



**First Session — Thirty-Fourth Legislature**  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**

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**DEBATES**  
and  
**PROCEEDINGS**  
**(HANSARD)**

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37 Elizabeth II

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**MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**Thirty-Fourth Legislature**

**Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation**

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PARTY
<b>ALCOCK, Reg</b>	Osborne	LIBERAL
<b>ANGUS, John</b>	St. Norbert	LIBERAL
<b>ASHTON, Steve</b>	Thompson	NDP
<b>BURRELL, Parker</b>	Swan River	PC
<b>CARR, James</b>	Fort Rouge	LIBERAL
<b>CARSTAIRS, Sharon</b>	River Heights	LIBERAL
<b>CHARLES, Gwen</b>	Selkirk	LIBERAL
<b>CHEEMA, Gulzar</b>	Kildonan	LIBERAL
<b>CHORNOPYSKI, William</b>	Burrows	LIBERAL
<b>CONNERY, Edward Hon.</b>	Portage la Prairie	PC
<b>COWAN, Jay</b>	Churchill	NDP
<b>CUMMINGS, Glen, Hon.</b>	Ste. Rose du Lac	PC
<b>DERKACH, Leonard, Hon.</b>	Roblin-Russell	PC
<b>DOER, Gary</b>	Concordia	NDP
<b>DOWNEY, James Hon.</b>	Arthur	PC
<b>DRIEDGER, Albert, Hon.</b>	Emerson	PC
<b>DRIEDGER, Herold, L.</b>	Niakwa	LIBERAL
<b>DUCHARME, Gerald, Hon.</b>	Riel	PC
<b>EDWARDS, Paul</b>	St. James	LIBERAL
<b>ENNS, Harry</b>	Lakeside	PC
<b>ERNST, Jim, Hon.</b>	Charleswood	PC
<b>EVANS, Laurie</b>	Fort Garry	LIBERAL
<b>EVANS, Leonard</b>	Brandon East	NDP
<b>FILMON, Gary, Hon.</b>	Tuxedo	PC
<b>FINDLAY, Glen Hon.</b>	Virten	PC
<b>GAUDRY, Neil</b>	St. Boniface	LIBERAL
<b>GILLESHAMMER, Harold</b>	Minnedosa	PC
<b>GRAY, Avis</b>	Elice	LIBERAL
<b>HAMMOND, Gerrie</b>	Kirkfield Park	PC
<b>HARAPIAK, Harry</b>	The Pas	NDP
<b>HARPER, Elijah</b>	Rupertsland	NDP
<b>HELWER, Edward R.</b>	Gimli	PC
<b>HEMPHILL, Maureen</b>	Logan	NDP
<b>KOZAK, Richard, J.</b>	Transcona	LIBERAL
<b>LAMOUREUX, Kevin, M.</b>	Inkster	LIBERAL
<b>MALOWAY, Jim</b>	Elmwood	NDP
<b>MANDRAKE, Ed</b>	Assiniboia	LIBERAL
<b>MANNES, Clayton, Hon.</b>	Morris	PC
<b>MCCRAE, James Hon.</b>	Brandon West	PC
<b>MINENKO, Mark</b>	Seven Oaks	LIBERAL
<b>MITCHELSON, Bonnie, Hon.</b>	River East	PC
<b>NEUFELD, Harold, Hon.</b>	Rossmere	PC
<b>OLESON, Charlotte Hon.</b>	Gladstone	PC
<b>ORCHARD, Donald Hon.</b>	Pembina	PC
<b>PANKRATZ, Helmut</b>	La Verendrye	PC
<b>PATTERSON, Allan</b>	Radisson	LIBERAL
<b>PENNER, Jack, Hon.</b>	Rhineland	PC
<b>PLOHMAN, John</b>	Dauphin	NDP
<b>PRAZNIK, Darren</b>	Lac du Bonnet	PC
<b>ROCAN, Denis, Hon.</b>	Turtle Mountain	PC
<b>ROCH, Gilles</b>	Springfield	LIBERAL
<b>ROSE, Bob</b>	St. Vital	LIBERAL
<b>STORIE, Jerry</b>	Flin Flon	NDP
<b>TAYLOR, Harold</b>	Wolseley	LIBERAL
<b>URUSKI, Bill</b>	Interlake	NDP
<b>WASYLYCIA-LEIS, Judy</b>	St. Johns	NDP
<b>YEO, Iva</b>	Sturgeon Creek	LIBERAL

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, October 25, 1988.

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

### PRAYERS ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

**Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the second phase of a full scale audit for the province's accounting practices and the terms of reference thereof.

**Hon. Bonnie Mitchelson (Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Annual Report of the Manitoba Lotteries Foundation for 1987-88.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, Hear!

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Mr. Speaker:** Prior to oral questions, may I direct the attention of Honourable Members to the Speaker's gallery, where we have with us today His Excellency, Count Jean-Francois de Liedekerke, the Ambassador of Belgium, and Countess Elzbeta Plater-Zyberk. On behalf of all Honourable Members, I welcome you here this afternoon.

As well, may I direct the attention of Honourable Members to the gallery to my right, where we have with us today Mr. Gordon Wilson, the Leader of the Liberal Party in British Columbia. On behalf of all Honourable Members, I welcome you here this afternoon.

As well, we have seated in the public gallery from the Arborg Collegiate, twenty-one Grade 9 students, under the direction of Mr. John Strutytsky. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for the Interlake (Mr. Uruski). On behalf of all Honourable Members, I welcome you here this afternoon.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

#### Clean Environment Commission Appointment Rescinded

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Premier (Mr. Filmon). Qualified individuals who sit on public boards and commissions provide a vital service to the people of this province. Whatever their political persuasion, they should be treated with the utmost courtesy by the Government of the Day. A senior member of the Clean Environment Commission has had to learn of her removal from the commission through the media. No notification, not a copy of an Order-in-Council, not even a telephone call from the Minister or indeed the staff

of the Minister to indicate that she was being replaced. This was after five years of service to this particular commission. My question to the First Minister (Mr. Filmon) or the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Connery), if the First Minister would prefer, why was not Mrs. Hendren notified of her removal? Why was she the last person to know?

**Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier):** Mr. Speaker, I am unaware of the circumstances of the situation. I will take that question as notice.

### Board Changes

\* (1335)

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Connery), why was not Mrs. Hendren notified and why did this Minister feel that it was appropriate to rescind Mrs. Hendren's appointment and yet feel it was desirable to reappoint two other members to the board?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health):** We appreciate all of the work that various people have done for our Government on boards and commissions. A letter of thank you to Mrs. Hendren was sent, and to the other member, as one member had already resigned. It is not unusual to put our stamp on boards and commissions. I think we have an excellent Clean Environment Board that represents a pretty broad section of Manitoba and the people of Manitoba. She was notified by letter.

The news release went out, the letters went out close to the same proximity. That would be why the delay. The decision on the Clean Environment Commission members were made roughly six weeks to eight weeks ago.

### Appointment Change Reasons

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** If they were made six to eight weeks ago, she has not yet received her letter. Perhaps they forgot to put a stamp on that. There is a serious issue here, and the issue is, to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Connery), was Mrs. Hendren removed from this board because she complained about political interference by this Minister?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health):** Absolutely not, Mr. Speaker. As I explained before, the process of putting boards and commissions into place takes a long period of time. Before you look at those people, you search out those people who you think will do a good job for you in a particular board or commission and before these people are contacted, to ensure that yes, they

will let their name stand, before all the communications go out. This does take a period of time.

Members of the ND Party know and understand this, and the Liberals of course have not had that opportunity, but it is not something that happens in a week or two. It takes a period of time for the process. Those decisions were made basically some time ago, and not after Mrs. Hendren had complained that I had supposedly tried to intimidate, which was not a fact and which was cleared up by Stan Eagleton, the Chairman of the Clean Environment Commission.

### Notification Delays

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** Common courtesy requires that an individual be informed if their appointment is going to be terminated. Why did it take six to eight weeks to inform Mrs. Hendren who informed my office today she has still not been officially informed? Why did it take that long for the Minister to send out a thank you note?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health):** The Leader of the Opposition (Mrs. Carstairs) should realize that until the decisions and the Cabinet approves all the various boards and commissions, there is no direction given outside that has to be approved by Cabinet. After Cabinet approved the Clean Environment Commission, those notices were sent out.

### Child Abuse Investigation Delay

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** With a new question to the First Minister (Mr. Filmon), testimony presented at the Winnipeg Police Arbitration Hearings reveal a backlog of child abuse investigations still persists. On September 21, I expressed my concern in this House regarding this backlog and the conflicting words that we are hearing, and conflicting testimony at these hearings does not appease our concerns. The First Minister shared those concerns and, on September 27, he indicated that they had been raised with the City of Winnipeg and that he was waiting for a response. Can the First Minister tell this House today what response he has received from city officials, and what they intend to do to redress this very serious problem?

**Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier):** I was not at the meeting of the official delegation at which it was raised. It was raised on my behalf by the Minister of Urban Affairs (Mr. Ducharme) who is chairman of the official delegation, the province's representative to the official delegation. My understanding of the response was that the city shared our concern, would look into the matter, but felt that this was a matter that was part of the process of arbitration and was probably better talked about and dealt with in a public sense after the arbitration hearings were over in a manner in which they could deal with it in a positive sense in trying to address the concerns that we had raised, that others had raised and that of course had been raised here by the Leader of the Opposition.

### Meeting Schedule

\* (1340)

**Mrs. Sharon Carstairs (Leader of the Opposition):** With a supplementary question to the First Minister, the children of this city have gone yet one more month without the time and attention of police investigation. Will the First Minister immediately hold a meeting with the City of Winnipeg in order to ensure that the needs of these children will be adequately addressed?

**Hon. Gary Filmon (Premier):** I will assure the Leader of the Opposition that firstly, I will not put the situation in a sense that it becomes an intervention in the arbitration process. I do not want to do it in that manner.

We will do it in a manner that addresses our concern for the children, for the investigation and proper handling and prompt handling of the child abuse cases. We will ensure that is conveyed to the City of Winnipeg. I will even undertake to phone the mayor myself today to ensure that he is aware of our continuing concern and to get his response on the matter, to ensure that it is not just something that is part of the arbitration process in which one side is arguing on one side and one side is arguing on the other side; that, in fact, our concern is that the services there, that the responsiveness is there to the needs of the children and that is what is being addressed. I will attempt to attain those assurances and get back to the Leader of the Opposition on the matter.

### Business Women Needs Services

**Mr. Gary Doer (Leader of the Second Opposition):** My question is to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism (Mr. Ernst). As we are all aware, this week is Small Business Week in this province. Indeed some of the fastest growing small businesses in Manitoba are being set up by women in our Manitoba economy. In fact, women are setting up businesses at five times the rate of men in our economy today, of which I think we all can be thankful for.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Doer:** My question to the Minister is what specifically is the Government doing to listen to the requirements of businesswomen and their enterprises in terms of this province?

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** In terms of listening to women, I met about 10 days ago with the Manitoba Women Business Owners Association. They provided me with the report that had been done through a Government grant at some point in the past that indicated the variety of services that are required by women entering into entrepreneurship. I have received that report. I am in the process of reviewing it. I attended their seminar on Sunday evening, spoke to them about that issue and indicated that we would be getting back to them in a very short period of time.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

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### Small Business Growth Fund Club Member Restrictions

**Mr. Gary Doer (Leader of the Second Opposition):** The Government funds some \$100,000 in this Budget to the Small Business Growth Fund, a project that has worked with the private sector and investment people in terms of establishing small business growth in this province.

The Minister is meeting with women entrepreneurs this Thursday morning to talk about investment opportunity and entrepreneur opportunities in this province. Mr. Speaker, the potential entrepreneurs have been invited to listen to the Minister at the Manitoba Club, a club that does not allow women as full Members for that club. My question to the Minister is does he not think that creates a tremendous credibility problem with attracting and developing women entrepreneurs in our province to have them attend a session with the Minister where they cannot even be allowed as Members?

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** I would like to point out to the Leader of the New Democratic Party that the Small Business Growth Fund is meeting at the Carlton Club on Thursday afternoon and all members of the society are invited.

\* (1345)

**Mr. Doer:** I was informed—Mr. Speaker, if I make a mistake, I apologize to the Minister. I am not afraid to apologize for mistakes.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Doer:** I hope that the Minister is not at the Manitoba Club for Women, but I would point out the Carlton Club, I believe, you cannot be a full member of, either.

### Unemployed Women Initiative Packages

**Mr. Gary Doer (Leader of the Second Opposition):** My question is, given the Carlton Club does not allow women as full members, does he not think that this is a problem in terms of the credibility of his Government to attract women as entrepreneurs in this province?

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** First of all, the Small Business Growth Fund is an initiative of the Winnipeg Business Development Corporation and the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce. It happened to have been funded in the past as a one-time starter grant by the Government of Manitoba, for which I commend the previous Government. But, Mr. Speaker, we have a problem with the Small Business Growth Fund in the sense that it is undercapitalized. The meeting that is to be held on Thursday afternoon at the Carlton Club is arranged by the Board of Directors of the Small Business Growth Fund and not by the Government. It is there to encourage private sector investment in the Small Business Growth Fund to provide equity capital for Manitoba businesses.

I do not control what the Small Business Growth Fund chooses to do in terms of having the location for the meeting, nor do I have any input to the by-laws of the Carlton Club.

**Mr. Doer:** My final question to the Minister is that the whole policy I find unacceptable in terms of organizations that do not allow men and women to be part of the same club. My question to the Minister is the amount of women now is growing, their unemployment rates under this Government is growing at a much higher rate than men; in fact, that is, out of 7,000 more people who are unemployed, there has been a 2 percent increase in the growth of the unemployment rates of women in the last year over year between their Government's action and our Government's action. What other plans has the Minister in place in terms of Industry, Trade and Tourism to deal with the 2 percent that is already more unemployed than last year and deal with the other problems of the close to 9 percent of women who are unemployed in our Manitoba economy?

**Mr. Ernst:** Mr. Speaker, you caution daily, virtually, about length of answers, that precludes me from giving a long and detailed one, except to say that the department has a number of initiatives in place, a number of initiatives that are going to be creating additional employment in this province. The Health Industry Development Initiative signed last August between myself and the federal Government has already seen three or four major announcements, one of which Otto Bock is presently nearing completion. A variety of those things will provide additional employment for the people of Manitoba, not only men or women but right across the whole sector of society.

### Educational Facilities Mystery Lake Conditions

**Mrs. Iva Yeo (Sturgeon Creek):** My question is for the Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach). Teachers in the Mystery Lake School Division have been pleading with their local administration for over a year now requesting better teaching and learning conditions. In turn the administrators have brought these concerns to the school trustees, who over a year ago made representation to the Public Schools Finance Board.

It appears obvious that the previous Government turned a deaf ear on these pleas and now after six months the current Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach) is shocked and surprised to hear of the plight of the students who are forced to use corridors and storage rooms as classrooms, radiators and the floor in lieu of desks, while the Minister of Education sits in his very comfortable office on Broadway.

To the Minister of Education, given that the Mystery Lake School Board has communicated at least twice with the Public Schools Finance Board, why was the Minister not aware of this deplorable situation?

\* (1350)

**Hon. Leonard Derkach (Minister of Education):** First of all, Mr. Speaker, I think that there needs to be some

clarification with regard to the situation as it existed in Mystery Lake School Division.

First of all, the report yesterday in the newspaper indicated that classes were being held—or a janitor's room was being used as a classroom. The fact of the information is that students use the janitor's room as a place where they can practise some of their instruments. It is not used as a classroom. I think we could go on and on and explain each one of the points.

However, I think in terms of the classroom spaces that are available and are required in a particular school, I would indicate that the Public Schools Finance Board has met with the Mystery Lake people and has requested some information, which they are waiting for at the present time, information that has not been forthcoming.

The Public Schools Finance Board has not rejected the installation of high-quality relocatable classrooms in the school. As a matter of fact, they have asked the school personnel there to provide them with some current information regarding enrolment data. That data to date, Mr. Speaker, has not been provided. We are anxiously waiting for that data to be received.

### Capital Initiatives

**Mrs. Iva Yeo (Sturgeon Creek):** I can appreciate needing data, but I would like to know what action is going to be taken immediately to address this unfortunate scenario, to create a better learning situation for students who are crammed 30, 35, 40 students to a classroom that would be better suited for a class of 22 to 23 students.

**Hon. Leonard Derkach (Minister of Education):** In its 1988 capital plan, the Mystery Lake School Division did request approval for several classrooms to be added to the Eastwood School. The Public Schools Finance Board has conducted an on-site inspection of the area, have met with the individuals in that particular school division and have done an assessment in terms of the spaces available in the surrounding schools. Since then, it is only customary and a proper way to proceed to get all the information from the school division before we indiscriminately throw buildings up all over the province.

That information has been requested, Mr. Speaker. We are awaiting that information from the school division. As soon as that information is provided, the Public Schools Finance Board will be only too happy to take the next step.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

### Capital Projections

**Mrs. Iva Yeo (Sturgeon Creek):** To the same Minister, are there other schools in our province who are struggling to provide education to our young people in similar disastrous situations?

**Hon. Leonard Derkach (Minister of Education):** The Public Schools Finance Board gets requests from a

variety, a multitude of school divisions across the province for new capital facilities, but there is a process that is undertaken in supplying new capital facilities for each of the school divisions. Every school division is aware of the process that they have to go through. There is a five-year capital projection and then there is also a three year. There have to be priorities in terms of how school buildings are allocated to the various areas.

Really it is entirely up to a school division to do its preliminary investigations as to where those buildings and where those new facilities should be located. When the Public Schools Finance Board receives that request, they deal with it in a way which is set down by some regulations and rules that have been there for not just the last five months, but have been there for a long time.

### Affirmative Action Policy Tabling Request

**Ms. Avis Gray (Ellice):** This Tory Government assures us that their Ministers are knowledgeable in the area of affirmative action. In Estimates yesterday, we saw an example of how the Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach) simply does not understand. This Government tries to mask their inaction by saying they have elevated the affirmative action coordination to that of Assistant Deputy Minister. Now we discover that the ADM already has a full slate of responsibilities. One day the Minister of Labour (Mr. Connery) says he does not really believe in targets and the next day he says he wants to ensure the targets are met. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, my question was premature yesterday when I suggested the Minister educate his colleagues. I should have been saying will the Minister move to educate himself first on the area of affirmative action.

However, my question today, Mr. Speaker, will this Minister immediately table in this House, the Minister responsible for the Civil Service Commission, his Government's affirmative action policy and the implementation plans?

\* (1355)

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Labour):** The Member knows full well the population range in the Province of Manitoba, and we would hope that all people in Manitoba would be fairly represented in the Civil Service, and not only in the Civil Service, in all the work forces in Manitoba. We do not want to see affirmative action remain in the Civil Service. We want to ensure to all in the private sector that it will be there. We are looking at reorganization to higher the profile of not only the affirmative action, but Pay Equity. We are looking at making sure that affirmative action moves along better than what it is now and what it has done for a number of years, because it has not moved well. There are many difficulties, we are having many meetings, and we will make sure that it works. As I said yesterday or the day before, our deputies have met, are meeting, we are meeting with outside groups to discuss affirmative action because we are not satisfied that it just be in the Civil Service, that

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affirmative action be in all sectors of Manitoba employment.

### Information Request

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member for Ellice, with a supplementary question.

**Ms. Avis Gray (Ellice):** With a supplementary to the same Minister, Mr. Speaker, does this Government not have an affirmative action policy and an implementation plan? They spent many days and hours in this House telling us how to reject the NDP administration's plan. Will this Minister tell us, does his Government have a written affirmative action policy and implementation plan, and will he table it in the House?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, the policy and the plan of this Government is to ensure that affirmative action takes place. The Member opposite is talking basically about the Civil Service and, within the Civil Service, Mr. Speaker, there are various means of ensuring that the Affirmative Action Program is working effectively. There is a committee with the deputy Ministers and the MGEA to work together; there was a committee of external people that meet to discuss affirmative action. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Edgeworth, the ADM of Human Resources within the Civil Service, is working on a continuous basis with the personnel departments of every department of Government to ensure that they understand that affirmative action is a part of this Government and to assist them in assuring that it takes place.

### Colleague Information Request

**Ms. Avis Gray (Ellice):** With a final supplementary to the same Minister, before the departmental people understand, I believe that the Minister should still ensure that his colleagues understand. The responses in Estimates to questions on affirmative action by the Ministers of Education, Community Services, Industry and Trade are deplorable.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the Honourable Member have a question?

**Ms. Gray:** Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Would the Honourable Member kindly put her question?

**Ms. Gray:** My question for the Minister is I implore the Minister to immediately move to educate his own colleagues on affirmative action—

**Some Honourable Members:** Oh, oh!

**Ms. Gray:** My question to the Minister is will this Minister immediately move to educate his own colleagues in the areas of affirmative action?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, the only thing that I find deplorable are the

comments of the Member opposite. I have not sat through all the various Estimates, but I did sit through a large part of the Estimates of the Minister of Community Services (Mrs. Oleson), and I think the Minister of Community Services knows very full well the implementation of affirmative action and the policies that this Government has. I know that she is working hard in her department to ensure that affirmative action is strong in this Government and in her department, and I deplore your accusations and your misinformation that you have tried to put on this table. Get your information straight.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member for Ellice, on a point of order.

**Ms. Gray:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Connery) is accusing me of giving misinformation and I resent that. I think the record in Hansard will show that in fact those three Ministers I mentioned do not have the knowledge of affirmative action.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. A dispute over the facts is not a point of order.

