980s in particular looking at 1980, '81 and '82 - but how did we stand on that in the fiscal year just completed?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, the training programs in 1982, the different programs are Kids On Drugs; Drug Use and Aging Process; Teaching Training, School Guidance Counsellors and Principal; Health Professionals, Employee Assistance Training; Native Program Training and other general training; in 1982, there were 3,653; in 1983 there were 2,785.

The decrease is primarily due to reduction in training participants in Kids On Drugs and Drugs in Use and Aging Process and Employee Assistance Program.

Now the total with groups now that in some of these programs was 10,223 in '82, and 10,406 in 1983.

Now, also participants, other addiction agencies they were 70, teachers and principal 545 - that's for '83 I don't have the '82 figures - students 4,395, health and medicine 1,376, justice 126, social agencies 511, employee assistance program corporation 963, police clergy and armed forces 51, and general public 5,145, for a total of 13,191.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 6.- the Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would just like to briefly go back to the person who has lost his driver's licence on the first drinking offence. There seems to be a great deal of confusion when they receive their directive that they are supposed to appear before their local Alcoholics Anonymous group, because I believe that mainly is because a proper explanation is not put forward in the notice that they receive. I know that I have had two people coming forward within the last month telling me that, look, I had too much to drink that one night, but there is no way am I an alcoholic. I cannot see the purpose for me appearing before the Alcoholics Anonymous group.

So it seems to me that somewhere along the line it should be explained to these people then that it's for counselling that they were supposed to go there. They feel that they are supposed to go out there for treatment, and they feel that they're not alcoholics.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, that program has not started yet. We're starting in September, so we certainly intend to give the full explanation that this is mandatory if they want - they don't have to follow it if they don't want their licence back. That's the only way they're going to get their licence.

MR. A. BROWN: Now this becomes even more confusing, because I have seen these notices . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: . . . for the second. You said, first offenders.

MR. A. BROWN: First offenders. I have seen two notices now. They possibly came up from the Licence Suspension Board then. I am sure that this is where those notices came from, but they were supposed to appear before their Alcoholics Anonymous group. But there was no explanation given why they were supposed to appear over there, so this was why I was posing that question.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: If it is definitely a first offender, we haven't started yet. That confusion might exist. That's possible, but it has nothing to do with our program. That would be strictly the Motor Vehicle Branch for suspension.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 6., Line 4—pass.
Line 5 - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Funded Agencies, Mr. Chairman, can the Minister give the committee a report on those agencies that are going to be funded this year, and how those figures compare with last year and how the list compares with last year? There are nine agencies identified in '82-'83, which is not last year, it's the year before, and I wonder if that list and line-up has changed any.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: The Churchill Health Centre, in '83-'84, 65.9, and this year, 44.1 for a reduction 21.8, and that is a reduction in alcohol program staff complement and incorporation of prior surplus into '84-'85 operation budget. That's the 21.8 reduction.

Kia Zan, there is an increase of 5.9 percent.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Kia Zan?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, 174,000 to 184.2, an increase of 10.2 or 5.9 percent. Main Street Project . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: Give me '83-'84 first, and '84-'85 second.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Okay, Main Street, 757, '84-'85, 764.2, an increase of 7.2; Native Alcoholism Council, 157.9 and 228.5 for an increase of 70,600; Sagkeeng Alcure Centre, 43.3 to 44.7, or an increase of 1.4; Salvation Army, 168.8 to 169.4 making an increase of .6; The Pas Health Complex . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: That's Rosaire House?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes. The Pas Health Complex, 495.7 to 469.4, or a decrease of 26.3; X-Kalay, 161.3 to 216.1, an increase of 54.8. The total in '83-'84, 2,023,900 to 2,120,600 or 96,700, an increase of 4.8. The staff years are the same.

Now I'll start, I will give you the explanation for the decreases. I gave you Churchill, now I'll give you The Pas. The Pas is a reduction to Rosaire House alcohol program staff complement. The staff complement was reduced due to a lesser occupancy rate than other

comparative operations. This reduction may necessitate a withdrawal from certain community work in order to adequately service the treatment program at Rosaire House. All the others are the increases that I mentioned.

