

# THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, May 4, 1978

Time 8:00 p.m.

## SUPPLY — PUBLIC WORKS

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. J. Wally McKenzie:** The honourable member, due to previous commitments, has decided that he couldn't be here.

We're dealing with the Public Works Department, 2. Operation and Maintenance of Provincial Buildings and Grounds, Resolution 105. The item that we're dealing with today (a) Senior Administration \$273,500—pass — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** I just wanted to make a few comments here. We were talking about electric cars and the experiment that our government conducted. I just wanted to explain that when we decided to purchase the vehicles that we did — I see that Mr. Carmicheal is here and he could, of course, expand on this and could explain this to the Minister — but there was a pretty comprehensive study made of the various cars that were available, and the various firms that were available and. . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I looked under the Resolution and I apologize that I wasn't here, the former Chairman, I wonder that if the item that we're dealing with provides operation and maintenance and security service for all government departments and agencies occupying space in government owned, or leased buildings, not cars, buildings, as well as employee housing units, and then we go to Salaries \$273,500.00. Now if the Members of Committee want me to deal with electric cars, I am your servant. The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr Chairman, your ruling is entirely correct, but inasmuch as that prior to the supper hour adjournment, we had dealt on this matter now, I'm very much prepared that we conclude the matter. The matter's been raised by the Member for Elmwood

**MR. DOERN:** By the Member for St. James.

**MR. ENNS:** And by the Member for St. James.

**MR. DOERN:** He originated it.

**MR. ENNS:** And I have no difficulty in concluding the discussion on this matter, perhaps, with some understanding that when we come to the item where perhaps it ought to be discussed, that we would then recognize that this discussion took place.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Well, therefore, Mr. Minister, I apologize to you, I apologize to the Honourable Member for Elmwood, I apologize to the Honourable Member for St. James. We deal then with Senior Administration Salaries \$273,500—pass — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude my comments because we were discussing, and it's appropriate to discuss in this department, experimental projects in particular in regard to the conservation of energy. And I did not initiate the debate the Member for St. James did. He raised the question, he asked some questions. The Minister answered him, so I would just like to conclude my comments and then perhaps we can go on.

The Minister as an example, said that we had purchased, for example, too many experimental cars. I simply wanted to put it on the record that obviously it would make little sense to conduct an experiment with one electric car. It wouldn't be much of an experiment, I suppose you could run it for ten years. It might make more sense to purchase a number of cars and run them for a year or a couple of years, that I think would be sensible. Then at least there would be at least a number of vehicles one could compare.

c66-01 To make the decision as to which vehicles to purchase we undertook a fairly comprehensive study which was conducted by Mr. Carmichael, who is here tonight — the Superintendent of the Garage. . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** May I again remind the honourable member, I think we are flaunting the Rules of the Committee, and I don't know where cars are in this, but it sure is not in this Item that we are dealing with, Mr. . . .

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, you were not here, the debate already took place, the Minister was ruled in order, and the Member for St. James was ruled in order.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I apologize, I apologize, carry on.

**MR. DOERN:** A study was made of the various companies and the Member for St. James will be interested in what I am saying here. A study was made of the various companies who produced vehicles, because there are hundreds of individuals who were inventing electric cars all over the United States and Canada; somebody in his garage building an electric car, some team of people producing an electric car. Clearly, if you are going to conduct an experiment, you are not going to buy a vehicle from an isolated inventor, who put together a car. Because, for instance, can he produce more or can he service the existing vehicles. It makes sense to buy from a manufacturer.

So what we did was to determine which people were in the business and to narrow it down to three companies, and then on the basis of three companies we then did a further check on a California firm, and discovered that that firm run by the Otis Elevator Company, which is a very big firm and had this electric car, electric truck offshoot, that that firm was on the verge of closing. So there wouldn't be any sense of buying their product which was an excellent product. They were having marketing problems. We could have bought their stuff, but then what? Then you would run the electric vehicles and if you thought they were great, that was it, that was the end of it. So we bought from the two companies, or we looked at the two companies that we decided had the best product and we narrowed it down to one, and then purchased these vehicles.

I would also just like to point out, that there wasn't just one company involved. We bought an electric truck from Boyertown, Pennsylvania, which has been pretty well a hundred percent success and is operating very well.

Hydro, on their own, the autonomous or semi-autonomous Crown corporation, on their own without any encouragement from us, bought an electric car, one that costs several times what the one we purchased cost, and I am not too clear on their particular results.

So, you know, I make those points and one or two other. We did have some problems with the vehicle. I wrote some very nasty letters to the President of the Electric Vehicle Association in Ohio, telling him we were not satisfied with the servicing and so on and so on. You know, how can you tell? I mean an apparently reputable firm not coming up to scratch and so on.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Would the Honourable Member, former Minister, table those documents for the benefit of the Committee?

**MR. DOERN:** I beg your pardon?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Would the former Minister table those documents for the benefit of the Committee?

**MR. DOERN:** Well, if necessary, I will. If the Minister would like them. . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** No, it is not necessary. I am just asking on a casual basis. You referred to them.

**MR. DOERN:** Yes, certainly. I would just say in conclusion that I have before me an article here from Time Magazine, February 1978, the title is "Battery Buggies Are Back", and it talks about how in the old days, 1900, a third of the cars in the big cities in the States were electric, and how they're getting back into them, and how the government is spending money to buy 2,500 vehicles, and a couple of hundred thousand for research, and so on, and so on . . . so I simply make those points, Mr. Chairman.

I would now like to turn to another question . . . Well, I guess the Minister gave us a commitment that he would, perhaps, tomorrow provide us information on energy conservation policies, but I did want to ask one other question, and that is that . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** May I first of all remind the Honourable Minister, regardless that I was not your Chairman this afternoon, we're dealing with the Operation and Maintenance of Government Designed Buildings, in-house Construction, Renovation, Furniture, Repair Service, Leased Space, etc. and I wonder where we're going, and I am at the wisdom and the benefit of the committee. I've got the guidelines before me of the Operation Division and I fail to see electric cars, again . . .

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, if you were listening, if you were listening, and I don't think you were, I said I had concluded my comments

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I agree, I agree, but unfortunately you have a new Chairman tonight, and I would like you to get back on the matter and the subject that is before us, and hopefully we could pass these Estimates and deal with cars wherever they come, but I'm trying to get the committee to deal with the matter of this Operation Division, the Administration.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, if you were listening, I said I had concluded my comments.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Okay. The Honourable Member for St. James.

**MR. MINAKER:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't want to be tagged with going in defence of the former Minister of Public Works, but I think maybe I should comment that what evolved this afternoon was that, under this particular section, the former Minister raised a question of energy, solar energy, and so forth, and how the department, under this particular section was utilizing tests or programs that would convert and use energy of renewable resources rather than non-renewable resources, and spoke about solar energy and then, following that, the Honourable Member for St. Johns spoke about an item under 6.(b), I think it was. And then I weighed on the patience of the Chairman at that time, if he would let me continue on debate with regard to programs dealing with the energy problem, which was brought up by the former Minister of Public Works, and that's why we're on the subject at this time. I think the former Minister has concluded his comments, but if I could sort of, well I don't want to say pressure the Chairman that we have now, that the former Minister has had two swings at the bat and made some comments, if possibly I might continue on on the same subject dealing with energy. I don't know . . . I will ask the Chairman if he will allow this or not?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I apologize, gentlemen.

**A MEMBER:** For what? There's nothing to apologize for.

**MR. ENNS:** No, Mr. Chairman, let the records show that the member who sat as Chairman of the Committee was quite correct in drawing to our attention that we are dealing with Operations and Maintenance of Provincial Buildings and Grounds, but prior to the supper hour adjournment, there was latitude allowed by the now Chairman to deal with the matters raised in a general way, in a very general way, by the Member for St. Johns, the Member for Elmwood and the Member for St. James to discuss this matter — and I'm quite happy to discuss this matter.

Let us proceed. I'm sorry for the interruption, Mr. Chairman. The Member for St. James, Mr. Chairman, had the floor.

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Warren Steen:** The Member for St. James.

**MR. MINAKER:** Well, Mr. Chairman, if I could ask your indulgence. Do we want to continue on in this debate? It is my intention that this is my last comments on the particular subject, dealing with energy, but if you want to go over to some other subject, I will yield to your decision.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would suggest, to all members, that we try to go through these Estimates item by item. We started off that way the other day. I know that on most areas of the Estimates one can wander and yet still say that he is talking about the particular subject at hand. I just ask all members to try and stay as close to the item in front of us at all times. The Member for St. James.

**MR. MINAKER:** Well, Mr. Chairman, taking in your guidance, I will yield to the next question, or comments from other members of the committee. I can pick up the debate later on on this subject if I want under a further item.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I see on the notes that were left for me by the Acting Chairman that he's got the name St. Vital in. Was the Member for St. Vital the next speaker? The Member for St. Vital.

**MR. D. JAMES WALDING:** Thank you, I'll try to stick to the topic in front of us as per your asking us, Mr. Chairman, and comment on something that the Minister was speaking of also under this item earlier today, and that was the matter of security in this building. I'd like to refer back to the demonstration that was held in the front of the building here on Monday evening, and ask the Minister whether any additional security staff were on duty at that time?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, not to my knowledge. I must say generally speaking, and I could be corrected by staff if I'm speaking without knowledge, but I would have to say that in all instances, and we've had an inordinate amount of well-orchestrated demonstrations, but fortunately they have essentially been carried on and organized by the same 30 people, in all instances. They know the rules and have caused the security of this building no difficulties, that is, that they have not attempted to intrude upon the rules and regulations of the building, and they have been orderly, and they have not caused security any additional problems, certainly not to the point that the member suggests that additional staff had to be hired to cope with the situation.

**MR. WALDING:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. I am rather surprised to hear the Minister suggest that all of the demonstrations that we have seen in front of the building have been organized by the same 30 people. Perhaps if he has some evidence to back that up, that he will indicate to the committee who these 30 people were, whether they were 30 individuals or whether it's some conspiracy that's behind all of these different organizations wishing to express their opinions to the government.

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**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, allow me to intercede on that point. My understanding is that the CBC, not particular friends of this particular government, have that fact well documented, and in fact are thinking of running a documentary on the fact that it is, always, the same 30 people that organize a demonstration in front of this building.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, is the Minister then wishing to call the CBC to testify before this committee to . . .

**MR. ENNS:** No, whether it is the Gay Society, whether it is the Feminist Movement, whether it is the Labour Movement, or something like that, it is always the same 30 people that are moving the people around and carrying the banners.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would like to remind all members of the committee, including the Minister, that we are on Operations and Maintenance of Provincial Buildings and Grounds, and not who and when and how they demonstrate. The Member for St. Vital, ,

**MR. WALDING:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to go back to the topic if I could. When I came into the building shortly before 8:00 o'clock that same evening, there was quite a group of uniformed men who appeared to be security people either from the government service or private security people. Now I cannot tell the Minister how many were there, but there could have been as many as half a dozen standing there. I wonder if the Minister could check with his staff to see what security staff were on duty that evening.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Under no circumstances and at no demonstration have we hired or asked or called into extra duty, additional security staff.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, can I ask the Minister how many security staff would generally be on duty in the building in the evening period?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the Member for St. Vital and other members of the Committee, while the Minister is getting the answer from staff people, I might mention that the last question by the Member for St. Vital is Item (f) under this item, which I think is quite in order because we're really dealing with everything under Operations and Maintenance. But I would also ask all members to be aware of that fact when we go to pass these items, that they might allow us to pass some of the items a little more readily without having the same questions or subject re-debated.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, it wouldn't be my intention to bring up the subject again. I had a few questions to ask the Minister and the item is Administration which I suppose would cover that.

**MR. ENNS:** It's a broad title, but. . .

**MR. WALDING:** I wonder if the Minister has the answer for me now, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. ENNS:** The answer is that it ranges between three and five, with some additional staff that is hired during this period of time and on, from the period of time that he specifically referred to. We have additional staff providing security for the grounds and the grounds include Memorial Park, etc., about in the area of five, six security people around this building.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Point Douglas.

**MR. DONALD MALINOWSKI:** I would like to ask one thing. I mentioned already in the Chamber about the saving of energy because we were talking previously about it. I would like to come back to the maintaining of Woodsworth and Norquay Buildings, talking about electricity. I think that the bills which we have — the electricity bill of the Woodsworth Building is over \$100,000 a year and the Norquay Building, if I am not mistaken would be close to \$200,000.00. Now the point is, Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister of Public Works that many, many times I noticed that during nights, they are using lights in those two buildings — the Woodsworth Building and the Norquay Building. I doubt very much if they are cleaning at the same time on every floor, so talking about the saving of energy, I would like to bring to the Minister's attention that maybe he can do something about it, that we shouldn't use those lights during the night in those two buildings which I am talking about.

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to take that question really perhaps as notice to find out if in fact lights are on when they ought not to be on, but the immediate answer that staff gives me, is that during the time that most citizens would notice those lights on, is in fact the time that normal caretaking janitorial duties take place. The staff vacates the buildings at 5:30 or 6:30, the janitorial caretaking staff comes on duty at 8:00 or 9:00 and commences to do their cleaning and caretaking duties. So between that period of 8:00 to 1:00 or 2:00 o'clock, very often you will find lights on in those buildings as you will find them on in this building while caretaking and janitorial staff are fulfilling their responsibilities.

I must also say that there are other situations that of course call for that. There are situations where overtime work is being carried on by departmental staff; there are times where on certain floors, because of not wishing to disrupt the work schedule of the department, that the Department of Public Works carries on remedial work or repair work within the department. These are some of the reasons that lights are left burning. I admit the passerby would say, "What are those lights on for?" I am advised by the department that we do turn off the lights when there's nobody in the building.

**MR. MALINOWSKI:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I understand when they are cleaning, naturally they have to have the lights, but I doubt very much if they are cleaning on all floors at the same time because the lights are on all over in the buildings, in the two of them. The Minister mentioned that we also have the lights on here, in this building. Well, probably we should do something about it, save some energy. We don't need those lights here in this building; I don't mean right now in this room, but for the weekends for instance. The lights are on here in the Legislative Building, and also in those two buildings during the night.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I am more than prepared to acknowledge and accept the honourable member's advice, except that I will do it on one premise. I don't want him to raise it as a matter of urgent and important business, that as a result of the government restraint program we will now send people down around shutting off lights while people are trying to do their work — like changing the linen, you know, less often in the hospitals or something like that. I will take the member's suggestion seriously and ask the staff and ask the Department of Public Works to re-double their efforts to make sure that lights aren't left burning when they ought not to be burning.

**MR. MALINOWSKI:** Mr. Chairman, I am not criticizing; I would like to bring it to the Minister's attention to take care of. Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Did the Member for St. James have his hand up? The Member for St. James.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, I would just like to advise the Honourable Minister, and I am sure he is aware of it, that depending on the time of the year, it might be more efficient for us to leave the lights on in the wintertime than to provide steam and burn a non-renewable fuel that the former Minister of Public Works has talked about doing. Because at least with the lights on, the heat that we get from the lights is a hundred percent efficient whereas the heat that we use from the steam plant might be seventy percent efficient, and we would be using a non-renewable resource. So I hope that the Honourable Minister when he deals with the subject, looks at what time of the year it is, because we have had the former government stressing at such great lengths about preserving the fossil fuels. I hope the Honourable Minister will take into consideration the time of year that it is when we're turning the lights off.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I now think I am losing the battle from both sides.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** After that last statement by the Member for St. James, I think he must be more a graduate of the debating school at Ravenscourt rather than of a school of engineering.

**MR. MINAKER:** No, St. James Collegiate, not Ravenscourt.

**MR. DOERN:** I wanted to ask whether this would be an appropriate place to ask a question about our relations with the City of Winnipeg, in relation to a proposal of theirs concerning the burning of garbage. They want to convert the Amy Street steam plant into a project. Now, I believe this would be an appropriate place to raise this, because there had been negotiations between the province, the City has approached the province to participate in, first of all, a study and then, secondly, a funding, assuming things go ahead, to establish a multi-million dollar plant that would burn refuse. This is an

expensive program, an extensive program, but I believe in the long-run is an efficient one; one that will, in effect, instead of dumping waste material somewhere on a huge mound will enable the City to establish a modern plant, burn the material, then convert the heat to steam to heat buildings in the complex.

So we're not talking now about some sort of pie-in-the-sky concept. We're talking about a concept which is in effect in various cities in Canada and in a number of cities in the United States. And better than that, the technology for this is a Canadian technology, which is, I believe, developed by Dominion Bridge.

So, without going into it any further, saying that this is the way to go; this is the way the City is looking into it, can the Minister report to us at what stage this study is or how much funding there is in this particular concept?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Before the Minister responds to a question of that nature, I would think, because there is no real research moneys in Public Works, I think it could be best asked and answered under the Minister's salary, as to future plans that he or his department might have. Because basically Public Works is a black and white department and not like many other ones, and I think that subjects like that should be raised and answered under his salary. But if the Minister has a short answer . . .