**Mr. Gary Doer (Leader of the Second Opposition):** On a different point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Member for Concordia, on a point of order.

**Mr. Doer:** On the same point of order, I am sure Members would not want to leave something on the record that is inaccurate. We have double-checked. The Manitoba Club is booked for 3:30 Thursday—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. What is the Honourable Member's point of order?

**Mr. Doer:** —and it is in the itinerary. I think he would like to clarify the record on that one, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Clean Environment Commission Board Member Removal Reasons

\* (1400)

**Mr. Harry Harapiak (The Pas):** I would like to table the letter from Mamie Hendren which was written to the Member for Thompson (Mr. Ashton).

I have a question to the Minister responsible for the Environment (Mr. Connery). My question is in regard to the decision to remove the Member of the Clean Environment Commission. He said he wants to put his own stamp of approval on the board of commissioners. Did the Minister make that decision after Mamie Hendren embarrassed the Minister by raising his attempts to influence the commission?

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health):** I think I have heard

that question in this House already this afternoon. It is unfortunate the Member was not listening.

As I have mentioned and he should know as having been a Minister that the process of establishing boards and commissions does take some period of time. You have to decide on people and you look around for quality people and then it has to go through the process. Mr. Speaker, there was no relationship between the article in the paper and the establishment of those people on the Clean Environment Commission. There were a lot of Clean Environment studies that we are wrapping up. We are in the process of going out to Russell, in the new Canamax one. We had to have the new Clean Environment Commission in place for continuity. That was why the timing.

### Board Replacements

**Mr. Harry Harapiak (The Pas):** To the same Minister, a supplementary question. I am wondering if the Minister can tell us what policy is in place for informing the people who have been taken off boards and commissions when that decision is made by the Government.

**Hon. Edward Connery (Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health):** All people that have been on boards and that were not re-appointed were sent a thank you letter for their service. We do sincerely thank them. Those new people appointed to the boards were sent a letter at the same time informing them of their official appointment to that board and commission. They were all done at the same time as the announcement. The letters naturally would take another two or three days to arrive at those peoples' places.

**Mr. Harapiak:** The Minister says that the decisions were made six to eight weeks ago to replace the Member for Thompson (Mr. Ashton). Can the Minister tell us if he made the decision not to appoint someone from northern Manitoba at the same time as he made the decision to replace Mamie Hendren? Does he feel that there is no one in northern Manitoba capable of sitting and serving the Clean Environment Commission?

**Mr. Connery:** The decision was not made on that basis as to not have somebody from the North.

### Senate Reform Manitoba Delegation

**Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge):** As Members of the House know very well, our Party has been at the forefront of Senate Reform. As a matter of fact, our Leader has on the -(Interjection)- Order Paper now—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please; order, please. I have recognized the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**Mr. Carr:** As Members know, our Party has been at the forefront of Senate Reform and my Leader—

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

**Mr. Carr:** Third time lucky, let me try one more time.

As Members opposite are surely aware, Senate Reform is an important part of our Party's constitutional package. Now we understand that there was a meeting between the Alberta delegation led by Mr. Horsman to discuss the possibility of a Triple E Senate. This meeting was held here in Winnipeg. I wonder if I could ask the Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs who was part of the Manitoba delegation and who spoke for the Government of Manitoba at that meeting.

**Hon. James McCrae (Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs):** It is actually quite hilarious to hear the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge refer to the Liberal Party being at the forefront of Senate Reform.

I would ask the Honourable Member, if he recalls back in May or early June of 1984, just how many Senators former Prime Minister Trudeau announced just prior to leaving office. I ask the Honourable Member to keep in mind how many Senators we have in Ottawa and how many of them are Liberal appointments as well. When we take into account the lack of action on the part of the Trudeau Government with regard to Senate Reform, the Honourable Member's question rings somewhat hollow.

Mr. Speaker, it is true. The Minister from Alberta, Mr. Horsman, arrived in Winnipeg with a delegation from Alberta doing the work of a task force, going across the country to try to promote the concept of an elected, equal and effective Senate, which I think is a service that the Government of Alberta, through that Minister and the committee that he was travelling with, a service to the people of Canada. I would commend to the Honourable Member's attention the message that the Alberta delegation is taking across the country. I attended that meeting, as did the Premier (Mr. Filmon) and members of our staff, and we had a very good meeting.

### Veto Powers

**Mr. James Carr (Fort Rouge):** A particular member of the delegation was quoted at that meeting as saying that the Senate would be a more effective institution if it did not have a veto over matters within the federal jurisdiction. The Premier (Mr. Filmon) at the time could not recall who made that comment. I wonder if the Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs (Mr. McCrae) can.

**Hon. James McCrae (Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs):** The Honourable Member wants to discuss the specifics of Senate Reform. I suggest to the Honourable Member that an appropriate place to do that would be at the time of the committee which will be struck to carry out public hearings into the matter of the Meech Lake Constitutional Accord. The Triple E Senate is something that is very much tied with the accord. To suggest, as the Honourable Member does, that Senate Reform is impossible without the accord gets the argument going, and that argument and that debate would be a good debate to have at the time of the hearings.

**Mr. Carr:** Is it the policy of this Government that the Senate ought not to have a veto over matters within federal jurisdiction?



**Mr. McCrae:** The debate about a Triple E Senate, Mr. Speaker, I suggest is at a formative stage and will unfold, no doubt, at the time of the discussions about the Meech Lake Constitutional Accord. If the federal and provincial leaders can get together, the subject of what powers the Senate should have, what numbers the Senate should have, where they should come from, how many from each region or area, all of those matters will be the subject of debate at that time.

### **Small Business Fund Scheduled Location**

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago we discussed and I replied to the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Doer) with regard to the location, timing and invitees to a particular meeting.

The Leader of the NDP was wrong with respect to the timing, with respect to the invitees, but he was not wrong with respect to the location. It is to be held at the Manitoba Club. I apologize to the Member for giving him misinformation. I have just checked with my office and that is the case.

Mr. Speaker, again, it does not alter the fact it was organized by the private sector board of the Small Business Growth Fund over which I have no control.

### **Forest Fires Trappers Assistance**

**Mr. Elijah Harper (Rupert's Land):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Downey). This summer, Northerners experienced many forest fires and many of the people affected were trappers. They lost much of their trapping equipment—cabins, snowmobiles, traps, boats, outboard motors, tents and chain saws. This equipment was worth thousands of dollars. As the trappers are going out to their trappelines now today and in the near future, they are looking for assistance. What is the Minister prepared to do to assist these trappers?

\* (1410)

**Hon. James Downey (Minister of Northern Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure you that the Government is extremely concerned about the well-being of the trappers in northern Manitoba. I can assure the Member that we have been aggressively working on some of the Northern Flood Agreements dealing with the trappers, and there has been some assistance been provided there in those particular cases.

I can assure the Member, as well, that any individuals who are interested in taking out loans out of the Communities Economic Development Fund, if in fact they would qualify, I am sure, I would ask them to make their presentation to them. Those are the kinds of areas that we are prepared to help.

If there are some additional areas that individuals are having extreme hardships, then I would like the Member to bring them to my attention directly, which

he has not done until now and I am surprised that he has not.

### **Assistance Criteria**

**Mr. Elijah Harper (Rupert's Land):** As a matter of fact, some requests were directed to the office of the conservation officer in Garden Hill, requesting for some assistance, but those directions were done under the Department of Natural Resources.

I am advising the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Downey) that there are programs available under which he is responsible for, particularly the Special ARDA Program, under which many of the trappers who were assisted, they were able to purchase traps and I am wondering whether the Minister would consider giving the trappers a priority under that program.

**Hon. James Downey (Minister of Northern Affairs):** I would be more than prepared to have staff meet with those individuals and to entertain them under the Special ARDA and other programs, whether it be Northern Development Agreement or whatever, if in fact they were to qualify. I would be prepared to entertain those individuals if they were to come forward.

**Mr. Harper:** The trapping season is upon us now and I would encourage the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Downey) to contact the Trappers' Associations in many of the communities and deliver this message for the Government's willingness to provide assistance to these trappers. Also, I would ask the Minister to immediately send a message to the constituents of mine and also other trappers in many of the northern communities that this assistance is available.

**Mr. Downey:** I do not want the wrong impression to be left. I am sure that every trapper in northern Manitoba was not impacted by forest fires to which the Member is referring. There may be some specific cases where hardship has been created because of loss of equipment or that type of thing and I said I was prepared to entertain that.

I think the House and the Member should well know that it was our Government—it was the Conservative Government—that gave them relief from having to register and license their three-wheel vehicles and their snowmobiles as was proposed under their administration. So there is true evidence that we care about the trappers, the fishermen and those people in northern Manitoba.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

### **Reference Terms Audit Criteria Concerns**

**Mr. Reg Alcock (Osborne):** I have a question for the Minister of Finance (Mr. Manness). I would like to thank the Minister for tabling the Terms of Reference for the second phase of the audit and I would like to congratulate him for putting this out to tender, unlike the first phase.

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When one does an audit, it is usually because one has some concerns that prompt the study. I noticed on Project 1, the External Review of the Department of Community Services Funding Practices and Controls with External Agencies, one of the items for review is the accountability relationship of board members to the Government. Can I ask the Minister what concerns prompted this item being in the review in light of the fact that these boards are elected by the communities?

**Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister of Finance):** I thank the Member for the question. It is a good question. I think that the Government is trying to ascertain as to whether or not it has a clear understanding, and a common understanding with the board members, as to what relationship exists as to accountability and also to the full delivery of service. It is trying to get a better understanding as to the common understanding as to the mandate of the agencies and, indeed, the mandate of the department in association with the agencies.

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

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

I understand the Estimates of the (Interjection)-Department of Agriculture were—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please; order, please. The Honourable Government House Leader is trying to get us through Orders of the Day here.

**Mr. McCrae:** I understand the Estimates of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Findlay) were passed last evening and that in the Chamber today we can proceed to the Estimates of the Department of Health, and the Estimates of the Department of Education will continue in Room 255.

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

### CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY—EDUCATION

\* (1430)

**Mr. Chairman, Harold Gilleshammer:** We are discussing the Estimates of the Education Department. We are on item 1. Administration and Finance, (d) Personnel Services: (1) Salaries—\$270,800.00. Shall the item pass?

**Mrs. Iva Yeo (Sturgeon Creek):** I am looking at Other Benefits, and I see that there is a new expense listed. I assume it may be for insurance or some sort of thing, but I am wondering for clarification if the Minister could tell us what that is for.

**Hon. Leonard Derkach (Minister of Education):** That figure represents overtime and casual projection.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Under Activity Identification on the other side of the page, I was reading through the description and there is an item there that is listed as "staff development," and I wondered if there could be some elaboration as to what kind of staff development, what staff would be involved, this sort of thing.

**Mr. Derkach:** That particular area refers to the assistance to staff or staff training and development, education assistance to staff who are in the department, and the approving of it goes through this particular personnel area.

**Mrs. Yeo:** So it is just for the sort of in-house, if you will, staff. It is not for assisting school divisions to provide any form of—

**Mr. Derkach:** This is just for the in-house staff, so to speak, and it is to provide information as to what courses are there and also to assist in the development of training and staff development.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Further down under Expected Results, again reading through, and there is an area that talks about provisions of the collective agreement. I am wondering, do all the staff come under the terms of a collective agreement, or which staff would be included in this collective agreement.

**Mr. Derkach:** Not all staff are in the collective agreement. This particular area is for providing information to management and staff with regard to the collective agreement and also assisting or handling grievances when they should occur.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Again further down, the objective of the personnel programs include the Affirmative Action Program, and I am sorry to get back Affirmative Action Program but, when I went home last night and read through this again, I realized that I had written a little note to myself. I am wondering what comparative work studies have been or will be carried out in the department (Interjection)- comparative-worth studies.

**Mr. Derkach:** For the information of the Honourable Member, pay equity within the department has been completed by the Civil Service Commission and is in place right now.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Have there been any attempts to analyze possible systemic barriers that might be in place in the department?

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, the Labour Management Joint Committee is and has taken a look at that particular area of systemic barriers.

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**Mrs. Yeo:** Are there concerted efforts to address some of the barriers that might be found, some of the systemic barriers that might be out there?

**Mr. Derkach:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Can you tell me what they might be? What sort of efforts are you making? What sort of actions are you taking? How are you addressing these?

**Mr. Derkach:** I guess, Mr. Chairman, several things are being done within Government and also within the department to try and remove some of the barriers, or alleviate the problems that might be in place. We could start from the physical aspects and talk about making buildings and areas more accessible to those people who fall into the area of the disabled, or have problems in getting into areas with stairs and that sort of thing. Areas where perhaps a university degree is not necessary but has been traditional, we have tried to get over that barrier by not necessarily using the university degree aspect as an essential part of that particular position. Also in trying to assist secretaries in, for example, advancing from those positions to more senior positions. There has been work done in that area as well.

\* (1440)

**Mrs. Yeo:** Has there been anything done to address teachers in the heritage languages to try and upgrade their particular abilities, or is this not the location to be talking about that sort of thing?

**Mr. Derkach:** This is not the area that should be discussed in. That is outside the area of the department itself or the mandate of the branches, or the personnel branch.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Mr. Chairman, I was rather floored when the Minister said it was outside of the department itself. Back to the other benefits, and I am bouncing around again. The Minister talked about the \$5,400 being overtime. Is that figure there as an anticipated amount of overtime? Is it back pay? I still do not understand why all of a sudden that figure appears out of the blue when it was not there the year before.

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, that is a figure that is budgeted for in anticipation of overtime and casual time. Although you do not find that item in previous years, it was incurred but not budgeted. We are anticipating that we will not spend that kind of money at this point in time.- (Interjection)- Well, that is easy to say.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall the item pass?

**Ms. Maureen Hemphill (Logan):** I would like to make sure that two areas I would like to discuss are in this section. I do not have my Estimates in front of me: Pay equity and affirmative action are both appropriate under this section, Personnel. I will have a few questions in each area. Some time ago, representatives from all of our Parties met with a group of women who came

from a committee that was organized in the Civil Service to help women organize and get more support and more information across dealing with issues like affirmative action and pay equity.

Representatives of all three political Parties, female representatives, met with them to hear their concerns. In that meeting, it was clear that they felt there was still a significant amount of inequity in terms of pay equity right across the Civil Service in all departments and that they had, each one of them in each department, examples that they knew of that they felt the pay equity question had not been addressed.

My question is are you aware of any of this feeling in your department from MGEA, or from the women's organization? I cannot remember the name of the committee. So, first, are you aware of it?

**Mr. Derkach:** I have not personally heard of any problems in that regard. The Personnel Director has not heard of any specific problems that way either. But it might be worth mentioning that this was an area that was negotiated with the MGEA and was agreed to. Therefore, under that agreement, pay equity was implemented within the department and that has been completed.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I think what I am saying though is that individual women who are working in the Department of Education and all other departments in Government believe that not all of the jobs that should have pay equity addressed to them have been. I am wondering if there is some mechanism or procedure that you can think of that would allow that information to be brought forward, particularly related to your department where they thought that there were jobs still that should have the salary changed, that there was some mechanism for that to be brought forward to your Personnel Director.

**Mr. Derkach:** Although, as I said, I have not heard of it, I am sure that the mechanism that is in place currently should be used, and that would probably be going through the MGEA and then coming through the MGEA to the Personnel Director.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I think that is useful information for all of us who attended that meeting to hear, and we perhaps might get in contact with the committee that attended that meeting to give us that information to tell them that is the route in each department to go and—we did say, you should identify each individual case that you think is being inappropriately handled, and there should be some procedure in place to get that information to the department. If you think it is through the MGEA representatives, then that is what we will, probably jointly, tell them to do, both for the Department of Education and other departments.

**Mr. Derkach:** Well, I can assure the Member for Logan (Ms. Hemphill) that if in fact that kind of situation does exist within the department, I would certainly be most anxious to know about it so that we do not have people who are discriminated against unfairly in terms of what has been arrived at through the MGEA, you know, in terms of how it should apply to pay equity.

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**Ms. Hemphill:** Is there any appeal process? In other words, once there has been a review, if there is dissatisfaction by the people employed in a certain position that it has been dealt with adequately, is there any body or any committee or any structure set up for an appeal?

**Mr. Derkach:** The salary portion of pay equity would be part of the collective agreement and, therefore, there is not an appeal mechanism for that particular area. If we are talking about reclassification, I guess that is an area that has to be considered but, in terms of salary, I do not think so.

\* (1450)

**Ms. Hemphill:** I was talking about reclassification.

**Mr. Derkach:** There is an appeal mechanism for that.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I just raise that you might give some consideration to that so that, if people feel that somebody has made a decision that they would like reviewed, there is some mechanism to do that.

I would like to ask the Minister what his position is and what action he hopes to take in terms of pay equity within the school divisions.

**Mr. Derkach:** Pay equity in schools does not come under the Personnel department or the Personnel Branch per se and it is administered through the Department of Labour, but I can indicate that although school divisions have been exempted from the pay equity legislation, I guess, certainly we are most anxious to ensure that at some point in time there is pay equity legislation or they come under the pay equity legislation, but it does not come under this particular appropriation.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I realized it did not come under this appropriation, but I am not sure which appropriation it might come under in terms of your Estimates. I appreciate the answer because I do think the question about the Minister of Education's (Mr. Derkach) attitude about pay equity in the field and with school divisions is a very important question. Although your Government may wish to proceed, your position and your recommendations, I think, in terms of timing and the importance of it would be given a fair amount of importance. What I was trying to get at is how do you, as Minister of Education (Mr. Derkach), feel about it? Is it a priority? Is it important to advance that as soon as possible?

**Mr. Derkach:** It is easy to say we will advance it as soon as possible. That is such a vague term that I almost hate to use it. I guess what I can say is my attitude towards pay equity is certainly positive, and I support it. We are working towards that kind of, I guess, objective.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I would like to go on now and ask a few questions related to affirmative action in the department. I am wondering if any statistics or information have been kept in recent years that would

indicate improvement in the area of affirmative action hiring within the Department of Education.

**Mr. Derkach:** That area was discussed quite extensively last night, as a matter of fact, and we have some information for distribution now. Perhaps by looking at that, it will give you some idea as to how the department has progressed in terms of affirmative action. Certainly, the job is not done and we intend to continue to work towards it.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I appreciate that the question came up last night. I understand that you have gathered information since the question was raised that you have for us to look at. I am just wondering if you can give us—we can look at the paper later on—some idea of what has been happening in general.

**Mr. Derkach:** I guess it would be fair to say in general terms that in all areas in my department we are underrepresented in terms of affirmative action candidates. Therefore, we are seeking affirmative action candidates, and it is so indicated on the staffing authorizations that go forward, because we realize and understand that we have a long way to go and we are not satisfied that we have progressed as far as we should be.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I am wondering if the same policy applies. First of all, I want to indicate that while we were a Government that was committed to affirmative action, that indeed it did not work as well as we had hoped ourselves, that the improvement in the numbers of people hired and given opportunities in the target groups was not what we were hoping for or directing happen, and that some of the inhibitors and problems are within the system and the procedures themselves. Those existed while we were in Government and are not unique to this new Government having taken office. I want to put that on record.

Having said that, I want to ask if one of the procedures that I believe to be a major barrier to increase the number of people hired under affirmative action, whether it is still in place with your Government, and if it is, what your attitude towards it is. That is the requirement that entry level positions, which are I believe about one-third of the positions in the Civil Service, are not open to affirmative action target groups, but can only be filled by people already in the Civil Service.

**Mr. Derkach:** The entry level candidates that the Member for Logan (Ms. Hemphill) speaks about, they have been centralized in the hiring by the Civil Service, and that is to assist in the ensuring that affirmative action is followed. That way they can monitor and keep track of how we are proceeding with affirmative action. They maintain a central registry of affirmative action candidates, so that sort of assists in the process.

**Ms. Hemphill:** To make sure I understand the answer, does that mean that those entry level positions are now open to affirmative action candidates, which was not the case previously?

**Mr. Derkach:** Yes, very much so.

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**Ms. Hemphill:** Then I congratulate the present Members for making that change, because I think it opens up the jobs affirmative action candidates have the most potential, the most opportunity to be qualified for are clearly going to be entry level positions. When they are closed off, we realize that closes off a major access for them.

\* (1500)

Mr. Chairman, can I ask the Minister what, if any, plans they have to get information like that, which is a change, out to the target groups, to the visible minorities, to members of the variety of ethnocultural communities, to Native groups and women's groups, and what they use to communicate the jobs that are coming open to the target groups? I will make clear what it is I want to know. Are we using just traditional methods of communication, which I would consider to be ads in the Free Press, in the traditional newspapers and bulletining that comes out and is put in the normal places that bulletins go when jobs are available, or is there any specific effort being made to get that information into the hands of minorities, into the hands of Native people and into the hands of women's groups, so that when a job is open they have some access to the information?

**Mr. Derkach:** As I indicated, because this is centralized in the Civil Service, I think those questions would be best put to the Minister responsible for the Civil Service (Mr. Connery) who could then answer them completely and probably more knowledgeably than I could.

**Ms. Hemphill:** While I can appreciate that the person responsible for the Civil Service carries over all responsibility for affirmative action, it was clear to us and made clear to us that you really do carry a lot of responsibility in your own department. In other words, it is not all put on the shoulders of the Minister responsible for the Civil Service. But each Minister responsible for their own department has a responsibility to make sure that it is working in their own department and directing their own department to follow the policies and coming up with suggestions and recommendations for how it can better be achieved.