Oh, excuse me, for the question that was asked of me, the Alcoholism Foundation as such, they don't seek or demand any direct financial help from us. I don't think they have ever received any grants from us.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I remember during the last year or two of our last administration when we were making some adjustments with respect to Churchill Health Centre and there was a reduction in the grant that went to the Churchill Health Centre from the AFM at that time, there was a considerable outcry raised by the Member for Churchill, now the Chairman of the Treasury Board, a considerable and rather vocal outcry raised over the fact that the Churchill Health Centre was being cut back, reduced in its grant from the AFM. At that time, it was explained that the step was justifiable for other programming reasons.

I am wondering what the Minister has heard from the Member for Churchill, the President of the Treasury Board, with respect to this decision this year. That reduction for the Churchill Health Centre is fairly substantial on a \$65,900 base to reduce it \$44,100, some \$21,000, \$22,000, is a substantial reduction on that base, so I just can't resist asking the Minister whether he has heard any outcry from his colleague for Churchill? I would ask the President of the Treasury Board if he was here, but has the Minister heard any outcry from his colleague this time, or is the President of the Treasury Board being selectively silent about it?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, Mr. Chairman, before we go in too deep, actually the caseload - there were two workers. As far as the AFM when the Estimates came in, they said that their caseload should have only the one, so they reduced one. Actually that will have to be picked up by the Manitoba Health Services Commission who actually, I think, have been getting a free ride through the AFM, according to the AFM anyway. So the same service will be there, and the same staff will be there. It will be funding that the Manitoba Health Services Commission will have to pick up more of the costs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Ah, so the Manitoba Health Services Commission has been shirking in its duties and responsibilities up North.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: And get away with it.

MR. L. SHERMAN: There is no reduction in service there. That's good.

Now what about The Pas, Rosaire House? The problems that The Pas Town Council appears to be having or claims to have with alcohol incidents and alcohol abuse have been much in the news of late. It would seem a little illogical that the AFM, out there fighting the battle against alcohol abuse, would reduce the grant to Rosaire House in The Pas, a centre that is obviously or apparently struggling with problems of alcoholism, as a result of which they turn to their council, the council has turned to the Minister of Finance and

been rejected by the Minister of Finance. Now, is the AFM and everybody else turning their back on The Pas and the problems that exist in The Pas?

MR. H. ENNS: Only this Minister. The heavy hand of Larry is on The Pas.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'll leave the Department of Finance alone and I'll just deal with our staff. That's one job I don't want, I'm not going to preach for a call. The situation is that we felt that we could justify only the one for the staff - I mean the people that we have now, because they were going ahead and working in the community where we had staff doing that work, so they were told to stay with the work in Rosaire House and deliver the service there; so the Foundation feels that there's not going to be any reduction of service there at all. There was a duplication.

MR. H. ENNS: What you're really asking him about is to stop picking on The Pas, not singling out The Pas.

MR. L. SHERMAN: That's right. I would think the Member for The Pas would have some interest.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 6. Line 5—pass.

Resolution No. 92: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$8,985,100 for Health, the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Item 7. Manitoba Health Services Commission . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, S. Ashton: The Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to introduce the five-year Capital Program of the Manitoba Health Services Commission at this time. I'm pleased to announce the government approval for the Manitoba Health Services Commission five-year Capital Construction Program, the program which includes continuation of \$72.8 million current construction, \$124.6 million in projects to be started during the next year or year-and-a-half and \$6.6 million to upgrade existing facilities throughout the year.

In addition to meeting health needs, these projects will have a major impact in stimulating the construction and design industry. It is estimated that the projects currently under construction will have generated 300,000 days employment for the construction and design industry when they are completed.

The projects to be started within the next year to 18 months will stimulate 525,000 days employment for the construction and design industry. The projects approved for architectural planning will result in 40,000 days of employment for the planning and design sector of the building industry. In line with ongoing government policy, the projects will stimulate the economy through the creation of meaningful jobs. All projects have been thoroughly reviewed and are designed to address the immediate and long-range health needs of our citizens.

The above projects will cost an estimated total of \$204 million and, in addition to major hospital replacement, will provide 300 new personal care beds and 305 replacement beds for older facilities.

The five-year Capital Program includes continuation of projects presently under construction totalling \$72.8 million. I want to make sure that I'm not saying that this is something all new that we had from last year. This is just progressing, and if you have last year's statement you will see that most of them are going up in a category. The first categories, those that are under construction, Reston, it's a new 20-bed personal care home attached to the hospital and renovation to the hospital. That should be ready any time now in '84.