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I do have a short answer and that is simply to provide the answer the Honourable Member for Elmwood asked. A study has indeed been done and completed with the co-operation of the Department of Public Works, but any initiation has to come from the City in this respect. It's the City's refuse; it's the City's problem, to that extent. We have participated in the study. We recognize, as the member has indicated, that some interesting things in this area have been done by the jurisdiction. There are still a lot of unanswered questions in terms of capital recovery of the dollars required to convert that system of refuse disposal into a useful energy recovery, but we are prepared to co-operate with the City. What is really missing at this point is an initiative move from the City.

Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, with those comments, and I realize that with your indulgence, Sir, and with the co-operation of all members, that we have dealt under this area with fairly wide-ranging debate on energy. And it is certainly not my wish to in any way curtail the discussion, but we did begin these set of Estimates with the hope that we would go point by point on the items listed. And I would ask the members to direct their immediate concerns to the item before us, which is No. 2. Operation and Maintenance of Provincial Buildings and Grounds.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, again, I won't pursue the matter further here but other than to say that energy conservation falls under this department, and it falls under that item. And it appropriately falls under 2.(a)(1) — it does. I would simply make this point: That I would urge the Minister to support the City's program. I would urge him to, in conjunction with his colleague, the Minister of Urban Affairs, because both of you will be involved, to support the funding of the study which I believe has been done and when the recommendations come, if the City decides to proceed, to share in the funding — the Capital funding — of the project. Because I believe this is a modern worthwhile concept that will result in significant savings and will make use of refuse. So, I will leave it at that. .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Brandon East; then the Member for St. Vital.

**MR. LEONARD S. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, inasmuch as we are under, as I understand it, the Administration and Maintenance Administration, I think it's quite appropriate to talk about planning and the programming of the maintenance of major buildings that the Minister has responsibility for.

I am particularly interested in the Brandon Mental Health Centre. I believe I asked the Minister one or two questions about that during the normal Question Period and I was asked to hold my questions until we got into Estimates. So here we are, and I wonder if the Minister could advise the members of the committee what the program of renovation this year is for the Brandon Mental Health Centre, particularly with regard to fire safety. I believe the Minister has made a number of statements about his concerns regarding safety of buildings for fire safety purposes and I do know that the various buildings that make up the Brandon Mental Health Centre have been undergoing renovations for a number of years now. I think almost every year there is some item in the budget for heavy maintenance and renovation of those buildings, because they are rather old.

But I understood from newspaper reports, unless I read wrongly, I understood that there was some additional work that was going to be done there over and above the more or less normal renovations that do occur in those buildings year after year. So I wonder if the Minister could advise what the program is pertaining to the Brandon Mental Health Centre, and particularly with regard to fire safety renovations.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I would hope the Honourable Member for Brandon East will not take offense to what I am about to say. But what the Honourable Member for Brandon East is really drawing to our attention is the difficulty in running two committees. I have no way of indicating to the honourable member, other than the fact that he is aware that the Estimates of the Department of Public Works, which are announced in the House are going to start in Room 254. The matter that the Member for Brandon East deals with has been dealt with. We indicated at the outset that we had a go-

around about the approach that the department was taking to the six principal areas which includes Brandon Mental Hospital earlier, and I would really ask him to refer to Hansard because, after all, all that is done in this Committee is recorded.

It is just that I am having this experience that the Member for St. Johns or the Member for Seven Oaks will come and pop into this committee and ask me to repeat everything that I have done just a little while ago, as is now the Member for Brandon East, and I really think that what is happening is that we are losing the value of running the two-committee system. If that is the case, we might as well pack it up and just have the one committee sitting in the House. I recognize, and I say this sincerely to the Member for Brandon East who I know has a particular and understandable concern for the matter that he has asked me a question about, but I, and I suppose other Ministers are facing this all too often and the system is breaking down. I would have to indicate to the Honourable Member for Brandon East that I provided that answer to this committee in detail just a few days ago. I would ask him to refer to Hansard as to the answer that I gave at that time.

**MR. EVANS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister has made a valid observation. One, it is difficult for any of us. I am more or less in the other committee but I was particularly interested in this and I have been waiting and I thought this was the item in which I could appear and put my questions. So I would like to know just under what item this was covered or what day in Hansard, so that I could look up this information. I would like to ask also whether the Minister in his reply or in his discussion of this item, whether he gave the dollars that were going to be involved and did he outline the actual physical changes that were going to take place in those buildings? If that is in there, that's fine, I will read it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the Member for Brandon East, the Minister in his opening remarks covered a number of items that would normally come under Item 6 which is Acquisition and Construction of Physical Assets. This is where the government is going to invest money in upgrading buildings. I believe that he covered five or six different government buildings and did spend some time on the particular question you are asking now.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, if I may break my own rule, because I appreciate the honourable member's immediate concern, let me simply repeat again, but remind him that it was in Hansard on Tuesday, that with respect to the Brandon Mental Health Centre, we have retained the firm of Smith Carter Partners. They are currently preparing floor plans to provide for sprinkler protection in that complex. There have been some appeals made to the Fire Commissioner's office with respect to some of his recommendations but we intend to be in a position to offer for tender the installation of a sprinkler system within a relatively short time, within weeks. That is the specific situation with the Brandon Mental Health Centre.

I cannot attach dollar figures to that at this moment because obviously if we have just retained the architectural firm to do the drawings for the renovations, that then comes into the Department of Public Works, we will then go to tender and then begin to be able to put dollar signs beside it. But it is part of the overall \$5 million that the Department of Public Works has set aside to work on the six major provincial institutions for which we have an immediate responsibility and which we have prioritized in our list to bring the buildings into shape to meet the Fire Commissioner's code, because of the nature of the people who are resident there. There are inmates who are bedridden; there are people who otherwise could not help themselves.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure whether I missed this — did the Minister indicate some time frame for going to tender or not? Is there some idea?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, my staff advises me, within weeks.

**MR. EVANS:** Within weeks. Okay, thank you. On other than renovations for fire safety, because I understand from the Chairman that his original comments that were made and reported on Tuesday dealt with the fire aspect, I wonder if I could ask him therefore, if this is not duplicative, whether there are plans for other renovations of those buildings this year other than what he has mentioned? Because as I indicated, over the years I believe millions of dollars have been spent on those buildings because they are old and it seems that almost every year there has to be some major adjustment made. I can recall some years \$500,000 or \$600,000 being spent on those buildings because there were some very much needed renovations required of a different nature. So I ask the Minister whether he could advise us whether there are other types of renovations or major maintenance that will go on at that centre in this fiscal year?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I am advised that there will be some other updating of facilities, some other renovations taking place, some that were contained in the list that the Member for St. Johns asked a little while ago about the overall Capital projects that the Department of Public Works is involved in, totalling some 191 or 196 in total. But I would not want to misrepresent the situation or leave any false indications. The principal area of concern of the Department of Public Works in these institutions is going to be to try to as soon and as quickly as possible carry out those specific recommendations that we know are on our desk relative to the Fire Commissioner's reports and to bring those institutions to compliance with the new and stringent Manitoba fire code.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, then perhaps on a point of order or question of procedure, when may we discuss expansion or renovations to the Assiniboine Community College of Brandon. I know that that is not maintenance. We had planned a major extension to the Assiniboine Community College because of the increased enrolment at the institution and the overcrowding that was being experienced and plans had gone on for at least two years. The previous government had planned to proceed with renovation — it would have been under way now — this would have been a major expansion. Now, this may not be the place to discuss it, so I am asking as a matter of order, if we can't discuss it now? If the Minister is prepared to give us some information now, fine, as part of Programming, but otherwise, where might we discuss it?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the member, it should be discussed in either one of two spots: under 6 - Acquisition and Construction of Physical Assets; or the Minister's Salary.

**MR. EVANS:** Acquisition and Construction of Physical Assets, that includes major extensions?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** That's all major extension, renovations or upgrading of buildings or acquiring of land or buildings. The Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** If I can get back here at that time, I will reserve my questions. Maybe some of my colleagues can take note now that we are concerned as to what the government's plans are in that respect.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for St. Vital, and then Selkirk.

**MR. WALDING:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to raise with the Minister the matter of the Manitoba Data Services which I know is not under the responsibility of this Minister, but I understand that MDS does rent space in the Norquay Building, in fact I believe that they have the entire third floor or fifth floor over there. I have been informed that MDS has been reaching the physical limits of its space in the Norquay Building for perhaps two or three years now with the growth of computer business and the needed addition of other computing machinery there, that they have come nearly to the limits of the building and having foreseen this problem a couple of years ago, were preparing plans to actually build a new computer complex in the downtown area. Those plans, I know, have been delayed. I understand that there is an architect retained and a site has been acquired but I am not aware that there has been any further movement along those lines. Maybe the Minister, as a Member for the Cabinet, can advise us just what the status of that is, whether it is going ahead or whether it is delayed indefinitely.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, the subject matter perhaps more appropriately falls under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, the Minister responsible for Telephones, under which MDS is intimately associated with. We in the Department of Public Works have been requested to make certain renovative changes to the third floor of the Norquay Building. We have also been informed that those facilities that we are preparing for MDS on the third floor of the Norquay Building are adequate for the time being and have not been informed of any changes.

**MR. WALDING:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I said at the outset that I realized that MDS does not come under this Minister's jurisdiction but was in effect, since they were in fact a tenant of the Norquay Building.

I would understand further from what the Minister has said that the premises there seem to be adequate and that they are not expected to move out of there in the foreseeable future. Maybe I can raise the matter of MDS itself with the appropriate Minister.

However, I would like to go back to the Norquay Building, if I can, to the third floor there and bring up with the Minister the matter of some problems that MDS has had there. One of them, I understand, has to do with security on that floor. I don't want to go into any further details because it is a security matter. Maybe the Minister can tell us in perhaps general terms whether those problems still exist or whether anything has been done to overcome them.

I also understand that MDS has had its problems there with the electrical supply. As the Minister can probably imagine, when you are dealing with computers, dealing with time and seconds and millionths of a second, any disruption of the electrical supply even for a very short time can cause considerable disruption to the supply of computer services. It is my understanding that MDS wanted to arrange for some emergency standby electrical service to its computers there and although they had the money and were prepared to pay for it, it was a matter of Public Works either obtaining this computer or physically putting it in place.

I would like to ask the Minister if that has been resolved or if there is a continuing problem there and also whether there is any problem on the same floor with cooling services for the computers there? To sum it up, Mr. Chairman, does MDS still have ongoing problems with the Department of Public Works? Have they been resolved or are they in the process of being resolved?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, there have been some difficulties with respect to security in the building.



Some additional staff has been put in place.

There has been a problem with the peculiar and unique problems associated with the MDS operations in that building, those of the nature that the member raises, cooling problems, physical problems. I am advised that they have been resolved and that there will be within the expenditures that are currently taking place on the third floor, I think in the nature of some \$200,000 — in that ballpark, if the member will forgive me if I don't dot i's and cross t's — that the concerns of MDS have been noted and have been accepted by the Department of Public Works and either have been resolved or are in the process of being resolved in the particular areas that he speaks of, the cooling problems, space problems and security problems. Additional staff has been provided; electric locks have been put into position in those sensitive areas where they felt necessary. The cooling problem that he referred to has been resolved.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for that information. Can he assure the committee that these expenditures that Public Works is putting out for MDS are fully recoverable from the computer facility?

**MR. ENNS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the tight-fisted Minister of Public Works made very sure that my friend and honourable colleague the Honourable Ed McGill was footing the bill.

**MR. WALDING:** One further question, Mr. Chairman. Since MDS is putting up this money, they must presumably expect to remain in that particular location for a certain length of time to make it economically feasible for them. Can the Minister indicate to the committee what the minimum time is that they will remain in that position on the third floor?

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the only answer that I can give to the Honourable Member for St. Vital, is that if he would go back and read the Task Force Report, he would of course realize that that report recognizes that MDS perhaps should be part of the greater government services branch that is spoken of and should eventually come within the realm of Public Works.

**MR. WALDING:** Well, I can just ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, if he is the one member of the Treasury Bench who seems to have read the Task Force Report and seems in any way influenced by it?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(a)(1)—pass — the Member for Selkirk.

**MR. HOWARD PAWLEY:** Mr. Chairman, I wanted to enquire of the Minister whether he is familiar with the work that was done at the Selkirk Mental Centre pertaining to the transfer of telephones from one building to another building recently, the purpose of it and what the total cost expenditure would be? This was moving the telephones out of the old building on the grounds, the original building on the grounds.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I am not aware of that. I am certainly prepared to take the question as notice.

**MR. PAWLEY:** I would like then, in view of the fact that the Minister is taking that question as notice, to just comment, probably for the Minister's benefit, about an incident which had occurred out at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre in fact before his period of office which I think testifies to sometimes the problem in inadequate consultation of one branch of the government with another branch. That involves the fact that a decision was made by Public Works to do some major landscaping in front of the Selkirk Mental Health Centre. The work was started by the ripping down of trees and the removal of shrubbery, and it created for a period of time, for a day or two, quite a general concern by the staff, and we finally ended up having to become involved in a mediation process. The only lesson I think that could be drawn from this, there was nothing basically wrong in the decision of the Department of Public Works to go ahead but, I think, it illustrates sometimes the lack of consultation that can take place with one department of government with another department of government. If the employees working for Health and Social Services had been fully informed and consulted and advised, that this major work was going to take place, they had lived with these trees and shrubs and flowers from year to year and had become quite accustomed to it, and to arrive one morning and see them all being ripped out, was quite a traumatic experience.

I would hope, Mr. Minister, that some sort of line of consultation can be developed so that, when the Department of Public Works decides to do a particular project, that they will arrange for proper liaison and consultation with those employees who are most affected by that public work, and I only give you that example as one by way of illustration.

Let me tell you, my phone rung hot and heavy for about a 24-hour period with all types of anguished calls about what was happening.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, it is not often that I, as Minister of Public Works, am put in that emergency position of a doctor or surgeon answering to an immediate and an emergency call. I don't

expect that the Member for Selkirk would ask me to advise all members or others within his constituency when I answer to an emergency call for an appendectomy operation. The fact of the matter is, it was a question of searching out a dutch elm disease problem on the grounds of the hospital, that occasioned what he describes as destruction, at least the start of it . . .

**MR. PAWLEY:** No it wasn't.

**MR. ENNS:** . . . and then, thereafter, a replantation and rearranging of the shrubbery and of the landscaping in the area. But I'm advised, and I don't make house-calls on dutch or on elm trees that suffer that disease, but I'm advised that that was the start of the problem that had to be responded to quickly and immediately, and I would rather suspect that the Member for Selkirk, who has had a difficulty with that disease among his trees in that constituency of his, that he would have respected the actions of the Department of Public Works in their foresight and their immediate action in this regard.

**MR. PAWLEY:** No, I'm afraid, Mr. Chairman, that the member's information isn't totally correct. As I recall, dutch elm was a very very small part, if any, of the reason for the stripping out and the removal, the rooting-up of the trees. The argument wasn't related to the dutch elm epidemic, at all.

I want to just say, Mr. Minister, that the prior Minister of Public Works did enquire into it, once it did come to his attention, but . . . I'm saying that these sort of things really should not happen when you're involving yourself with hundreds of employees in another department there should, even if it was totally dutch elm, which it wasn't, at least there should have been some alerting of the employees who are affected day by day by that type of decision. You would be surprised, Mr. Minister, how some people's hearts are moved and are caused to bleed as a result of the destruction of historic and beautiful trees, and the emotional trauma that is caused . . . —(Interjection)—

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** One at a time, please.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I would not be surprised, I well remember the surgical removal of the Wolseley trees, which stood in front of my in-laws on Wolseley Avenue, and at that time, as a matter of fact, I was Minister of the Crown.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Selkirk.

**MR. PAWLEY:** That's all.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (a)(1)—pass; (a)(2)—pass; (b)(1)—pass;

**MR. DOERN:** There is a slight reduction. There is obviously going to be a general continuation of the maintenance programs from \$6.8 million to \$6.7 million, but there is a reduction of about \$80,000.00. Can the Minister explain whether there is staff let go, or what is happening there? Perhaps he could explain Items (1) first?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, there is a \$174,600 decrease in this appropriation. —(Interjection)— Are we speaking about (b)?

**MR. DOERN:** How many SMYs?

**MR. ENNS:** There are 548.27 SMYs. And I'm advised that there is no change in SMY designation.

**MR. DOERN:** Any vacancies?

**MR. ENNS:** But this amount is a reduction principally . . . it involves a reduction of 19 staff man years, although the reduction is simply not in personnel, simply in the vacancy rates that we have maintained in the department amounting to some \$254,000.00.

**MR. DOERN:** So there's a 19 SMY vacancy reduction?  
Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, I wonder if he could . . .