So I think it is a fair question in each department what each individual Minister is doing to implement the policies that may be coming from the Civil Service, but are implemented by their staff and by their departments. I did not really leave with a question, but I think the Minister is gathering some additional information to provide.

**Mr. Derkach:** I really do not know what I can add to the comments that the Member makes except to say that within the department we do have an Affirmative Action Committee that was I guess in place when the Member was Minister and certainly still is in place. There is a Joint Labour-Management Committee that deals with affirmative action. In addition, the Minister of the Civil Service (Mr. Connery) is responsible for affirmative action, so I think we are trying to cover off as many bases as we can. Certainly our attitude within our department is that we are trying to enhance the opportunities to affirmative action candidates.

**Ms. Hemphill:** I appreciate that and I want the Minister to know that the questions I raise, I raise not to be negative but to be helpful because I think we all want affirmative action to work better in all Parties, whether we are the Government and we are in office, or we are the Opposition.

I would simply like to make the point to the Minister that there is a lot of information out there now that suggests that one of the big inhibitors is lack of access to information about what jobs are available and how to access them.

I make a friendly recommendation to the Minister and that is that he suggest or explore with his staff and perhaps present the information to his Cabinet when they are talking about it to his colleagues, that you look at untraditional forms of communication, that you look at the newsletters, at the radio television stations that the visible minorities and ethnic community and the Native community have. You look at going to the groups and using their network of information and communication and not use traditional ones that they often have no contact with at all. Perhaps even consider going to the leaders in the community and the leaders in the organizations and getting information out to them. In other words, instead of taking a passive approach, leaving it up to them to find out the information, that you take a more activist approach and you seek ways to get the information into those communities and into those groups.

**Mr. Derkach:** I thank the Member for that information and certainly it has been noted. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall the item pass?

**Mrs. Gwen Charles (Selkirk):** First, just to follow-up on a line of a question that was asked before, there was some indication that your department is working towards making access for the disabled a part of the department's interest areas. Will there be funding available for access development, in that ramps and such, like into buildings would be an additional part of the budget or is this accepted by the school districts themselves?

**Mr. Derkach:** There are two areas here that we are talking about I guess. First of all, the buildings that are used by the department itself fall into the category of Government Services. So therefore there is not funding within this department to provide for that kind of situation.

With regard to schools across the province, every new construction certainly incorporates the area of access by handicapped or those who cannot access premises normally. Therefore, that is incorporated into those building structures. In addition, there is funding set aside for upgrading existing school facilities so that in fact we do meet the regulations and the needs.

**Mrs. Charles:** Just to follow that, should a disabled person be hired into a school district, for instance one perhaps with a hearing disability, would funding be available to upgrade the facilities, not necessarily the

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actual structure of the building, but the telecommunications systems and such to accommodate minority and affirmative action groups?

**Mr. Derkach:** If that were within the department itself, we would find the supports for those kinds of situations. If it is within the school division itself where that individual were hired by a school division, then it is a matter that the school division has to provide.

**Mrs. Charles:** Therefore the conclusion to that would be that all affirmative action groups, the supports needed in the school districts, would be supplied by the school districts?

**Mr. Derkach:** That is not a question for the department. I would feel that is a matter that school divisions have to address. Certainly, through the capital projects, for example, we are providing the support such as access to buildings. In terms of our own department, if there is a need to provide other kinds of supports, that will be provided.

**Mrs. Charles:** Your last statement, that will be provided. Could you elaborate on that? I am sorry, I did not know what you mean, that will be provided.

**Mr. Derkach:** By virtue of the example that the Member used, if within our department we have a person who is hearing impaired and requires some support to allow them to do their job, those kinds of supports will be provided.

**Mrs. Charles:** So are you and your department promoting affirmative action in the school districts or is this just strictly in your departmental area, the provincial department?

**Mr. Derkach:** Again, this does not fall under this particular area. I could just make reference to the fact that within our buildings that we use right now, as I said, we had provided supports and we do provide supports. I guess a very simple example would be even the braille elevators that we have, provide for the support for those people who have perhaps vision impairment or are blind.

**Mrs. Charles:** Could the Minister indicate then which area we should be discussing affirmative action in, in the districts and the school districts themselves? Could he just indicate which section? I will be glad to ask my questions then.

**Mr. Derkach:** When you are talking about supports for schools or added facilities or capital facilities, I think that the area that you would want to address that under would be the capital facilities area or the Capital appropriation which is 16(8).

**Mrs. Charles:** Just further to that, if we are talking about your promotion of affirmative action in the districts, which section shall we be asking that under? I am not speaking of facilities themselves but the direction of policy to your school districts.

**Mr. Derkach:** I have to indicate that there is no place whereby we instruct school divisions in terms of their hiring policies. That is not at the present time available.

**Mrs. Charles:** So therefore there is no affirmative action programming out into the school districts themselves in Manitoba?

**Mr. Derkach:** Many school divisions have undertaken to develop affirmative action policies of their own.

I think if we are going to make affirmative action a reality, one of the ways to do that and a positive way to do that, I think, is by example. If we as a department indicate to school divisions that affirmative action is important to us by allowing opportunities to those people who fall into the affirmative action categories, then I think that in itself is a way of perhaps progressing and forwarding the affirmative action attitude in this province.

**Mrs. Charles:** I tend to agree with the Minister. I think one of the examples we must set is in our school divisions themselves, in that the principles and the schools bring to the students' attention the fact that all people are equal. Then the students, when they grow up, will enroll in universities to become teachers in a proportion that represents the society.

So I ask the Minister, and I do not expect answers today in that there will be some areas that they will have to research I am sure, but if the department could come back with the number of female principals in the province and the number of male principals in the province as well as minority or other affirmative action groups that may be principals in the province and, as well, the proportion of women versus men entering university into the school education programming, the B. Ed. Programs.

\* (1510)

**Mr. Derkach:** Presently, we would know who the male and female principals are and vice-principals are across the province. But certainly we do not collect the information as to which principals and vice-principals are disabled or the other information. I do not think it is allowed for us to collect that kind of information.

**Mrs. Charles:** Might we have brought to us though then the number of male principals versus the number of female principals and also the ratio of males and females entering the B. Education facilities in the province?

**Mr. Derkach:** I do not foresee that to be too difficult. We should be able to have that information available.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall the item pass?

**Ms. Hemphill:** Perhaps I could ask one additional piece of information that might be a little more at the Minister's fingertips, but could you give us information that tell us how many women in management positions that you have in the department, not in the field, who are employed by school boards, but how many women in administrative positions and what improvements there has been in that area and what efforts the Government is taking to make management positions open to qualified women.

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**Mr. Derkach:** In the managerial and administrative area, we have in excess of 41 percent of positions held by women.

**Ms. Hemphill:** Has that significant change recently—has that been a level that has been maintained over the number of previous years? It is a reasonable number anyway.

**Mr. Derkach:** Sorry, I cannot provide the previous data for the Member. We do not have that available right now.

**Ms. Hemphill:** Is the department giving a priority when an administrative position comes open to not only receive applications from qualified women candidates but actually in some cases to encourage and seek out, which I think is necessary in order to meet targets and the goal of increasing opportunities for an affirmative action target group.

**Mr. Derkach:** I would have to reply in the affirmative. As a matter of fact, I might indicate for the Member's information that the chairperson of Board of Reference, for example, for the first time, I think, is a woman. Secondly, the vice-chairperson for the Public Schools Finance Board is also a woman. So certainly we are progressing in that way.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall the item pass?

**Ms. Hemphill:** I have a few questions on the area of literacy and it is not necessary that I deal with them now. Have you passed that section?

**Mr. Chairman:** We passed that yesterday, I believe. Is there any other area where that can come up again?

**Mr. Derkach:** When we get to the area of PACE, I guess you could bring that matter up again and certainly I am not opposed to discussing it again and entering into some dialogue about that, but perhaps we could do that in 16(5).

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall the item pass? Pass. Item 1.(d)(2) Other Expenditures \$25,700—pass; item 1.(e)(1) Financial Services: Salaries, \$1,469,000.00. Shall the item pass?

**Mrs. Yeo:** I have a few questions here. If a school division wishes to sell or rent property that is no longer needed, does it have to move through the Public Schools Finance Board before it can either sell or rent?

**Mr. Derkach:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, any final leasing arrangements have to be approved by the Public Schools Finance Board.

**Mrs. Yeo:** If the school division owns the property, is it the same action?

**Mr. Derkach:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the procedure is the same.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Mr. Chairperson, is there some property, some buildings, some land that is owned by the province

and what would happen then if there was some change of ownership? Are there some school divisions where there is provincial property?

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, if that is the case, then it becomes Government Services' property.

**Mrs. Yeo:** If a school division does not find someone to access, to purchase, to lease the property, is it then turned over to the Public Schools Finance Board or to Community Services after a certain period of time, or what is the criteria that would have it changed from the school division's jurisdiction to the Government Services' jurisdiction?

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, there are guidelines in place, not regulations, with regard to property being turned over to not Community Services but Government Services. That period of time is six months. That is six months if there has not been any interest shown by any party within that time frame. However, I should indicate that it has never been implemented in the past. That 180-day period has never been implemented in the past.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Mr. Chairperson, for clarification, is the Minister saying then that, if there was an unused building on school property and there was no action on it for five months and all of a sudden there was someone who came along or a group who came along and said that they were interested in leasing the building, and the school board turned them down, there was no further action then for another say five-and-a-half months and then another group came. The school board could continue to turn down groups that show some interest in leasing property or purchasing property or whatever, and that this could keep on going and going and going as long as there was not a six months lapsed period. Is this sort of in effect what could happen?

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, the guideline is that the building, if it is vacant, needs to be advertised every month for a period of four months. If there is some interest shown within that period of time or after that period of time up to the sixth-month period, then we would again begin the process. So, in essence, the objective is that we want to see our buildings not remain vacant for any reason. We want to ensure that there is some activity with regard to leasing these buildings out to interested parties.

\* (1520)

**Mrs. Yeo:** Does a group who is turned down by an individual school board have the right to themselves appeal to the Public Schools Finance Board?

**Mr. Derkach:** We have never run into a situation like one where there has been appeal. But I do not think that there is a mechanism whereby they can appeal to the Public Schools Finance Board, a decision made by that particular school board.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Is there any criteria for the individual school divisions to follow with regard to recommendations by

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the department for community input into the decision-making process?

**Mr. Derkach:** The leasing itself does not require that there be community input into the whole discussion or into the arrangements that might be arrived at. However, I guess I should point out that in fact trustees are representatives of their communities. So therefore they reflect the wishes of the community that they represent.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Am I right then in believing that there is no place for the department to intervene should an individual school division make recommendations that there is community input and that individual community chooses not to follow that individual recommendation? This is strictly out of the jurisdiction of the department's hands then? That is a question.

**Mr. Derkach:** The leasing of school buildings is the responsibility of individual school boards. Now if they fail to lease them or they cannot arrive at a lease agreement, then the school board can ask the Public Schools Finance Board to take over that particular building because they cannot find an organization or group that wishes to utilize that particular building. But it is really in the responsibility of the local school board.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Should a school board request that the Department of Education take over a particular facility, would the department feel that it was imperative that they in fact approach the community before they made a decision as to what to do or could Government Services just choose to do whatever they wish with that particular facility?

**Mr. Derkach:** That is difficult for the department to answer, because the building then becomes the property of Government Services. So therefore it is sort of taken out of the responsibility of the department.

**Mrs. Yeo:** I realize that some of these questions are hypothetical. I felt compelled to put some of them on the record for perhaps what may be obvious reasons. I would like to ask the Minister now something about the current condition up in the Thompson area. I am wondering what sorts of immediate provisions might be made to address a current situation whereby students are in overcrowded classrooms.

The situation was brought to the attention of the Public Schools Finance Board a number of months, in fact a year ago, whereby the teachers were feeling very frustrated. Having been in conversation with a couple of the teachers up in the Thompson area and some of the parents in that area where there is an emergent sense of frustration, where they feel that there should be something done to address this situation, not with the bureaucratic red tape type of thing, but where fairly immediate action is required to assist those students to receive a better quality education and to certainly assist the teachers who are feeling very frustrated with the overcrowded situation up in Thompson.

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, maybe I should just advise the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo) that the

area she is zeroing in on should be covered in the Capital area. I am wondering whether this is discussion that we could perhaps postpone until that time, until we talk about Capital Projects.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Certainly I am willing to postpone it to that particular time. I just assumed that with the Public Schools Finance Board that there would be some discussion. I see that under one of the objectives they are talking about the Schools Finance Branch and I just assumed it was in this particular area.

**Mr. Derkach:** Mr. Chairman, I think just for clarification, and I know both the Member for Sturgeon Creek (Mrs. Yeo) and myself are going through this for the first time as critic and as Minister respectively. I would just like to say that Capital Projects are covered in 16(8) where we can zero in on all kinds of capital projects. The Financial Services to the Public Schools Finance Board are provided through this branch. However, when you talk specifically about capital projects, I think you probably want to discuss them under the section of 16(8). However, I could provide the Member an answer to the situation in Thompson at this time if she would like it.

**Mrs. Yeo:** Perhaps before I let my frustration become more and more evident, because I read through this and I take a certain interpretation. I might say that I think there is room for interpreting some of these areas.

Having sat in for a number of hours in Community Services, I became very aware that there was a fair degree of leeway given with questioning. I am realizing that perhaps this Minister is a little tighter when we say where he allows the questioning to take itself. He is saying, no, no. I am not arguing that this is not a good way to deal with things. I think we have to keep things in a fairly organized manner. However, when I read through things and questions are outlined or come into my head with regard to some of the comments that are on the various pages, I have a touch of frustration in not being able to ask them. I hope I can remember when it comes to the area under Capital Projects, under 16(8). Yes, I would like to have some response made with regard to the Thompson School situation and, if I could ask the Hansard people to stop the buzzing, I would also do that at the same time. I am sure the answers are coming all the way from Thompson.

\* (1530)

**Mr. Chairman:** Maybe we will just take a short break until they correct this.

**An Honourable Member:** That is a good ploy.

## SUPPLY—HEALTH

**Mr. Chairman, Mark Minenko:** I call this section of the Committee of Supply to order. This section of the Committee of Supply will be dealing with the Estimates of the Department of Health. We shall begin with a statement from the Honourable Minister responsible.



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**Hon. Donald Orchard (Minister of Health):** Mr. Chairman, if there is someone able to distribute, I have a copy of my opening remarks for the Opposition Health critics of both official Parties.

Mr. Chairman, I rise with pride to introduce the Estimates of the Manitoba Department of Health. I will, of course, welcome any advice, comments or suggestions that Members on both sides of this House may have with respect to the programs in the areas of responsibility of my department.

In introducing the Estimates, I would like to highlight two general areas. The first is the fiscal and economic situation in health services. I believe it is important that we achieve a balanced and rational view of health service costs and the implications of efforts that Government makes to manage these costs.

The second important issue that I will be asking Members to comment upon is the nature of the relationships within health services in Manitoba. I will be suggesting that in large part, as a result of the inappropriate responses that Government has made to cost concerns in recent years, those relationships have been strained almost to the breaking point. I will be suggesting that we have developed what could be almost called a habit of conflict within health services with Government engaging in conflict with physicians, nurses, hospitals, community groups and with the advocates of those who suffer from particular health problems or disabilities.

I will be suggesting that one of the most important steps this new Government can take is to strive to break that habit of conflict and restore a sense of partnership and shared responsibility within what I and other Manitobans believe fundamentally to be one of the best health services systems in this nation or any other. And I will be speaking on some of the measures I will be taking to try to achieve that goal and to rebuild that sense of partnership.

Mr. Chairman, the situation facing those of us concerned with the delivery of health services is not markedly different in Manitoba than in other provinces. Health services have been funded for the past 15 years at almost twice the rate of inflation—twice the rate of inflation—and yet there appears to be no dampening in the demands for increased funding. I believe it would be helpful to cite some examples of funding increases for health programs. In 1975, Government expenditures on health care accounted for 29 percent of all Government programs. By 1987, this figure had risen to 31.5 percent. During this time, inflation rose by 122 percent; provincial revenues by 181 percent; while health expenditures rose 235 percent.

It may be useful for us to take a moment to look at some programs in more detail. Here I will focus from 1982 to 1986, Mr. Chairman. I do this because budget expenditures and program items are probably more clearly fixed in our minds over this relatively recent period. When we turn to the area of Manitoba Health, the budget in the fiscal year 1982-83 was \$78 million. Five years later in the fiscal year 1986-87, it had risen to \$115 million. The Continuing Care Program is funded by Manitoba Health and over the same period of time

expenditures on Continuing Care went from approximately \$16 million in 1982-83 to over \$30 million in '86-87.

When we look at the Manitoba Health Services Commission over the same period, the budget rose from \$693 million to \$1.1 billion over that five-year period. The figure for the Manitoba Health Services Commission does not include expenditures related to the five-year Capital Program. Simple financial logic tells us that this kind of growth in cost cannot continue indefinitely. We all know we must become more efficient.

\* (1430)

Mr. Chairman, when I was Opposition critic, I urged the NDP Government to ensure the citizens of Manitoba that every effort had been taken to maximize efficiencies in the delivery of health services. I indicated areas where I thought the Government should play a stronger role and, indeed, when they did, I was the first to provide my support for their actions. I have, over the past months, consulted with numerous individuals representing a multitude of organizations and interests to discuss the issue of health care and its financing and to gain their responses and opinions. Almost to a person the word has come back to me that we are probably spending enough money in total on health care services.

The budget of the Manitoba Health Services Commission and Manitoba Health this year will be in excess of \$1.4 billion. That is almost \$1,400 per Manitoban that will be spent by Government in this fiscal year. There is general agreement that total health spending is probably high enough in Manitoba, but there is also a very strong feeling that we could be spending these huge amounts of money more effectively to provide better health services and promote better health for the people of Manitoba. There is a tremendous level of frustration throughout the health services community at what is widely reviewed as having been a single-minded focus on health costs by Government and Manitoba in recent years at the expense of opportunities to provide better care and better services to the people of this province. There is a tremendous willingness among the dedicated men and women who work within health services to use their insight and knowledge to make health services better in this province.

Identifying the need to change the delivery of health services is not a new concept. Many Ministers before me have pointed out health care expenditure increases, the changing face of health services, and have stressed the need for change. The previous Government was no exception. Indeed there was much talk of the need to reform health services and with it the need to change the focus of our health services delivery network.

The issue is not only the need for change. The issue is how to achieve results. I do not believe that Government sitting alone at the table and dictating to the health service system of this province can achieve the kind of changes and improvements that are needed. So our approach will be different from that of our predecessors in Government. Their plan was to build

yet a larger and more complicated central bureaucracy to direct health services in Manitoba. The previous administration saw the need to create a larger Government structure. There were plans to reorganize the department and the Manitoba Health Services Commission by adding yet another level of senior management, another level of bureaucracy. There would have been duplication in health care planning with additional new positions. Of major concern to me was the plan to reduce the status of the Mental Health Division. Finally, there would have been actions to downgrade the independence of the Board of the Manitoba Health Services Commission.

Mr. Chairman, I have confidence in the senior civil servants who head up Manitoba Health and the Manitoba Health Services Commission. I have turned to two individuals who have worked for considerable periods of time in the health care fields. Here I speak specifically about the appointment of Mr. Frank Maynard as Acting Deputy Minister. Mr. Maynard is also the Vice-Chairman of the Board of the Manitoba Health Services Commission and brings with him almost 20 years of experience in Government. Over at the Manitoba Health Service Commission, I have appointed Mr. Frank DeCock as Acting Executive Director. Mr. DeCock has been with the Manitoba Health Services Commission for over 12 years. These two individuals and other members of senior management bring a wealth of experience and professionalism to the provision of health services.

But I do not support the expansion of the bureaucracy to the extent that was intended by the previous government, nor the increase of senior management positions at such an unprecedented rate. I believe we have a team of strong professional managers to whom I can turn for the thoughtful administration of health programs, changes to improve the delivery of health care to Manitobans will be brought about with the assistance of this team of experienced Government managers whom I have to assist me.

I also wish to add that point about the board of the Manitoba Health Services Commission. Unlike the previous administration and Government, there are no plans to diminish the responsibility and independence of the board. Indeed, it has been strengthened under this administration with the appointment of an independent chairman, Mr. William Ziprick, no stranger to many former Members of this House and present Members of this House.

In addition to Mr. Ziprick, independent members were also appointed who will take on additional responsibilities than was the case under the previous Government. This dynamic change in leadership will allow the Manitoba Health Services Commission Board to oversee areas of responsibility that are critical to the future evolution and development of health services in Manitoba.

The Estimates that we will be discussing today and for the next few days will begin to set the tone for greater participation of those involved in health services, including cost containment measures and a more pragmatic and realistic endeavour to plan rationally for the evolution of health services. I will be working

diligently to ensure that the response to health services is done within a forum of cooperation and fiscal awareness.

The Estimates will highlight particular areas which need to be refocused because of the issues of our times. Here I draw your attention to our initiative concerning AIDS. We have redirected resources from within the existing base to assist in the development of activities under way regarding AIDS. Specifically, staff of the department will be allocated throughout the rural and northern regions in the province, increasing our capacity to provide health promotion and education services to combat this deadly disease.

Goals have been established which will enhance existing health promotion and health prevention activities relating to AIDS. These goals include ensuring that appropriate policies and programs for the control of HIV are developed, increasing the public's understanding of HIV infection and AIDS, reducing the spread of HIV infection in Manitoba, promoting the testing and counselling of persons who may be affected with AIDS, ensuring a coordinated approach to the care and management of HIV and AIDS and its sufferers.