Steinbach Rest Haven - a new 60-bed personal care home to replace the existing 66-bed home and that should be ready by mid-1984; the Dauphin Hospital - extensive renovation and replacement of the existing hospital, should be ready, opened in mid-1986; Gladstone Hospital - addition to the hospital and renovations will provide improved diagnostic and clinic space, early 1985; Lac du Bonnet - 30 new personal care home beds and 14 EPH units, early in 1985; Brandon Salvation Army - replacement for the two existing older homes with a new 60-bed home, including space to accommodate day care space for the post-mentally ill, in a downtown location, should be ready by mid-1985; the Health Sciences Centre - a new Children's Hospital and a new Medical Support Services building, early 1985.

Projects approved for construction start at various times during the next year to 18 months are valued and estimated at \$124 million and include . . . Excuse me, in this category then there's Dauphin, construction of a new public health building following as a further phase of the hospital project and under way, 1985; Neepawa Hospital - expansion of diagnostic and other programs area, late 1984; Steinbach Hospital - expand the emergency out-patient diagnostic areas and replacement of existing 12 extended treatment beds with a new 20-bed unit, early 1985; renovation and replacement of hospital wings followed by the construction of a new 20-bed personal care home, late 1984; Brandon Fairview - new 160 personal care home beds to replace the existing hostel beds and renovations, early 1985; Misericordia - a new power house, including overpass and service lane - late '84; Deer Lodge - develop the facility as an extended treatment personal care home facility following transfer of the hospital from the Federal Government - the capital cost will be provided by the Federal Government; that should be in late 1984 - Park Manor Personal Care Home - increase activity and service space, '84; Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service Building - upgrading and replacement of the existing building, early '85; Winnipeg Bethania - construction of 50 additional personal care beds, early '85; Concordia Hospital - expansion of the emergency and out-patient areas and internal renovations, late 1984; Portage Personal Care Home - replacement of the existing substandard home, early 1985; Grandview - replacement of the existing 18-bed hospital, early '85; Gilbert Plains - a new 30-bed personal care home with clinic space and closure of existing hospital, early '85; The Pas - transportation and service link of St. Paul's Personal Care Home to hospital, mid '84; Souris, upgrade diagnostic services and improve fire safety, early '85; Health Sciences Centre - Rehabilitation Hospital upgrading, early '85; Health Sciences Centre - interim renovations to neo-natal intensive care nursery, late '84; Health Sciences Centre

- interim renovation to H wing for radiology service, late '84; Health Sciences Centre - pneumatic tube system, first phase, late '84; Flin Flon Hospital Diagnostic Unit - upgrade, '84; St. Boniface Hospital - the further phase of the stage redevelopment program, early '85; upgrade and consolidated service, '84; Municipal Hospital - balance of Workplace Safety order, mid '84; Selkirk Bethel Personal Care Home - upgrade the facilities to provide a heavier level of care, mid 1984.

Approval is also provided for the early tender call on a number of smaller projects associated mainly with plant and building code, upgrading and health facilities at an estimated cost of \$6.6 million. The government has also approved \$8.9 million for architectural planning to be carried out during the current fiscal year for projects worth an estimated \$230 million. These projects following finalizing of architectural plans must come back to the government for approval before proceeding to the construction stage.

Planning for the projects at Misericordia and Municipal Hospitals has been ongoing for some time, and it is anticipated that planning will have progressed to the point where they can be in a position to start construction in mid-1985. Misericordia Hospital phased renovation and replacement of the older portion of the hospital to bring those buildings up to a current standard. Municipal Hospitals, redevelopment of the older hospital and some renovations with replacement beds for the care of the elderly.

Other projects presently in various stages of planning and architectural design during this year are as follows: Winkler Salem Personal Care Home, replace the older section of the home which houses 28 hostel and 30 personal care beds with 65 new personal care beds - construction start is anticipated in May, 1985; Virden Hospital, replacement of the existing 32-bed hospital with a new 20-bed facility, construction start anticipated in mid-1985; Brandon Personal Care Home, replace three substandard homes, a total of 109 beds; Swan River, replace the existing 53-bed hostel with new personal care beds and building additional personal care beds in the district; the Citizens Health Action a new or renovated clinic building; Whitemouth, 20 personal care beds juxtaposed to the existing hospital; Ste. Rose Personal Care Home, expansion of activity and some service based at the personal care home; Grace General, hospital regeneration; Gillam, hospital upgrading; Vita, hospital replacement and additional personal care beds; Swan River, hospital upgrading and expansion; Gimli Betel, replacement with a new 80-bed facility; Manitou, a new 20-bed personal care home plus a hospital renovation; Klinik with a "K," a new clinic building; Foyer St. Boniface, replacement of the existing 70-bed facility.