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, allow me to make a correction. Within the department, it represents a 19 staff man year reduction, but I'm advised by staff that what in effect took place, that these 19 staff man years have reverted and transferred back to the Norway House School and the Frontier Collegiate at Cranberry Portage, effective January 1st, 1978. There's been no reduction in personnel or staff man years work, it's simply a transfer of funds out of this appropriation to the Department of Education, and that accounts for the rather substantial amount of reduction in this appropriation.

**MR. DOERN:** Now, I wonder if the Minister could indicate to the committee, what his general policy is in regard to contracting out? There are a number of services provided in the government; there is

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our own workshop, there is cleaning staff, there is waste disposal pick-up, there are security forces, etc. This has an effect in a number of areas, including here, — could the Minister enlighten us on what he intends to do — there's a present mix of in-house and out-house, and so on and so on and so on? Could he indicate to us roughly what he intends to do about contracting out, whether he intends to increase it significantly or wind-up any sections of public works — what is his attitude to that question?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I don't see this situation fundamentally changing, but I indicated to the Honourable Member for St. Johns earlier this afternoon in this matter, that there are situations, particularly in situations where we think it's advisable to contract out, that that will be done. And Mr. Chairman, let me spend just a brief moment about the word contracting-out. I know that that has a connotation that is generally unacceptable to members opposite. . .

**MR. DOERN:** Odious.

**MR. ENNS:** And odious to members opposite, but let me remind the honourable members opposite, you know, just speaking from personal experience, for instance within the Department of Education, within the operations of caretaking and janitorial duties of most of our rural schools, the contracting-out very often, to an unemployed or an underemployed rural person, who comes in after school hours and cleans up and does the janitorial work in the Woodlands Elementary School, provides for a meaningful employment opportunity for a rural resident. And for the Department of Public Works in these instances, to insist on hiring departmental staff, which often means in addition to that providing employee housing, and in addition to that providing other mainline governmental services, simply doesn't make a great deal of sense.

And in those instances, I make no apologies for suggesting to the members of the committee that I have and will, in fact I am in the process of asking staff, asking the department to examine where and when local people, whether it's in Portage la Prairie or whether it's in Daughin or whether it's in Woodlands, if we cannot gainfully employ resident people within the area — within the community — to do the janitorial caretaking duties of government buildings, be they schools, office spaces, operated by the Department of Public Works, or otherwise. I repudiate the kind of stigma that has been attached to this practice, that obviously the Honourable Member for Elmwood and earlier the Honourable Member for St. Johns tries to impute. I want to tell the honourable members opposite, that they are just simply missing the boat.

They resent, by and large, the majority of rural Manitobans, let me permit to use the immediate examples, whether it's in my little community of Woodlands, or whether it's the communities of Dauphin or Portage, they resent the idea of the Department of Public Works importing staff or imposing staff, and denying local people those employment opportunities, those local employment opportunities. I say quite categorically, where it is within the realm of common sense, the department will, in fact, look to the contracting-out of these services.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I think there's a Latin expression which goes as follows: ITTU Quo Qui which means, I believe, the exact opposite is true or what you say on one side can be said equally on the other. You know, exactly what the Minister has said about our hang-ups, applies to his hang-ups. His hang-ups are about government; his government's hang-ups are about government. They are concerned about the private sector, they are not concerned about the public sector — I think that's come through in many areas, including hospitals.

I simply say this, all this talk —(Interjection)— Well, you know, I can make economic distinctions for you if you don't have any background. I tell you this, the Minister sets up a plaintive case for rural residents — invented on the spur of the moment, about 9:05 on this particular day and you know if there are employment opportunities for rural residents in small buildings or government buildings, I don't know whether the rural residents prefer to work on their own for some little company, or whether they would not prefer to be a full-time employee of the Department of Public Works.

In Beausejour, and in Portage, and in other buildings that we established, I believe the employees, the cleaning personnel, are Public Works staff, and I believe that they are also people who live in those areas, or if they didn't live in those areas after they obtained employment they moved to those areas. And so whether the people of Manitoba have any particular hang-up as to whether they are employed by the government or by a private company, which probably pays less wages and may have more difficult working conditions, I certainly don't believe that they make that kind of a distinction.

And so all I'm saying to the Minister is, given his little statement about hang-ups on private sector on the part of our Party. I say that he has the same hangups in regard to the public sector, and you know, that's where that particular dispute will end. But there have been opportunities to rural residents in the small towns where we build provincial buildings to find such employment. But again, I ask the Minister my original question, and that is — he did seem to answer it, if I could repeat what he said — he indicated that the present mix whatever it is, however fluid it is, the approximate same mix will prevail as exists now. And I think a demonstration of that in this area is the fact that the maintenance level in terms of this area will be approximately the same. There will be a slight reduction but that it will be approximately the same, so he's not going to lay off large numbers of public works personnel which he said at the very beginning that he is going to stay with the approximate same number of SMYs, with a slight reduction in budget.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I don't mind repeating. The department contracts out the following services: elevator maintenance, janitorial services, refuse removal, window cleaning, pest control, and cafeteria. It's in those areas that we contract out services and let me make this other point abundantly clear. Those have been traditionally contracted out — not by this government in the last five months, but by the previous administration. Let me remind the committee that the major building just at arm's length from us — the Norquay Building — has been contracted out for these services since inception, and has been contracted out for these services throughout the entire eight years of New Democratic Party administration.

**MR. DOERN:** And this building?

**MR. ENNS:** So there has been no . . . this building is in House. You know, what I am suggesting to the honourable members without trying to raise any unnecessary flak here, that that basic mix will continue. I don't want the honourable members though, to read into suggestions or statements that I have made that really simply reinforce the policy that has been in effect in the Department of Public Works for the last number of years in any way signifies the change. I believe that there is reason and there is common sense for us not to hire permanently on staff, you know, 300 window cleaners, when we've got a lot of little window cleaner firms operating in this city that can clean windows. I don't believe that there is a necessity for us to hire on staff, permanent staff — elevator maintenance people — despite the fact that within the public service in the public sector we operate a certain amount of elevators. Quite frankly, I have difficulty in noting the difference between when this divisional line that the honourable member draws between the public and the private sector. Like that when I hire Joe Smith as a window cleaner and pay him out of public funds, that then all of a sudden that has become a private sector. The only difference is that I am encouraging and that I am allowing a private individual window cleaning company to operate in the Province of Manitoba, who has to pay his taxes, who has to pay his men, and has to abide by whatever other labour legislation we from time to time pass in this Session.

Now if you're telling me that that is wrong, then you'd better tell the rest of the world that that's wrong, but essentially I think what the Minister — the member, I'm going to have to change this, I keep calling him Minister. . .

**MR. DOERN:** You're the Minister, I'm the member.

**MR. ENNS:** . . . it's going to be 16 years before that'll happen again and the trouble that I have, Mr. Chairman, is that I think that in the initial opening remarks, I indicated to the members of this committee basic to the staff component that I am requesting for approval within the estimates of this department which indicate little or no change. The same kind of basic vacancy rate that the Honourable Member for Elmwood operated under several years before I became Minister of this department under the self imposed restraint program, a vacancy rate of 10 percent is essentially still within the department. . .

**MR. DOERN:** SMYs.

**MR. ENNS:** . . . SMYs, and I'm under the same impression that he's under to have these vacancies filled. So there in effect has not been any fundamental change in direction with respect to the Department of Public Works.

**MR. DOERN:** Okay. Mr. Chairman, I accept what the Minister says about the mix that he intends to carry on the same approximate mix that I did and that perhaps my predecessors. Maybe we carried on a bit more on the public sector side and maybe he will go a little more on the private sector side, but essentially the mix will continue, and I am happy that the Minister has indicated that because I was concerned that we might have some sort of attempt made, certainly not this year, because I can read the estimates like anyone else. Certainly it couldn't happen this year, but that I was concerned that there might be some attempt by the administration which seems hell bent in certain departments in this regard to go the old Erwood Currie route, the old report that the Member for St. James was involved in, possibly the Chairman — the old City of Winnipeg days — when there was an attempt in effect to . . . —(Interjection)— Well, I'm talking about the old Council, the old new Council, as opposed to the new, new Council. And I simply indicate that at that time there was a big recommendation made in effect to eliminate 2,000 positions in the City of Winnipeg. There was a considerable public furor as a result of that and there was eventually a retreat on the part of the then civic administration, political, and you know I was one of those who spoke very strongly against that and I believe that given the position of the Minister that I won't have to repeat those arguments and re-fight those issues at this point in time.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Selkirk.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Chairman, I do believe that I should mention to the Minister and I must

acknowledge that I find his reasoning somewhat difficult to understand when he suggests that by some way contracting out means employment for rural residents, and direct employment, government employee employment, doesn't mean employment for rural residents. That just is not the case, it doesn't wash. The Minister is trying to hide a doctrinaire bias behind some illogical reasoning. I would like to remind the Minister that it was the previous New Democratic Party Government that decentralized much of government office space from the City of Winnipeg, various services into the rural points. I'd like to refer to the Assessment Building in Steinbach. The Assessment Building and other buildings in the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie's constituency. There was no such decentralization prior to 1969. The Department of Health and Social Services decentralization in Gimli, the planning office in Beausejour, the assessment office and Lotteries Building in Selkirk — there is just one long list of decentralized effort, the decentralization of government services into rural points.

So that I must say, Mr. Chairman, when I hear the Minister, propound as he did a few minutes ago, about the need for involving rural citizens, I find it somewhat laughable — it coming from a government that prior to 1969 — and I suspect now, would do very little, very little, in fact it's already beginning to retreat from the programs that had been developed by the New Democratic Party government 1969 to 1977 by way of decentralization of services to people in rural Manitoba.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, you know, I don't want to carry on the debate much further on this particular point but the Honourable Member for Selkirk does afford the opportunity to indicate really how vast and how serious the gulf is between the majority members of the New Democratic Party and the Conservative Party. And why? For the last decade, the last several decades, the rural people will continue voting in Conservative members and refuse to do so for New Democratic members, because you simply don't understand the situation, you simply don't understand it. And I say this with sincerity and with kindness. You don't understand the fact that the person that I'm speaking about has got three cows, two of them are pregnant at a given time, and they are important to him and he wants to have the freedom to be home when they calve, and he wants to look after the one horse that he's got on the place, he's not prepared to take on a full time Civil Service position, but would like to bid on coming into a school as most school divisions have, virtually all the school divisions have recognized this throughout rural Manitoba a long time ago. But he's quite prepared and he looks forward to earning those extra few dollars to do the caretaking cleaning of the elementary school in the little towns. —(Interjection)— No, the Roblin administration did away with the one room schools.

**MR. DOERN:** They did away with the cows and horses.

**MR. ENNS:** No, they didn't do away with that. But, you know, Mr. Chairman, I don't want to proceed with this argument, but the honourable members opposite, they can't understand that there are people that would like to get part of the government salary, and part of the government businesses, but I'm not in position to become as most urban people are, to be fully employed with the government, from an 8 to 5, or 8:30 to 4:30 position, and so members opposite simply can't understand that that situation exists. And I say to my honourable friend from Selkirk, very sincerely, very honestly, that simple fact probably demonstrates more than anything else the continuing inability of members opposite to perceive and to understand and to respond to the rural need.

They want us, as they want all farmers, to become not farmers — they want them to become farm laborers, they want them to work on collective farms, they want them to work at an 8 to 5 job, they want some marketing agency to market their products, they want somebody else to tell them what to do — that's what they want them to do. But that is not the concept and the mental perception of rural Manitoba, and that's why you have rural Manitoba represented by my political persuasion and not their's. And I want to tell honourable members opposite, that's why it's going to take place for the next twenty, thirty years.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would say to the members of the committee since he was talking about calves that were, or cows that were calving, that could be perhaps under (b)(3) Preventative Maintenance, where if they were steers, it would have been Improvements to Grounds because of the fertilization. The Member for Selkirk.

**MR. PAWLEY:** I just wanted to comment that I suspect very much that if this government continues to pursue its restraint policies, that there are going to be an awful lot of those rural farmers and residents out there that because of the restraint policies being pursued by this government may no longer be able to afford to have their cows calf. . .

**MR. ENNS:** If an election were called tomorrow I pick up 10 percent more votes and so would 27 others. . .

**MR. PAWLEY:** . . . and in addition, Mr. Chairman, do I have the. . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Selkirk.

**MR. PAWLEY:** And probably the hens will also stop laying eggs, if this continues.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister, by pounding the table and launching into a rather feeble presentation, really chose to ignore the discussion which I wanted him to enter into. What direction does this government have insofar as decentralization of government services in rural points? Does it intend to centralize government services back into the centre, into Winnipeg?

I want to give the honourable member a specific instance that has happened and ask him just the role of his department in this to the extent of whether or not they have to pick up a lease that may very well have not been allowed to run its proper course before they decided to centralize government activity and I refer to the decision to pull out the regional offices of the Department of Industry and Commerce which was serving Interlake and eastern Manitoba from the town of Selkirk and move it back into the City of Winnipeg which took place about two months ago. I know they were renting space out there. I would be interested whether the Minister can tell me whether or not the lease was allowed to expire, whether they have to pick up rent for a period of time until the normal course of the running out of that lease. I thought, if I could just add, that that was rather indicative of clues as to where this government is moving. I see no decentralization of government services. I have seen already in the short space of six months, a slight movement away from rural decentralization, back into the centre, as was the policy of the Roblin government and the Weir government prior to 1969. All that I hear from members opposite is bravado and an attempt — but they are not going to be successful — to fool rural Manitoba that they are the party of rural Manitoba. I think as time passes by and rural Manitobans have an opportunity to compare the Conservative government with the previous eight years of the New Democratic Party government on this very fundamental and important issue, that the honourable member will be in for some rather unpleasant surprises.

**MR. ENNS:** I'll look forward to that.

**MR. PAWLEY:** I wonder if the Minister could answer my specific question about the lease lease, whether it was allowed to run its normal course before it was decided to yank the offices out of Selkirk and pull them into Winnipeg?

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, I am prepared, under the appropriate appropriation, to give the Members of the Committee the latest — I think March 31st — position of lease and space situation within the Department of Public Works showing those spaces that are underutilized or indeed empty for which we have obligations. I recognize that that information would be requested of me during the course of these committee hearings and perhaps under the appropriate item I could answer that item.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for St. James. We are on Maintenance, (1) Salaries, in case we have forgotten.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a few comments, particularly with regard to the former Minister of Public Works and his concern and interest in present employees of our staff, and I have concern with them as well, that this is the only way to go in terms of maintenance of our buildings and grounds. I was very happy to hear, Mr. Minister, that you believe in the mixed type of approach to this where we will have private individuals or companies looking after part of it and also the staff that exist today.

But I have to be concerned, Mr. Minister — I hope that you will continue to try to run your department in the most efficient manner that you can because I don't believe that it is naivety that the former Minister of Public Works has, or the Member for St. Johns has when he starts to mention that some of our employees have better working conditions, better fringe benefits, better salaries than the private individuals who might be doing the work. They have been lulled into believing that because they were government, they were providing these better working conditions, better salaries, better fringe benefits. But in actual fact, it was the taxpayers of Manitoba that we work for, that our staff works for, and in turn what we are saying is that we will pay the workers better than what we ourselves will get, the taxpayers, because that's what has happened. It has become an issue, actually, in the Federal Government, in the election that will be coming forward. When I was down in Ottawa at the Finance Ministers Conference, that was one of the main issues that was being brought forward at that time, that it is time for the public sector to receive the same benefits, the same income, etc., as the private sector. I suggest to the Honourable Minister of Public Works that he has to consider this when he is looking at future policies for his department. Because while we have some 17,000 employees who are employed by the Government of Manitoba, there are still some 300,000 taxpayers who are workers as well with maybe less advantages than the people that we are talking about. One starts to wonder, what are we arriving at? Are we now going to say that we can't consider outside proposals because of the fact that we can pay our people better or we can hire some other person? — (Interjection)— with their money. This is what it boils down to.

I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Minister, that we cannot be lulled into that type of thinking, that because we are the government, that we have the powers to keep raising salaries, keep hiring people at higher incomes than what the private sector can afford to do. I suggest that in my philosophy, one of the main objectives of the government of the day is not to employ people, it is to provide the best services it can at the least cost to the people of Manitoba and the taxpayers.

So I can't accept the former Minister's comments and I can't accept the Member for St. Johns' comments. I can accept part of them, that we do have a contractual agreement with people who work

for us and with the MGEA and we will honour them. But I think we have to still look at what is the best way that we can provide the service for the people of Manitoba who are footing the bills. We can't lose sight of that. In particular, in a rural area, if it is more economical and people will benefit locally by working on their own, then by golly we shouldn't hire them. We shouldn't put them on staff.