Regarding home care, a recent external review has been completed and I am pleased to announce that I have tabled the review, and when we come to the section concerning a Continuing Care Program, I am certain that it will be discussed in detail. In addition, I draw Members' attention to the increase in funding of an additional \$10 million allocated to the Home Care Program over the previous budget year base.

For years the issue of union, non-union disparity in wages has been raised. I am pleased to announce that this year's Estimates include a sum that will begin to eradicate this very unfair disparity in funding. We have set aside \$2 million as a contingency fund to offset extraordinary costs that may arise in the hospitals, in addition to the regular hospital funding.

Finally, under the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba there is an initiative to support a Youth Drug Abuse Program and a commitment to expand women's treatment services at River House.

I also wish to point out that this year will see an increased commitment to program audit and evaluation activities, bringing together more closely the work done by the Research and Planning Directorate with that of Internal Audit Services. There will be appropriate staff time devoted to support the Health Advisory Network which I will discuss at a later point in this presentation.

Within the next few weeks, I will be announcing a major reorganization of mental health services in the Province of Manitoba. Mental health is a priority of this Government. With a new mental health strategy, I will seek to address the long-standing problems identified in mental health. These problems have been in existence for at least the last three decades. They include a lack of overall planning and strategic objectives; an inequitable distribution of resources; a community versus institutional dichotomy that impedes cooperation and promotes partisan program objectives; and finally, an uncoordinated and fragmented system.

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\* (1440)

At the organizational level, for instance, one arm of Government funds the mental health centres; another arm of Government has the responsibility for the standards of community mental health workers and their activities; another arm of Government struggles desperately to ensure an adequate number of psychiatrists; and yet another arm of our Government funds our general hospitals that have contained within them the acute psychiatric wards. This Government's new mental health strategy, Mr. Chairman, will result in steady and, in some cases, dramatic improvements in the mental health services Manitobans receive.

I have spoken of the importance of the sense of partnership and of shared responsibility throughout the health service system. I have spoken of the habit of conflict that grew up through the system over the last year. I have it fueled by a Government attitude that seemed to say the costs were more important than quality, and that planning can only occur when Government was sitting alone at the table.

I think Government has sat alone at the table long enough. It is time to begin to work together again with all of the groups who make up health services in Manitoba to make health services better. That is something that no Government and no Minister of Health can achieve alone. It is necessary to develop realistic incredible mechanisms that will permit health professionals and others who work in providing services to Manitobans to play a creative and influential part, once again, in the development of our health services in this province.

The Manitoba Health Advisory Network will be such a mechanism. I will soon be announcing the appointment of the chairman of the Health Advisory Network. Specific goals of the network will include a forum to provide an opportunity where leading individuals from throughout the health service system of Manitoba can express their views and concerns about any and all matters relating to health policy in the province;

To bring together people from different parts of the health service community to work cooperatively to define action plans, to address opportunities for improvements in the quality and the effectiveness of health services in Manitoba, to advise me on an ongoing basis;

To provide leadership in communication on health issues to the public in all parts of Manitoba;

To engage leading men and women from all parts of the health service system to provide specific advice on matters of priority to the Government.

Mr. Chairman, the network will not be a bureaucracy. Instead, it will operate directly with the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Health to ensure prompt, direct and cooperative mutual access between the department and all parts of the health service system.

My goal in establishing the network is to provide a window through which I can receive the advice of individuals throughout the health service community,

not merely as part of a study but as an ongoing element in the management of health services. As the Department of Health deals with major questions affecting health services, I will ask the network to establish project teams drawn from all parts of the health service system, reflecting differing professional and technical backgrounds and differing political points of view. We will ask the members of these project groups to put aside their special interests and focus on the development of practical and realistic action plans that we can follow to improve health services.

I am not promising huge amounts of new money. The men and women who work in health services know the financial realities as well as any of us here. They know there is no huge supply of new money to be had, but I am promising an effective and responsive working partnership to make health services better in Manitoba. Through the activities of the network, as in every other aspect of our operations, we will look for opportunities to use resources more efficiently, to minimize duplication, to deliver services at lower cost without compromising quality.

But this search will not be conducted by a provincial Government that is obsessed with cost to the exclusion of quality. It will be conducted through a renewed partnership between Government and the groups who make up health services in Manitoba. The good will is there. Heaven knows, the intelligence and the experience and the dedication are there. What has been lacking has been a Government that will act as a leader and as a partner, instead of a narrow paymaster.

I believe the most important step we can take now to safeguard Manitoba's tradition of excellent health services is to provide that leadership and to rebuild that partnership. In the meantime, of course, we will not be standing still. I have spoken of our increased funding for home care and our new initiatives in mental health. We will be looking for help and advice from the Health Advisory Network to ensure that our reforms in both these areas are effective. We will also be engaging the health services community through the network in a cooperative effort to develop truly effective health promotion activities in Manitoba.

The idea of health promotion is far from new. Successive Ministers of Health have agreed that it is more important for our community to focus more effectively on preventative measures and on measures that will encourage healthy lifestyles rather than continuing to focus exclusively on the treatment of illness. Our achievements in this area have been few. The impact of our measures on health status is elusive. But the fundamental idea is still a good one. It makes good sense to take measures and to encourage other individuals and organizations to take measures that will avoid illness.

So my Cabinet colleagues and I will be working together through a joint Cabinet committee to revitalize health promotion and disease prevention in Manitoba. We will involve the health service community through the Health Advisory Network in this very important initiative.

Similarly we will be striving to take better advantage of the potential for alternative health care strategies

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that contribute to enhanced independence for the citizens of this province. Alternative health care strategies have been talked about as necessary to ensure the long-term continuation of ensured health services.

There have been reviews undertaken in other provincial jurisdictions as well as in Manitoba that have pointed out the need to try different things. Basically the recommendations have been to substitute more efficient health services in an ambulatory sense from what we have traditionally done within an inpatient hospital network. This is something that I think is worthy of our consideration. I will ask the Health Advisory Network to build upon previous work and to coordinate with the Manitoba Health Services Commission Capital Program in the development of a strategy to enhance our capacity to provide ambulatory care for diagnostic, medical and surgical services. I want to be clear about this so I will provide a brief example.

It was not too long ago that the removal of kidney stones was a surgical procedure that required hospitalization and the length of stay ranging between seven to ten days. Now, with a lithotripter, which is available at the Health Sciences Centre, these kidney stones are crushed, allowing the patient to return home on the same day as the procedure is done. This has changed a one-week procedure to a two-hour ambulatory care procedure which saves hundreds of patient days in hospital care each year. I might add that in terms of cataract surgery, similar development has taken place in North America and in Manitoba and Canada to make it a much more outpatient surgical procedure.

These two areas represent a major breakthrough. What a marvelous change to make things better for people. Not only is this good for the people who receive health services but it is good for those of us who are accountable for health care policy.

I give my pledge that where I can ensure that Manitobans can receive better care, I will work diligently to bring about the changes that are needed. Where we need to build ambulatory care surgery facilities, I intend to put this into place as quickly as possible. This is the type of change I mean, not radical disruption to what Manitobans believe is top rate, high quality health services, but their gradual evolution. This introduces the Health Advisory Network and its short-term objectives.

There is another issue I wish to address, and that is the area of rehabilitation. It has long been acknowledged that there is a shortage of rehabilitation professionals. The shortage is not something experienced in Manitoba alone but indeed is experienced throughout Canada.

\* (1450)

Since my appointment as Minister, I have had senior staff meet with health professionals concerned with rehabilitation services. I am pleased to say that I will be taking steps to address the situation. I will soon be appointing an individual who will meet with the various interested parties and provide Government with a clear

action plan to redress this problematic area. We need, and I am personally committed as Minister of Health, to increase the complement of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech therapists and other members of the rehabilitative health care team. As an elected Member from a rural Manitoba constituency, I know first hand the difficulty that is faced in providing even the most basic of rehabilitative services in rural Manitoba.

The shortfall of rehabilitation specialists has reached such a critical stage that our urban centres are not able to attract professionals. I wish this review and action plan to be completed early in the new year. I am very pleased to be able to act upon this work that was undertaken this summer and I am confident that we can endorse a strategy to put in place the necessary framework so that Manitobans will soon be able to be self-sufficient in the numbers of individuals who are needed to provide rehabilitative services.

In the interim, the Manitoba Health Services Commission has undertaken a joint endeavour with the Health Sciences Centre that will provide additional positions to hire four more speech therapists.

I will soon be bringing my opening remarks to an end, but before I do I would like to touch on one last general point. Health care is of vital concern to Manitobans. We have come to enjoy the existing insured health services which range from medical care to acute and extended treatment as part of the basic fabric of our society.

We do not have to face the possibility of catastrophic financial hardship as a result of illness or accident. This is a benefit so essential in our society that it involves the commitment of all individuals, regardless of their political persuasion. When I was an Opposition critic I attempted to be helpful and insightful in providing the Minister of the Day with a critical analysis of where I thought Government should change direction.

When Government put in programs of excellence and had the tenacity to make critical decisions, I was supportive of such action. I have not changed my viewpoint since being appointed Minister of Health. I believe it will serve all Manitobans better if we agree to embrace through review and critique of health services in the spirit of cooperation and not in unnecessary confrontation. I believe also that when Members opposite get a greater appreciation of work that is under way, and work which has been completed, that they will appreciate to an even greater extent the commitment of those individuals who are in the health services delivery system.

It is within this spirit of cooperation that I say, as Minister of Health, it is time for people throughout the system, including Members opposite, to work to rebuilding the partnership that should and must exist in health services. As I close these opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, let me reiterate. Our health system is the among the best in this nation or any other. All of the Parties represented in this House share a commitment to its maintenance and improvement. That same commitment exists throughout all the groups who make up the health services system of this province.

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By restoring a sense of partnership and shared responsibility, through the Health Advisory Network, and I would hope in this Chamber through the free sharing of information, I believe that we can ensure that we have a health service that is not just affordable, but is also excellent and capable of changing and growing to meet the needs of our community.

That is a goal I know all of us here share and I ask Members for their help and advice. I wish to thank committee members for the opportunity of making this introductory statement and will provide additional comments as we proceed through Estimates. Thank you.

**Mr. Gulzar Cheema (Kildonan):** With pleasure, I rise today to participate in the Estimates of the Department of Health. For the last few weeks we have raised several questions in the House in regard to various issues and I will highlight some of them.

Let me remind the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) of what the Throne Speech stated, that my Government is committed to maintaining and enhancing high quality health services for all Manitobans.

We must be prepared to meet the challenges with new and innovative ideas on the provision of health services. As well, my Government will implement new and creative incentive to attract and retain physicians and other specialized health care professionals in rural Manitoba; and finally, in support of my Government's commitment to AIDS education and prevention, additional resources will be made available to provide services across Manitoba.

Mr. Chairperson, this is now the time to begin the process of evaluation. Has this Government met these and other objectives as they have said in the Throne Speech?

In a time of difficulty, most human beings look to avenues of hope and opportunity. Health care, that is proper health care, offers the patient the ability to look at a bright future where they can participate in decision-making, organize their energy and above all, enjoy good health.

My Party believes in this as a basic principle of any human service, people contributing and controlling their own directions and setting a tone for the future. Unfortunately, this Government, which has stated many times that it believes in this principle, however, has another type of reality; that is of money. This is where the dollar speaks loudest over rational, humane care to their fellow human beings.

This Health budget speaks of bureaucracy, as there was mention of the Health Advisory Network, and I am pleased to know that some of my questions will be answered during the Estimates as regards this advisory network. There is a great imbalance between the institutional versus community-based services and there is an inequality between the urban and rural Manitoba, north and south.

In the Minister's initial remarks, he mentioned that his Government is concerned about mental health services in Manitoba. Let me quote a few words which

I think are extremely important. "The field of mental health has been given a low priority in comparison to other health cares. Individuals, health care professionals, Government and society at large have been fascinated and at times overwhelmed by other dramatic areas of health care such as surgical procedures, hi-tech electronic equipment, state-of-the-art pharmaceutical and dramatic cures and recoveries which seem to occur almost overnight."

Mr. Chairperson, mental health care, on the other hand, is quite different. It differs in that the results are tragic. The mental health field is characterized by a shortage of health care professionals who are willing to work in this difficult area and at times there is a lack of services and resources in mental health care.

The ultimate result is a significant group of people with serious mental illness who either receive sub-optimal care or who wait an unreasonably long period before they can obtain care or others who go entirely without any care whatsoever.

While some areas of health care appear intense, dramatic and exciting to the population at large, to the minority of individuals whose lives and families are affected by mental illness, the pain and suffering is no less intense. Unfortunately, society at large ultimately suffers from the lack of awareness of mental illness and wishes to push it back to the closet where it cannot be seen.

The effects of this are difficult to measure. The costs are difficult to calculate. Besides the very real pain and suffering of the individuals and their families, there is a tremendous loss to society in terms of potential contribution these individuals could have made. Whether it be some of our basic social underpinnings such as marriage and family or in a broader sense in terms of business and industry, the loss to the national economy in terms of sick time and mental disability is staggering.

Mr. Chairperson, in our society when a group or a minority is stigmatized, or treated poorly, or ignored, or prevented from obtaining and enjoying the basics in life, the rest of us take it for granted. Their groups may have the opportunity to speak out and draw attention to the injustice we unknowingly inflict upon them. This is much more difficult for people with mental illness. People with a mental illness, while being stigmatized, actually are comprised of a number of small minorities. I refer to the elderly, the physically disabled, the mentally retarded, the criminally charged, physically and sexually abused, amongst other overall groups of mentally-ill patients.

\* (1500)

In broad terms, many of the more serious of the mentally disturbed and disabled are also some of society's poorest individuals. They are socially isolated and some of them live in housing that most of us would be revolted by. I am pleased with the Minister's remarks that that is one of their major priorities, but I would like to point out some of the problems we are facing in Manitoba.

As I have indicated earlier, we are facing a psychiatric manpower shortage. That was the area of cooperation

which did not exist in the previous administration. That was one of the reasons why about 20 psychiatrists left Manitoba and most of them left from the teaching programs. At present we are facing not in terms of primary care but also the leadership which is required to maintain any program.

Another area of concern is that of communicable disease control. It becomes a great concern to this Party and to the people of Manitoba that this Budget is projected to increase by about 23 percent, which seems quite significant, but only if the delivery of services is remarkable and that the services are delivered in the right manner. These are focuses on the spread of communicable diseases, specifically AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases.

To clarify the needs for the expenditure and the methods of delivery, let me provide this House with facts of alarming proportion. According to the Royal Society of Canada, the majority of those inflicted with AIDS, 89 percent are between the age of 20 and 49 years. After diagnosis, about 52 percent of the patients will die within one year and 74 percent within two years. In 1985, among the age 22 to age 44 years, the death rate from AIDS was 2.4 per 100,000. The number of years of potential life lost a year nearly doubled.

Compared with the other causes of deaths in this age group, AIDS ranked 10th in 1985, following suicide, motor vehicle accidents, coronary heart disease, stroke and cirrhosis. Primary data for 1980 suggests that AIDS has moved up to fourth place. If current epidemiological trend remains constant, AIDS will surpass coronary heart disease to become the third leading cause of death for men in this age group. By 1992, it could even become the leading cause of death. Let me repeat that is the leading cause of death for men between the age of 20 and 49.

Mr. Chairperson, where is the expanded AIDS campaign as the Minister in his discussion and with his advocacy and community health groups promised? We have raised several questions that the pamphlet, which is the primary thing for the education, is not yet available.

The Minister has indicated that he is caring and sensitive to this issue. This is a time to develop and expand our communication program to the general public, and to everyone in every work place, to the families and friends, and especially to the youth who are beginning to engage in sexual activity more than ever before.

My other area of concern is that of maternal and child health. This budget area is a disgrace. A minimum increase of only 3 percent for this budget area in a time of great need. With the loss of the invitro fertilization clinic and no notice of this area in the Throne Speech, and also in the Budget later on—the limited increase in this area—it is very clear that this Government has turned its back on the children and mothers of Manitoba. The need for promoting optimal health to the expectant and new mothers, new families, children and youth is very important.

The other area of concern which the Minister has not indicated in his Estimates speech right now is the

area for the seniors. Our aged population is growing and, by year 2001, we will have at least 13 percent of our population above the age of 65 and, with their age group growing, the needs of those individuals will be increased. More specifically, there are more increases of the mental health services as well as for their physical illness.

We do not have a program in Manitoba which will specifically address their needs. There was an evaluation committee which had brought the report forward, and I am sure the Minister has read it now. That report clearly gives us the ideas where we should be taking some of our services, more specifically for our seniors.

The other areas of concerns are the environmental health. In this area, there is only a total expenditure of \$218,000 and this we cannot take seriously when one compares the expenditure in the Minister's office which is about \$500,000.00. What is the value of our environment, especially its effect on workers and the general public? Environment pollution, effluent in our water, toxin in our air, and other general factors affecting the health of the community is quite important, and we should be looking at this more in detail.

Mr. Chairperson, northern health, the Honourable Minister has not mentioned about northern health in his Estimates speech also. The services for the northern health has no increase in this budget, perhaps an oversight. I wish to judge that the northern Manitobans, the health of northern Manitobans, is under control. Of all the places in the health budget, one significant area—the North—is forgotten. There is no increase with assumption that needs were addressed in the past. Is this the statement referring to the fact that most of the northern population have health care cost and need under control?

Can we not spend the time and money improving the delivery and quality of health services to remote locations? Where is the Government's responsibility to the population who is already isolated? Has the Government lost responsibility to these communities as costs rise and services need to be expanded in Manitoba? Are we to assume that there is no increase in the budget and we are putting this population more at risk?

The other area of concerns are there is very little money available for the drug abuse program. There are virtually at present not many programs existing which could be utilized to teach our youth about the drug abuse, about the sexually transmitted diseases.

The Minister has for quite some time stated that we should wait for the Estimates to arrive and all of our questions would be answered. I know that it hurts to see the Opposition daily asking questions why the Minister did not know and when we are going to have our answers. It is no time to find out what the Minister really is planning to do with some of services.

I believe that it is time to question his judgment and also about the comprehensive health care service. This is slowly being eroded by the economical mentality.

\* (1510)

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During this Estimate process open discussion must remain our priority and I believe that personality clashes should have no place in these discussions. In these Estimates, I am looking forward also to know the staff of the Health Department and acknowledge their valuable contribution. Thank you.

**Mr. Jay Cowan (Churchill):** Mr. Chairperson, a review of the spending plans for the Department of Health allow the Opposition the first real opportunity to hold the Minister and the new Conservative Government accountable for its actions, accountable for its inactions or its lack of action where that has taken place, accountable for the cutbacks that it has already imposed, accountable for the increased fees that they have imposed on Manitobans and those most in need, accountable for the general lack of direction that we have seen this Minister and this Government exhibit since they have had the position of authority as the new Government of Manitoba.

Most troublesome, most bothering to me is their lack of vision for the future of the health care system in Manitoba. Because it is a strong system, perhaps one of the best systems in the world, but in a lot of ways it is also a fragile system. It is a system that will not continue to earn that position of excellence unless there is a continuing vision that guides the Minister and guides the Government with respect to dealing with the problems in the health care system and indeed there are problems. The previous administration did not deal effectively with all of them, although it dealt with many. No administration, no matter which political stripe it will be, will deal with all the problems in any given time. But without a vision, without an overall goal and objective, then all the problem solving that one could do would only be a band-aid solution to a problem that requires major surgery and stitches following.

We do not expect that our Estimates process will be an easy task. The Liberal critic, I think, outlined some of our frustrations in the past in trying to obtain answers from this Minister. My words in the opening statement are going to be somewhat harsh, perhaps not as harsh as the Minister when he was Member of the Opposition and the Health critic was, but they will be harsh because I am, as is the Liberal Health critic, angry; angry at the lack of answers, angry at the evasiveness, angry at the frustration that the Minister has created for us and for those who watch this process and look to this House for answers, by his refusing to answer the questions directly and thoroughly.

The Minister has almost an obsessive passion to avoid giving any direct answers to the questions we ask. It is interesting to note because we keep records, as does the Clerk, with respect to the length of answers that one gives in this House. The Minister of Health has the record for the present Session for talking out the Question Period. On average, he has given the longest answers of any Member of the Government. He has spent more time answering questions in this House, and yet in spite of his many words or perhaps even because of his many words, he has said very little of substance. Unfortunately, it appears that he has chosen to use or perhaps misuse his way with words, and he does have a very capable way with words. He is very

good. But he has taken that talent and instead of using it to enlighten and to educate and to bring about the type of consensus that he says he so dearly wants, he has used it, at least in this House, to obfuscate, to confuse and to complicate.

Despite that inclination, he will find that it is much more difficult to baffle and to bluster and to bully, when one has to stand in this place hour after hour and be held accountable for the things he says, be held accountable for the things he has said before he assumed this position, because there are some very enlightening statements that can be put on the record, that are already on the record of this Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) that he made when he was the Opposition critic for the Department of Health. So he will have to be held accountable for the things that he said before and he will have to be held accountable for the things he does, such as the tightening up of the guidelines for the home care system, or the increase in the Pharmacare deductible for seniors, and he will have to be held accountable for the things he does not do, and we have seen a lot of that.

That is what this Estimates debate is all about. It is a public accountability session and this Minister, of all Ministers, has a lot for which to be accountable. He will be asked to explain why his Government has almost without exception, and I underscore the word "almost," failed to live up to its election promises.

Mr. Chairperson, during the election, the Conservatives promised not to close or cut hospital beds until a thorough review of the health care system was completed and community-based facilities were in place. Since the election they have indeed closed hospital beds; they have kept those beds closed after they were scheduled to be put back into operation. They have broken that, perhaps, key crucial promise that they made to this electorate a little over six months ago. During the election the Conservatives promised to establish a Health Advisory Network, and one would say how could one be critical today, given the remarks of the Minister in this commentary that he was going to appoint a chairperson of the Health Advisory Network.

Now, it is almost to the day, six months since his Government won the election and during that six months we have heard a lot of talk about a Health Advisory Network. During that six months we have heard a lot of suggestions that action on that election promise would be forthcoming, to use the proverbial legislative misnomer—

**Mr. Harry Enns (Lakeside):** Soon.

**Mr. Cowan:** Yes, the Member for Lakeside helps me out. In quotation marks on both sides, in capital letters, it is double bold, all those things that you can do now with the fancy computers—"SOON, SOON." - (Interjection)- The Member for Fort Rouge (Mr. Carr) says in due course, not even in due course—"SOON."

I had actually expected some more substance to this promise in respecting the Health Advisory Network today, and I listened carefully because when I first heard

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them, I said to myself, thank goodness, the Health Advisory Network is finally being appointed even if it is soon. But when I read his comments, I saw that was not case. Because what he says in his comments is not that they are appointing a Health Advisory Network and as I said before he is very good with words. They said they were appointing a chairperson of a Health Advisory Network. A chairperson, where is the rest of the network?

What that leads me to believe that this is another promise that although we have heard a lot of generalities and we have heard fine-sounding but meaningless assurances, it is a promise that is not going to be fulfilled in the near future. Perhaps given the parliamentary use of the word "soon" but certainly not in the near future. I think that very concise and very specific announcement of the appointment of a chairperson gives rise to some suspicion. He did say during the campaign that they were going to increase the salaries of non-unionized hospital workers to levels consistent with salaries earned by the unionized hospital workers. We have seen some action on that part and I have to tell you, Mr. Chairperson, that as I go through these election commitments and I am not going to take the time to do it now, but I will as we pursue through the Estimates more thoroughly, there are many with which I find fault and I am critical of.

So it is not that by saying they have not fulfilled them I am in any way substantiating that they were good promises to begin with, I am just saying that they have not lived up to their commitments in the past. During the election campaign the Conservatives promised to develop an integrated health strategy for seniors. My friend, the Liberal critic mentioned this point and he was absolutely correct in stating that this is one of the major areas of need of our health care system and one of the growing areas of need of our health care system. They have not done that. Where is that integrated health strategy for seniors? It is nowhere to be seen but what we have seen in its place is an addition to the burdens that seniors and others on fixed incomes must face by increasing the Pharmacare deductible, by their tightening up the guidelines to the provision of home care services—one more broken promise.

I said earlier that there are a lot of promises they made which one does not agree with and others do not agree with, but they did not keep them. They promised to close down the Morgentaler Clinic. Did they? No, I think they saw better what the circumstances were, once they had a bit more information from him. But that is a promise that they gave to the people of this province during the election in order to be elected to the position they now hold.

\* (1520)

The Minister in Opposition used to talk at great length about the pitiful situation with ambulance grants in this province. Yet when he had a chance to increase the ambulance grants this time, more than they had been anticipated to be, an increase of 3 percent in the previous Budget that they defeated, he did not do so—another broken commitment.

There are other areas that the Conservatives have taken action or not taken action since their election,

which I think also point inconsistencies, the invitro fertilization program. One would have expected, after listening to them have all the answers and all the solutions in Opposition for so many years, that they would have found it in their heart—and that is what this one required—to help out that program. I am critical of my Liberal friends on this one too because I thought they should have supported the invitro fertilization clinic emergency debate that we called for in this House. And they did not. I think we lost an opportunity in timing to perhaps help the Government find its heart on this one, but that is past.

I will just say to them now as I said to them then, when they said, well, we can get to this matter in Estimates, that Estimates was going to be a very long ways off. By the time we got this matter in Estimates, the clinic was going to be disbanded. The staff were going to be put into different duties and some are even out of the province. The equipment was going to be moved and we really would not be able to see the type of reinstating the program immediately that we called for in that emergency debate after that period of time. So I hope we have all learned a lesson from that and that should not happen in the future.

With respect to AIDS, we have seen a Government that has fumbled the law time and time and time and time again. I am not surprised because when I said the Minister would have to be held accountable for what he says and what he has said, I particularly reference what he had said previously to his becoming Minister. He made some very nasty, spiteful, I think, vitriolic, uncalled for comments during the debate on the Human Rights Code in this House—and they can be quoted back to him if he wishes—which displayed, I believe, a particular perspective that has made it difficult for him to grapple with this very major health problem of AIDS.

He has had to, and I hope he has accomplished it, I am not certain he has, but he has had to try to turn his whole mind around on that issue given what he said then and given what he must do now. He has those words that are haunting him, but we will give him encouragement to disregard those previous biases that were held and to try to put this matter into a better perspective. But I think the reason that there are not pamphlets out now, and I am told that the Minister has had some hesitancy, some personal hesitancy with some of the materials that have been shown to him, I think that the reason there are not pamphlets out now is because he is still having to grapple with that internal problem that he faces in this area.

I think that it shows that when we came in the House and said there are 2,000 pamphlets that are available and he right away said, no, they are not available and later on said, yes, they are available but they were not being handed out, that there was some more substance to the fears of not only ourselves but others in the community, that they were not going to get a fair deal when it came to the matter of dealing with AIDS. The Minister is going to have to deal with what someone termed user fees with respect to the Home Care Program. And he says they are not user fees, but a rose by any other name, and particularly a name that



is given to it right in the Price Waterhouse Report is still a rose or a user fee, as the case may be.

There is another issue that we have not even touched upon because there just was not enough time at all. But I want to spend a fair amount of time on it during the course of these Estimates and starting relatively soon. I will tell the Minister that is an issue that we want to talk about under Research and Planning and that is the impact of free trade on our health care systems in Canada generally, and in Manitoba specifically. We know that this is a Government that has committed ideologically to free trade. That gives us a concern that they are not going to explore on their own this issue in enough depth to determine whether or not there is a problem with free trade and our health care services. Are we going to be opening our borders to blood banks, and there are problems there such as has been suggested by others. Are we going to be opening up our borders to the management of hospitals, and even to the construction and the organization of hospitals, under a private system because of the Free Trade Agreement? Are we going to damage our health care system because of our participation in this Free Trade Agreement? Now, I said the Minister has a bias in this area and I can tell you I have a bias in this area.

I am opposed to free trade. I am opposed to it on the basis of what I have read and what I understand. I am certain that the Minister is in favour of it on the basis of what he has read and what he understands. I think there is even a bit of ideological, philosophical bias that sort of tempers our reading of the materials that are provided to us. But the debate here, that we can have here in this Chamber, will allow us to air the issues and allow us to provide each other with our own insights and to put on the record our own perceptions, and then to let others judge as to whether or not there is a problem. I believe they will find that, in fact, there is.

\* (1530)

The Estimates process also gives the Minister the chance to hold us accountable, the New Democratic Party caucus, for the things that we did in Government, hold us accountable for the things we did not do in Government. I can tell you that we did not do all that we should have or would have, had we had more time or wished to. I can tell you that we did do some things that we would not have done if we had had the opportunity to do them differently. I think anyone who is in a position of power can come to that conclusion after a period of time. But the fact is that we, too, have to be held accountable for that and this Minister is very prone to use the old first envelope. Everyone is familiar with the first envelope story. I do not think I have to repeat it. No?

**An Honourable Member:** I think maybe you should repeat it.

**Mr. Cowan:** I will repeat it later on in my account. I know I have limited time here but I will put that on the record a bit later on. But the Minister is very prone

and very quick to blame the previous administration for everything and the fact is that there are things for which we must accept some responsibility and some blame. But on the other hand, I hope that he soon gives up that posturing and tries to hold us accountable for that which we are saying now, point out any inconsistencies he sees in what we say, point out any problems and have a good honest, open dialogue and debate on those important issues because we are only going to marginally hold him accountable for what he said when in Opposition, and we hope he will become as future-oriented as we are in our comments.

It is also an opportunity for the Liberals to justify their positions. I hope the Liberal Health critic (Mr. Cheema) will take time during this debate to put on the record what it was his Leader meant when she said that she would stand by a proposal to charge for hospital amenities, such as meals and mouthwash. That is a very major issue, in my mind—user fees. I hope he will take some opportunity during this debate to explain what was meant by that. Going back to promises—and we will have more time to debate that—the last promise that I want to mention is one that they kept. That was a promise to remove the \$10 million Health Reform Trust Fund and that is particularly problematic and troublesome to me. It is a promise that they unequivocally kept, no doubt about it. They have probably been the quickest and the firmest on that one.

I am concerned about that because the system is in need of reform. There is no doubt in anyone's mind about that. Quite frankly, as a Government—I told you we had to be accountable for things—we did not do enough to reform the health care system.

**An Honourable Member:** That is true.

**Mr. Cowan:** We did not do enough in initiating a long-overdue process of reform and what we did do was too late, not only too late because of the unanticipated election, but too late because we waited too long to do it, but that did not mean that we could not make up time. I believe we were quite late in starting a comprehensive process that could lead to necessary reform of a system that faces many new challenges. There are no easy answers. The \$10 million Health Trust Fund and the accompanying demonstration projects were the key components of a consultative and comprehensive effort to identify those challenges, to explore the many different opportunities that we had to deal with then, to chart out paths for future orientations, and chart out ways that we wished to accomplish overall and specific Government objectives and goals, and to monitor and evaluate and fine tune those reform-motivated efforts as new experiences provided us with new lessons.

The New Democratic Party Opposition will be pressuring the Minister and the Conservative Government to meet those challenges head on. We have seen how they reacted to health care challenges in the past. We saw what happened from 1977 to 1981 and we will never forget how they tore down, tore apart, dismantled and destructed a very fine health care system during those years. It took us some time, from '81

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on, to start to rebuild that. We will not let that happen again. We believe that reform is necessary and we believe that there are certain elements of reform that lead us to those overall objectives, which is the best possible health care. We believe that the focus must be on preventive, and that is why we have some concern with the comments today, in the Minister's opening remarks which focused in large part on rehabilitation.

We are not concerned that he talked about rehabilitation but we are concerned that there was much more focus on rehabilitation rather than on preventive. Both are needed. Both are required. But if you are going to reform the system then you need rehabilitative measures as a small component and you need a main focus on preventive measures. That is where you need to reform the system. Rehabilitative measures are measures that mend the system, not reform it.

We believe that education is a key component of reform. We believe that education of health care professionals, education of individuals, is a key component of the health care reform. Yesterday we talked about vaccine-damaged children in a resolution and we talked about education being so important for the parents and the health professionals with respect to preventing the type of tragic consequences that occur rarely, but do occur nonetheless, from the adverse reactions to vaccines by some children. We agreed that education was necessary, education was preventive.

That is a microcosm of what is needed for the entire system. We need that in all areas. We believe that a reform system will have a much larger focus on community-based methods, procedures and institutions rather than the standard institutions that we now have in place in the hospitals and the like. We believe that community base involves two key components; that is, locating the process in the community and having it controlled by the community. We believe that there is a requirement for much greater empowerment of individuals in the province with respect to their health care needs and their health care activities.

We believe that there is a much greater need for equitable access because right now there is not equitable access across the province or even within different classes within the province with respect to health care. The poor do not have the same access to health care that the rich do. The Northerners do not have the same access to health care that people in the city do. Rural communities and residents do not have the same access to health care that the city residents have.

We believe that there is a need for a greater use of paraprofessionals to expand the base of medical professionals as part of the reform mechanisms, and we believe that there is a requirement to ensure that the new technologies which are advancing at rates unparalleled, unanticipated and unknown a few years ago, are used effectively and to the best benefit of all Manitobans.

Reform can only be accomplished over a long, long time. There is the old story about the supertanker, that it takes miles and miles and miles to turn around. Our health care system is like one of those large

supertankers. It is sturdy. It performs a function. It is going in a specific direction. But if we have to reform it, and that is what we have to do; if we have to reform it then it is going to take, like the supertanker, a very long time to get it turned even a little bit off the course it is on.

There will be excitement and there will be rewards throughout the process. Let there be no doubt about that. And there will be some very fast-paced times, but the whole goal will be long and tedious. That cannot be used as an excuse for any delay and inaction and we will not allow that to happen.

Throughout this review of the Estimates and the spending plans of the Government, we will encourage and we will indeed support those initiatives of the Government that lead to a better, more equitable health care system, whether they be based on improving deficiencies that we were unable to improve and were at fault for that reason, or whether they be based on building on existing strengths in the system which we were able to build upon and establish. And we should be given some credit for that where that is the case—and when I say "we," I say not a particular Government or administration, I say "we" as a society—or whether they be by implementing innovative reform which this Minister brings forward, we will support, we will encourage, we will applaud those efforts. At the same time, Mr. Chairperson, we will be especially critical of what we perceive to be inappropriate cutbacks or retrenchments in policies and programs.

We will be critical of what is happening in home care. We will be critical of the Pharmacare deductible increase, at the same time when the Government found enough money to give \$15 million or \$10 million back to Inco and \$5 million back to the railways and CPR.

We will be even more harshly critical when the words of the Minister or his colleagues do not match the actions of the Government -(Interjection)- Well, the Member for Lakeside (Mr. Enns) says oh, but they will. Let me tell you why I have a particular concern in this area, because just today we heard the Minister talking about a focus on reforming and changing the mental health system. It is one of the areas that is most in need of change and one of the areas where we did not do as good a job as we should have done, no doubt about that. We were trying; we had some things in place. I think over time we would have come to grips with the problems there and we would have changed it, but either for the lack of opportunity or the lack of will or just the lack of knowing what to do, I do not know, we did not accomplish what should have been accomplished in that area. So there is a challenge there for the Minister.

One of the challenges is to ensure that we move away from the institutions to the extent that it is possible, knowing that there will always be a need for institutions, and we move toward community-based programs and community efforts. And that is what we assume would happen. But at the same time as we hear those words being mouthed, we see the Welcome Home Program—a quote from the Winnipeg Sun of today, "The Welcome Home fell victim to Party politics." We see the quote: "Re-integration quotas rejected.

Filmson rejects the reintegration quotas. Chronic Chair dilemma." We see them talk about the value of Home Care and praise the Home Care workers. Yet we see the tightening up of the guidelines that are going to reduce the opportunity for Home Care to individuals.

So there have been too many inconsistencies already and too many fine-sounding but ultimately meaningless assurances, and too many flip-flops for us to take much solace in only what is said. We are going to demand to see action. We are going to demand to see results. We are going to demand to see something happen along the lines of what the Government says it is going to be doing.

One final point, we will listen very carefully to the words of the Minister because, as I said, I admire, I respect and I acknowledge his ability to work words well. He said that his approach will not be different than when he was an Opposition Member and I think in some cases he is right and in some cases he is wrong, because already we have seen a change in the way in which he says things in this House. I think he is right with respect to the overall report approach. The first thing he talked about in his comments was the fiscal and economic situation in health services. He did not talk about the needs of individuals. He did not talk about the care needs. He did not talk about the programs. He talked about fiscal and economic issues as the first priority.

We have seen that this is a Government that is fixated on fiscal matters and this just reinforces that fear because we know that when that fixation is there, they tend to ignore the real needs of human beings and work more on the basis of the other side of the equation; and that is, how much does it cost to deal with those needs, rather than how can those needs best be met.

I have listened to the Member for 11 years now. We have been in this House together for 11 years, and you know, he does speak differently now than he did in Opposition. He is a bit more mellow and he is a bit more statespersonlike, and he is a bit more conciliatory. But you know something? I liked him better in Opposition for one reason. Even though I did not like what he was saying and I thought he went too far from time to time, he made me angry and I thought he was too personal. I thought that he exaggerated a bit. But I liked him better because I knew he spoke the way he felt. I knew what he was saying was coming from his heart and his—guts is unparliamentary.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, please. The Member's time has expired.

It is customary to defer debate on item 1.(a) Minister's Salary until the end of the debate on the rest of the Estimates of the department. I now draw Members' attention to—order, please. I now draw Members' attention to consider item 1.(b) Executive Support: (1) Salaries.

I invite the staff to participate. The Honourable Minister of Health.

\* (1540)

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, before we pass 1.(b)(1), I would like to introduce the staff that have come in. My

Acting Deputy Minister, Mr. Frank Maynard; Acting Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance/Administration, Mr. Lloyd Searcy; and Director of Planning, David Pascoe.

**Mr. Cheema:** My first question is could the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) please table in this House, as the Minister of Finance (Mr. Manness) tabled, the Financial Report that listed the fourth quarter actuals? Could the Minister of Health provide the line-by-line actuals?

**Mr. Orchard:** I think my honourable friend might run that request by me again so I can be sure as to what he is exactly requesting.

**Mr. Cheema:** Could the Minister of Health provide line by line the actuals as was indicated by the Minister of Finance when he tabled the report for the fourth quarter?

**Mr. Orchard:** The '87-88 actual expenditure for the department was \$121,736,200.00.

**Mr. Cheema:** My next question is for the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard). Could the Minister of Health table the capital spending for the year 1989, please?

**Mr. Orchard:** If my honourable friend refers to page 96 of the Estimates, he will see Expenditures Related to Capital of \$41,775,400.00. When we reach that line in the Estimates, I would be more than pleased to provide him with a detailed breakout of what is involved in that \$41 million as we know them; but, of course, that capital fund also contains contingency expenditures which crop up during the year and, in effect, it is the best estimate of what we think we would expend during the year.

**Mr. Cheema:** My question is that under the Professional/Technical Support staff, there is not any change, the number is the same, and there is an increase in the salary. Can the Minister explain as to why?

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, did I hear correctly that the Liberal Opposition critic wants to talk about the Professional and Support staff? Did I hear correctly?

**Mr. Cheema:** That is right, Technical.

**Mr. Orchard:** Technical. Okay. I will tell you what we are going to do to make this speed right along. What page are you at in the Supplementary Estimates?

**Mr. Cheema:** That is on page 24.

**Mr. Orchard:** In terms of the support staff, administrative support staff, there are six positions last year as well as this year. Is that basically what you want to know?

**Mr. Cheema:** I will repeat my question then. Under the Professional and Technical Support staff, there were four positions last year. There are similar positions this

year and there has been a significant increase in their salary. Can the Minister explain to us, is there any change in the job description, and why is there such a significant amount of increase?

\* (1550)

**Mr. Orchard:** My honourable friend, what you want to know is why we end up at approximately a \$33,000 increase on \$290,000 worth of salaries? Okay. Let me give you—there are a number of factors that impacted here. There was some error in last year's print presentation, in calculating the '87-88 salary amount and there was a requirement to fill a vacant position which was created by the transfer of funds out of this appropriation last year to Operating, to cover the costs of the Associate Deputy Minister, Mr. Kaufman, to support his contract.

Now, that is primarily the reason for the difference there, because we had to transfer money out to make money available through Other Expenditures for a contract for the former Associate Deputy Minister's contract.

**Mr. Cheema:** My question I do not think the Minister has answered. I am asking that under the Professional and Technical Administration Support. There were four positions last year. There are the same number this year, and there is a significant increase from \$124,000 to \$140,000.00. Why is there such a significant increase in the amount?

**Mr. Orchard:** I am trying to give you the reason that the difference showed up for last year. The primary reason is because they pulled funds out of a staff position which was vacant, to put it into Other Expenditures, from which they then come up with that, plus additional monies to fund the contract arrangements with the former Associate Deputy Minister. That is part of it and that is the majority part of it. There is a small amount in addition for general salary increase that was struck according to the outcome of the MGEA contract.

**Mr. Cheema:** Thank you. While we are at Mr. Kaufman's contract, can the Minister indicate to us—Mr. Kaufman, when he left—what kind of compensation was he paid?

**Mr. Orchard:** He left effective June 30 or July—I suppose the third or fourth, whatever the effective Monday was. That settlement arrangement is in the process of being negotiated right now, and I can give no indication as to what it will be because we simply have not received the settlement agreement in its final form.

**Mr. Cheema:** For the last six months, as negotiations are going on, could the Minister please tell us what kind of compensation package is being considered so that—

**Mr. Orchard:** I hesitate to do that, not that I do not want to share the information, but I am sure my honourable friend would appreciate that the settlement

is into negotiations. My arrangements that I made with Mr. Kaufman when we agreed that his contractual services for approximately \$100,000 a year would no longer be required by the Government, it was on the basis that when Government had made that decision as an administrative decision of Government that we would undertake to make an equitable settlement of the contract, because the contract had a time period beyond June 30, 1988 as you can well expect. It was not unlike other contracts we inherited from the previous administration in which they were extended beyond, and indicated undertakings that were part of the contractual arrangement that set a precedent, for instance, wherein in this particular one the agreement was that the individual would become the Deputy Minister.

I think you can appreciate—and I say this without any personal reference to the individual. It is not often that Governments change and Governments are expected to have a contractual arrangement for the Deputy Minister in place which they must honour. Deputy Ministers of Government are the entire option of incoming Governments. That has always been the circumstance, that always will be the circumstance, and that extends to Assistant Deputy Ministers, as well.

So, Mr. Chairman, I am not at liberty to discuss and in fact I do not know what the negotiations are. But when Mr. Kaufman and I agreed that his services would not be needed past June 30, I indicated that it was an administrative decision of Government and that I would not involve in any way any reflection on his abilities, past or present, in terms of his service with Government and agreed that we would negotiate an appropriate settlement arrangement. Those negotiations are in process and will be concluded in due course, and I cannot even give you an indication as to whether they will be completed this month, next month. I am simply unable to provide that information at this juncture.

**Mr. Cheema:** Mr. Chairperson, my question is again for the same issue, for Mr. Kaufman. Considering that he will be paid some amount of compensation, can the Minister indicate where those funds will be coming, either from this, Executive Support staff salaries, or somewhere else?

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, the arrangement with Mr. Kaufman was with his consulting firm—I believe it was called J.K.L. Consultants—and the previous administration had written a contractual agreement with Mr. Kaufman's consulting firm in which they agreed to purchase consulting services from the consulting firm with Mr. Kaufman providing those consulting services. Those services involved duties as Associate Deputy Minister with the further contractual arrangement that he would become the Deputy Minister upon retirement of the previous Deputy Minister. But the contract was one for professional services. It was not a direct employment contract.

**Mr. Cheema:** My question still remains the same, if Mr. Kaufman is paid some kind of compensation, where that amount will be coming from, either from the Executive Support staff or from somewhere else.

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, that will come from the line Supply and Services, which goes from \$77,400 last year to \$112,600 this year.

**Mr. Cheema:** My next question is, out of the support staff the Minister has for the Professional and Technical, can he explain their duties, and has there been any major change from the last administration?

**Mr. Orchard:** Yes, I can give you that information, Mr. Chairman. There are 10 spots here, 10 SYs. This includes staff in my office and in the Deputy Minister's office and clerical support for both offices. There is, to the best of my understanding I believe, all new staff in my office, and I believe one staff change in the Deputy Minister's office and one vacancy.

\* (1600)

**Mr. Cheema:** My question is under Other Operations. There was last year \$29,100, and there is a significant increase up to \$35,600.00. Can the Minister explain to us what comes under Other Operations and why there is an increase of such an amount?

**Mr. Orchard:** Some of the increases include a new item on insurance, publications going from \$1,400 to \$2,100, and an increase in the appropriation of hotels and meals which make up the balance of the expenditures. What these reflect, in general, is a reasonable reflection of the actual expenditures last year.

**Mr. Cheema:** My question is again under the Supply and Services. The Honourable Minister has indicated that, if and when Mr. Kaufman is paid some compensation, it will come out of that, but there is still a difference of about \$34,000.00. Can he explain to us, is that the amount he is considering or is there going to be a difference?

**Mr. Orchard:** I guess that is about as good an estimate as we can make because we have some increase in rentals under Supply and Services. The balance is an increase in professional fees, which we hope will be adequate to cover any settlement we may have to make.

**Mr. Cheema:** My question is under Other Expenditures. There is a line indicating Communications. Out of that, there was last year \$14,100; this time, there is an increase of about \$3,500.00. Can the Minister explain to us, under that Communications, what are the programs and if there are any specific health programs being implicated?

**Mr. Orchard:** Again to my honourable friend, the Communications involves telephone and other, like courier services or whatever. What we are seeing is an increase not only for increased rates which appear to be with us each and every year, but also an adjustment to more accurately reflect the actual experience in the Minister's office and the Deputy Minister's office.

**Mr. Cheema:** My other question is under the same term Capital. There is an increase of about \$3,800.00.

Can the Minister explain to us why there is such a difference of the amount this year?

**Mr. Orchard:** This involves some furniture renewals.

**Mr. Cowan:** Just on a general note and I look to my colleague, the Liberal critic for Health, for some reaction from him as well, I think we might be able to expedite the matters of the Estimates. Rather than asking specific questions, if the Minister could just commit to provide to us a list of vacancies at the beginning of each of the sections, how long they have been vacant. Also, I would like, and he can go back a full year if he wants for the past year or he can go back since the election if he wants, a listing of the changes in personnel in each of those areas and any changes in salary levels for those personnel. If he can supply, and I do not expect them today on these particulars, but if he can supply those to us in the future I think we can save a bit of time in the Estimates and I look to my colleague to see if he would be agreeable to that.

**Mr. Orchard:** I tell you what we will do. I think we will be able to produce by at least Thursday. Would that be—okay, we have almost got it now, we just have to update the vacancies, but what we will do is provide—okay, that is the way to go right now. Yes, this has got the vacancies on it as of October 7.—(Interjection)—No, the only thing that is not in here is any change in salary and I do not think you will see anything in terms of salary changes with the exception of normal increments after x-y-z years of services according to the contracts and application of GSI, and application of pay equity, as it is impacted on the department. There has been—okay, what we will do is, where there has been a reclassification, we will let you know where there has been a reclassification.

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

Possibly I could have these distributed to health critics, and as I indicated earlier, in terms of this first page in staffing of the 10, there are two vacancies, not the one I indicated earlier. With the change in Government there is none of the secretarial pool that was formally in the Minister of Health's office presently there and, of course, my honourable friend is well aware that the political staff were automatically "weaned out," I guess that is the way to put it with the change of Government.

In the Deputy Minister's office there is one change of staff, with one individual moving from the Deputy Minister's office to the Manitoba Health Services Commission and one individual coming in from the Department of Health to fill that position. There are two vacancies in the office complement. To my knowledge there has been no reclassifications with the exception of my secretary, which was classified at a lower rate, an AY3 and I think is now—whatever the classification for Minister's secretary is and that is the only classification.

**Mr. Cowan:** On one final general note, it is not my intention to ask a lot of detailed questions on staffing

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or other expenditures at all except that there are others who may wish to provide or have provided to them that detailed information. I just want to explain why it is, because sometimes when one sits in their seat in the Chamber and does not ask a question on every specific item, it is interpreted as one not being interested in that particular item. That may in fact be the case in some instances, but in this instance should not be interpreted to be such.

The time is limited. I am hoping that we can move through these Estimates relatively quickly. It is not our intention to prolong them or extend them and for that reason there will be areas that we will not, at least our caucus, will not be addressing this year, not because we do not care particularly about them, but because there are other areas, given the limited time that we think are extremely important. For example, while there are some important questions that can be asked in other forms in this particular area in writing and correspondence or directed through Question Period, I do want to get on to the next item which is the Health Advisory Network and the next item which is Research and Planning, so we can talk a bit about free trade.

So please, just to make the point, we understand the need for detail and we appreciate that and we are not being at all critical of the request for detail, but in our instance when we do not ask for it, it is because we want to get on some more global issues as soon as possible.

**Ms. Avis Gray (Ellice):** I am wondering if the Minister of Health would be prepared to table for us a complete comparative statement of the approved and actual expenditures for the fiscal years '87-88 and '88-89?

**Mr. Orchard:** We do not have that but, if my honourable friend has specific areas of concern, we can certainly provide that as part of the detail in discussion.

\* (1610)

**Ms. Gray:** I am wondering if the Minister could indicate why this information would not be available, if not today, on Thursday, since it was certainly available within the Department of Community Services, and I would assume that the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) would at least have, minimal, the same information.

**Mr. Orchard:** Certainly that kind of information is available. If you have areas that you wish to explore, we will provide answers to that as Estimates go on. Certainly that could make for most appropriate questioning and discussion.

**Ms. Gray:** Would the Minister be prepared to table the comparative statements, since he is indicating that he has that information, that would go through the various appropriations and indicate the approved and actual expenditures? This would certainly make it much easier for our discussions as we do go through the Estimates process, and I would assume by the Minister's previous comments that he would wish us to be able to go through the Estimates as well in a smooth manner and this would certainly assist us. I am asking if he would be willing to table that?

**Mr. Orchard:** In the interests of smoothing over the speedy discussion of Health Estimates, certainly we will make every effort to have that information available to you.

**Ms. Gray:** I appreciate the Minister's willingness to provide that information. Would the Minister be able to provide that information for Thursday?

**Mr. Orchard:** We will make every effort to make '87-88 actuals available.

**Ms. Gray:** Another question, I am wondering if the Minister could indicate to us who is negotiating with Mr. J. Kaufman in regard to the settlement? Is it someone within the Minister's department or who is doing the negotiations?

**Mr. Orchard:** It is Stevenson, Kellogg, Ernst and Whinney.

**Ms. Gray:** A further question, the Minister had indicated that he would be willing to table the Capital funding in detail as we reached those appropriations. I am wondering again, based on my experience with the Minister of Community Services (Mrs. Oleson), who was certainly willing to provide that information before we reached those appropriations, would the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) also be willing to table that Capital funding in terms of the details of the grant, and would he also be willing to table grants which are being provided through the external agencies before we reach those appropriations.

**Mr. Orchard:** That would be the intention.

**Ms. Gray:** For clarification, is the Minister indicating that would be his intention, to table that information as soon as possible, such as Thursday or Monday?

**Mr. Orchard:** I will provide my honourable friend with the detailed listing of grants for my honourable friend, in terms of the Capital Program. It has been the tradition in the House longstanding, and certainly I am a traditionalist in terms of process and procedure, whereby as we approach the Manitoba Health Services Commission Estimates, the Capital Estimates would be tabled.

**Ms. Gray:** I thank the Minister. He has indicated he will table the detailed amounts for Capital funding. Would he also table the list of grants to the external agencies?

**Mr. Orchard:** As we get into each appropriation, would it be appropriate to make the list of what external agencies to which grants are provided available at that time?

**Ms. Gray:** Yes, it would be appropriate. I am wondering if, again for convenience and I can appreciate the fact that the Minister is a traditionalist, I am wondering if he would agree to follow the precedent perhaps set by the Minister of Community Services (Mrs. Oleson) and actually provide that listing of grants. In speaking

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with some of the agencies, I understand some of them have been informed of the amounts they will be receiving and I am wondering if he would be prepared to table that information before we come to those appropriations, again, to make questioning crisper and more efficient as we do move through the Estimates.

**Mr. Orchard:** Madam Acting Chairman, we have provided and I regret, I should send one over to my honourable friend for Ellice (Ms. Gray). If the Page could take this over. These are the global numbers in terms of grants, and my Deputy Minister has refreshed my memory that on previous occasions wherein I made similar requests of former Ministers of Health, that those requests were respectfully declined in terms of the actual grants which were provided to each agency. What we can do is indicate to you the level of support for fiscal year '87-88 to the external agencies, but because some negotiations are ongoing with external agencies in terms of their level of funding, it would be inappropriate today, as it was formerly, to indicate what sort of levels of fundings would be anticipated for this year when negotiations are going on.

**Ms. Gray:** Madam Acting Chairperson, I will accept the Minister's comments at this point. I would have assumed that the Minister would certainly not want to follow along in the path of his previous predecessors in regard to what they did.

**Mr. Orchard:** Madam Acting Chairman, never wishing to refuse the bait, as I have indicated in my opening remarks, there are some areas that the previous Government did and did very well and I congratulate them on doing that and certainly follow their excellent example. This is one of them.

**Mr. Cowan:** One other question, I would just ask, given his answer, when does he anticipate the negotiations will be complete?

**Mr. Orchard:** Some negotiations are done now and some are ongoing, but I would suspect that the majority of them will be completed within the next number of weeks.

**Mr. Cowan:** Madam Acting Chairperson, I can appreciate the desire and even recognize the need of the Minister not to want to tell us what a specific level is until the negotiations had been completed. I would ask him if he has any difficulty in telling us what the specific levels of the grants are, where the negotiations have been completed and then we would assume that as negotiations are completed on an ongoing basis over a period of time, he would bring us up to date, either during the Estimates process, if possible, or by memo if required outside of the Estimates.

**Mr. Orchard:** The general rule of thumb that we have used to set targeted increases to externally-funded agencies has been in the 3 percent range, but as has existed previously, there is naturally a range of negotiations. Some external agencies do not, for instance, expend their previous year's grant allocation and you tend to negotiate on actuals, not budget.

Indeed, others have unmet needs in which the grants, the general increase of 3 percent is not sufficient and some agencies may well receive something in addition to the 3 percent, and those negotiations of course probably would be completed now at this juncture in the calendar year had it not been for an election, a defeat of a Budget, the creation of a new Budget, all of which put the whole funding process to agencies, hospitals, personal care homes, somewhat more delayed than normal.

**Mr. Cowan:** The Minister did not answer my question directly, and perhaps it was because I did not articulate it well enough. It is my understanding from his comments that some negotiations have already been completed. It is my understanding that they are within the range of 3 percent—that is a global amount—but some are higher and some are lower.

My question to the Minister was can he indicate to us what the grant funding has been, where the negotiations are already completed and, assuming that there is a difficulty in providing the information to us, and accepting the fact there is difficulty in providing the information to us where there are ongoing negotiations, we would expect that he would be able to provide the information to us where the negotiations have been completed.

Then the second part of the question was not only will he provide that information, but will he keep us advised and up to date as to what negotiated levels are reached once those negotiations are concluded, and he can do that either in the Estimates process itself or by memo outside of the Estimates process.

The reason we asked for that information is because it is important information with respect to determining how the Government is going to approach the whole area of providing funding to outside organizations, to outside agencies, to agencies more closely connected with the Government through its health care system.

\* (1620)

The Government will invariably, as did we, demonstrate certain biases and certain perspectives and certain approaches by the granting of funding, because that is one of the ways in which it has to influence the system. I think it would be helpful to us to know which agencies are getting more than 3 percent and which agencies are getting less than 3 percent. If the Minister feels that information could be misinterpreted, then we would certainly be prepared to accept, review and critique and discuss any reasoning that he would want to give for a particular grant being higher than the 3 percent or less than the 3 percent.

So the specific questions are: can we have that information which has already been negotiated; and will he keep us up to date as soon as the negotiations are complete on an ongoing basis?

**Mr. Orchard:** Yes.

**Mr. Cheema:** I have a couple of questions again on the same topic of Mr. Kaufman. Can the Minister

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indicate to us what time frame he has put aside for Mr. Kaufman's negotiations? Was there any amount paid to him when he was let go? My third question is was he fired or did he resign?

**Mr. Orchard:** What we did on June 30 was I indicated personally to Mr. Kaufman that his services would be not required and that we were wishing to end the relationship that he had with the Department of Health. As of June 30, all accounts were paid. What we are in the midst of negotiating now is, of course, the post-June 30 settlement.

**Mr. Cheema:** I think I missed the initial part of the Minister's reply. My question was this: was there any specific amount and who is negotiating on behalf of the Government of Manitoba? How much money is going to be spent just on negotiating?

**Mr. Orchard:** Thorne, Whinney, Kellogg are negotiating. I cannot tell you how much they are charging us for their professional services. I could only indicate that after they have completed their negotiations.

(Mr. Chairman in the Chair.)

**Mr. Cheema:** I have no further questions on the Executive Support staff. If the Member for Churchill (Mr. Cowan) does not have any questions, then I think we will go to the next item.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is it the will of the section to pass item 1.(b)(1) Salaries? (Agreed) Is it the will of the section to pass item 1.(b)(2) Other Expenditures? (Agreed)

1.(c) Health Advisory Network—the Honourable Member for Kildonan.

**Mr. Cheema:** Can the Minister indicate to us what is the reason for this advisory network? He has already indicated some of his objectives in his opening statement. Could he just elaborate on some of the main, primary objectives, please?

**Mr. Orchard:** I am very pleased to deal with the Health Advisory Network at this juncture in Estimates.

As I tried to indicate in my opening remarks, one of the difficulties that we inherited—and here I am trying to be as genteel in my choice of words as I can be—was a health system in which there had developed—and I am sure my honourable friend, as a member of the medical profession, would concur in some degree with the comments I will make—that in a lot of ways the previous administration had operated from an adversarial standpoint with various professionals involved in the delivery of health services.

If I can be so blunt, and I will be, the health care system has evolved not as a cohesive system in which hospitals work in relationship to outpatient services—and community and regional services and personal care homes function in the same way. Professionals within the delivery system work together in an effort to achieve the greatest level of sophisticated service delivery. What I think it is fair to say is that the system has evolved, through the years, into one in which we have a number

of areas where there are definite lines and protection of turf. We have lost that cross-discipline cooperation.

If I can make a general statement and a general categorization, one of the things that I think that has happened is that we have lost, in terms of Government as the funder of health care in the Province of Manitoba, the role that Government takes a legitimate overview of the health care expenditures, the budget and the areas in which we dedicate almost a billion-and-a-half dollars of resources.

Let me give you just one example. I made reference to it in my opening remarks. When I was appointed Minister of Health in May, one of the very first things that was on my desk as an impending crisis was the extreme difficulty we were facing in the community hospitals in terms of acute psychiatric care beds. That difficulty still exists. We still have a shortage of psychiatrists in our community hospitals. But what was going to exacerbate the problem was the closure of the McEwen Building for renovations over the summer months. We had a tremendous problem about to hit Government over the head, not exactly the kind of warm and friendly reception to the office of Minister of Health that one would have liked to have seen. There was an instant problem and a potential crisis on the horizon.

I had discussions with my Deputy Minister on that and decided that we ought to convene a meeting with the heads of Psychiatry and people within the Department of Health wherein we sit down and we attempt to plan rationally for this summer problem that we were going to have, exacerbated, as I say, by the McEwen Building.

When I called that meeting, I expected that we would have the various players from the Department of Health and MHSC at the meeting, along with the heads of Psychiatry. Out of pure coincidence, the night before the meeting, or the afternoon before the meeting, I phoned my Assistant Deputy Minister of Mental Health Services about another issue and my closing remarks were that I will see you at the meeting tomorrow, because here we were going to talk about a significant problem at the highest level of Mental Health Service delivery, the acute care beds.

To my dismay and chagrin, my Assistant Deputy Minister said, what meeting? The Assistant Deputy Minister of Mental Health Services had not been invited to this meeting because this meeting was in that very narrow part of Mental Health Delivery out of MHSC that was in the community hospital funding line. I just shook my head and I said, this cannot be true, that in resolving problems of bed shortages, of psychiatric manpower problems and we are sitting down to discuss the issue with the players in mental health, that we do not have the Assistant Deputy Minister of mental health there.

\* (1630)

But that is the way this department has operated up until now and that is why, since that time, we have put some considerable effort in consultation with the community, with psychiatrists, with others, in an effort to bring those people together to resolve problems



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rather than having them in isolated streams protecting their own turf, delivering their own program with no coordination, no focus, no quarterback.

Mr. Chairman, that is a shocking state of affairs to inherit but that is what we inherited in Mental Health. We put the focus on that and I think that as we explain the reorganization and put the final touches to the reorganization that we are proposing for Mental Health Services in the Department of Health and the Commission in the community, I think that Members will be indeed impressed and very supportive of the kind of cooperative effort that has come together to make realizable change happen.

That is exactly the role that I envision in the Health Advisory Network. Instead of four streams of Government, each running down their own path from the institutional side of Brandon and Selkirk and even Mental Health Centre, from the regional side with Mental Health Services in the regions, from the acute care hospitals out of MHSC to medical recruitment of psychiatrists again in a different branch of MHSC, instead of having four different tracks running in four different courses without correlation, cooperation and coordination, we are bringing those people together. Now, that is exactly what the Health Advisory Network is deemed to do.

We know what the problems are in large part in the health care system. We do not need further studies to pile on top of further studies because we have identified the problems. What we need now is the development of realistic solutions. Governments cannot develop those realistic solutions. As my honourable friends from the previous administration know full well, those solutions cannot be developed in isolation of the affected components delivering health services.

It is fully our intention in the problem resolution process that we want to go through that the players be brought around the table to discuss the problem to seek out mutually acceptable solutions because you cannot solve the crisis for instance in hospital services by singling out the doctors and saying, the MDs are the problem, or the nurses are the problem, or the administration is the problem, or the consumer is the problem. You have to bring people together, discuss realistically the problem that is there and cooperatively ask them to participate in problem solution.

One of the requests to participation, the Health Advisory Network, is that those individuals involved directly in service provision come there leaving their vested interest hat outside the door and come there with an open mind, willing to cooperate and look realistically at problem resolution. I think that holds the greatest opportunity for success in problem resolution in our health care system, because Governments cannot plan on their own in an isolation, they cannot expedite policy and program alone in isolation, they can only do it in cooperation with the affected people in that particular discipline of medicine or health care service.

We have learned a lot in the reorganization proposal for mental health in terms of bringing people around the table and discussing this issue fully and getting the

cooperative participation of many different disciplines. I believe that can work and work very successfully and very efficiently in bringing about reform of the health care system, and that is the goal and objective of the Health Advisory Network.

**Mr. Cheema:** I would like to make a few comments here. As the Minister has indicated that his main concern about the mental health care, I am sure he would appreciate that for the last nine weeks the time I have personally, and the Member for Ellice (Ms. Gray), has devoted on improving the mental health care in Manitoba. I think time will tell that.

There are a number of questions I wanted to bring here. The Minister is saying that the advisory network is the only avenue available to discuss this problem. That is not true. If he could have some time to read the Manitoba Medical Association's Report on psychiatric manpower shortage, that was at least in February '86, that report clearly indicates where the deficiencies are and how we are going to correct them.

I think, rather than creating another system, it is good to put those ideas also to the real picture. Specifically, when we know that we have a shortage of 20 psychiatrists already, then we know that out of 20 graduates every year about 60 percent of them leave, and we know that there are every year about four or five psychiatrists who will retire because of their age, above 55.

I think when there is already planning available, I think I would request the Honourable Minister that he should probably read that report—I am sure he may have read it already—so that some of those things can be, some of the good ideas of people who have put lots of hours together and it was not established by any particular Party, it is by the professional people. I think that will be very helpful.

Secondly, I just wanted to point out a few things. I think there are a number of problems in psychiatric manpower and also the delivery of even the emergency medical services in the various hospitals. I do not know whether the Minister is aware that during weekends it is impossible sometimes just to find a bed in the city. It takes about two to three hours just to find a bed. If you multiply that every week and the number of hours that are being wasted in terms of just finding a bed, we are wasting a lot of money. We are wasting taxpayers' money because we do not have a system where one hospital would know that. If there is a call at St. Boniface Hospital, he has to phone Health Sciences, Misericordia, just to find a bed and it is a wastage of the physician's time, it is a wastage of the nursing time and definitely a wastage of the emergency time, more specifically, when we do not have physical space in some of the emergency wards. I am sure the Minister of Health—once he finishes his conversation, then I will continue my comments.

What I was trying to get at, there are plans available. Maybe he should look at that before making this advisory network and take advice from those people which is readily available; which is freely available. It is not going to cost more taxpayer money.

Secondly, I want to bring to the Minister's attention that there was a committee established last year and that committee released this report on psychogeriatric study. I was shocked that during the Minister's opening statement he made no mention of the services for our seniors. I am not just talking about seniors in personal care homes, I am talking about seniors with a physical problem as well as the mental health problems, because we know from the various studies that it does indicate that people above the age of 65 would have more chances of mental illness and if we can keep them away from the hospital. When we have those recommendations available, the Minister should look at those recommendations and make use of them, rather than setting up another committee.

Secondly, a point is here that when we know that there are hospital beds that are already occupied by the seniors, by the—we are not saying they should not be, if they do not need a bed, but if those beds are already occupied by seniors which are acute care beds, those patients could be placed somewhere else, but there are already plans available and those plans. Maybe the Minister should talk to the hospitals and get their input, talk to the people who are in the system already, rather than making another advisory network, wait for a few months more and by that time we will increase the number of those people in the hospitals.

\* (1640)

I would definitely agree with the Minister that we have to save money, we have to keep the costs under control, but we have to, at the same time, keep providing services to the seniors and to the most vulnerable population as the mentally handicapped or mentally disabled people. When we know that what this advisory network is going to—is it going to solve the problem at Brandon Mental Health Centre? It has not solved the problem over the last few years. It is not going to solve it until there are some concrete ideas put together. When those ideas that are already in that report from the Manitoba Medical Association, the Minister should look at that report and implement some of the things so that we will not be short of psychiatrists in five years or eight years to come.

Even as of today's numbers, we need at least 38 more psychiatrists, just to justify the population of 1 to 10,000, that is the average in Canada. I do not think the rural Manitoba people will be very happy to find that they are only being served by five of them. I will certainly not be very comfortable knowing that the immediate hospital will not have any persons serving them. The point I am getting at, these plans that are to be available, let us make use of those plans rather than spending more time on the advisory network.

The second question I would like to ask the Minister now, will the Minister be playing an active role in this advisory network and who will be ultimately responsible?

**Mr. Orchard:** I will be playing a role in the advisory network in that the advisory network will be in regular discussion with myself. In addition to that, my Deputy Minister will be a member of the advisory network, the

steering committee. I appreciate my honourable friend's comments about his ideas of resolving problems.

The difficulties of psychiatric numbers have worsened over the last year. I have said it before and I will say it again, the difficulty that we inherited in Government was an adversarial position from the former administration of various professional disciplines. At one stage of the game, my predecessor as Minister of Health indicated that if professionals do not like in Manitoba they can leave. Unfortunately, I think some psychiatrists took that advice and left. That is unfortunate. That was one of the comments which was viewed as the policy of the previous Government. It certainly is not our policy. In a slow but steady way we have been increasing the number of psychiatrists in the Province of Manitoba. We have had some individuals take the career residency program on with dedicated service to our underserved areas in the system upon graduation. That will certainly provide positive manpower editions in the future.

The difficulty in psychiatry is a much larger one than even my honourable friend has indicated. We have had an acting head of psychiatry now for, I do not know how many months, probably in years, four years it may well be. I do not think it is that long, quite frankly. Maybe my honourable friend, the Liberal Opposition critic, knows something that the department does not know. It has been some time since we had a head of psychiatry.

I want to relate a little story. I have always been a supporter of attempting to move Mental Health Services into the community, to be community based. I think if you go back in Hansard you will find in the 1985 Estimates discussion of the Department of Health I made the suggestion to the then Minister that they choose two regions of this province, one of them being the Parklands Region, the other a region in Winnipeg. You develop community-based services as a model to see how it will work. That was three years ago. Now I thought that was a workable thing to suggest. So I went with a great deal of enthusiasm to the Faculty of Medicine, the School of Psychiatry, and I talked to their students during the election campaign. I was going in there as Health critic with this idea, this philosophy, this belief that we can really accomplish some changes to the delivery of Mental Health Services by a greater enhancement in community-based services. I laid out this plan that I thought as a representative of the Progressive Conservative Party was workable over a period of time. To my dismay, to my chagrin, they told me, forget it.

You obviously do not know the kind of serious problems we have in this faculty. We do not have leadership. We do not have a permanent head of psychiatry. We do not have facilities. We are in serious difficulty and their advice was very blunt. Before you move in a major way to the community for provision of services, you have to build the heart of the system back up in terms of the Faculty of Psychiatry. I want to tell you that was something of a bit of a shocking revelation to me.

On further investigation, indeed I find that we have some significant problems. That does not in any way

denigrate the role of the acting head of Psychiatry, but that faculty needs the leadership of a permanent head. I am hopeful that when that individual is in place that the kind of leadership that is needed there will make Manitoba a place where, with the change in attitude of Government, that psychiatrists may well feel more compelled to come to rather than leave. It is all part of the building process that has been under way since the 9th of May and I assumed this office as Minister of Health.

**Mr. Cheema:** Mr. Chairperson, I just want to make sure that what we are establishing, this task force, is the right way of doing it. The Minister must be aware of this report that was done in 1985, that is the report of the Health Services Review Committee. That was established by 17 different committees starting from maternal and child health up to the geriatric services. When we have those recommendations, why do we not take some of those good ideas and put them into reality rather than waiting for another six months or one year? We are spending \$500,000 and those dollars could be spent somewhere else. As the Minister of Health (Mr. Orchard) indicated, he is concerned about the community Mental Health Services.

I think we in Manitoba, if my numbers are correct, spend the most money on mental health care per capita than anywhere in the whole of Canada. We are spending about 3.8 percent to 4.2 percent only on community mental health. There has to be some political will to make those differences. That political will has to come from the Minister.

The Minister should take responsibility and say, well, we want to establish a community health program starting in one region of Winnipeg, starting in one region of Manitoba. Try it for six months and then gradually transform the system so that we have a balance of systems. We just cannot say that we are going to have a community based system without having any acute care beds available.

Mr. Chairperson, I do not want to deviate from the main subject, that is the task force. My next question is about the \$500,000 which is going to be spent on this task force. Will it be spent during this year, next year, and what is the time frame for spending money?

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, the \$500,000 is anticipated to be the full year cost of the Health Advisory Network. My honourable friend has indicated that the very simple, the idyllic solution, why do we not use previous studies—and he made reference to the Manitoba Health Services Review Committee—with a number of subcommittees and a report that has been around since 1985.

I would simply remind my honourable friend that his Leader during the election campaign promised a royal commission into health. I think a royal commission into health would have studied the health care system and added yet another study to the 1985 study, which added to the 1983 study, which added to the 19—on and on and on.

What we are saying in the Health Advisory Network is (a) the system has been studied sufficiently. There

are sufficient reports and recommendations available on which to base some decision making. They are not the complete answers obviously, or else previous administrations who undertook those studies would have implemented the recommendations so that as starting points we have a shelf full of studies with recommendations. Those will not be ignored by the Health Advisory Network. They will form, no question, part of the basis on which they develop plans of action to resolve problems.

\* (1650)

Mr. Chairman, we are not going to set up a Royal Commission, as the Liberal Party suggested, to study health care. We are setting up a Health Advisory Network to which specific problems will be referred for their resolution, in consultation with a membership on the committee inclusive of professional disciplines involved in the delivery of service as well as individuals with a common-sense approach, with experience in the system, with consumer experience, to say here is the problem, here are some of the suggested resolutions as come out of previous studies, and here is how I think you can best resolve the problem.

Government's decision is then to decide whether they want to implement those resolutions, because some of them could be very, very interesting resolutions to problems. No doubt, we may well not accept all of them. I think that the outcome, as proved by our round-the-table discussion of mental health issues, will give us workable solutions. You will only have workable solutions that resolve the problems in a global fashion by involving the various disciplines and affected individuals in the decision-making. You open up the decision-making process and broaden it rather than close it down and narrow it. That is what the Health Advisory Network is deemed to do.

**Mr. Cheema:** Mr. Chairperson, my question was that this \$500,000, what is going to be the time frame to spend this money? Second, my question is that we are supposed to have this Health Advisory Network, but at the same time we had a department where we are going to spend money within the Research and Planning Branch, is there going to be a conflict of interest there? Who is going to be responsible and why do we have to set up a separate advisory network when we have the Planning Department already there?

My next question will be, who will be the members of this advisory network, and is the Minister considering taking members from the various associations, as he has said that he is definitely going to have some laypersons and also some consumer groups on that, and if he is considering to have the members from the associations, why does he not take their advice and take consideration to their work which they have already done?

**Mr. Orchard:** Mr. Chairman, let me deal with several aspects of my honourable friend's question. First of all, \$500,000 is a full year cost, 12 months.

Secondly, in terms of the membership, it will be broadly based. My honourable friend has forgotten

already what I have asked various individuals to do when participating in the Health Advisory Network. That is, although they may represent a professional discipline, to leave their vested interest hat outside the door and come there with the background of their professional discipline but not to push the vested interest of that professional discipline. That is very key and very important to problem resolution.

I do not know whether my honourable friend wants the various professional groups to come there and fight for their turf and fight for their specific discipline. That is not my objective and that is not what we are asking the Health Advisory Network to do.

Secondly, in my honourable friend's concerns about Research and Planning, Research and Planning is exactly that—research and planning. A number of initiatives are currently being investigated by the Research and Planning people under Mr. Pascoe. They will serve a very useful function as the provider of information to the Health Advisory Network, i.e., if the Health Advisory Network wants to narrow in on a specific area of surgical procedure in the Province of Manitoba compared to other provinces. That is an expectation that we will put to the Research and Planning group to provide that information. There is not going to be a duplication role of the Health Advisory Network in Research and Planning, but rather a very important complementary and cooperative role so that one can greatly assist the other.

Because if there is one thing that we have done, is that we have developed enormous amounts of statistics on the problem identification. We can back up with statistical dissertation the problem. But I want to bring the disciplines, the players together in a forum where they have that information as background to offer solutions that are workable, positive and will enhance health care in Manitoba. That is where we are heading for in the Health Advisory Network.

**Mr. Cheema:** At no time I indicated that these professional associations will be pushing their own interest. But my intention was that various associations, when they have already done various studies, why not use those studies so that we can save time for this so-called task force?

My next question is, is there going to be a specific coordinator for this task force and will that coordinator have a salary?

**Mr. Orchard:** To answer the first part of my honourable friend's question, various studies have been done by various professional groups and lobby groups and special interest groups. Where appropriate, those can become part of the foundation of information on which the Health Advisory Network will hopefully make decisions.

What we want to have in the Health Advisory Network is an individual with chairmanship responsibility who will be the lead developer, if you will, of the activities and work of the advisory network, backed up by a relatively small group in a steering committee.

From there, as specific problems are identified and referred to the Health Advisory Network, certainly they

may wish to refer those specific problems and the resolution of those specific problems to a group of experts, if you will, in that particular discipline. So that would be, if you will, a subcommittee role. The involvement of the steering committee on that will be there, as well as, hopefully, involvement from the Manitoba Health Services Commission Board, which is very important in terms of determining the future direction of health care spending. But, as well, it is expected that if we are going to ask professional people to participate, take time from their professional practice, then certainly we are going to have to offer to them some income offset. That will be part of the use of the \$500,000 Health Advisory Network.

In addition, there will be, no doubt, use of that possibly for the commissioning of very definitive studies, which may involve a further enhancement of some of the statistical evidence that was given to us in Manitoba in Medicare, which identified for instance, within our teaching hospitals, a level of cost per patient day that had grown from below the national averages in 1973 or thereabouts to above the national average in '82-83.

So that we still are wrestling, as the previous administration was wrestling, with the veracity, if you will, of that finding in Manitoba in Medicare and how we can develop policy and program with the teaching hospitals to make sure that apparent anomaly is not impacting negatively on the budget of Manitoba Health and the Manitoba Health Services Commission. We cannot do that without the possibility of some additional input and statistical analysis which will be part of the \$500,000 funding. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hour being 5 p.m. and time for Private Members' Hour, committee rise.

Call in the Speaker.

\* (1700)

## IN SESSION COMMITTEE REPORT

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

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kirkfield Park (Mrs. Hammond), that the report of the committee be received.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

**Mr. Speaker:** The hour being 5 p.m., it is time for Private Members' Business.

**DEBATE ON SECOND READINGS  
PUBLIC BILLS**

**BILL NO. 2—THE BUSINESS NAMES  
REGISTRATION AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 2, The Business Names Registration Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'enregistrement des noms commerciaux, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

**BILL NO. 3—THE CORPORATIONS  
AMENDMENTS ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 3, The Corporations Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les corporations, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

**BILL NO. 13—THE MANITOBA  
HYDRO AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), Bill No. 13, The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Hydro-Manitoba, standing in the name of the Honourable Minister of Finance (Mr. Manness), the Honourable Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Clayton Manness (Minister of Finance):** I am delighted to be able at this point in time to rise and speak on Bill No. 13, The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act. Mr. Speaker, let me say to start off with, I was shocked when Members of the third Party thought, in an attempt to gain some political notoriety in dealing specifically with the Free Trade Act, that they were going to introduce an amendment to our Manitoba Hydro Act.

I found it absolutely almost—I have to choose my words very carefully here—reprehensible in the fashion that they have tried to convince Manitobans that there is a significant serious shortfall within the Free Trade Agreement with respect to energy.

I could not help but review some of the comments put on the record by the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) who, in introducing this Bill, said that he had to do so because of four reasons. Let me review them because I think it is important that we again take the debate back to a point where we again point out the basic weaknesses as laid forward by that Member within the debate.

He said, and I quote: "We will not be able to establish a two-priced system," and there was an interjection from my colleague, the MLA for Lakeside (Mr. Enns) who said, as is reported in Hansard, "Thank God." That is what I like about the MLA for Lakeside; he says what is on his mind. The Member for Flin Flon went on to say, and I quote: "I will remind the Member for Lakeside that if the Free Trade Agreement has been in place during the years in which the National Energy

Program was providing low-cost energy across Canada, Canadian consumers would have been the losers to the tune of \$55 billion." Can you imagine the former Minister of Energy, the now Member for Flin Flon, rising in his place and rushing to the defence of consumers to the extent of \$55 billion, of which a portion, and I readily acknowledge a portion, was Manitoba consumers, and yet forgetting the fact as to what the National Energy Program did to Alberta, particularly, and ultimately and indirectly what it did to the manufacturers in the Province of Manitoba?

Whose jobs were impacted and affected the most through the National Energy Program outside of Alberta? Mr. Speaker, it was producers and manufacturers in the Province of Manitoba, and yet the MLA for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) chose not to look at that.

The Member talks about, in his viewpoint, the fact that the Free Trade Agreement will not allow for a two-price system of energy pricing. Of course, there is no problem with that.

Manitoba Hydro, if it so chooses today can put into place a two-price system for Manitoba. It can, if it so chooses, favour one type of manufacturer as compared to another. At this point in time, it does not do that, but it could. What the Free Trade Agreement says is that under no circumstances can Manitoba Hydro favour, by way of subsidy, a producer of goods in Manitoba who ultimately wants to ship those goods into the U.S. market. That is what is being said.

Think about that for a moment. Think how we would react as Canadian consumers trying to support our own Canadian industry if there were policies in place in the United States whereby domestic producers paid one price and yet those businesses that were exporting into Manitoba were given a lower cost energy input—think about that for a moment—cutting out our own producers in Manitoba. How would we react to that? Of course, we would be upset. Wanting to maintain the jobs in our own jurisdiction, we would be upset.

All I ask Members of this House, and specifically the MLA for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), that he recognize that rationale in reverse, as we therefore should not expect to subsidize our producers who are shipping products into the United States in competition with their energy producers. That is in essence what the Free Trade Agreement is all about.

If Members in this House, and I will not indicate who they are, but if they want to take this free trade arrangement and if they want to take the argument out into the hustings and if they want to make the point that we have lost some sovereignty on this issue, of course, we have not. We have not because, as GATT says, items which are subsidized in one country and are shipped to another are countervailable if they do harm to the producers in the receiving country or the competitive manufacturers in the receiving country. As GATT says that, so does this free trade arrangement.

Nothing has changed. The essence of the argument from Members opposite is that our sovereignty somehow has been denied. Mr. Speaker, I know that

you have constituents in your riding who are hog producers and you saw what happened when a countervail was put into place and you saw what happened when non-tariff barriers were put into place, because producers of similar products in the United States felt that their producers were at a disadvantage unfairly because of subsidy in this province.

To me, it is really incredible that individuals particularly within the New Democratic Party and to a lesser extent within the Liberal Party would try and make the case that we in Manitoba, indeed in Canada, lost our sovereignty on any issue, on any area, because now, using their argument, we do not have the opportunity anymore to two-price any energy source, indeed any commodity.

Again, in reading the introductory comments by the MLA for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), he criticizes Alberta and Saskatchewan for not protecting their sovereignty, for not introducing a Bill similar to Bill No. 13.

How could it be that the Province of Saskatchewan, which exports hundreds of millions of dollars of energy into the U.S. market, would fail to want to protect themselves if indeed Bill 13 afforded any protection to Manitoba under the rationale put forward?

How is it that Alberta, an exporter of billions of dollars of energy to the U.S. market, would fail to put into place a bill similar to Bill 13. How would they fail to do that and put at risk and jeopardy their energy exports if they did not take it seriously?

\* (1710)

I say to you, Mr. Speaker, they do not take this one element of the Free Trade Agreement seriously in the fashion as do the N.D. Party within this province. Mr. Speaker, that in itself speaks volumes as to the credibility associated behind the introduction of Bill No. 13.

The Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) goes on to talk about the Bank of Nova Scotia being against the Free Trade Agreement. I sourced that. You know what the Bank of Nova Scotia was against? They never yet have commented as to the economic benefit the Free Trade Agreement may provide to this nation of Canada. What the Bank of Nova Scotia is concerned about is specifically that element of the agreement which has direct influence on the financial services provision. What the Bank of Nova Scotia has said is that we are concerned that American financial institutions are going to be allowed a free rein of competition in Canada whereas we are not allowed that same opportunity in the individual states within America.

That is the basis in which they have some trouble with the Free Trade Agreement, not because they have done an analysis to once and all find out whether or not it has benefit, from their point of view, to the nation as a whole. So let that be said for the record.

He quotes also—and again I am referring to the Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie)—McLeod Young Weir, and he goes on to quote them as saying, "Canada can no longer use cheap energy as an element of national or industrial policy." Again, wrong. Of course, Manitoba

Hydro or any other energy producer in Canada can use that source, their own domestic source, as a tool of domestic policy, of Government policy; but they cannot if the purpose of that policy is to produce goods that are going to be moved into the United States market in competition with energy sources there.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I reiterate what I said just a few moments ago. Countervail still exists. It has a place and an understanding, in a trade sense, in all jurisdictions within the trading world and it will continue to have under any trade arrangement that is reached.

The Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie) said, in summing up, and I quote, "Finally, we want to make it clear, through statute, that Manitoba Hydro can, if it so chooses, with the support of the Cabinet, use Manitoba Hydro as an instrument of economic development, regional development, if we so choose."

Mr. Speaker, I say for the last time, we still can do that. We still will be able to do that. We have not done it very often. Manitoba Hydro has not on many cases favoured one industry versus another. There are rate differentials depending on the level of hydro frequency, but not one industry versus another. So it has chosen not to differentiate at this point in time within the confines of the province. Whether it will do so in the future, of course, is a moot point at this particular time.

But here is the key point: why would we sell power to outsiders if we have not enough power for ourselves? That question was asked by our Minister of Energy (Mr. Neufeld). Why would anybody do so?

I would just like to make one final point. I believe that the law of contract is supreme. I believe the Americans, as traders in the world, realize that the law of contract cannot be in any way breached. It is to that end that I believe that is the guarantee that the Province of Manitoba has with respect to our energy exports; that once we enter into a contract, it is beholden on us to fulfill it; that once it has run its course, indeed, it is our freedom, as a producer of that energy to either deny, after that point in time, the transfer of energy, or indeed to re-enter into a contract if we so choose. I only wish that Members, particularly of the New Democratic Party, would realize that.

In essence, as I look to the amendment that is being considered by the Liberal Party, as was indicated by the MLA for St. Norbert (Mr. Angus), it seems to me that what he is proposing as an amendment somewhere down the process is similar to exactly what we have in place now without Bill No. 13.

I close by saying this Bill is redundant. It is not needed. The guarantees are in place and hopefully the NDP will withdraw. Thank you.

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** I move, seconded by the Member for Minnedosa (Mr. Gilleshammer), that debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

Tuesday, October 25, 1988

**BILL NO. 16—THE REAL  
PROPERTY AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 16, The Real Property Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les biens réels, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet (Mr. Praznik), would it be agreeable to have it standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet and we will allow the Honourable Member for St. Vital? That is agreeable? (Agreed)

**Mr. Bob Rose (St. Vital):** It is with some reluctance that I stand to speak on this Bill. I think the previous Bill was called redundant and unnecessary. This one goes a little bit further than that. We, on this side of the House, in the Liberal Opposition, hate to even dignify it by speaking to it, but we would like to take the opportunity to point out the great inequities in it and to add to those expressions. I think it would even be charitable to call this Bill nonsense.

It is, in my estimation, an attempt again, as we have seen in this Government previous to April 26, for six-and-a-half years, the Big Brother approach to the Government where Big Brother, watching over us, will do everything for us even though it is ridiculous. Really, what ends up is a mumble jumble of programs that are misinterpreted. Even though our Honourable Members and friends from the New Democratic Party speak of wanting to help people in a peoples' Party, what they do is they end up, in the long run, making life unpleasant and uncomfortable for people.

Indeed, in my estimation, they have a continual war on with the lawyers in this province. I guess it is because they find very few people in that profession that would, I hate to say stoop low enough, but that would choose to become Members of their Party and certainly run for that Party.

But it is an odd thing that as much as they have a war on lawyers, in my estimation, that Government probably created more jobs for lawyers than any other Government in the history of Manitoba by their flawed laws, by their instructions many times to the administration to take their flawed laws and interpret them other than what they were supposed to be interpreted rather than correcting that law.

\* (1720)

Mr. Speaker, we saw a typical example last week where it had been the practice of the New Democratic Party to tell the staff in social services to interpret a law incorrectly and put a 24-hour clause on supervision in residential care homes, and all it did was end up, to our knowledge at least, closing one care home because of the misinterpretation. It caused two lawyers to get extra work to take it to City Hall. It was rejected there and then all the bureaucracy and the lawyers' extra work to correct a wrong, which to my knowledge is still not corrected and will still take some time.

So what they have tried to do in getting more residential care homes and help people, indeed, they

have followed a course which they were on for a long time, and that is they inconvenience the people even further.

It says on page—the second section is 661-2, “and the document, upon presentation for a registration or filing, is rejected”—that means if it is rejected—“or is otherwise defective for the purposes for which it is drawn, the lawyer”—that meaning the lawyer who would be at Land Titles Office—“is not liable to the person for any damages, loss or expenses incurred by the person as a result of the rejection or defect.”

They are already reading into their own Bill here that it is going to be full of defects and rejections and do not have any cure for it. Well, they know what the cure for it is and the Honourable Member for Lakeside (Mr. Enns) surely knows what the cure for it is. That is, claim against and sue Big Brother because he did something wrong and he did the job that I did or was supposed to do, defectively. So again we hire another lawyer to sue the province or make a claim against the province. It seems rather ridiculous.

The odd thing about it, I see this past Government always talking. They seem to yap on and on about affirmative action and this sort of thing. They want to get visible minorities and handicapped people and women more jobs in society, and particularly in the Civil Service. But have you ever noticed and set down how many times that they themselves have actually worked against that objective?

I would suspect, without checking the facts and figures, that this is another case of that sort of thing because, as is my knowledge of transacting real estate and mortgages, it is usually a legal secretary that does the work. About 90 percent of the time I would say, at least, that legal secretary is a woman. On the other hand, if you look in a lawyer's office—and this is improving more and more everyday, which I am pleased to see—there are more and more women as lawyers, but it will be a man who ends up at the Land Titles Office to look after you and put the legal secretary out of work.

It is again a program that they put no thought into and again in following their own professed need for affirmative action—and on affirmative action, which I will not bring up today, I could go on and on for the full time—but it just shows the lack of forethought on the part of these Members to our left to put this sort of legislation forth without any real thought of the consequences.

One of the things I find difficult is I cannot conceive of how this would work at the Land Titles Office. We have all been there, I am sure, and does that mean there is going to be a lawyer sitting there and we are going to go over and have him look after this transaction; and while he is there he is going to phone around to find what taxes are due and what liens are on it, who really has title for the property and what caveats there are against the property, and go through all of these motions, including checking to see in the transaction whether, if I would be the seller, the buyer does have enough cash and the mortgage financing to carry on the transaction? These are all things that

a lawyer does right now. So we are going to have somebody over there with a shopping list tying up this person? It does not seem to make a bit of sense to me who has some experience at Land Titles.

If indeed they have had some problems, or have had some problems, the New Democrats, with land transfer or mortgage disposal at the Land Titles Office, if they went to the trouble, they would find out that first of all it is legal for you to do it on your own, and I say that because I tried it once and it worked. You do not want to make the transaction too difficult, but ordinary laymen can do it.

The reason that you can do it, and even under the NDP Government, the people were cooperative enough over at the Land Titles Office and they were knowledgeable enough to give you assistance and direction in how to put the papers out. If you really would search, you do not need a lawyer to do it. The people at Land Titles will help you to fill out the forms and give you the information and tell you where to go.-(Interjection)- Pardon me?

**An Honourable Member:** There is a sign out there telling them they cannot do that . . .

**Mr. Rose:** I have had it happen, so I know. The trouble with the NDP, Mr. Speaker, is that like I said earlier, they really have never—not very many of them—in fact, very few of them have ever really existed in the real world. They have these philosophical hang-ups that they go on and they never deviate from that.-(Interjection)- That is right. But the next thing you know in the year 2010 if the NDP, heaven forbid, had been able to continue in Government, we would have had to have somebody at the gas pumps to show us before we got our gas tank filled up. We would have to have somebody at every grocery store to make sure that we counted our change properly. We would have Big Brother do everything for us. In the end what would happen? Big Brother would be doing nothing for us.

\* (1730)

This Member over here, I often hear him chirp that in the next election they are going to run a good candidate against me, and they are really going to try and beat me. That is what they say, a couple of their Members. That does not say much for the very excellent candidate that did run against me last time for the NDP because at many, many doors that I went to, the people told me that they said to this young lady: Gee, you are a good candidate and we would like to see you in the Legislature—not over top of me, of course—but unfortunately you are with the wrong party. Why do you not switch to something that has some future? So I do not think they think much of the candidate that we had last night. You see me shaking, Leader of the Third Party (Mr. Doer).

We have already indicated that it is more than just the work at Land Titles that has to be done. There is the mortgage financing and the follow-up to make sure it is a legal document. At least this way, when you do hire a lawyer—and none of us like to pay those prices. We do not like to pay realtors or any other people that perform a service for us, but it is a necessary evil.

But there is a lot more that they do to make sure that it is a legal document at Land Titles, that it will pass any scrutiny, and it will not bring about further litigation. If there is litigation at least you have a lawyer that you paid to fall back on.

Another hint, and my lawyer friends may not agree with me, Mr. Speaker, but if they are looking to save money there are two ways. The NDP did everything in their power to make it difficult for people to transfer mortgages and land by the extra taxes that they put on while they were in power, and particularly the transfer tax, which in many respects is more damaging to people by far than by triple and sometimes quadruple and more of what the lawyers' fees might be.

But also, if they were ever in the real world they would discover that they could even get a break with lawyers by—a simple house transaction or discharge of a mortgage could be done by both parties, by using the same lawyer.-(Interjection)- See? There you go. The Leader of the Third Party (Mr. Doer) laughs. Well, I want to tell you, I have never transacted a real estate transaction in my life without using the other person's lawyer. As long as I am cautious, I have never been stuck.

**An Honourable Member:** Look what Mulroney did with the Free Trade Agreement. . . .

**Mr. Rose:** What did Mulroney do with the Free Trade Agreement? Not too long ago we had a chance to defeat this Government so we could do all the things that you want to do. Now you are spending time in Estimates and in Supply to criticize him. What did you fellows do? Three of you showed up and the rest of you stayed away in droves. So do not tell me anything about Mulroney. You guys should take a lesson from him perhaps, I do not know.

**Some Honourable Members:** Oh, oh!

**An Honourable Member:** You are more right wing than they are.

**Mr. Rose:** I never said I was an NDP and that is for sure. I guess the only reason I am in politics is because I have worked hard all my life, and so has my family, to build up something and we day by day, in response to the Leader of the Third Party (Mr. Doer), have seen it eroded by sloppy Government and mismanagement.

**Some Honourable Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

**Mr. Rose:** I just want to end up by saying that—I am running out of things to say but the "Gang of Nineteen"—Mr. Speaker, this is a favourite subject of the Leader of the third Party, the "Gang of Nineteen." The one thing that upset, not me, I am a free enterpriser, but the coalition between the Liberals and P.C. completely disturbs the Leader of the third Party, and the reason is not the fact that his Members on city



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council, which is sort of iffy all the time. They keep going over to other Parties and leaving. So now where city council had a whole covey of them there some time back, they are now reduced to two, and they are never invited onto the "Gang of Nineteen"—never, never. I would suspect that what is going to happen to their Members on city council is the same as the Legislature. They will go like the dodo bird and there will not be any more on there.

I want to conclude by saying that this is not a role of Government to be Big Brother and look after all aspects of every section of our life, and I would certainly reject the Bill.

### **BILL NO. 20—THE WATER RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. Norbert (Mr. Angus), Bill No. 20, The Water Rights Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les droits d'utilisation de l'eau, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

### **BILL NO. 22—THE LIQUOR CONTROL AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Concordia (Mr. Doer), Bill No. 22, The Liquor Control Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae).

**Hon. James McCrae (Attorney-General):** I must say I rise with pleasure to contribute to the debate on Bill No. 22 standing in the name of the Leader of the New Democratic Party. I do so with some regret because I was enjoying so much listening to the Honourable Member for St. Vital (Mr. Rose) and his comments. I wonder if the Honourable Member still has feelings of regret for perhaps harbouring the thought that he might not be supporting the federal Conservative Party in the upcoming election.

One of the things that he was saying this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, made me feel a little bit at home in his comments about the New Democratic Party and the philosophy of the New Democratic Party. I found myself in agreement with some of the things the Honourable Member for St. Vital had to say today.—(Interjection)—No, it is not all that common that I am in agreement with comments coming from Honourable Members in the Second Opposition and the Official Opposition Party, but there are times when we find ground on which we can all stand.

I guess that brings us around to Bill No. 22. I appreciate very much the concern the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party puts forward and feels when he brings forward Bill No. 22 to amend The Liquor Control Act. The matter of violence in our communities is a matter which is and should be a concern of all of us, not only legislators, police authorities and courts, probation officers and others,

but every single citizen of the Province of Manitoba should join with us in being concerned about any move toward a violent type of environment for us and for our children.

It is because of that kind of concern that I can support any move that attempts to deal with violence, and we all know that the statistics tell us many violent crimes committed in our country are committed by those either under the influence of alcohol or drugs or people in advanced state of intoxication, those crimes might, if we can prevent any of those types of crimes through measures such as Bill No. 22, we can do nothing other than be supportive of any move like that.

\* (1740)

I do not have to take very long this afternoon to express support for Bill No. 22. There have been discussions in the debate about whether this is the be-all and end-all to a problem that is all too common in drinking establishments and elsewhere in our province. That kind of discussion may well go on with regard to this type of legislation in view of the fact that we have a Criminal Code of Canada which makes certain provisions regarding weapons of various kinds. I think we can no other than but to support any kind of legislation which, if it does nothing else, sends out a message to the people of this province that the Government and the Legislature is concerned about any acts of violence, especially acts of violence in places such as drinking establishments.

How this legislation will work, we will find out as we go along. As the Attorney-General of the province, I will be making it a point to monitor this legislation to see if it has the kind of effect that we want it to have. I remember making early responses to this legislation outside the House when the legislation was brought forward, and I was asked where I stood on the matter. My response was well, I really wonder if the legislation will do what we all would like to see it do. The conclusion I have arrived at is I am really only going to be able to answer that question after some experience with the legislation.

There is absolutely nothing wrong, and a potential benefit to seeing this legislation go through this Legislature and supported by all Honourable Members. The fact that we do that alone may have some effect on Manitobans that in some small way—perhaps it will not be such a small way. I hope it is not a small way, but in perhaps some way we as legislators have recognized a problem that is not going away, and we are doing what we can through Bill 22 to address that problem.

I think that we will find that we have the support certainly of police officials in the province. I know the Mayor of the City of Winnipeg is supportive of this legislation. It is not that it is the first time it was ever thought of, I hasten to remind the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party. I believe this type of legislation was envisaged some time ago. Be that as it may, I do not really think it matters in whose name this legislation stands. The fact is it can be positive and it can send a signal. It may very well be useful to

operators of drinking establishments in this province in an attempt to keep drinking establishments safe.

So, Mr. Speaker, with those few brief remarks, I will suggest that we move this without delay to committee. When I speak about not delaying the matter any further, the one matter that I am going to address, Sir, when we get to the committee is the final clause of the Bill dealing with the commencement. I think that if the legislation is good and takes us in the right direction, I do not think there is an awful lot that needs to be done to put the legislation into effect.

I will be discussing with the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Doer) a possible amendment, perhaps to make the legislation in effect upon Royal Assent. I have not been satisfied that we need to wait until January 1 of 1989. If I can satisfy Honourable Members, including the Honourable Member for Concordia (Mr. Doer), that there is no need to wait, I would hope to have his concurrence in such an amendment.

**Mr. Allan Patterson (Radisson):** Mr. Speaker, I would move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Vital (Mr. Rose), that debate be adjourned on this Bill.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

#### **BILL NO. 25—THE UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 25, The Unfair Business Practices Act; Loi sur les pratiques commerciales déloyales, standing in the name of the Honourable Minister of Finance (Mr. Manness). I believe the Honourable Member for Thompson (Mr. Ashton) has six minutes remaining. (Stand)

#### **BILL NO. 26—THE CONSUMER PROTECTION AMENDMENT ACT**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway), Bill No. 26, The Consumer Protection Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la protection du consommateur, standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General (Mr. McCrae). (Stand)

#### **BILL NO. 36—THE CONSUMER PROTECTION AMENDMENT ACT (2)**

**Mr. Jim Maloway (Elmwood)** presented Bill No. 36, The Consumer Protection Amendment Act (2), for second reading.

**MOTION presented.**

**Mr. Maloway:** I am very pleased to be introducing Bill No. 36 at this time, which once again is The Consumer Protection Amendment Act (2).

This particular amendment limits the deposits that businesses can accept in Manitoba to 20 percent of

the selling price of the goods in any retail sale. In addition, all deposits in excess of \$500 per transaction would now have to be held in a trust account. This amendment will protect consumers of high ticket items where the deposit exceeds \$500.00.

There have been some recent cases that illustrate a need for this type of legislation. I would like to draw your attention to Tom and Elsie McLellan of 121 Margate Street who are retired people. They lost \$6,800 on a sunroom from Omega Leisure Rooms which was never built when Omega went into bankruptcy this spring. These people were one of approximately 16 families who lost various amounts of money in dealings with this company. In fact, I am not aware of the total number of people that were involved here. We can only rely on the media reports and people who have approached us individually.

In addition, we have had consultations with Mr. Victor Pagsuyiun of 38 Dzyndra who lost \$6,500 in a deposit on a \$15,500 sunroom. In addition, Tom and Mavis Bleasdale of 3486 Henderson Highway lost \$4,200, their deposit on a \$12,200 sunroom. This legislation would have limited the Bleasdale's deposit to \$2,400.00. It would, of course, have to have been held in trust. In fact, no money would have been lost in this case had this legislation been in effect.

It is also interesting to note that in some of these cases, in the Omega case, they were taking deposits of as much as 60 percent, which I think most people would agree. Even the Member for St. Vital (Mr. Rose), who tends to believe in the law of the jungle, I think even he would admit that a 60 percent deposit is rather excessive for most businesses.

This legislation, Mr. Speaker, is supported by the Consumers' Association of Canada who have lobbied this Government for action, have lobbied the previous Government as well. I believe that it will be supported by most business people in this province. In fact, I believe that businesses, generally, should not have to rely totally on customers' deposits. In fact, most business people will agree that businesses should have proper lines of credit worked out with financial institutions. Businesses that are operating properly normally have proper lines of credit with suppliers. If you talk to businesses in Manitoba, you will find that most businesses consider a 10 percent deposit to be a fairly reasonable amount of a deposit.

The conclusion we drew in coming to these limits was that by coming in with an amendment that would limit the deposit to 20 percent, we felt that would satisfy most businesses and would also indicate that a person wanting to proceed with a transaction would be serious in so doing.

\* (1750)

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of exclusions that we built into the Bill, anticipating problems in the business community. We have excluded the retail monument dealer business because, once again, what do you do with a finished headstone if the family decide they do not want it? So that was an obvious problem area that I knew we would face in committee stage and we have dealt with this in the Bill.

The second exclusion was retail dealers in custom clothing, garments and shoes. In fact, if there is a need for more exceptions or exemptions or exclusions, then they can be entertained when we get to the committee stage. I do not believe that there are any more big areas for exclusions, but if in fact they arise, then I would be prepared to entertain changes at that time.

We had considered excluding custom work, but that opens too big a hole if you write into the Act that custom work be excluded. Then the very people you are trying to regulate, the Omega Leisure Products, will maintain that all of their sundecks are custom sundecks and they will walk around the legislation. So it is not an option here to exclude custom work in a broad-brush approach.

There was a Bill actually dealt with and passed in 1983, Bill 110, and it provided for a 5 percent limit on deposits, which was amended at committee to 10 percent, and it provided that deposits of over \$50 be held in trust. When that legislation came in, Mr. Speaker, you might be interested to note that only four or five people took the time to come to committee to intervene at that time.

One was a Mr. W. Ritcher, who is from a furniture firm called "Roche Bobois," and he intervened, citing horrendous paperwork—and once again you have to bear in mind that at that time the legislation called for a 5 percent limit on deposits and anything over \$50 to be held in trust. So I think you could understand that he could be given the benefit of the doubt and it could be accepted that it would have provided horrendous paperwork. That is why we did not proclaim the legislation and that is why we are now looking at legislation of 20 percent as opposed to 5 percent, and \$500 as opposed to \$50.00.

Ms. S. Juravsky from the Retail Monument Dealers Association also made a presentation and she explained that the retail monument dealers' business was relatively free from failures and free from complaints, and it is on the basis of her presentation that we felt that she had a very, very good case, and that provided the reasoning behind our initial exclusion to exclude the Retail Monument Dealers Association.

Mr. Speaker, another intervener on that August 11, 1983 date was Mr. Garth Steek of Steek's Furniture and Mr. Victor Steek from Steek's Fine Furniture, as well. I think that even these two gentlemen might be placated somewhat and might be happy with the legislation that we have currently introduced, because when they made their presentation, they, too, were looking at the 5 percent amended to 10 percent and the \$50 deposit.

I do not think that they would be put to a tremendous amount of paperwork. I cannot see where these individuals would be taking that many deposits in their furniture store in excess of \$500, and I would be very interested to know just how many transactions of that type that they would have. I think perhaps that these gentlemen should look at the legislation first before making comments to the press and fully understand what we are suggesting here. This is not the same legislation that they, in fact, were intervening on back in 1983. There was a final person, Mr. J. Band.

So what you have is approximately five persons intervening against the legislation and none for. When you consider that the Human Rights Code, for example, attracted approximately 200 interveners, this legislation even at that time did not attract a tremendous amount of people who were upset with those provisions at the time. In fact, I suspect that this time not only will we not have even five interveners opposing this legislation, but I suspect that we will have a dozen or so intervening in favour of the legislation. There were no interveners in favour of the legislation the last time around.

I think that distinction has to be drawn between what was dealt with back in 1983 and what we are dealing with now. That is limits that I feel, that the caucus feels are very reasonable, that 5 percent was too small a figure. Ten percent may be argued to be a little too small. We feel 20 percent is certainly broad enough and perhaps putting \$50 deposits in trust is too low a figure. Perhaps a lot of paperwork needlessly would have been developed out of that, but surely \$500 is not a reasonable figure to pick. They have certainly protected people in the high end area in purchases.

I believe that we have adequately covered the legislation before us in terms of a second reading presentation. I urge all Members in the House to support the Bill and urge speedy passage of same.

**Hon. Jim Ernst (Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway) would entertain a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the Honourable Minister have leave to ask a question? (Agreed)

**Mr. Ernst:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Member for Elmwood (Mr. Maloway) could tell the House if in preparation of this Bill he managed to consult with any of the women's groups associated in business or the Chamber of Commerce, or the Small Business Association or, in fact, any business group upon which this may have some significant impact.

**Mr. Maloway:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to answer that question because, in fact, as the Member probably knows, I have been in business myself for the last 10 years, so I did take it upon myself to go through the consultation process that he talked about. I met with a tour company operator. I met with a furniture store owner. I had a considerable amount of discussions with different businesspeople and -(Interjection)- I think that the proof will be in the pudding. When this legislation goes to committee and we see how many people intervene against it versus how many people are here supporting the legislation, then we will see who supports the legislation and who does not.

**Mr. Bob Rose (St. Vital):** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Radisson (Mr. Patterson), that debate be adjourned on this Bill.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**Mr. Speaker:** On the proposed resolution, the Honourable Member for Flin Flon (Mr. Storie), Resolution

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No. 7, Early Retirement Pension Benefits, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Radisson (Mr. Patterson) who has 10 minutes remaining.

**An Honourable Member:** Is it the will of the House to call it six o'clock?

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the will of the House to call it six o'clock?

The hour being 6 p.m, this House is now adjourned and stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).