Health Sciences Centre, the special feature of this year's capital program is the approval to begin active architectural planning and design of the next phases of the Health Sciences Centre redevelopment with construction of the new Children's Hospital Building nearing completion and Medical Services Support Building well under way. The government has authorized the architectural planning and design of further phases of construction. These new phases include new construction of approximately 400 and 1,200, 560 square feet of space to house accident and emergency services for both children and adults, new primary health

care facilities including orthopaedic and fracture clinics, new diagnostic imaging units including special procedure suites, intensive care units for adults, children and newborn, burns and plastic surgery in-patient unit, new surgical suites and labour and delivery suites. Also included in this approval is the development of a new free-standing psychiatry building which will provide approximately 125,000 square feet of space for both in-patient and out-patient care.

In addition to the new space, approval is also given for very major renovations to almost all of the present buildings of the General Centre. These renovations will allow for the transfer and consolidation of services to be compatible with the new construction. It is expected also that this phase of the redevelopment will cost in excess of \$100 million, and should satisfy the construction and redevelopment needs of the Health Sciences Centre for many years.

By giving approval for architectural planning on the above project, the government will maintain maximum flexibility in timing the health construction to best respond to economic conditions of the province.

In addition to the foregoing programs approved by government, I have instructed the Manitoba Health Services Commission to continue to work with facility boards and communities in determining and refining the functional programs of the following hospitals and personal care home projects: Brandon Hospital, redevelopment and upgrading; Elkhorn, a new 20-bed personal care home plus clinic to replace the existing hospital; Concordia, an addition of 136 acute beds; Shoal Lake, upgrading of the hospital; Hostel, replacement of hostel beds in Winnipeg at several facilities to allow for a heavier level of care; Health Sciences Centre laundry, upgrade the existing laundry; Dauphin, 25 new personal care beds; Brandon, waste incineration heat recovery; Erickson, a new health care facility including 20 personal care beds.

These projects will be submitted to Cabinet in subsequent years for consideration and, if approved, proceed to construction. In addition to these projects, funds will be considered for planning for the ongoing programs of health facilities, regeneration, upgrading and life safety improvement each year.

Now, Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention, of course, to start with this at this time, but we could move to the Manitoba Health Services Commission starting with Administration, and maybe we can see how far we can get.

MR. H. ENNS: Not a single cent for Lundar.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: For Lundar? That was last year. Concordia this year.

We could start with Administration and see how far we can go, but we definitely won't start Hospital or Personal Care Home or Medical Program tonight.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it the intention of the committee to go line-by-line?

The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, just quickly, I thank the Minister for the detailed outline of his capital program for 1984-85. Naturally I welcome the

opportunity to have some time overnight to look at it before responding. There are half-a-dozen questions that come quickly to mind, but I will hold them until we get to that stage of the Commission appropriations. But I acknowledge the receipt of the program and appreciate the chance to study it before getting into it in detail tomorrow.

Insofar as the line-by-line progress tonight, I don't know whether it is the Minister's intention to go much beyond 10:00. I think we probably can do a very thorough job on the Commission Estimates tomorrow, but we certainly can deal with Administration tonight, and quite possibly Pharmacare. I'm not sure about the Ambulance Program. There are some questions about the Ambulance Program that have come up as a result of recent events. That might take a little broader examination.

But as for the Administration, that's an item that we should be able to deal with pretty expeditiously. I would ask the Minister for a rundown of the administrative complement and the manpower involved, staff years involved, and what changes there may be. I also want to know what the overall calculation is insofar as the administrative cost component of the overall Commission budget. I imagine, it's still down in an infinitesimally-small percentage range, but the Minister may have that figure at his fingertips. It would save me working out the mathematics on it.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, maybe I should start with the staff. The 1983-84 voted was 696. The adjusted was 698. There were two transfers. The 1984-85 request is 694, for a decrease of four staff.

MR. L. SHERMAN: An increase of four staff?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Decrease of four staff. That is from the adjusted. The voted last year was 696; the adjusted, 698. What we're asking this year is 694. So it's four from the adjusted.