Those are the facts of the day and I think that the majority of people in Manitoba — and I would say the majority of the people in Canada — are recognizing this, that they don't want the Government of Canada, they don't want the Government of Manitoba to be the big employer. They don't want them to keep giving better fringe benefits to the employees than what they themselves can afford or they themselves can pay to their employees because while we cannot sometimes recognize the fact, directly we are talking about some 17,000 employees out of a working force of some 300,000 plus — I don't know what it is now, 330,000 or 340,000 — but the majority of the working staff and the people who create the employment cannot meet the wage commitments that this government is providing. I might say that the city and municipal governments are even creating higher salaries than what we are, and I have to recognize that the former governments in Manitoba are not as guilty as the cities are or the municipalities are because people in positions in the cities or municipalities are making higher salaries than some of our top staff are.

But this is what we have been lulled into, and all of a sudden now the taxpayer is saying, "Hey, hold it, we can't afford that because as suppliers of the moneys that we operate with, we can't pay our own people that kind of income."

So, I hope, Mr. Minister, that while you talk about mixed continued programs, you look at the economics of it. I appreciate we can't afford to dump people out on the street but I think we still can't close our eyes to the fact the way the opposition would like, that everybody would work them, is not the answer and the people of Manitoba stated very clearly that they don't want that as the answer.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Elmwood, then Transcona.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, just a few remarks. The Minister gives a very interesting outline of a current Manitoba farmer, a couple of cows pregnant, a horse. That kind of a farm may have existed a long time ago and I'm sure that there still are some farms like that, but he forgot some of the modern technology, the combines, the tractors, the bucket-seated pickup trucks and all that sort of thing. He forgot that.

**MR. ENNS:** That farmer is not looking for a part-time job with Public Works or the school divisions.

**MR. DOERN:** You know, the Minister's debate is to a large extent academic, and the same with the Member for St. James. My colleague, I think, made a very effective point, the Member for Selkirk, when he pointed out that this government decentralized to a fairly large extent services to the people of this province. Various buildings were built at Portage and Dauphin and Brandon and Arborg, etc., and departments were sent out there, departments were decentralized and opportunities for employment became possible in those centres. There were other buildings which we will debate later on, in Flin Flon and The Pas, etc., etc.

So, you know, we can debate about whether or not people in small towns in Manitoba or in the rural areas of Manitoba would accept a government job or they would only accept a job with a private corporation — we can debate that. But there first of all has to be a job. There first of all has to be an opening. If there are no openings and no possibilities, then that debate is a complete waste of time. You know, I don't know whether the grocers in the small towns of Manitoba, when a person comes in to purchase something, something, says to the person, "Do you work for the government, because if you do, I'm not taking your money. You can't buy in this store?" Is that what really goes on — they only accept free enterprise dollars; they will not sell goods and commodities and services to people who work for the government? —(Interjection)—

Well, you know, my honourable colleague for Rock Lake says this is garbage, but he wasn't here when the Minister and the Member for St. James put on this big argument about how people in these areas are proud and they don't want to work for the government and presumably they will not sell to the government, and they will not deal with the government.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works, on a point of order.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order —(Interjections)— It is a point of order when a member imputes or in fact says and states and puts on the record comments that in fact haven't been made by anybody. The Member for Elmwood has just indicated that I said that members of rural Manitoba refuse to work for the government of Manitoba, they are so hung up on free enterprise . . . —(Interjection)— No, but he just finished saying that. I am just saying that the Minister of Public Works never said that and let the record show that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the Member for Elmwood, I can't rule on whether it's a point of order or not on anybody until I have heard him finish.

**MR. DOERN:** Believe me, he is finished.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Elmwood, would you continue.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, my point is this. To a rural businessman, to a businessman who owns a store in a town or in a village or whatever, when a person comes into that store, he doesn't ask whether or not that man is employed — suppose he is passing through town or lives in town, he doesn't say to that person, "We don't accept your money because it is government money." He simply says, "What would you like? How many of this and how many of that?" Because, from the businessman's point of view, the guy who runs a gas station or whatever doesn't care whether or not that person is employed in a private enterprise or a public enterprise.

**MR. ENNS:** We have no problem; we agree.

**MR. DOERN:** So I am simply saying that when we get down to people who are unemployed, who do not have an opportunity to work in the small towns or in any part of Manitoba, when there is an opportunity to work, generated by the government because the government has transferred services or built buildings and thereby provides employment opportunities, either on the payroll 100 percent, or through a little corporation or through part-time work and so on, as far as I am concerned, the people in that area must welcome that. They must welcome, in Portage la Prairie, the opportunity to get a job, whether it is with the Health Department, Agriculture, The Liquor Commission, or the Public Works Department, cleaning. That must be, to them, a real opportunity. So, Mr. Chairman, that is simply my point. Now some day, when we are having a full-scale philosophical debate, I will say to the Member for St. James at that time that I will explain to him the inextricable relationships between the public and the private sector. You know, that is one of the problems in the Legislature. The economists are on our side of the Chamber and the businessmen are on their side and there are certain limitations, I believe, in some of the thinking of people who are in business, that they do not see the broader aspects of the economy.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Transcona. I will remind him and others that we are still on Maintenance - Salaries.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't want to incur your wrath by going off on the various topics that the Minister actually has taken us off onto. In fact, I wanted to congratulate you. At first, when I first walked in here and I apologized for missing parts of the Estimates process because I had been in the Education Estimates, but I wanted to congratulate you originally on the speed with which you are hurrying us through these Estimates. I thought that you should be made general manager of a goose eviscerating plant because of your particular skills. And then I realized that we had only passed \$300,000 in the last day and a half . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** And Education has done \$300 million.

**MR. PARASIUK:** . . . and I was quite interested in actually getting into 2.(d) at some stage, Leased Accommodation, and I think that we will get to that in two days or something like that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Hopefully.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I wanted — I hear some muttering actually — did the member want me to yield the floor to him?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I wanted to comment to the Minister, when he was raising his ideal of the rural farm, with the three cows and the one horse and he indicated that these people wanted — (Interjection)— Two pregnant, yes. —(Interjection)— Yes, and that's what we learned from the Member for Roblin. I think that that is the one thing that I really have indelibly marked in my mind as a result.

But I think rural people in fact do want to be working in providing goods and services through the public sector. I have rarely gone into a rural area where in fact people haven't raised that with me because they have said that it is the public sector which in many ways is a stabilizing force in rural Manitoba in trying to keep some type of rural fabric in place and that it is the decentralization of government goods and services, as indicated by the Member for Selkirk before, which has helped do that. I think the Minister is assuming that there are two types of employment. One would be full-time employment as a full-time civil servant, and the other would be some type of flexible employment through the private sector. I really don't think that is true. I think circumstances and public administration have changed markedly in the last eight years and I would hope that the Minister will not try to maintain his image but would rather develop an open mind on this particular matter and look at the possibility of permanent part-time positions, which I think can be developed within his department, temporary part-time positions as well, seasonable part-time. The whole question of flexible hours, I think, should be looked at as well and I would think that if you started looking at those particular techniques, you could start tailoring essential employment within the public sector to the



circumstances of the small model farmer which the Minister seems to have such tremendous concern for.

I wanted to also comment on the statements by the Member for St. James in that I think as well he was possibly taking an extreme position and frankly that reminded me of the position of anachronistic politicians from the Twenties and Thirties who basically saw any type of benefit, especially benefits that are provided through the public sector, as somehow possibly bankrupting that part of the economy which lays the golden eggs or pays the taxes with which our government services are provided.

**MR. ENNS:** Are you referring to Wendell Willkie?

**MR. PARASIUK:** Not necessarily. No, he could also be referring to this other great man that occasionally is referred to, R. B. Bennett. And it was people like that who argued that we shouldn't have Old Age Pensions because this would bankrupt the society. People like that also argue that we shouldn't have Medicare because that would bankrupt society. They have argued that we shouldn't have Family Allowances because that would bankrupt society. Surely we find that that hasn't bankrupted society.

**A MEMBER:** Not yet.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Well, not yet. If in fact the member is implying, and I would hate to . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please try to keep to Maintenance of Public Works.

**MR. MINAKER:** Indexing of pensions in Canada — they are sure backing off on it, I'll tell you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the Member for St. James, the Member for Transcona has the floor. I ask him to stay to Maintenance of Public Works.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I am trying very hard to stay within the confines of the arguments put forward by the Minister of Public Works and the Member for St. James when discussing this very narrow topic of maintenance. I think you would agree, Mr. Chairman, that their having made the statements, surely the members on this side of the table are allowed some time in rebutting those particular statements that are made within the confines of this narrow topic.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I just from time to time would like to remind you and others.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I would like to point out that there is a difference between sweat shops and decent working conditions and in this respect I think that the public sector has been in the vanguard of improving working conditions. I think you would agree with that and I think also that the Member for St. James really wouldn't want me to infer from his interjections there that he is against Old Age Pensions because they may in fact bankrupt the country because I did in fact say that these — (Interjection)— Well, if he thinks that civil servant pensions per se will bankrupt the economy, I think he is really stretching a point tremendously. He is stretching a point tremendously because in fact they aren't totally backing off. They are just saying that they want to make sure they change the funding arrangements so that there is a proper funding in the pension scheme, which I think is a valid position for them to take, if they argue that. I don't think that they would be against pensions per se and I would think that the Member for St. James wouldn't be against . . .

**A MEMBER:** Where does all this come into Public Works, Mr. Chairman?

**MR. PARASIUK:** I tried to explain that before — it was after the pregnant cows and after the Member for St. James' statements.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Would the Member for Transcona please carry on. I would ask others, please don't interrupt him. I would like him to get finished.

**MR. PARASIUK:** That's right. I didn't interrupt the very narrow specific statements of the Minister of Public Works. I sat there and listened to his somewhat operatic performance; it was loud, he has a resonant voice. I have never heard him sing, I have just heard him speak . . .

**MR. ENNS:** I sing very well.

**MR. PARASIUK:** But just like an opera, Mr. Chairman, the substance is somewhat unintelligible, but the resonance is there.

**MR. ENNS:** That just shows your lack of intellectual perception of the depth of drama and the deep meaning of Italian opera.

**MR. PARASIUK:** The other thing that I find, Mr. Speaker, is that the Member for St. James did

comment that we wouldn't want the public service salaries to in fact lead the private sector. You were commenting that the past government has shown, I think, some discretion and some astuteness in trying to keep the level of the top senior civil servants down because if the salaries of those people at the top are increased tremendously, you of course develop tremendous pressures below that level for people wanting to get the same type of increases. And you mentioned also that the city hasn't done that type of thing. I think you find that municipal governments are in fact paying some of their senior administrators very high salaries. The thing that I found surprising in this respect is that having commended us on keeping the level of senior civil servant salaries down, we then had a Task Force come onto the scene and say that the Manitoba senior civil servants are underpaid in relation to other civil servants, and they are recommending that there should be some increases. And it strikes me that we seem to be going back to what may be construed as the Conservative philosophy of squeezing people at the bottom end of the pay scale, while at the same time allowing big increases for people at the senior ends of the pay scale within the public service. Now I'm certain that that isn't the position of the Member for St. James but I do know that that's the position of the Task Force. But of course the government has taken a position of repudiating or rejecting the recommendations of the Task Force, and I feel that's fair.

Having then, Mr. Chairman, dealt clearly and precisely and narrowly with (2)(b), I have nothing more to say on this particular topic.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)(1)—pass; (b)(2)—pass; (b)(3)—pass. (c)Improvements to Grounds, Alterations, Furniture, Furnishings and Incidental Expenses (c)(1)—pass — Member for St. Vital on (c)(1).

**MR. WALDING:** Just before you pass (c)(1), I wouldn't like it to go by without us congratulating the staff of the department on the terrific job they do in maintaining, keeping up the grounds of the Legislature. I think they do a superb job.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (c)(1)Salaries and Wages—pass.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, before we pass (c)(1), let me indicate to honourable members of the Committee that in keeping with the otherwise well kept grounds of the building, it's my intention although I haven't informed my staff yet to recognize the popularity of the cafeteria services of the Woodsworth Building, and instead of fighting the well worn path across the otherwise immaculately kept lawns, we'll likely have to put a sidewalk across there, recognizing that people will just persist in walking over to that facility. Now I must also indicate in the absence of the Honourable Member for St. Johns, that is not included in these estimates and will add to the total capital, will add to the total spending of the Conservative administration. But that will take a few hurdles to get through the Management Committee. . .

**A MEMBER:** Are you going to Capitalize it or Current it?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (c)(1). The Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, could the Minister just give us a brief summary here on the whole item of (b). He already explained what the decrease in salaries was, but could he explain the total amount from last year has been reduced about a half a million, so could he just give us a quick summary other than salaries as to what the other reductions are.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Public Works.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, the major reduction as has already been referred to by myself, is the transferring of some \$510,000 or a half a million dollars that were costs that are non-reoccurring for the department associated with Norway House Schools and the Frontier Collegiate.

**MR. DOERN:** You're telling me that the half million is all related to the transfer of staff and other related responsibilities.

**MR. ENNS:** That's correct, other related responsibilities. I think earlier on I indicated to the honourable member that some 19 staff members involving. . . the staff component of that is just around the corner of a million, \$254,600, and the other part of that is related with Other Expenditures, but the major part of that reduction is related with that transfer of responsibilities that the Department of Public Works no longer has.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)—pass — Member for St. James.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, the only comment I would like to suggest to the Honourable Minister of Public Works is that possibly he can talk to the Honourable Minister of Health and ask him if he can donate some of that sand he's putting into the baby's diaper for the sidewalk and maybe he can cut down on the expense.

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**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I will await next Tuesday when that question will arise in the House as it undoubtedly will when the cameras are there and I will then make my plea to the Minister of Health.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)—pass; (c)(1)—pass?

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, (c)(1), here again, there is a slight reduction. Could the Minister explain what's happening with staff and perhaps also talk about casual staff, etc., if he could give us a breakdown.

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I am advised that in this appropriation we have some 94 SMYs, there is no change in that staffing. The decrease of \$55,700 involves the recovery cost, or the fact that there has been no provision allocated in this appropriation for two term staff man years. Recovery of costs for work done on Capital projects will reduce salary requirements.

**MR. DOERN:** I am not sure I follow you there. There is 94 SMYs, the same between the two years. There is no vacancies. . .

**MR. ENNS:** No vacancies in the SMY established positions, but no moneys provided for two term staff man years. Plus some additional recovery of costs for work done on Capital projects, which will reduce these overall salary requirements within this Division.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (c)(1)—pass. . .

**MR. DOERN:** Well, I would like to ask the Minister in general here whether there has been any winding down on projects, whether there has been any reduction in the activities under this Department. Is this where the work — no, this isn't the Workshop. This is the Workshop?

**MR. ENNS:** Yes.

**MR. DOERN:** Has there been any reduction in the caseload or the project load here? you know, decreases

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, there are several' that the 1978-79 Budget reflects in the expected workload due to some cutback in the line department requirements. Certainly we have a decrease, for instance, of some \$384,400 decrease in the Budget for the level of service which the Department of Public Works will be expected to provide due to the decrease in the size of the Civil Service and to the elimination of some line department programs.

There has been a general freeze on what we believe to be non-essential renovations within Minister's offices, I may begin with, and simply the fact that we are operating with 15 ministerial offices, rather than the 17 of the year before. So in itself there is a decrease in the requirements.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister is making a significant point here inadvertently. There is a reduction of 800,000 under (c), whereas last year there was \$2.8 million spent, this year there will be \$2 million spent. So that is a significant reduction, say 25 percent reduction. Yet the SMYs are the same and the workload is significantly reduced, so can the Minister explain why he is maintaining the same level of staff when he is in effect cutting the program by 25 percent.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Member for Elmwood is suggesting that I should reduce staff, I will take that under advisement and will ask my staff to indicate to me where I can make those reductions.

**MR. DOERN:** No, Mr. Chairman, I'm not asking you that, I'm asking. . .

**MR. ENNS:** Well, that's precisely what the Honourable Member is asking.

**MR. DOERN:** No. I'm asking you how it is that you are cutting the Budget, cutting the program, cutting the level of service, making cutbacks, and —(Interjection)— I am not finished, Mr. Chairman, so the Minister will have to hear me out.

This department is an important department and the government has seen fit to make certain reductions, and I am saying to the Minister that he is going to in effect reduce expenditures, and therefore I think is to a certain extent playing with fire, because I will give you an example. If you want to start cutting maintenance levels and reduce upkeep and reduce, let's take as an example, preventive maintenance, then you may find yourself in a certain difficulty. Because if the department, say, rather than going around under this Resolution 105, is going to take a shortrun type of position where they are only going to act when there is a crisis, when they are only going to do something when something breaks down, then I think there is going to be problems.

I will give you an example. There is a concept which our department, I believe, followed or tried to follow, tried to sell to our government and our administration and our colleagues, called Life Cycle Costing. I would ask the Minister if he is familiar with that? And if not, then I would suggest that this is

something that he would be very well advised to look into, and that it really involves the expenditure of money, perhaps more than would normally be spent, or superficially more than would normally be spent, because in the longrun it is to the advantage of the owner — in this case, the Minister — in this case, the Department of Public Works. —(Interjection)— Yes, I understand. And therefore, it is something that you put your money at the front end and it pays off in the long-run.