Three of them were transferred from the Department of Health through the Health Information System, and one transferred to the Department of Health from the Health Information System. That was the adjusted 698.

The increase this year in Administration is fairly high but it's mostly for computer, and the increase is 12.2 from 13,357 to 14,998 or 1,630,500. The rental of the computer, the voted in '83 for computer was 524 and the '84-85 estimate is 1.6. We had a contract with the office of the computer and then they were losing money on us and so they renegotiated that and they are finally charging us what the cost will be. So that's the big increase; there is an increase of 205.

Now there is a professional fee - do you want me to give you the whole thing?

MR. L. SHERMAN: No, that's all right. The percentage increase is about 12.2 percent . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Right.

MR. L. SHERMAN: . . . for the Administration budget. That's largely attributable to the computerization of the . . .

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Right, which is 205 percent.

MR. L. SHERMAN: . . . of the capability. Overall, the expenditures being requested for Administration would be approximately 1.5 percent of the total commissioned budget - I would say, at a glance, you've got three or four chartered accountants sitting in front of you and they could probably give you the exact — (Interjection) — I beg your pardon? 1.53 percent, okay - which is fairly consistent, if memory serves, with past years, is that correct? It doesn't reflect a soaring increase in the amount of the budget that is going to Administration?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It's been going down. It started at 2.75 in '68 and '69; it went up in '69-70 to 4.11, and started going down; '79-80 was 1.63; '80-81, 1.58; '81-82, 1.43; '82-83 at 1.43; '83-84, 1.45; and now 1.53. So it's been pretty steady, about 1.5.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 7. Administration—pass.
7. Pharmacare - the Leader of the Opposition.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: If I can give the information, the '83-84 voted was 19.5 million, and the '84-85 estimated requirement, 22.9 for a 3,303,500 or 16.9 percent increase on that program.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, I had wanted to ask the Minister, I had a matter brought to my attention when I was visiting some Northern communities about what some people consider to be an abuse of the Pharmacare Program. Basically, the situation that they presented was that many of the employees of the major company in the community were under a private plan that included Pharmacare coverage and as part of the private plan they got all of their pharmaceutical needs, all their prescription needs, at a cost of 35 cents per prescription, which was just I guess a processing charge. They then as well got a Pharmacare receipt and they submitted these receipts to the Provincial Government and they collected in the normal way for the Pharmacare receipts. In effect, they were not only getting the prescription drugs but they were getting at no charge to them, or a charge of 35 cents, and as well they were collecting back from the government. The thought was expressed that there was a tremendous over use of prescription drugs in that particular community because of this program; that in fact when people needed a little extra money all they did was go and get another prescription for some highly-priced drug. I'm just wondering if there isn't something within the Pharmacare system that should work to prevent that.

I know, for instance, when you have Blue Cross coverage the question is: is this covered by some other private plan? When you have other forms of insurance coverage, normally you can't collect twice for the same particular item that you're insured for. I'm wondering whether this is an anomaly in the system or whether in fact it's acceptable.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I know that there is an arrangement that was negotiated between the

company and the employee because they were covering that before the Pharmacare Program came in. But to make sure that I don't mislead and give improper information, I'll take that as notice and then give the information to this committee tomorrow as to the exact agreement that was arrived at. That was arrived in the first or second year when Pharmacare was introduced, but probably I should wait until tomorrow, but I'm sure there's no duplication there. I doubt very much that there is duplication, but I'll wait till tomorrow to get all the information for him.

MR. G. FILMON: Well, okay. I hope the Minister will double-check because I'm assured that these people pay nothing, it's part of their collective agreement. It's paid for by the company in terms of the premiums to the private company, and they in fact are not only getting the benefit of having their prescriptions filled at only a 35-cent processing charge but then they collect back from Pharmacare. It could be misinformation but I'm assured by "normally reliable sources" that this is the case.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, that's a substantial increase in the requested vote, 16.9 percent, 3 million-plus over the \$19.5 million base. Can the Minister advise the committee of the reasons for that increase? Obviously the cost of drugs and medications is part of the answer. Those costs have risen but what are the other elements to the answer?

The Pharmacare Program used to be regarded as one that was fairly inexpensive to the people of Manitoba. It's certainly a well-run program, a well-administered program. It's the envy of many other jurisdictions. In terms of the way in which it was implemented and administered, it's been a classic case of efficiency. But a few short years ago we were looking at a much lower cost of delivering the program than is the case now. Now we've surged up not only into double numbers in terms of millions, but now we're moving into the 20's, and beyond the 20-million mark, looking at virtually \$23 million for 1984-85.

What does the Minister and the Commission, what does the Commission foresee as the future for the cost factor on his program? Is it something that is uncontrollable because of the increase in drugs and medications, or is it being utilized in a much broader way than ever was the case before? It wouldn't seem that there's that corresponding increase in the population in the province, so the reasons for that substantial increase seem a bit obscure at the moment. I'd appreciate the Minister's comments on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It's my fault, Mr. Chairman. While I gave the percentage increase I should have noted that the volume increase is 7 percent and the actual price increase is anticipated at 4.2 percent. It's the volume increase that we didn't . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: Has the Minister got actual figures at hand for the case load for the number of persons

entering Pharmacare claims for 1983-84 as against previous years?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: 1984 estimated registrants using the program - 115,560; '83 estimated 108,000; '82 - 102.5; '81 - 92; '80 - 86.7; '78 and '79 - 80,000, so it has been increasing.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Are those individual persons that are reflected in those numbers?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, those are actually claims paid. Oh no, I've got the wrong column. It is the registrants using the program, yes.

I wonder if the claims would help? The claims for 1984 estimated was \$150.2 thousand for the 115.5; '83 was 140.4; '82 - 133; '81 - 117.9. Those are the number of claims paid.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Those are the claims paid - yes. Is there anybody in the Pharmacare program office and administration or in the commission program evaluation and review branch that is able to offer any views as to the reasons for that increase; both in volume of registrants and in claims paid?

That would not seem to be reflected to the same extent by any means in population changes in the province. The population apparently has increased somewhat in the past year or two, but in percentage terms, we're looking at a fairly static Manitoba population over the past decade in terms of the use of Pharmacare and the number of registrants served and the number of claims processed - we're looking at very significant statistical increases. I'd be interested in knowing whether there is a professional view or opinion that could explain that from the Pharmacare office or from any other component of the commission. Has anybody looked at it? Can you offer that kind of an explanation, Mr. Minister?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think the explanation is fairly simple. It's that the deductible hasn't been increased for awhile and the cost of medicine and drugs is going up so therefore more people will reach past the deductible part and therefore more people are using it. It's not necessarily 7 percent more drugs that people are using in Manitoba.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there is a program that I referred to earlier, as a matter of fact, when we were looking at the Estimates - the Alcoholism Foundation - that had been launched by the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association some few years ago to identify non-prescription drugs and medications in drugstores that would perhaps be in conflict with each other and work to the discomfort and disadvantage of persons who inadvertently were taking them at the same time. It was a useful point of purchase education and identification program. Is that program still in place? Has it led to the development of anything through the Pharmacare administration that is now broader in scope in terms of educating people about the conflicting effects of different medications and non-prescription drugs?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'm told that this program was never set up to monitor the type of

drugs being used. It was mostly a system for payment to the pharmacist.

As we know, there's quite a bit of co-operation between the pharmacist and the commission on that, and no trouble with arriving at his dispensing fee and so on. As I said, there's been good co-operation.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, has any thought been given in recent times to changing the purchasing procedure for personal care homes? That had been the subject of some debate and dispute in the past. Are there any changes contemplated in terms of that bulk-purchase, bulk-supply operation in the Pharmacare field?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is under study at the present time and we would do the bulk-purchasing and return the sale to the personal care home or provide the personal care home with the drugs needed.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I guess an obvious question on this subject at this time, seeing that we're in the Minister's Estimates, is whether any changes are contemplated in the deductible or in the application of the Pharmacare program generally? Does the Minister, does the department have, at this time, any plans for changing the Pharmacare program in a way that would reduce the deductible for some categories of citizens; perhaps increase it for others or extend its availability to certain groups such as the senior citizens component of the population on a non-premium or non-fee basis?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Well, Mr. Chairman, with the increase in this program high, and I'm speaking for myself this time, I don't foresee in the foreseeable future - I don't see any decrease to anyone including the seniors with the other programs that we have and the drugs that are given in personal care homes and so on. I think that the deductible will have to be increased sometime if we're going to keep up with this program because it is getting to be quite a costly program. There's no government policy, there's no change at all.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there's an eyeglasses program for senior citizens that is supposed to function very much like the Pharmacare program. There's no line in the Estimates for it and it may be that we should be looking at it under a different line, but in view of the fact that it is intended to operate much like the Pharmacare program, it seems to me to be a logical point at which to raise questions about that program itself. Does it operate under the Pharmacare program administration or has it got its own separate administrative format?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'm told that it comes under the medical program, but I would agree that maybe we should have another line there, and I think eventually we'll have another line. The program functions pretty well like Pharmacare. There's a deductible and a percentage. The deductible I think is - well, that's for the senior citizen only. The deductible, if I remember right, is \$50 and that is independent from the deductible on Pharmacare, though. It's a program