Now the Minister is superficially saving money here by cutting the Maintenance Budget, the total Maintenance Budget, by about \$1 million. I'm talking now of complete Operations and Maintenance. His two big cuts come under Maintenance, under (b) — I am saying again, I repeat for the Minister. He is making a reduction of \$1 million under this total Resolution. That is comprised essentially of two items; Maintenance — half-a-million reduction, and Improvements to Grounds of 800,000, this includes the workshop etc., etc. I am saying this to the Minister that I believe there is a problem here, and that is that he appears to be taking the following kind of a position.

He is going to superficially save money. And I am not finished yet. Superficially he is going to save money, but I suggest to him that by appearing to save money in Maintenance, this is a case of being penny wise and pound foolish. Because what he is going to do rather than prevent breakdowns and rather than solve problems — it is like maintaining your car. If you want a simple analogy, if you have regular service checks on your car, regular repairs, regular overhauls, you probably won't have any problems. If you don't spend any money, one day your car will grind to a halt and fall apart. I am simply saying to the Minister, he is saving this money, in the shortrun he has chopped money out of the Department of Public Works, he has chopped a good part of it out of these particular allocations, \$1.3 million, and I suggest that in the longrun this is not going to be an example of saving money, it is going to be an example of wasting money.

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin with by drawing to the honourable members of this Committee's attention to the Item under review, which is Renovations of Furniture and Furnishings; Workshop Operations; and the Improvements to Grounds, Alterations, Furnishings and Incidental Expenses, and I want to make it very plain that this Minister does not intend to spend money on renovating or setting up private art galleries on the 15th floor of the Woodsworth Building, does not intend to maintain the operations of another ministerial office in Lakeview Square buildings, does not intend to spend any money on any ministerial renovations or operations like that. There will be money downs and there will be money cut down then.

What this Minister intends to spend his money on is \$5 million worth of alterations, badly needed alterations in response to the Fire Commissioner's Code, which the previous Minister would not do, and that is what is going to maintain the rate of occupancy of my staff. It was informed earlier that we have some 191 ongoing or 196 ongoing projects, which we agreed to provide to the Member for St. Johns. My staff informs me that \$5 million is within the physical capacity of what they can do as a department or else it might well have been 7 or 8, or \$10 million, but I make absolutely no apologies for the reduction in the Renovations of what I consider to be fringe and luxury benefits to the ministerial offices, to the grounds, etc., etc., etc.

Furthermore, it has absolutely nothing to do with the permanent SMY positions in this appropriation. These kind of additional costs, or reductions in these costs, reflect the employment or non-employment of casual staff.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, we will have an opportunity to debate the Fire Code later and whether or not this Minister is meeting the Fire Code, or whether he is a little behind; or whether he is not, in fact, in violation of the Fire Code, and whether or not he was the one who made the statement, which was made publicly, that if they couldn't meet it, they would change the legislation to make sure that they were in compliance. If they couldn't comply, they would legislate to comply. So that debate I am going to withhold my comments on and I would hope the Minister would hold his as well until we get to that Item.

**MR. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, just in anticipation of that debate, let me make it very clear for the record that I am in violation of the Fire Code, that is the Department; that we require a great deal more moneys than is presented in these Estimates to bring all public buildings to the full compliance of the Fire Code, but let the record also show that this is the first \$5 million that is being allocated in this particular instance, and that contracts and architects and consultants, have been hired in the major institutions that I have referred to, and that work is proceeding in the best and the most common sense pace that we can proceed with it.

But if the Honourable Member wants to indicate to me that as of today, or as of tomorrow, or as at the end of the year, that I will not have completed all the work necessary on the Fire Code, well then I welcome that kind of a debate.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I cannot let that pass without comment, and I would simply make two points. One, we introduced the Fire Code and two, we spent considerable amounts of money of making improvements, and the Minister is spending more money, which I approve of and support, and I say, as I said to him again, that we will have a full opportunity to debate because I have a lot to say on this, and so does he. But I simply say that our government introduced the legislation, which he now has to comply with, which is tougher than it was before, and secondly, we spent more money every year on trying to meet these requirements, which are very costly, as we are both aware of.

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**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (c)(1)—pass; (c)(2)—pass; (c)(3)—pass; (c)(4)—pass; (d)(1) Salaries. . . The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, it is now past ten, I have a fair amount to speak about under Leased Accommodations, I would move that Committee rise.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Is that the wish of the members of the Committee? (Agreed) Committee rise.

### SUPPLY — EDUCATION

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would direct the honourable members to Page 27, Department of Education, Clause 5. Community Colleges. We are at (c)(2). (c)(2)—pass; (c)—pass; (d)(1) Salaries—pass — the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

**MR. MILLER:** Under (d)(1), Mr. Chairman, could the Minister in this case also tell us what Capital is being expended beyond what is printed in the Estimates, either in the right-hand column or in the last item?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I expect to have that information for the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks in a minute. I should mention, however, that it will be part of that \$1 million that is allocated for the renewal of equipment.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps to save time, and I gather in other departments it has been done that way, I know that there is \$1 million here under Community Colleges; that's in the Printed Estimates. What we're trying to determine is, and have an accountability, of the \$1.573 million, which is a carry-over and which shows in the printed statement distributed by the Minister of Finance, is a carry-over of \$1.573 million being allocated or attributed to the Department of Education? And what we are really trying to find out, and I don't want to necessarily go through every one of these if the Minister has it, if he can't confirm that in fact \$1.573 million is anticipated to be spent, over and above the \$4.655 million which is shown. But this is not a common thing at all and we have to try to find out where an additional \$30 million is being spent and we just didn't know until the other day and now we're trying to confirm the figures.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (d)(1)—pass; (2)—pass — the Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Yes, can the Minister explain why there would be an effective reduction in Assiniboine Community College? Will there be fewer students attending Assiniboine Community College this year than were attending last year? Can we have the numbers on that?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, the Member for Transcona may have been absent when I was explaining this expenditure picture earlier today. In that expenditure area, he should add that portion of the \$1 million for equipment that does not appear there, the \$1 million that I mentioned earlier.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Will the Honourable Minister indicate what portion of the \$1 million to add on to Assiniboine Community College?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I can have that for the member in a minute, that particular breakdown on that \$1 million. It's \$734,000 to Red River Community College and I'll have the breakdown for the other two community colleges in a minute.

In answer also to the question of the Member for Transcona regarding the enrollment at Assiniboine Community College, last year 5,483 students, this year some 5,903. As I mentioned earlier today to the Member for Burrows and he well knows, that is perhaps not the most meaningful figure. It shows an increase and that is quite correct; there will be an increase. Perhaps a more meaningful figure is the number of training days because the courses vary in length as the Member for Transcona knows. The training days for Assiniboine in 1977-78, 257,804 and in 1978-79, projected 264,058.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Insofar as capital construction is concerned, Mr. Chairman, do I take it that that is not shown in his department at all but rather under Public Works? I believe the Honourable Minister had indicated in the affirmative that that is correct. I'm wondering, Mr. Chairman, if I could, without transgressing the rules, get some indication from the Honourable Minister what is being planned by

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way of any addition to Assiniboine Community College. Insofar as the details of it is concerned, granted we will have to debate that with the Minister of Public Works but I would want to know whether he does anticipate any addition to Assiniboine Community College and if he does, to accommodate what particular programs, or give some general description of what he has planned.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would ask the Honourable Minister if that would be better handled under New Programs even though there is not that much money allocated or would you care to answer it. The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I think this applies to Assiniboine. The question is quite in order and I would be pleased to accommodate the Member for Burrows. I believe, as was announced, the addition to Assiniboine Community College is frozen this year and will not be proceeded with.

I should mention while I'm on my feet, Mr. Chairman, that the figure requested by the Member for Burrows as to the allocation of that Capital for equipment renewal for Assiniboine is \$196,400 and Mr. Chairman, I should mention that for Keewatin Community College, \$77,100. So if those two figures are added to the expenditure figure on the right-hand side it probably gives a clearer picture of the total commitment in that area.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** I believe the Minister gave the figures for 1978-79 fiscal year. Could the Minister indicate what the comparable figure was for 1977-78 for both Assiniboine and . . . Well, let's not confuse the two community colleges. Let's limit it to Assiniboine Community College at this point in time.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the total amount of money that was allocated to equipment last year was \$459,700 and I will have the breakdown for the three colleges for him in a minute. I believe I read out the breakdown for Red River earlier, some \$260,000-some; we'll confirm that in a minute. Assiniboine would be the next one under consideration for equipment.

Mr. Chairman, just while we're waiting to get that information for the honourable member, I'll sit down. There may be someone else wish to enter into the discussion.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Before we proceed, if I could just make a non-political statement, it's just been brought to my attention that Jack Reeves the Clerk of the House is having a birthday today. I won't say the amount of years but I think that we'll all join in wishing him a Happy Birthday.

The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope that the process here in the House won't age the Clerk too much.

Last year there was a thrust within Assiniboine Community College to expand agricultural courses. I'm wondering if the Minister is in a position to comment on whether that thrust of expanding agricultural courses at Assiniboine Community College is being continued with some acceleration or is it being plateaued for this year and, secondly, could he comment on the extent to which there are extension courses being offered out of Assiniboine Community College, to communities outside of Brandon?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, to the Member for Transcona. He's quite right; the complete thrust in agricultural programming resides with Assiniboine Community College and I believe that took place in 1976-77.

They produce a great number of Farm Management courses and I believe some 50 communities and Indian reserves last year, received these courses. They had two new management courses as well, livestock marketing and animal health were introduced.

The college, of course, is in the heart of the agricultural section of our province and it seems only logical — and I certainly think that this is a logical spot for the courses to be located. I should also mention that Farm Maintenance courses, including a new Hydraulics course, were offered in over 50 locations.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Chairman, in answer to the question as to the allocation of capital last year at Assiniboine, it was \$85.6 thousand. And for Keewatin Community College, some \$65.1 thousand.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I was wondering if the Minister could also comment on the extent to which there are extension courses offered from Assiniboine College, but which are in fact provided in communities outside of Brandon. To what extent are we having some type of outreach program out of Assiniboine Community College? Or are all the programs just conducted in Assiniboine Community College located in Brandon?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

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**MR. COSENS:** Well, apart from — and I'm sure the Member, Mr. Chairman, for Transcona is speaking of course beyond the agricultural areas. I've just outlined these, of course. ABE courses are offered off campus throughout the community college area; and of course the basic Job Readiness courses were offered last year in 11 particular locations; and an Adult 2 Class was held in Neepawa.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (d)(2)—pass — the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** I wonder if the Minister could tell me whether there are any of these services at Assiniboine Community College such as janitorial services, cafeteria and food services? If any of the services at Assiniboine Community College have been contracted out?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the Member for The Pas. It's my understanding that the food services at Assiniboine have been tendered out for some time. Pardon me, Mr. Chairman, I might add that those are the only services, to my knowledge, that are tendered out.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (d)(2)—pass; (d)—pass. (e)(1) Salaries—pass — the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to address a few comments to the Keewatin Community College and the staffing at Keewatin Community College.

A year or so ago a feasibility study was done to theoretically improve the cost efficiencies at the Keewatin Community College at The Pas. There were a number of recommendations in that feasibility study, as I understand it although I've never seen it, relating to the food services area.

That study, as I understand it, recommended a few options. One, is to reduce the number of staff in the food services area, or another option was to contract out the food services area, as I understand that particular study. The option to reduce the number of staff was implemented by the Keewatin Community College. As a representative for that area I addressed a number of questions to the Minister at the time about the decision to reduce the catering staff or the food services staff at Keewatin Community College and there was a special problem developed because of the Union classification scales, etc. One of the people that was laid off at that time had a number of years of service at KCC and some of the staff that was kept on had fewer years of service than the particular individual I'm referring to. Upon the coming to office of the new government — and to the best of my information, the decision was not made before that time — a decision was made to contract out the complete catering or the complete food service at Keewatin Community College, again with a number of staff with a number of years experience in that field maybe being kept on by the contractor, maybe not being kept on by the contractor.

A particular problem existed at that time, Mr. Chairman, because at that time the President of the Manitoba Government Employees' Association was playing footsie with the new government and was not able to represent properly the staff at the college at that particular time, although he has since jumped back into his Union role and is now representing the people he is supposed to represent, as opposed to trying to deal with the new government rather than the people that put him in office.

I suppose, Mr. Chairman, I have a concern about management styles and management systems, that perhaps if the management had been able to deal with their food services staff, to be able to get their input on how they could make that service more efficient, perhaps if their advice had been solicited and the input had been made from them rather than just using the report of an outside consultant, that perhaps the service could have been made more economical without affecting the employment opportunities in the community of The Pas. And perhaps the Minister would like to comment on the savings that have now resulted from the contracting out of that service; whether that particular service is now more efficient and more effective. I suppose it's a little bit ironical that when you are in government certain decisions are made by different departments that although you might not have any say over those decisions they affect your political re-election. The particular person that was laid off when we were in government campaigned vigorously for the candidate of my friend opposite; now, of course, he has some satisfaction because all his colleagues have been laid off as well, so he's not alone in having been laid off from his job with the food services section of Keewatin Community College. I wonder if the Minister could confirm, now that they are saving considerable funds, whether he could tell us where in the Estimates book this appears? Now, these were civil servants who have been laid off and the work contracted out to private agencies, are salaries, funds, now switched to Other Expenditures, or does the food services still show under Salaries of his department, and what are the cost savings, and how efficient and how effective has that decision been?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the Member for The Pas, he is quite right in his overview of the particular situation although there are a certain number of 'ifs' and 'perhaps' and 'maybes' in his remarks and I suppose that's always a situation that might exist. There are certain hard and fast facts

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though that I think have to be considered in relation to the situation at Keewatin as it affected the food situation. First of all, the study that he alludes to suggested hiring an outside consulting firm for managing the food services at Keewatin and this recommendation was followed, I believe, by the previous government. As a result of that particular move, the over-expenditure was reduced from about \$150,000 a year to some \$75,000 or \$77,000 last year. In the end, on the basis of our experience at Assiniboine Community College, it was our decision to proceed with the alternative of tendering out the services and this has been followed and as of May 1st, Intake Catering Service took over the food services at Keewatin Community College.

The member asked me for an appraisal of how this is going. Well, in four days, Mr. Chairman, I have some difficulty making that appraisal. I would suggest to his question as to where this item is shown in the Estimates, that it would come under the heading of Other Expenditures, under Keewatin, and that that saving in fact will be moneys that can be used in some other areas of the college's operation.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(1)—pass — the Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, could the Honourable Minister comment upon the housing situation at Keewatin Community College. I think that he may find upon reviewing the history of Keewatin Community College that from time to time problems arise and probably for reasons unique unto Keewatin Community College as opposed to others in the sense that under the Manpower Training Program, it would attract a fair percentage of its students from outlying communities where it may be necessary to provide living accommodation for the entire family. You know, if one is going to bring in a student from some community 200 or 300 miles away, well it seems hardly just, hardly fair to simply provide accommodation for him and separate him from his family for the six or seven or eight months that his course of training may require.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I don't know if I'm losing my hearing or if perhaps the member is speaking a little more quietly but I'm having some difficulty hearing.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, my question was related to the housing accommodation for students at Keewatin Community College and, in particular, in view of the fact that at Keewatin perhaps to a much greater degree than at the other two community colleges, it is necessary to provide housing accommodation for families in view of the fact that it attracts students from remote communities many miles removed and it, well, it would be just unfair, unjust and inhumane to break up a family for that period of time. So hence my question is: Is there, or is there not, a housing problem at this time and if there is, what plans, if any, does the government have to cope with it?

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, that situation has not changed in the last six months. I imagine the Member for Burrows is well aware of the situation when he was Minister. I understand that some 25 units have been made available through the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation to students who have dependents but that this does not completely fill the need in this accommodation area so that it's certainly a problem that we will have to study and look for remedies to in the future.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(1)—pass — the Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, the other question that I have is with reference to the Keewatin Community College as it relates to the needs of the City of Thompson which in itself is a sizeable urban community. Does the government have any plans to decentralize any of Keewatin's operations from its present location at The Pas to bring those courses, those programs, closer to the people at Thompson?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the Member for Burrows, I can inform him that we have a study on that particular topic under way with the school division in Thompson regarding the sharing of certain courses and the offering of certain technical courses through Keewatin in the City of Thompson. The study is currently being conducted.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could clarify his earlier answers under this particular item. The Salaries for last year, was the food services shown under Salaries and now this year under Other Expenditures, or did they put those into Other Expenditures for last year even though they were Salaries last year because those were civil servants performing that job? The other question is, could the Minister tell us how many of those permanent civil servants who were laid off have been hired by the new caterer at KCC?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I understand that they would have appeared under Salaries, that is quite correct. I cannot tell him how many have been hired by the new caterer. I can inform him that all



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of those people who worked in food services were offered similar positions in food services at Red River Community College. It was my understanding at one time that at least one or two of the people were seriously considering this but I now understand that no one decided to take that option.

**MR. McBRYDE:** I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister would be aware of or whether they have got any information as to what the salary difference would be to a person performing a certain classification job as a civil servant and then that job being contracted out — do you have any idea what the salary difference would be between the two types of operations?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I really cannot provide that type of differential, if in fact there is a differential.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I have some questions on Other Expenditures, I'll just wait.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** I just had one further question with respect to food services. If I understood the Honourable Minister correctly that for the fiscal year just ended, the salary portion that could be attributed to food services was shown under Salaries. The food services' cost earmarked for Keewatin Community College for this fiscal year will be shown under Other Expenditures, because that would be the amount paid out to a private contractor as opposed to salaries that are paid to staff. So, if that is the case, Mr. Chairman, it would seem then that the amount for Other Expenditures for Keewatin Community College shown in the Estimates book stands at \$742.6 thousand as compared to \$230,000 more last year, which is a reduction of about 23 or 24 percent. So in actual fact the reduction for Other Expenditures is even greater than the 23 or 24 percent, which seems to be a much greater reduction than that suffered by the other two community colleges, because the other two community colleges, even going on the basis of the figures as shown to us in the Estimates book, only amounts to roughly a 10 percent reduction. For Red River we have noticed a reduction from three-and-a-fraction million to \$2.7 million; Assiniboine Community College from a little better than three-quarters-of-a-million to \$681,000, a reduction of about 10 percent, but here it's a much greater reduction in Other Expenditures; and a much greater reduction if we deduct from the Other Expenditures appropriation the amount that will be paid to the contractor offering the food services. And so, could the Honourable Minister explain the rationale for this rather dramatic reduction in Other Expenditures as compared to that of the other two community colleges?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I think that the Member for Burrows has certainly highlighted the rather dramatic reduction that has resulted from this, and there is only really one item that I would like to remark on and that is that there is no expense; when we have the contractor we don't pay him anything for providing the service.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Do I take it then that the food services' contract will be self-sustaining, that it will be strictly user pay; that the users of the food services will pay the entire cost?

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the Member for Burrows is correct, the same type of arrangement holds true at Assiniboine Community College.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could, in light of the greater efficiency of contracting out as proven at Assiniboine Community College and as proven at Keewatin Community College, when is it the intention of the department to convert the food services at Red River Community College into a contracting-out situation? How long do those staff have their jobs left, and when can they expect to lose their jobs?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I understand that that has been under consideration, not only by this government but by the previous government. However, Red River is somewhat unique in that it does offer a large number of food services' courses, special chef's courses and so on, to a much larger degree than the other two community colleges do, but that is certainly an alternative that I would not rule out at some time in the future.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could be very specific in relation to KCC then. Exactly what food training courses are there at KCC and is there no way to utilize those courses as part of the provision of food services to the students that are there?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I understand that that particular aspect has been studied quite carefully and was under consideration in the review, but obviously it is not something that could be taken into any serious consideration. I understand that the amount of cooking courses that are offered there are rather minimal.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to deal with this item as an example of an overall question. The tuition fees have been increased as announced by the Honourable Minister just recently, and I would like his confirmation from my impression that the increase in total tuition fees is shown in the statement of revenues as from \$1 ¼ million to \$2 million.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the Member for St. Johns, I believe the projected figure for the increase in fees is some \$630,000.00. I believe it was reported in the papers as some \$800,000, which is I think a little over-generous — \$630,000 I believe is a closer projection.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the Minister telling me how much the increase is, but I want it confirmed that it is the amount shown on the Estimates of Revenue which show that last year's estimated revenue, under fees, in the Department of Education, was \$1,256,000, and is now expected to be \$2,014,000.00. Just going by that, it's roughly a similar amount and I just wanted to know where the increase shows; I'm guessing that that's where it shows, and I'd like confirmation, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think that's a correct assumption, that fees and miscellaneous would come to that particular figure.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Mr. Chairman, then confirming that at the time these Estimates were printed and distributed, it was already decided that the fees would be increased to an approximate amount which would show this revenue of something over \$2 million.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I'm still not sure that the Minister has clarified the salaries as they relate to Other Expenditures. So rather than waiting for the Other Expenditures section, I'll just see if I can get him to clarify it under the Salaries section. The increase at KCC for new equipment is very small in the figures that he gave us originally. — (Interjection) — Well, I'm talking about the increase. I don't know what the increase was from the year before, but the increase is very small and it in no way makes up for the reduction in Other Expenditures of somewhere near a quarter of a million dollars. Then if you add on — well there's no cost apparently for the catering service, so that's a very drastic reduction compared with the other community colleges, and therefore, since it's this government's habit to announce efficiencies which are really program cuts, I'd like to know exactly which program cuts are facing KCC at The Pas.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, if I can clarify the question that I think I understand the Member for The Pas is asking, this does not represent any cuts in programming. However because of the fact that the food services are now being tendered out, those expenses would ordinarily have been included in Other Expenditures and would have brought that figure of \$742,600 up into the neighbourhood of what the expenses were last year. I believe they amounted to some \$250,000.00.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)(1)—pass — the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, I am even more confused now. Somewhere in the neighbourhood of reduction of Other Expenditures, \$229,000, and then he threw out some figures earlier on that the loss has been reduced from \$150,000 to \$75,000, therefore you could take the \$229,000 and subtract the \$75,000, you still have a pretty hefty, in percentage terms, program reduction. Then I would repeat the question, what program reductions are we looking at with these reduction in dollars?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, there are no program reductions included here, perhaps one, but this I understand is normal, there may be one course that's been deleted and another one added, or this sort of thing, but there are no planned reductions to effect any economies, if this is the sort of thing the member is trying to ascertain.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could give the same figures for KCC that he did for the other universities, that is the total enrolment, but more specifically, the training man years or whatever categories they have for KCC. I wonder if he could also tell us the number of off-campus or out-of-the-facility courses and programs that are being conducted by KCC.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, KCC last year had an enrolment of some 3,269 students and the projected for 1978-79 is some 3,810. Again, I would give him the gross training days, because I believe they are more meaningful. In 1977-78, for KCC it was 181,600, and for 1978-79, the projected

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is 216,717. As concerns the community education aspect, I believe the member was interested in the number of courses, the number of communities and so on, that have been served. I should mention that this particular part of the Keewatin operation delivers about 50 percent of the training offered by the College, which is certainly a large percent, and it's unique in that particular way.

Adult basic education courses, ABE courses, more commonly called, were offered in 16 communities, and there were special courses in close to 20 communities. In addition to that, there were evening courses offered of a vocational nature in about 15 communities.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, if I heard the Honourable Minister's figures correctly, in terms of training man days, the Honourable Minister projects an increase of something in the order of about bordering on 20 percent. Am I correct on that? Between 16 and 20 percent?

**MR. COSENS:** Just doing a little bit of fast arithmetic, Mr. Chairman, yes, 20 percent is close.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, so that brings this question to mind, Mr. Chairman, that with an increase of 20 percent in terms of training man days and only a very modest increase in salaries of something in the order of four percent and a significant reduction in Other Expenditures, I really do wonder, Mr. Chairman, even if the Honourable Minister were as efficient as he claims that he hopes to be in the operation of his shop, it still would seem to indicate to me that the enrolment will have to increase by about 20, 25 percent. —(Interjection)— Is the building collapsing, same as in Ontario? In Ontario they have bats.

**MR. COSENS:** No, actually it was an accident that the cup fell off the thing there. It's not the roof leaking. I just though I would point that out to the honourable member.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** It really does raise the question, Mr. Chairman. I think the Honourable Minister owes it to the people of the province of Manitoba to explain that there in fact will not be any cutback in the level of service, particularly at Keewatin Community College, in the light of the substantial increase in enrolment that he anticipates and in the light of the fact that the increase in salaries doesn't seem to provide for that increase, and in fact the level of appropriation for Other Expenditures in fact, shows a reduction, and it does make one wonder how the Minister will be able to provide the same level of service for that increased enrolment. I would hope, Mr. Chairman, that the Honourable Minister will be able to explain that to the people of Manitoba.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I would repeat again to the Member for Burrows that the Other Expenditures, certainly taken in the light of the fact that there is no longer any payment being made towards the catering services, actually, probably represent an increase in Other Expenditures if you add in the amount of Capital for replacement of equipment and so on. In fact, the position at Keewatin is perhaps better than it was last year. The fact that there are more training days probably reflects, to some extent, the fact that there will be some increase in evening enrolment type courses, where students are in fact taking one course, but are counted as one student. so there is a distortion as we mentioned earlier in that type of thing when you count students and in fact, some are taking five subjects, as opposed to others who would take one particular subject in the evening.

The other aspect, of course, Mr. Chairman, would be that I am informed that there was some over-budgeting at Keewatin last year, and so in fact, the amount of moneys that are shown perhaps are more than ample for their requirements at that time.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, could the honourable member explain the future fate of the over-budgeted amount. In other words, is it going to lapse, or what will happen to it?

**MR. COSENS:** I understand, Mr. Chairman, in answer to the honourable member's question, that within the community college system, it is not unknown for them to move money from one allocation, to one college to another, if they feel that there has been some over-budgeting. I understand this may have taken place in this instance.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** In other words some of that unspent money may find itself into the coffers of the Community College or Colleges during the 1978-79 fiscal year.

**MR. COSENS:** No, Mr. Chairman, I understand that that money was expended within the Community College system.

**MR. SPEAKER:** (b)(1) —pass — The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that maybe the Minister should tell us then exactly how much was the under-expenditure at KCC, and where did those dollars go to.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** I don't have that precise figure at my finger tips, Mr. Speaker, but I will endeavor to get it for the Honourable Member for the Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think they'd better because the Minister needs to do considerable reconciliation with these figures. As I understood him the increase in the Capital part that appears later on at KCC is only about \$12,000.00. The savings from the food services then, if that's the item that he says causes the difference, would have to be \$229,000, and I don't think the Minister is trying to tell us that there is going to be that kind of savings if there was a loss, a total loss of \$229,000 last year that's going to not exist this year. So I wonder if he could just clarify those figures. Have I got those figures wrong? Is my maths that poor that I would be that far out, or is he that far out?

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't think either one of us is probably that far out but I'll get those figures for that reconciliation for the Member for The Pas. I think it's probably readily understandable when we have those specific figures regarding the reduced amounts as far as the catering service is concerned and we take into consideration the additional amount as far as the Capital for equipment is concerned.<sup>3</sup>

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)(1)—pass; (2)—pass — the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, the Minister did give some figures for the Capital part and let's see if I've got them right. He said that, from my notes here, there was \$65,000 — is that what it is? Last Year? And there will be \$77,000 spent this year on Capital equipment. Those figures are right. The difference therefore is somewhere around \$12,000 difference. So that's, you know, considering the increase in costs of Capital equipment, \$12,000 is very little. It's almost the same expenditure this year, for the upcoming year, as last year, and therefore I think that the Minister, what he'd better do is take a look at his book under Other Expenditures and total up the reductions in Other Expenditures so we can see where the \$229,000 reductions come from. If he could check his book for that detail.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I'll be very pleased to provide the member with those figures as soon as they're available.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would hope they would be available like right now because he could find them for Red River right now and maybe if I stop for a few minutes his officials will have them for The Pas, like right now.

In the Other Expenditure section — are these reductions in the program, in the services provided? How much of it comes from the change in the catering method? How much from a reduction in maintenance of facilities? How much in reduction, or increase in the number of students per classroom? How much in the reduction of toilet paper and the linen changes in the residential areas? I think we need to see that kind of detail to understand, or, in fact, Mr. Chairman, to believe him that there's no program cuts with this kind of cut — to really believe him that these are efficiencies somehow in the system and that we're not cutting any programs by taking \$229,000 out of a Budget that's not even a million dollars. We're just taking a quarter of the Budget away, or 25 percent Budget reduction, and yet we're not going to reduce services at all, and I think that this magic should be explained by the Minister, and I hope I've talked long enough now so that he now is able to get those figures and explain them to the House as exactly how he got this dramatic reduction without a reduction in programs.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, just while we're getting that information for the Member for The Pas, I can assure him there is no cuts in programs. There may be one program that because of low enrolment is not being continued. Beyond that there are no cuts anticipated. I can assure him that in good faith and we will have that reconciliation for him momentarily, I would hope.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** It would seem then, Mr. Chairman, that what the net result will be is a very substantial increase in the student-teacher ratio at Keewatin Community College — a very dramatic increase.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** I can get those figures for the honourable member as well, but on my information there is no dramatic increase whatsoever.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, by the Minister's own admission that the number of student training days is going to increase by something in the order of 20 percent, or well above that, you

know, that in itself — and there not being any provision for any additional staff, any great increase in staff at Assiniboine Community College, then the end result must be an increase in the student-teacher ratio. KCC, I'm sorry, I meant KCC.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I have the breakdown for Keewatin for the Member for The Pas and I'll go through it for him at this time. 1977-78, \$13,000, and in 1978-79, \$9,000.00. Transportation in 1977-78, \$22,000, and in 1978-79, \$13,000.00. Books in 1977-78 is \$17.2 thousand, and I don't have a figure under that in 1978-79. I would have to get further explanation of that particular item. Under course consumables in 1977-78 — again these are those materials that are used up in the process of teaching and learning that goes on in these different courses — \$224.5 thousand, and I don't have a figure under that . . . pardon me, I do have a figure for that, \$196.9 thousand for 1978-79, and if I can go back to Books — it's a different column here, \$17.5 thousand. It was \$17.2 thousand in 1977-78 for Books, \$17.5 thousand in 1978-79. Course consumables was \$224.5 thousand in 1977-78, \$196.9 thousand in 1978-79. Freight in 1977-78 is \$14.3 thousand, and in 1978-79, \$12.2 thousand. Clothing in 1977-78, 2.7 and in 1978-79, 3.6. Subsistence, 1977-78, 83.3, and 1978-79, 14.8. Miscellaneous in 1977-78 is 7.0 and in 1978-79, is 3.9. Audio Visual in 1977-78 is 18.2, and in 1978-79 is 20.4. Membership fees, 1977-78, 1.1, and in 1978-79, 1.3. Periodicals, 1977-78, 4.8, and in 1978-79, 5.7. Office Furniture, 1977-78, 16.8, and I have no figure opposite that in 1978-79. Office Equipment, in 1977-78, 26.5, and I have no figure opposite that particular entry, pardon me, 1.7 is the figure opposite that. Classroom furniture, 9,000 in 1977-78, and 3,000 in 1978-79. Equipment purchases in 1977-78, this is the 65.1 that we alluded to earlier, and of course that was major equipment. The figure I have opposite that is 12.1, but in reality this year in that major equipment area, it's 77.1, so in total we would have some 89.1 there.

Equipment rentals, 5.1 in 1977-78, and in 1978-79, \$700.00. The total figures that I have under this area of Expenditures for 1977-78, \$971.9, and 742.6. Of course, that's not adding on the 77.1 which would bring that figure up to some 811 or so, I haven't done the exact figures. Of course, we have again not taken in the figure that accounts for the difference since the tendering was taking place.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, maybe if one of his people has their little calculator in front of him there, my quick look says they don't total, and I wonder, the reductions that were just listed in the area especially of Office Furniture, Office Equipment and Subsistence. I wonder if the Minister could explain what subsistence is and then tell me if these reduced figures that he just gave, what that figure comes to.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I'll have to look into that matter and find out what that particular figures does account for under Subsistence. It's a mystery to me at this time.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(2)—pass — the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder when the Minister might be able to solve that mystery, and I wonder if they can give me the answer to the other part of the question. In glancing at these figures without calculating, I don't think that they come to the \$229,000 reduction, and I would really like to know, Mr. Chairman, where that reduction occurs. I am hesitant to pass off this item altogether without being able to find out exactly what the nature of that reduction is and exactly what the nature of the Subsistence is.

The other questions that I have for the Minister still on this item — I wonder how many people are being trained under the Heavy Equipment Operators Course. If there's more than one type of course, how many people are being trained under the course, and if they have figures as to how many of those people are now in permanent employment as a result of the heavy equipment Heavy Equipment Operators training at KCC. I would also like the Minister to reassure us, reaffirm as confidently as he did that there would be no program reductions and no dramatic increase in student-pupil relationships, whether he could give us the same kind of strong reassurance, whether he could confirm that the off campus, the work that KCC does in other communities besides The Pas, that that will not be reduced. I see that Travel is one of the items reduced. That sort of concerns me, and I wonder if he could give us that strong reassurance that there would be no reduction in the off campus programs of KCC.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I apologize to the member. I can well understand why the figures don't add up using the calculator, because I just gave you one page of two pages of them. I'll proceed with the second page. It's not the most exciting task, but we'll proceed.

Under Fees, in 1977-78, 41.9 and in 1978-79, 15.4. Under Fees Citizens 5,077 in 1978 and in 1978-79, 7.2. Under Fees Employees, 5.5 in 1977-78, and 3.0 in 1978-79. Real estate rentals in 1977-78 were 40,400 and in 1978-79 are 43,000.00. Data entry in 1977-78 was 1.0 and the same amount in 1978-79. Office equipment servicing, 30.7 in 1977-78, and 30.8 in 1978-79. Classroom furniture servicing in 1977-78 was 2.5 and in 1978-79 is .3. Equipment servicing in 1977-78 is 63.9 and in 1978-79 is 69.3. Printing and Stationery services in 1977-78, 53.5 and in 1978-79, 54.5. Postage and telephone in 1977-78, 35,000 and in 1978-79, 40.7. I believe I gave the honourable member the Printing and Stationery services, did I? The advertising and exhibits in 1977-78, 17,500, and in 1978-79, 19,200.00. Building maintenance supplies in 1977-78, 7,500 and a figure of 5,500 in 1978-79. Household supplies in 1977-78, 6,600, and .2 thousand in 1978-79. Medical and safety requirement in 1977-78, 2,900, and in 1978-79, 1.5. Utilities in 1977-78, 7,000 and in 1978-79, 8,000.00. Automobiles in 1977-

78, 29,400, in 1978-79, 24,400.00. I believe putting those two sets of figures together, Mr. Chairman, that we should have the proper total.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have a calculator with me. I'm not sure they still come to 229,000. I have a specific question then on — I'll repeat the one I asked before and I'm not sure what the note — Subsistence, yes, you thought you might define Subsistence for me. And the first item under Fees. There is Fees Citizen which is not changed very much. And another set of fees. But the first set of Fees, maybe that's the professional fees for that consultant we had studying the food services. Maybe he earned his money because it was 41.9 last year, and this year it's going to be 15.4. So I wonder if he could explain Subsistence and fees in a little bit more detail, first the Fees item.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I understand, and I believe the assumption by the Member for The Pas is quite correct, that the 41.9 in 1977-78 did cover the person who was doing the evaluation of the food services.

Under Subsistence, which I believe was over in the other group of figures that we covered and it was 83.3 in 1977-78 and is now some 14,800 in 1978-79, this figure apparently covers meals for people holding meetings at the community college other than people who are students. And also it covers some travelling, I understand, sort of staff expense. I would show the same consternation that the Member for The Pas shows if in fact staff consumed \$83,000 worth of meals but that's the best information I have at this time. They must have hearty appetites, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, maybe he could just take a minute and consult with his staff, in order to reassure — the reassurance I asked for before. Now it could be that that Subsistence is in fact for people off campus. Their extra costs of living off campus when they're teaching a course in the community, and then if transportation has gone down, auto has gone down, and that Subsistence has gone down, that means that there's going to be a dramatic reduction, almost a total reduction in the off campus programs. The Minister, I know, is quite proud that 50 percent of the programs were off campus, and I wonder if he could reassure us now that there will be no reduction off campus, and that that 50 percent level will be maintained for the upcoming year.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I've been assured by the people at Keewatin that they can offer essentially the same programs in the coming year, and beyond that type of assurance from the people who are working in the area and have been working in the area, and the same people who essentially offered the courses last year, I can't go much beyond that type of assurance to the Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** I hope that I have misunderstood the term Subsistence, and that the Minister will come to understand it better, so that he would give his reassurance some support. If Subsistence does mean for off campus people, then that program is going to be, off campus work will be drastically reduced.

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, there was a couple of other questions — there was one other one I raised before but he was busy discussing, maybe I'll raise it again — the Heavy Equipment Operators Course, and I think there's only one, but there might be different types of Heavy Equipment Operator Courses. I wonder how many students went through those this past fiscal year, how many students they are anticipating for the upcoming fiscal year, and whether they have any record of the placements and those persons that went through the program last year, how many of these people are employed this year? Or if they have it for one particular course, let's say six months later, how many of those people are working in heavy equipment operation?

The other item I think was dealt with a little bit in the detail that he gave, but I know that I had a person involved in construction in The Pas come to me a couple of years ago and say that there were certain building maintenance things that weren't happening at KCC and that if they didn't happen, the cost of upkeep of the building would increase quite dramatically, and action was taken at that time and extra funds were put in for the repair work on the building itself. I wonder, it appears that there hasn't been a reduction in that area, although there is in terms of supplies, but I wonder if he could just double check those figures to ensure that the building is not deteriorating and that it's being kept at a reasonable maintenance level.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I can assure the Member for The Pas that we will certainly pay close attention to that particular aspect. I am going to The Pas to speak at the graduation at Keewatin Community College in a few days, and I will certainly be pleased to have an inspection of the building at that time. If there are problems such as he mentions that have been allowed to accumulate over the last few years, it may require some rather major attention. However, if there has been yearly attention to that problem, I would anticipate that there's nothing too major.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** The Honourable Minister is assuming that we will be through with his Estimates by that time, to enable him to get away to Keewatin.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, probably his staff is checking if they have any details on the Heavy Equipment Operators Course. I might ask the Minister that if he's going by government air service to The Pas for that graduation, whether I could bum a ride with him or not.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (b)(2)—pass — the Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I believe the Member for The Pas asked how many people there were in the Heavy Equipment Course. I understand there are some 55 and that the relationship between employment and the number of graduates has been something like an 85 to 90 percent match with the graduates of that course, on the basis of the information I have received.

Mr. Chairman, to the final question of the Member for The Pas, I will be travelling by Transair.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I just want to summarize this item very briefly. As I understand it, and with the Minister's information, the students at KCC or the training person days or years or whatever it is, anyway, there will be a 20 percent increase in the students serviced by KCC, there will be about a 25 percent reduction in other expenditures, and a 4 percent increase in staff salaries, therefore no increase in staff itself. I have great difficulty, Mr. Chairman, understanding that there will not be a reduction in programs and services at KCC. I thank the Minister for his reassurance, but I think we'll have to see whether there'll be in fact, reductions in programs at that important northern community college.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(2)—pass — the Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** Could the Minister then give us a very quick summary of where those savings are going to take place, because a small increase, well there's an absolute decrease both in Salaries and Other Expenditures. When you add to that the fact that inflation is running nearly 9 percent a year, we're looking at a considerable reduction in the real resources made available to this institution as well as to the others. What I'd like to know, very briefly, is just where is the saving, so-called, being made. Where is the greater efficiency. There's some sort of magic, it seems to me, coming into play here. Just how can you maintain services, how can you maintain staff, how can you maintain the quality of education and have fewer resources with which to work. There's got to be, you've got to explain to us, just exactly what magically is occurring here. Or is there some superfluity that we didn't understand that had occurred previously in Keewatin Community College, unnecessary expenditures that are all of a sudden coming to life.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, if you take the 742.6, add to it the 77.1 in additional moneys that would come in for equipment and would fall under this heading, and also — then I believe you would be up to something over 800 and some thousand — we are looking then at a difference of less than \$200,000, the major portion of that, and there's no magic, is the difference between the catering service now where there are no expenses in the purchase of food, as opposed to when we had to purchase the food and pay for those items. We have no expense at all in that area now, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. EVANS:** Okay, to clarify that, there is no expense involved in the restaurant or in the cafeteria as far as the government is concerned. Does this mean that the students are required to pay more for their food. I mean, somebody's got to pay the caterer. The caterer isn't doing it as a public service free of charge. He's not a charitable organization. That caterer, I'm sure is not in the business of providing charity to students or the government or what have you. — (Interjection) — I beg your pardon? Culver Riley runs it. So who pays the caterer? I'm sure the caterer has additional costs because the price of food has gone up enormously, among other things. So how do you explain this, then. How is the caterer able to provide food cheaper than was provided previously, or is this because the students are paying higher prices for the meals or getting smaller meals, or getting poorer quality meals, or what have you?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I believe I answered this in a previous question from one of the other members. But for the benefit of the Member for Brandon East, exactly the same type of food service now exists as of May 1st at Keewatin as exists in his home town at Assiniboine Community College.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I was finished with this item, but the member, in answering the question to the Member for Brandon, said that you have to take the 77,100 and add it on to the 742,000. But if I understood him before, you also have to take 65,100 and add it on the other side. So the new equipment — then the Minister didn't understand my previous comments when I came out with a figure of \$12,000 for new equipment. The real figure for new equipment is an increase of 77.1.

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**MR. COSENS:** No, it's not an increase, Mr. Chairman. The member is right in saying it's not an increase. The sum of money for equipment shown in No. 8, Acquisitions and Construction of Physical Assets at the end of the Estimates, and that \$1 million is spread among the three colleges in the way that I've described earlier.

The sum for community colleges last year, as you will notice, does not appear opposite that but is already included in the appropriations for the three community colleges, and I admit that is confusing.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(2) — the Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, will the Minister advise whether the prices at the cafeteria at Keewatin College have risen substantially this year over last year — or will rise.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned earlier this particular catering company has been in operation for four days. I have no idea of what has happened with the prices in that time. I might tell him that we will be monitoring the particular type of food service that is offered there as we do in the other institutions and that certainly the contract does come up for review, I believe it's every three years.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to be sure that I understand this, be sure that it's clear, because when I mentioned it before I guess I repeated wrong information. Last year the approximate amount for new equipment at KCC was \$65,100.00. That \$65,100 is included in the \$971,000 figure already, but the figure for this year, the \$77,100 isn't shown in this figure but is shown over the page in Acquisition of Physical Assets. Now, okay, that's clear then? Now I heard the Minister say before when talking about food services he used some different figures. I thought he said that the loss of \$150,000 last year will be reduced to \$75,000 this year. Did I misunderstand him, and is' in fact, the anticipated savings in food services nearly \$200,000, or, since the Member for Roblin says, "A buck is a buck is a buck," will another \$200,000 come out of the students' pockets now as opposed to the general tax base of Manitoba, with \$200,000 now more apt to be paid by students at The Pas for their meals?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to clarify the figures that I gave regarding the cost of operation, last year where a manager had been hired, some \$77,000 was the deficit, and the year previous, \$150,000 was the deficit on the operation.

**MR. McBRYDE:** We still have a problem. If the anticipated savings is going to be \$77,000 then we still have \$125,000 that we don't know exactly where that remainder comes from because the Minister said to the answer to the Member for Brandon that that came pretty well from food services, but less than half comes from the food services.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, the member hasn't added in the cost of the food into that item — the actual cost of purchasing the foodstuffs that were used.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** I have one question at this point. Is the food service contractor at Keewatin Community College at liberty to set, to charge whatever price he wishes for the food that he sells, and adjust and vary the prices at will at whatever time he wishes to do so, unilaterally?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** It is my understanding, Mr. Chairman, that in all of these contracts, and many of them have existed for some years in certain other institutions that the government funds, that any rate increases are discussed with government officials.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** I'd like to ask the Minister if he could explain some of the highlights of the contract with regard to the caterer. Is the government subsidizing the caterer in any way, or is the contract merely allowing that business, that food supplier, to operate a service at the college? Is there any subsidy being provided? That's one question, and also another question is: Does he have information as to wages paid by the caterer to his employees?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** The answer, Mr. Chairman, to the first question regarding the subsidy is no. There is



no direct subsidy to the contractor of the food services other than the space, the facility, is provided in this case, so the Member for Brandon East may consider that as a subsidy. No, I do not know what salaries the contractors pay and there is in the agreement the understanding that the price can only be increased with the agreement of the government in these circumstances, and this is reviewed each year both for our benefit and the benefit of the contractor to take into consideration changes in prices and so on.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, obviously then the contract makes reference to levels of prices — the contract must contain information on the pricing that exists now. Could the Minister then give us a comparison of the prices referred to in this contract compared with the prices offered when the cafeteria was run directly by the staff of the college.

**MR. COSENS:** My understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that they are exactly the same at this time.

**MR. EVANS:** Well then, as a matter of clarification, when may the caterer raise the prices? Is it simply upon notice to the department or he must give notice, and I forgot, the Minister did tell us — I forgot what the number was — or what the period of time of notice was.

**MR. COSENS:** It's reviewed each year, Mr. Chairman, so that would be the opportunity for a price increase or decrease and, of course, as I understand it, when we were operating this particular facility we had some 11 employees — I believe a couple were part-time. As I understand, the contractor has some five employees.

**MR. EVANS:** With regard to employees, Mr. Chairman, have those 11 employees been laid off or let go from the college staff? I know there was discussion some many weeks ago — maybe a couple of months ago — on this matter. I'm not clear whether they've all been let go or only a few of them.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** There's been a repeat and the Minister has answered just previous to that.

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I understood that I had answered the Member for The Pas on this particular question but, be that as it may, I will answer again and, if I didn't, the Member for Brandon East is asking what has happened to those employees who were employed. It's my understanding that they were offered alternate positions, similar positions in food services at Red River Community College, and originally I had understood that some were considering seriously accepting that particular offer. However, it's my understanding now that none have availed themselves of that offer. I understand that one of the people has been disabled or ill for some time, has not worked for many months, and has applied for permanent disability. Six of the eight are long service employees and they have been laid off with the usual four weeks pay plus 11 weeks severance pay. However, this gets a little complicated, and perhaps the Member for Brandon East understands the Civil Service types of arrangements better than I do. I understand there's such a thing as permanent layoff or layoff. One means that you are stopping work but your name is still on the employment list the other one means that you are resigning permanently and this varies among the people who are involved here. Some have taken one type of layoff; some have taken others. I understand that the type of severance pay and so on that goes with this type of arrangement varies according to whether you are remaining on the active list but are not employed as opposed to those who are no longer on the active list and take a permanent retirement.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, I would like some indication from the Minister as to whether I'm correct or not, but I would suspect that the salary range or the salary bracket of those employees who were employed in food services and whose jobs came to an end with the contracting out of that service and who were offered employment at Red River, would have been somewhere in the \$10,000 a year range. Would that be a reasonable assumption?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** I don't have that particular figure with me, Mr. Chairman. If the Member for Burrows requires that I can get that information for him.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Just very roughly. What I'm really saying, it's unlikely that they would be in a senior officer 1, 2, or 3 or 5 classification, but that they would be somewhere nearer the bottom end of the pay scale rather than nearer the top.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I'm informed that — somewhere in the \$12,000 range here.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Yes, that's close enough. Now, Mr. Chairman, surely the Honourable Minister wasn't serious in making that offer to the employees at The Pas — you know, giving them as an alternative to move, to uproot their homes in The Pas, whoever they may have been. I would suspect some, perhaps, single parents; others perhaps one of a working couple where both husband and wife

are working. You know, for the sake of being at that salary range, \$10,000 or \$11,000, to pull up roots at The Pas and to move to Winnipeg to continue their employment in the Civil Service. Surely the Minister wasn't serious in making that offer to them. Surely he didn't expect any of them to jump at that opportunity to move to Winnipeg from The Pas at that salary level, taking into account moving expenses and everything else that goes with it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I'm still having some trouble with this figure. The Minister mentioned some losses in the operation. That was just for a manager, he said, and it didn't include the cost of the food, etc., and I wonder maybe we should see that feasibility study or — I have trouble seeing that — it certainly is the estimate that \$200,000 was lost. If that figure that he threw out doesn't include the recoveries and payments for a meal, if nearly \$200,000 were lost then something had to be done, Mr. Chairman. He's very correct, that an institution operating on this kind of a budget cannot afford to have a \$200,000 loss in that one particular area of food services. But I'm very suspect of that figure, Mr. Chairman. I can't see how there could be a loss of that nature considering the recoveries from the sale of food, and that the Minister seemed to indicate that there would be a reduction in loss this year. I wonder, if it's clear in his mind, maybe he could make it clear in my mind, let's put it that way.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think I mentioned that the loss in the operation when the Manager had been hired amounted to some \$77,000 last year, and the year previous it had been over \$100,000.00.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, that would be the total loss after you bought your food and paid your staff and any other costs associated and after you collected the tickets, the meal tickets from all the students and subtracted those dollars from the operational cost the total loss, or the real loss, would have been \$77,000.00?

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, that's quite true. I would just add that the revenues, however, that came in from the type of operation, did not accrue to our department but went to the Finance Department, I understand.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Chairman, then it's really necessary to understand the dramatic savings that the Minister's been able to bring about at KCC at The Pas through the increased efficiency of the food services operation. I think that we would be quite fair and reasonable to ask him how much did they earn, and then what is the loss after the earnings are subtracted from this figure?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I would ask the member to repeat his question. Is he asking what the total revenue was last year in that particular operation?

**MR. McBRYDE:** Okay, let's make sure we're completely clear then, Mr. Chairman. There was a loss of \$77,000, that is, the college paid out \$77,000.00. I don't think we can call it a loss yet, until he answers the question. The college paid out \$77,000, then there was recoveries from the students paying for their meals, from visitors paying for their meals, whoever. How much were the recoveries from this operation? Would it be correct and fair to subtract that figure from the 77, or the 77 from that figure, depending which is the higher?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I think we're getting closer to the resolution of this. We paid out some \$230,000 and finance received through revenue, some 150,000 and that's where your 77 comes in there. That doesn't add up to 77, that's 80 roughly, but that is the difference. We paid out some \$230,00 and the revenues went into the Finance Department. I think if I had mentioned that earlier, it probably would have clarified the situation.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, the problem was that the Minister didn't quite understand it. Now he understands it and I believe we understand it on this side and that the real loss was \$77,000.00. That still leaves us at a bit of a loss in another sense, is that the Minister explained the \$200,000 loss by the food services. That's the implication he gave to the Member for Brandon. But I think we could now tell the Member for Brandon, and the Minister can correct me if I am wrong, that they saved 77 on food services, they saved some funds on Subsistence — none of us are sure what it means yet — they saved some money on fees because last year they had to hire a consultant to do this study of food services, and this year they don't need to hire the same consultant to do food services, and these are the areas of reduction that the Minister explained to us earlier.

**MR. COSENS:** No, Mr. Chairman, I did not say that this represented a saving of \$200,000 in food services. What I was mentioning at the time, this \$230,000 that was paid out represents a saving. However, you have to then take into account, in looking at the overall, that there was \$150,000 came in revenue, which however does not accrue to this department but goes into the Department of Finance.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, so far as the agreement between the Minister and the caterer is concerned, who pays whom? If anybody pays anybody. Does the caterer pay the Minister for the right to sell his food in his premises, or does the the Minister have to pay the caterer to come in and sell food to his students?

**MR. COSENS:** I think, Mr. Chairman, at least I felt that particular issue was reasonably clear. Certainly, the caterer is not charging anyone anything to come in and provide that service. I imagine that he is realizing a certain profit from the sale of his food, as most caterers do if they're going to stay in business.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Then that means . . . separate question, Mr. Chairman. Having the caterer in there, providing the food services to the KCC students, what does it cost the Minister to have him there to keep the food services operation, to keep the grills burning, to keep the walls painted and the freezer freezing and whatever else he must do to enable the caterer to cook and sell his meals.

**MR. COSENS:** Well, that's part of the general building operation, Mr. Chairman, and the same situation holds at Brandon Assiniboine Community College, in fact in any of the institutions where we have a catering service providing the food.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** But is it not a fact, Mr. Chairman, that in the \$230,000 figure, whatever it was that the Honourable Minister had indicated, that it cost him to provide food services to the Keewatin Community College students, that included in that \$230,000 was the maintenance of the food service facility, the maintenance of the stoves, the refrigerators, the dining room tables, chairs, what have you, the heating of the facility.

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, that cost was there before. There's no change in that at all. That wasn't figured into the general cost or deficit that was resulting. It's carried under the maintenance of the building.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, may I rephrase my question, then. Were there any operational costs included within the \$230,000 figure attributed to the food services operation that the Minister will still have to continue to bear, despite the fact that he's contracted out the food servicing to an independent contractor.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, not to my knowledge, and I understand that room is used for a number of things. In fact, the graduation that I hope to be attending there will be held in that room, I understand.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I guess we need a little bit further clarification. The Minister gave us this figure of \$77,000. I assume then from his recent answers to my colleague that that \$77,000 loss did not include the cost of operating freezers and grills, did not include the cost of renewing dishes, replacing stolen knives and forks and salt and pepper shakers, etc. I wonder if he could confirm that in fact the real loss was greater than \$77,000, that that figure does not include those ongoing costs that are included in the total building operational costs.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** It's quite possible that there are costs of that type incurred, but if that's the case now with broken dishes and so on, that would have to be the responsibility of the caterer in this case.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, what the Honourable Member for The Pas was referring to was the operating costs of the food service facility of the dining hall, the consumption of power, the maintenance of the equipment, the replacement of the equipment, and so forth. Because it would appear, on the basis of what the Minister is saying that the actual loss must have been much higher than the \$77,000 if he did not include those figures within it.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure just what the Honourable Member for Burrows wishes to prove, but he may have a reasonable assumption that the costs were even higher than the 77,000.00.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** If that is correct then, Mr. Chairman, then there must be, even after having contracted out the food services operation, it still must leave some residual cost in the operation of the food services facility which the Honourable Minister has to pick up, has to finance out of the public treasury.

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think I've been saying that all along, but in spite of that, there was still a \$77,000 loss, and the room will still be heated, just as it was before, and it will still be used for those purposes, food services as well as others, and it will still be lighted, but those costs were not included in the \$77,000.00.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to get back to the question of the employees. Very specifically, was there any for the long-term service employees, was there any settlement made with regard to pensions; and the second question is, in the offer of employment at Red River College in Winnipeg, did the offer include removal expenses from The Pas to Winnipeg?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. CS COSENS:** I understand, Mr. Chairman, that there was some offer of consideration in the moving expenses from The Pas to Winnipeg. Three of the eight people qualify for retirement and I'm informed that one of the three said she may retire.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** It would appear then, that when the Honourable Minister speaks of a \$77,000 loss that there probably wasn't a \$77,000 loss. In other words, what I am saying is that there probably is no real saving to Keewatin Community College and in turn, to the Department of Education by contracting out the food services operation, other than perhaps an ability to show a reduction in staff man years, which by the way, isn't all that much, because with that reduction in staff man years, I note that the approved SMYs has only reduced by five, from 144 to 139, with a 20 percent increase in anticipated enrolment. Getting back to the saving, because as the Honourable Minister himself had admitted that the dining facility, the eating facility still has to be maintained because it's used for a variety of other purposes, it still has to be painted; the furniture has to be repaired; it has to be replaced as it gets worn out and reupholstered; and the floors have to be repaired and it has to be heated and lit, and so forth, and I would suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that the bulk of the \$77,000 loss that the Honourable Minister is talking about consists of expenditures of that kind. So there really is no net saving, because the Honourable Minister himself had admitted that those expenses still have to be incurred, and that constitutes that \$77,000 so-called loss.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, that type of expense was never included in this \$77,000 figure. So I have trouble understanding how the Honourable Member for Burrows can suggest that somehow this accounts for that particular figure. These figures, for those particular types of costs, were included under the general maintenance of the building.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (e)(2) — the Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** I would observe then, that as far as the so-called savings are concerned, really is tantamount to a reduction in the labour income earned in the community of The Pas. The fact is that there will be slower levels of income, lower levels of income accruing to the community of The Pas, because of the so-called saving that is has taken place in this particular instance. It's obvious that — I don't have the figures but I'm sure that I feel very confident that if we were to look at the figures in detail, the so-called savings are taken out of the wages and earnings of the people, of the working people of The Pas. These are the people that are paying for it. And the community of The Pas is paying for it. The businessmen of The Pas are going to pay for it ultimately also because the businessmen of The Pas will have less income in that community with which to do business, with which to be sustained in economic activity. It may be a small amount in totality, but nevertheless, it's true, it's a diminution of funds flowing into The Pas — maybe it's minor in the eyes of the Minister, but to the extent that it does exist, it is adversely affecting the business community, and it's certainly adversely affecting the working people of The Pas. and they won't forget it.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, it's rather interesting to see the tremendous indignation of the Member for Brandon on this topic. What I can't understand in the eight years that he was in office, if this was the type of thing he was following, that in his own City of Brandon he should have had the food catering services in Assiniboine Community College changed over to a government service, so that more money would have accrued to the City of Brandon out of the pockets of the taxpayers of the rest of the province.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Chairman, as a matter of policy, I believe that it is much better and fairer in the long run for such services to be provided by the employees of the department, as a matter of policy, and that is not to say that catering services did not exist in the past, and do not exist now, in various departments or agencies of this government, but as a matter of policy, I can tell them that I am

consistent within my mind, with my approach and with my concerns in this matter. And I believe that's shared by my colleagues as well.

I believe, if the Minister wants to look around, though, at other departments, he may find that there are services being provided that are not of a catering nature that are being provided — food services that are being provided in other agencies, that are services of civil servants or contract employees of the government, and not by a caterer as such. But, whether the Minister likes it or not, my original observation is correct, and that is there is a reduction in labour income flowing into the community at The Pas.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

**MR. BOYCE:** Mr. Chairman, I have followed this debate with interest. There are some advantages and disadvantages to contracting out that I can share with my friend the Minister of Education. I even looked at contracting out food services within the Correctional Institutions as I thought there might be some benefit to it.

But I wonder, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, to give us a better idea of just exactly what's going on if the Minister could provide us with a copy of the contracts that he has in this particular institution, and other institutions, so we can understand just exactly what is being given to the party who has the contract, because you really can't understand it — at least, I can't — and having been in the business myself, I really can't say whether it is a good contract, bad contract, until I see the contract. So I wonder if the Minister — without filing an order for return — could undertake to provide us with copies of those contracts specifically for this one and the other ones also?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the honourable member, if this is a usual practice to supply this type of contract, I certainly have no reservation about doing it. I don't have it with me, at this time, as he can well appreciate, but I will attempt to have it here tomorrow, and would be quite willing to give him a copy for his perusal.

**MR. BOYCE:** It's going to be a pleasure to debate the topics with the Minister, because in his statements he puts a caveat, if it is an usual practise he'll be glad to. I don't know whether it is usual practice or not either, but nevertheless it is an open contract between the Crown and someone, and I think this is the information . . . so the Minister having given that undertaking, I accept the . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** perhaps, Mr. Chairman, the Minister would indicate to us the length of time that it would take this government to do whatever, to make it or to establish it as an usual practice.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

**MR. ADAM:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, on a point of clarification from the Minister in his answer to the Member for Brandon East. In reference to the pension rights of the employees that have been laid-off by virtue of this tendering out of the facility, the food services facility, my question is, will there be any people who may lose or will lose their pension rights by virtue of this change in policy?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. COSENS:** I would have to check out the particular cases, Mr. Chairman, for the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose to find out how it applies in each case. Each case is different, and I wouldn't hazard a guess as to what has applied for each individual, as I mentioned, each one is unique and I would have to get that information for him.

**MR. ADAM:** I wonder if the Minister could advise when we could have that information? Tomorrow, perhaps? We're not going to finish tonight, I don't believe.

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would undertake to get that information for the honourable member whether we finish this section tonight or not, I'll give him my word that I'll have that undertaking, and I would expect that I could provide that information to him tomorrow.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would like to advise the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose, that it will still be available under Minister's Salary under (1)(a).

(e)—pass; (f)(1) Salaries—pass — The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't think the Minister may not have time this evening, but I don't know what this new program is, so maybe he wants to explain last year's new program, this year's new program and the reduction.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

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**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, as part of the New Programs category and in particular to the Member for The Pas, for Keewatin we are developing a northern nursing course which is a new course, I understand, for that particular institution, and in general in this particular area, in 1977-78, program modifications implemented where the Dental Auxiliary program expansion at Keewatin Community College, Civil Technician Course at Red River Community College, and of course the Adult Corrections Course at Assiniboine Community College. I should have mentioned the Fire Training Course at Assiniboine, as well.

In 1978-79, the priorities are as follows: I've mentioned the Northern Nursing Course at Keewatin, an Adult Corrections Course at Red River, Resource Centre for the handicapped at Red River Community College, a Juvenile Corrections Course at Red River Community College, and Special Training for Women on Mother's Allowance at Red River Community College.

Now these are priorities, and are under development.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** The Honourable Minister may note that, although it's true, that in the Estimates book before us, that it includes the Estimates for 1978-79, it shows 27.2 for new programs for last year, however, the fact of the matter is that there in fact was \$81.7 for new programs last year. Now I take it that what the Honourable Minister is doing is hopefully, in an attempt to provide a meaningful comparison, he is showing the comparable amount for whatever program is included for this year with that for last year, but it would seem that there's some 60, well, not 60 — 50 some odd thousand dollars worth of programs that either must have been abandoned or they must be included elsewhere. Could the Honourable Minister explain what happened to the \$57,000 or \$58,000 worth of programs that are not shown in the left-hand column of the Estimates book, which were shown in the Estimates book last year?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, to the Member for Burrows, I could say to him, what happened to the funds because a certain amount of it took place while he was Minister, as I understand as these new programs are started — as they're started and they're developed that they are transferred to the colleges, and the money goes with them, and as a result they started out with an 81.7 appropriation that, this in fact became \$27.2.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (f)(1)—pass; (2)—pass; (f)—pass; (g)(1) Salaries— pass; (2) — The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, although I know what the Minister's response will be, he will say that he is surprised that I am asking this question, but I must repeat to him again that he ought not be surprised, because I think the committee ought to know and the people of Manitoba ought to know, they being a new government, what this government is doing under each appropriation in the Estimates of each department. So would the Honourable Minister please give some indication, some explanation of what the Training Improvement program is all about?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairma., I appreciate that type of motivation on the part of the Member for Burrows, and I also appreciate the opportunity to explain to any people concerned what, in fact, does happen under this program that is totally funded by Ottawa. And I could mention that, since its implementation in Manitoba two years ago, this particular fund has financed a total of 15 projects, and projects such as the evaluation of practical nursing, and dental auxiliary courses, the evaluation of adult basic education process, the development of a refresher program for graduate registered nurses, an agricultural training review, block training for motor vehicle mechanics, and hospitality training workshops.

And the projects that are proposed for 1978-79, Mr. Chairman, and that will be funded through these TIP funds, are as follows: a communications skills laboratory for northern and rural residents at Keewatin Community College; an integration of the adult basic education with skills training courses at Keewatin Community College; challenge program for chairside dental assisting, and that's phase I, that program at Red River Community College; developing auto body paint refinishing training kits at Assiniboine Community College; and development of a model for external credits for remote northern communities. These are the TIP activities that we anticipate will be undertaken this year. I understand that sometimes some of these projects have a little bit of problem getting off the ground due to the negotiation and the type of relationship that has existed with Ottawa in this particular area. The more government departments and the more levels of governments that are involved, understandably, the slower this type of development takes place, however, some fifteen projects have taken place under this program over the last two years, and we do have some proposals for the coming year in this area.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (2)—pass — The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if, in that area of Federal-Provincial relations, how does a program qualify? He mentioned some sort of dental training, and we have the Minister mention in a previous appropriation the Dental Auxiliary Program at KCC, which is an excellent program as far as

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I can understand. What programs can you get the Federal money for, and what programs can't you get the Federal money for, and are you fairly optimistic that you'll get the full amount this year? Did you ask them to increase the Federal dollars this year, and what excuse did they give you for not doing that if you did?

**MR. COSENS:** Yes, I should clarify, Mr. Chairman, that they are not paying for programs here, but for the development process of programs and the evaluation of existing programs, and the modification process of existing programs, and I just wanted to clarify that point with the member. The other point of course is, yes, whenever we deal with Ottawa, as I am sure the previous government did, we try to get as many dollars as possible and I think that's a provincial characteristic that the Member for The Pas appreciates.

The other aspect is, the amount of utilization of these funds depends on the activity of the people you have within that particular department and I think we are fortunate in having people with a good background here who have done valuable work in the past and are continuing to do rather valuable work in making the type of proposals to Ottawa that are consistent with the guidelines and the requirements that they have, and they have been reasonably successful in the time that this particular fund has been provided in utilizing a considerable number of dollars from it.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Chairman, maybe I'll just get some clarification from the Minister and his attitude towards this. He's willing and anxious to get 100 percent dollars, but if they're only 60-cent dollars it doesn't matter that much. Is that a correct interpretation of the Minister's attitude to Federal-Provincial negotiations and costshare programs?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I believe the question the Member for The Pas asked originally was, had we really shown a great deal of energy and used the utmost persuasive power and all of the other things that come into the negotiation process in trying to get adequate funding in this area. My answer to him was yes, that seems to be the customary approach in Provincial-Federal relations.

**MR. McBRYDE:** With his response, Mr. Chairman, I guess I was hoping to elicit some new information from him after his response. As I read his total performance it's yes, we'll fight for 100 percent dollars but no, we'll not even continue grams to take advantage of 60-cent dollars. Would that be an unfair statement or would that be correct?

**MR. COSENS:** Mr. Chairman, I have been looking at this particular appropriation before us and I don't see any of this 60 percent funding that he's referring to.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.—pass; (g)—pass; Resolution 45: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$24,206,600 for Education, Community Colleges Division, \$24,206,600— pass.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** It would appear to be an appropriate time to ask the Committee to rise.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Committee rise. Call in the Speaker.

*The Chairman reported upon the Committee's deliberations to Mr. Speaker and requested leave to sit again.*

### IN SESSION

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Radisson'

**MR. KOVNATS:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Springfield, that the report of Committee be received.

**MOTION presented and carried**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Agriculture, that the House do now adjourn.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m. Friday.