on its own, but the situation is this, that probably next year, in fact tomorrow or so - Wednesday - I think that there's a program that will be presented to the Cabinet on hearing aids and that will function eventually. There will be the three programs. The intent of the government will be the glasses, the dentures and hearing aids and that would still be only the deductible of \$50 for the whole three. The three of them would work together under one program, the same as Pharmacare now, and the program of hearing aids should come in next year. We're not asking for any funds this year, but I think it should come in next year.

As I said before, I'd say that during the 12-month period of April 1, 1983 to March 31, 1984 some 18,543 residents of Manitoba utilized this program with the total cost of \$652.5 thousand. The estimated cost for '84-85 is \$587,000.00.

MR. L. SHERMAN: That's the Eyeglasses Program?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, there have been some criticisms and complaints of the value of that program. I think, as a matter of fact, the Minister would concede that at one point it seemed to be rather poorly operated and poorly applied. I know I raised a question with him a year ago and I think we were in general agreement that it didn't seem to be doing very much for some people.

I had a number of people complain to me that by the time they'd gone through all the rigmarole and paperwork, and wound up getting reimbursed for something like \$7.50 of expense or outlay, they felt that all the bureaucratic red tape and paperwork and routine and waiting that they had to go through rendered that benefit useless and it simply just wasn't worth it to them. It was more trouble than it was worth. They felt that they were really being sold a bill of goods on that program.

I know when I mentioned it at the time, the Minister agreed there had been some problems with it and he was hoping to straighten it out. Is he confident that he can report to the committee at this stage, this year, that it has been reorganized and it has been improved and it now is functioning well, or to his satisfaction?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, I recall the incident. In fact, I might say that I went further that, I was even thinking of withdrawing the program at one time, but I might say that there has been a lot of improvement. I think that the people themselves are learning to shop around a bit. I think at one time they didn't understand the program. It could have been our fault, maybe we didn't explain it too well. We started explaining it better.

The average coverage is usually \$35.00. It's not really that much yet but it still costs .5 million, and as I say, when the other components, especially when you have the second one of the hearing aid, and then if you cover the hearing aid and the dental program, then it'll start being important. In these difficult times I think it's still something, to move in that, and we weren't ready with the Hearing Aid Program. It took a while to set up. We're also negotiating with the dental profession for the Dental Program. I would think that next year I'll be

asking for funds for at least one of the other programs and that will start picking up, as I say, because the deductible will be the same. It will all be added on the same. It's not going to be \$50 deductible for each program, but \$50 for the three programs and that's going to start.

I might say that I wasn't completely satisfied with the response and the co-operation of those that were providing the glasses. We are looking at that situation also, but there has been some improvement, and as I say the average pay up is \$35 now. It's not the greatest, but it does help the senior people that haven't got any revenue.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Who runs the program and administers it, Mr. Chairman? Is there a special administrative office and an administrative team, and how many people are there? What is the staff complement for doing it? What's the budget for doing it?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It is part of a team that works with all those claims, prosthetics, orthopedic shoes and all these different things. It's not a team just dealing with that. It catches all these other ones other than the Pharmacare. It's not as big as the Pharmacare yet, any other programs that are covered under the Medicare, that's why it's under Medicare.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So would it be lumped it, for example, with the program that supplies hearing aids for children?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes.

MR. L. SHERMAN: And all insured programs or just insured programs that have a deductible, that have a participatory factor? It wouldn't be lumped into the regular Medicare, the medical claims part of the Commission, would it?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Not where there's no extra billing or not the medical program as such, the doctors, but all the other programs where there's participation and payment from the client.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 7., Line 2.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Line 2, that was Pharmacare and the Eyeglasses Program, I guess. That takes care of the Eyeglasses Program, too, yes—pass.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pass.
Mr. Minister.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could make a statement and leave the committee with that and adjourn, if my honourable friend would want to take time to deal with the Ambulance. I made a partial announcement on Thursday on this and other things that we had, but I would want to read a short statement that I have on the air ambulance. We do not have an Air Ambulance Program at present - this would cover, by the way, both the Ambulance Program and the Northern Patient Transportation Program to a point.

Under the Northern Patient Transportation Program, aircraft are used to transport patients from Northern Manitoba, however, this is primarily a transport program utilizing Government Air. Charter flights were regularly scheduled airline flights rather than an ambulance service because the aircraft are neither designed, equipped or staffed as ambulances.

In southern Manitoba, aircraft are used on occasion to transport emergency patients with the patient being responsible for the cost; however, for the same reason as outlined above, this is a transport service rather than an ambulance service.

The Manitoba Health Services Commission has been examining for some time the feasibility of introducing an Air Ambulance Program for emergency cases to encompass the whole province. Because of the limit of available funds and other new and expanding program priorities in the health field, up until now it has not been possible to proceed with the implementation of an Air Ambulance Program to date.

However, the Manitoba Health Services Commission has been given approval to acquire an aircraft in 1984-85, which is to be properly designed and equipped for the transport of emergency cases in the province. The Commission will contract with the province's Air Division with the operation of the aircraft, including pilots, maintenance, hangar facilities, etc. However, the control of the utilization of the aircraft will rest solely with the Manitoba Health Services Commission.

The Commission has commenced discussion with the Government Air Division, regarding the selection of an appropriate aircraft, taking into account not only costs and technical specifications but also suitability as a vehicle for emergency medical transport. It is anticipated that the provision of a dedicated emergency air or medical transport system will provide improved care for the critically sick and injured residents of the North and will expand it to cover areas of the south, that is, Dauphin and Swan River.

This service will also allow for the expansion of the transportation of the High Risk Neonatal Program which presently covers an 80-mile radius from Winnipeg. During the fiscal year 1984-85 the Commission will be developing the program, selecting and training staff, and making arrangements for the purchase of the aircraft with the expectation that the program will be fully operational by April 1, 1985.

Now, this is approval in principle, the details have to be submitted to Cabinet. That ambulance should be available. The main thing is that the responsibility for assigning the ambulance will be with the Commission and it could be that some of the programs will be at a cost or part of the cost could be subsidized, but it'll certainly help the two programs that we have in front of us now. Full details will be announced as soon as they're developed and approved by Cabinet.

MR. L. SHERMAN: I'm sure that all Manitobans welcome that announcement, Mr. Chairman. Certainly it will provide an invaluable, very necessary service to

Manitobans in remote and northern parts of the province who have not felt in the past that they've had the accessibility and the availability to emergency services that have been available to the south. I'll await the details of the Minister's announcement with great interest, but at this juncture, I would say it's an addition to, an adjunct to our health care spectrum, that no one could do other than welcome and we will be keenly interested in the manner in which the program is implemented and administered. Hopefully, it'll be designed to give first priority to people who need that emergency transportation and won't wind up being utilized or over-utilized by government, political and administrative personnel who need it for their convenience; and therefore, perhaps, put it in a position of being unavailable for emergency calls. That kind of administration and monitoring of its service is going to be very necessary and presumably the Commission will be charged with that responsibility, so we'll await its addition to our health-care system with interest and certainly we welcome the initiative, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Co-operative Development.

HON. J. COWAN: Mr. Chairperson, I would be negligent if I didn't take this opportunity to join in with the member from the side opposite who has just indicated support for this long overdue and long-in-coming project. I can recall back a number of years ago when I was on that side of the House and we introduced a private member's resolution calling for exactly the type of service which is being contemplated and proceeded with at this time, the members opposite joined in and voted in favour of that resolution. As a matter of fact, on a personal note, it was probably the only private member's resolution that I had passed during my tenure in opposition.

So, indeed, there has been a lot of support from both sides of this House over a long number of years, for this project. This project will benefit, not only northerners that are presently served by the program, but as the member has indicated will benefit other people in the less northern part of the province. I think that's important to note that it's a service that is going to be of some benefit to the whole province.

In essence, what I want to do is add my congratulations and encouragements to the Minister, the department and the Manitoba Health Services Commission in providing this new initiative. I think it is an innovative and cost-efficient way to deal with this situation. I can assure the Minister that we will continue to provide that support and that encouragement as this project unfolds over the next number of months.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move that the committee rise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise.