

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, 27 April, 1982

Time — 8:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY — CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

MR. CHAIRMAN, Harry M. Harapiak (The Pas): We will call the meeting to order. We're on Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, 1.(e) Translation Services, (1) Salaries—pass —(Interjection)— No?

MR. ABE KOVNATS (Niakwa): I was just checking my volume here and I don't have a sound.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you on the right channel?

MR. KOVNATS: Should I be on two? Three, thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're on 1.(e)(1) Salaries—pass: 1.(e)(2) Other Expenditures — the Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: On the Translation Services, and I'm not going to keep you too long, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to ask the Honourable Minister whether, in fact, under Translation Services, and I don't know where else to ask it, but if a Member of the Legislature wants to take some French classes or some of the official second language classes, by what opportunities through the Provincial Government does he have to take these classes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. EUGENE KOSTYRA (Seven Oaks): The opportunities for that would exist either under the Civil Service Commission or the French Language Services which has now been transferred out of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources to the Executive Council.

MR. KOVNATS: Is the Honourable Minister advising me that I have to contact the Executive Council if I want to, as a representative of the people of Manitoba and wanting to learn the second language of the Province of Manitoba or of all of Canada, that I have to contact the Executive Council for whatever assistance that they can be so that I can take some extra courses so that I can be bilingual?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I indicated that the French Language Services has been transferred to Executive Council. It's Mr. Roger Turenne and that would be the area you can inquire. I don't believe there is any policy with respect to that for Members of the Legislature, but I believe there is some program being worked out. I do not have any direct knowledge of that; it's not in my area of responsibility.

MR. KOVNATS: Could the Honourable Minister advise as to whose area of responsibility it is?

MR. KOSTYRA: I indicated there are two sources, one is the Civil Service Commission, which is the responsibility of the Minister responsible, which is the Honourable Vic Schroeder and the French Language Services, which is under Executive Council and is the responsibility of the Premier, the First Minister.

MR. KOVNATS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Obviously, the Honourable Minister is — well, no, he's not passing the buck, but he doesn't have an answer. I'm really looking for an answer and I'm not getting any help from anybody. What does one do if they want to learn a second language if they are, let's say, who don't have the same opportunities as myself, as an elected representative, just anybody in the Province of Manitoba who wants to become bilingual, wants to respect the laws of the land and become bilingual? What does one do under Cultural Affairs?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the initial question that the honourable member had asked was with respect to a Member of the Legislature; if you're asking with respect to the member of public then that answer is best answered through the Department of Education and the public school system.

MR. KOVNATS: If I wasn't an elected representative and I don't have the opportunity of going through the public school system and I think that a person should have the opportunity of becoming bilingual. A person of the age of a little bit past 40, what opportunities does that person have to go through the Department of Education to become bilingual?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I fully support the comments that have been made by the Member of Niakwa to encourage people to take second language training, in specific French language training, but those services are not offered by or through the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources. I indicated, and I think the member is well aware, because I was under the impression that the honourable member did indeed take such training. I think he knows the answer better than I do, that there are facilities through the school divisions, both extension and regular classes to take such training.

MR. KOVNATS: Yes, the honourable member did take such courses through the Federal Government, through the Department of Civil Service, and I did take a course through the Federal Civil Service, and I did take a course through the St. Boniface College, but I paid for it myself. I was wondering, whether in fact there's got to be some assistance to people who want to take this course, who really don't have the facilities or the financial background to take these courses and I think that everybody should be entitled to take these courses. What does one person do if they don't have — I could probably do it on my own and put a little pressure on somebody, the Honourable Minister or somebody, to take these courses, but there have got to be other people who want to take these courses. What do they do? Do they just sit there

and sweat it out and throw their hands up in the air and say, you know, I'd love to speak French and I can't afford it, but there has got to be some assistance. We are a bilingual nation and what help do they get?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. GERARD LECUYER (Radisson): Just a comment in regards to . . .

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I didn't ask the Honourable Member for Radisson the question, I asked the Honourable Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: As I indicated, Mr. Chairman, that area of responsibility doesn't lie within the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources. That is the responsibility of the Department of Education and I certainly support in general the points that the honourable member was making with respect to the availability of taking such training, but that is the type of courses that are offered through the public school system, through St. Boniface College and through other sources, not through the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Radisson.

MR. LECUYER: I want to assure the Member for Niakwa that I wasn't going to give him that answer, anyway. I was just going to draw to his attention that the thing is usually you learn more when you have to pay for it, but you seem to say that you will probably learn more if you don't have to pay for it. Maybe, that's the way you see it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: I wasn't aware that the Honourable Member for Radisson had the opportunity of asking the Honourable Member for Niakwa questions, but under this situation I think that I could learn every bit as well if I didn't have to pay for it as if I did have to pay for it. I enjoy speaking the language, I am almost bilingual and I would like to finish off my course. I am frustrated trying to finish off my course. I am just looking for some help and obviously the Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs can't give me any help because he refers me to the Department of Education and the Department of Education, I don't think, is in any position at all to offer me any assistance in becoming bilingual.

I have tried through the Federal Civil Service and not received any satisfaction. I started a course there and they changed their policies through the Federal Civil Service. I am just looking for some help and I'm just not getting it.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I indicated that one possible area that he may want to take that suggestion to is the French Language Services Section, which has a mandate to advise government on policy with respect to French language. If he would like, I would

be prepared to take that recommendation there for him and help him out, since he needs some assistance.

MR. KOVNATS: To the Honourable Minister, I certainly would like — I did have some association with le sous-ministre, Mr. René Préfontaine, prior to him leaving the Civil Service of the Province of Manitoba and he was of great assistance to me. I knew where to go under the previous administration. All I'm asking is, where do I go under this administration? I am not being critical, Mr. Minister. I'm just looking, where do I go?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's 1.(e)(2) — The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. GERRIE HAMMOND (Kirkfield Park): Just one question on the French Language Services, Mr. Chairman. What was the reasoning for the change from Cultural Affairs to the Executive Council?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the reason, as I understand it, for the transfer of the section to the Executive Council was to have greater access to the broader policy questions that relate to that section.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's 1.(e)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; 1.(f)(1) Legislative Library — the Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: I don't mean to prolong this. Under Translation Services, is there any other translation services other than English to French and French to English?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I had indicated the answer to that question this afternoon that the Section also provides translation in such languages as German, Spanish, Dutch, Hungarian.

MR. KOVNATS: Would Russian or Chinese be included?

MR. KOSTYRA: Not at the present time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's 1.(f) Legislative Library, (1) Salaries — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, the funds in this section are the same that were going to be allocated by the previous administration, other than the Other Expenditures, which are down slightly. What is the reason for that and are there any changes in this particular area?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure what the member is referring to by what was budgeted by the previous administration because that would be the — are you referring to the 1981-82?

MRS. HAMMOND: No, I was referring to the new figures. I think the former administration had extra funds in there, a small amount, and I was just wondering possibly what the changes were.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park, could we get you to pull your microphone a little closer to yourself, Hansard is having trouble picking it up.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I really don't know what additional amounts the member is referring to. There's no . . .

MRS. HAMMOND: Are there any changes in the Legislative Library?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there's no changes with respect to staffing in the Legislative Library. The increases in salaries is due to reclassifications and upward adjustments due to merit increases and there's the additional amount in Other Expenditures for the increased costs in books and microfilming and such.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(f)(1) Salaries—pass; 1.(f)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; 1.(g) Manitoba Film Classification Board, (1) Salaries—pass.

The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: What do the salaries entail? Who are the salaries for and what do these people do to receive these salaries?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: There's two full-time positions in the Film Classification Board and their function is to provide the services to the Film Classification Board as needed. As the member is aware, there is a Film Classification Board that does review and classify films and the two staff people are there to assist the Board.

MR. KOVNATS: Are these two people just there to view the film or are these the people who project the film so that somebody can look at them and give some decision on them?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the two staff members are: one, a combination projectionist and office manager and secondly, an assistant projectionist and inspector.

MR. KOVNATS: Then the Honourable Minister is really saying these are the people who do the work, but who are the people who make the decision on classification or are there any such people?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the people that make such decisions are the members of the Film Classification Board. It's appointed by statute.

MR. KOVNATS: Do these people receive a salary for being on the Film Classification Board because we are talking about Salaries under Manitoba Film Classification Board? The only people that have been discussed at this point are the projectionist and the

assistant projectionist. Do the people who serve on the Classification Board receive a salary?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the question that was originally asked was with respect to staffing and I indicated what the staffing was. The Film Classification Board has a chairperson who receives a fee of \$924.48 per month and individual members receive \$25 for each film that they view and \$25 for each meeting that they attend with respect to the Board's activities.

MR. KOVNATS: Okay, let's get back to the original question then. I said under Salaries, do these people who receive a fee of \$900 for one and \$25 for another, does that not come under Salaries or is that under a special classification?

MR. KOSTYRA: That comes under Other Expenditures of 14.1.(g)(2).

MR. KOVNATS: Fine, thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I want to know how the Board works. Is it on a rotating basis and do they work in teams or do the same three or four work together or is it just as the names come up?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there are 15 viewing members on the Board with all members taking part on a regular basis. Three of the members are scheduled for each week and during that week they are called in to view any films which are presented. So, therefore, each person participates on an average of once every five weeks.

MRS. HAMMOND: What happens, Mr. Chairman, if there is a disagreement among the members as to the classification?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the situation that was raised in the question by the honourable member has never occurred, but if it were to occur then another panel would be called.

MRS. HAMMOND: It's hard to believe, but I take your word for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: It has occurred.

MRS. HAMMOND: I noticed that in past years that the classification as "Restricted Adult" has decreased. Is that because the industry has cleaned up its act, or are the members of the board getting a little jaded? —(Interjection)— That's what I mean.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I'm advised that the reason for that change is just the product that's been

produced by the industry is changing.

MRS. HAMMOND: I guess my point was that, is this the sort of a board that probably should be turned over maybe every couple of years, that after you — (Interjection)— Clean up your act too. If it's the sort of thing that you watch and after a while you start not to notice what the public might consider restricted anymore. Has this come up at all and is this a problem?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I have difficulty dealing with this area and maybe the honourable member has better knowledge and expertise in this area, because I certainly have never had the opportunity to view any of the films, but the number of films in that area have gone down somewhat since the obscenity trials. But as far as the honourable member's suggestion of changing the board — I don't know if you're suggesting they should be changed every so many years.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, that's what I was suggesting. I'm afraid I'm probably the wrong one to be asking these questions in the first place because I never go to movies, but it's the one thing that constantly will come up as far as people worrying about the kind of films that their children go to see and students getting in under age. I know that that's the hardest thing to keep in any way, because kids today look so much older and unless you went into some sort of a pass with their picture on it and age, and even then they'd get around it. How long, or maybe the Minister did answer this, Mr. Chairman, how long are the members appointed for?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the term of appointment for board members is two years.

MRS. HAMMOND: Have there been any changes on the board in the past, say, five months?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I was hesitating answering that question, because I responded to a previous question that a certain situation had not arisen and on a point of order it was claimed that it had, but I was referring to the time that I'd been responsible for the board.

With respect to the direct question, no, there hasn't been any changes to the board since I've been responsible for this department.

MRS. HAMMOND: Are you referring to the fact that members on the board have had disagreements then before your time as Minister; I was just asking what the policy is, if that does occur?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'd indicated that it had not occurred and if it would, then there would be another panel called.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: To the Minister's credit, not changing the board for political reasons is to his credit and I understand and I appreciate the Honourable Minister's attitude towards this type of thing.

I'm probably the most competent person to go back in film classification for probably thirty-some odd years, from my background in the film distributing business, many, many years ago. —(Interjection)— I'm sorry.

A MEMBER: You made some.

MR. KOVNATS: Actually no. I don't go back as far as the Honourable Attorney-General and not to make light of it, but you know I don't think that we're being that critical of the Honourable Minister. I think that he understands the situation and I think that he's got to be satisfied with his Film Classification Board. It doesn't say whether in fact I agree whether there should be a Classification Board, because I don't. I think that it should be everybody's attitude as to whether they want to attend a film or not to attend a film, freedom of choice and the Film Classification Board really doesn't give you freedom of choice.

Now after saying that, I say that the Honourable Minister is doing a good job. I wouldn't want to see any changes made in the Classification Board for political reasons . . .

MR. KOSTYRA: You're not going to touch my salary, are you?

MR. KOVNATS: No, I'm not going to touch your salary because of it. I don't think that you get paid enough and I really — the only reason that I . . .

MR. KOSTYRA: It's only 6,000 and change.

MR. KOVNATS: Nine Hundred Dollars and change, that's pretty good, but I didn't realize it was so high, but I still have no intention of changing it and not to make light of it, I would hope that the Honourable Minister would think at one time of doing away with the Film Classification Board completely, to the point where people have the choice of going to see a film.

Now if there's any film that is not acceptable to the general public, I think there's got to be some other way of restricting it rather than a Film Classification Board.

Well, I'll just go a little bit further because you know everybody . . .

MR. KOSTYRA: Just how much further?

MR. KOVNATS: Well, just a little bit further, because everybody's got a different attitude towards different things. I remember a picture that goes back a lot of years, and it was called "Reach for the Sky," about a chap, a Douglas Bader, B-A-D-E-R, who was shot down and he was in a German Prison Camp in the Second World War and he was being brought along and he was inspecting the troops and the guards in the Prison Camp. At that point he made some remark or one of the fellows watching him making the inspections said, "Look, he's inspecting the bastards."

Now at the time, that was considered an adult movie, because of the word "bastard." If the word "bastard" was removed, it would have been considered general, so we have come a long way in our attitude towards film and the language that is being

used in films. Dirty words in films have never been acceptable to me and never will be, but I say we've come a long way. I think that we should all have the opportunity of viewing whatever film we want without the Classification Board advising us as to what we can see and what we can't see. With those last few remarks, thank you very much.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, when the Honourable Member for Niakwa started out, I thought he was suggesting, given his interest in this area, that he wanted to serve on the Board and I was willing to take that under consideration if he was planning on resigning his seat that I would certainly consider the placement of him on the Film Classification Board.

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Chairman, I really have considered serving on the Board and then when I listen to the Other Expenditures and the figure \$25 came up, I can't afford it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's 1.(g)(2) Other Expenditures—pass. We'll go on to Cultural Heritage Programs. 2.(a)(1) Cultural Grants — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Rather than dealing strictly with Cultural Grants, I am just wondering, is there any change in direction in the delivery of any of the programs which are presently being offered?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the line we're dealing with, 14(a), that's the grants to the major cultural organizations and I am not aware of any change of direction outside some change of direction that the Manitoba Arts Council is contemplating with respect to some programs there. I can get into detail in that area, if you want. These are the grants that go to the major cultural organizations.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I was starting to go all over the board here and I was passing on. We will deal then with the Manitoba Arts Council. Would the Minister indicate any changes that are happening with the Arts Council?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the Manitoba Arts Council, as I indicated in my opening statement, there is a substantial increase in funds to the Manitoba Arts Council, which will provide them to continue their ongoing support to the major performing arts organizations that they fund. Also, they are attempting, for the first time in a number of years, to increase the amount of assistance that they give to professional artists, visual artists, both with direct grants and through their Artists in the Schools Program because it has been one area, as I understand it, from the Manitoba Arts Council that has been lagging behind with respect to financial support over the last number of years. They are planning on increasing that area of activity.

MRS. HAMMOND: What is the amount allocated to the Manitoba Arts Council for this year?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the amount allocated to the Manitoba Arts Council for this year will be \$1,203,000 for their general program and there's an additional amount of \$30,000 to allow them to get into an audit control program, which is one of their recommendations that was made some time ago.

MRS. HAMMOND: Under the Manitoba Arts Council that the Minister has just amended, one of the reasons indicated was that the Council appointments not only would give extra time for people to work on the different programs, but also that they will be rotated so as to ensure renewal as well as continuity. I must admit that the concept is a good one and I imagine that most boards are set up in that very manner, but as long as they are appointments by Order-in-Council and they are considered political appointments, I wonder if it isn't a bit of an exercise in futility.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it the appointments before were for a three-year period and all of the previous administration had extended all of the appointments past the three-year period, I think, in anticipation of the legislation that we had brought forward and was recently passed in the House, that was proceeding under the previous administration. As that Act has not been proclaimed yet, we haven't started the process of setting Board appointments up on a term basis, but I believe it makes some sense to have them over a staggered period.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, Mr. Chairman, actually it makes a lot of sense if that is the way boards work, but I guess that's just a comment on what happens with boards. I hope that the Minister, as well as looking at regional areas, will keep as many women on the Arts Council as were appointed before.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I certainly will attempt it, if and when there are changes to the Manitoba Arts Council. In fact, if there are changes from time to time in any of the boards that we deal with, we would ensure that there is great representation from women. I might add, there were four appointments made recently to the Manitoba Arts Council, of which 50 percent were women.

MRS. HAMMOND: I am pleased to hear that, Mr. Chairman. I believe, under the Arts Council, that a study was done some time ago about the — I guess it was a report entitled, "Space and Capital Requirements of the Arts in Manitoba." Has the Minister had any opportunity to deal with this at all or is this something that is just going to be dealt with by the Arts Council?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairperson, the Arts Council does not get directly involved in capital programs. Their programs are basically operating grant type programs. The honourable member is referring to a report that was done some time ago, commonly referred to as the Jackson Report, that outlined a number of areas of concern with respect to space needs for arts organizations. I am aware of the critical need for facilities. In fact, I have had representation from approximately 10 or 12 different organizations

that are looking for some type of existing building to be altered for various needs of arts organizations or, in some cases, new construction.

There are no funds set aside in this budget year for any such buildings. There is, under the Core Area Initiatives under the tri-level agreement with the Federal Government, the City of Winnipeg, and the Provincial Government, funds set aside for the possibility of having an arts complex located in the Heritage area of Winnipeg. There is a feasibility study has been approved outside of naming the person or persons that will be carrying on that study. They will be addressing themselves to that issue to find available space in the Heritage Winnipeg area to accommodate some or all of the needs of the various arts organizations that were identified in the Jackson Report.

There are a number of other developments with a number of organizations working together to try to bring together the various needs of many of the arts organizations that either do not have any type of space right now or have space that isn't adequate to their needs. Our department is working with those various organizations to identify the various proposals, and hopefully through the Core Initiatives or in future look at how all those needs could be met.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: The Manitoba Arts Council presented a brief to the Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee dated March 9, 1981, which was well received, I understand, by the artistic community. There were just a couple of items in it now on page 2, "It should not be the role of government to provide the direction of cultural development but rather to provide the framework within which our culture can evolve in its own direction." I wonder if the Minister would comment.

MR. KOSTYRA: I've heard of that report though I haven't read a copy of it but it was presented by the Arts Council to the Cultural Review that was being done by the Federal Government. If the honourable member is asking me as to what role the government should be taking with respect to cultural development, I think the government has to provide the mechanism and the means so that culture will flourish within the province not by specific direction but by overall direction so that various cultural, both professional and amateur, and individuals can have the opportunity to further their endeavours.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, the next part that I was wondering if the Minister might comment on was where the Manitoba Arts Council supports the arm's length funding and then, just as government must not interfere with the decisions of the funder, the funder must not interfere in the decisions of the Board and the Board not interfere with the decisions of the artistic director.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I guess there are a half a dozen areas one could comment on there. I don't know what specific comment the honourable member is looking for. Certainly, the role of an agency like the Manitoba Arts Council and the reason

it was set up as an arm's length agency was so that it could deal with professional arts groups and professional artists so that government would not be involved in making artistic decisions. There is some concern from time to time that areas the Arts Council may be involved in tend to overlap with what work is being done directly by the Department of Cultural Affairs and there has to be some rationalization of the respective roles.

As far as the further comment with respect to individual performing groups or arts organizations and their artistic director of their boards, certainly that is a dilemma, I think, all boards of arts organizations go through whether how much leeway they give their artistic director in the areas of artistic direction and decision and how much they take onto themselves as a board. I know from my experience of being on boards that was always a point of contention between boards of directors and artistic directors.

MRS. HAMMOND: I was wondering, there was a recommendation that the Winnipeg Art Gallery be funded through the Manitoba Arts Council and then I noticed that the, I think, new Heritage Policy or I'm just not sure of the working group, were recommending that it come under that section. Has there been any decision on this or does everybody want the Art Gallery?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there hasn't been any decision taken to change the relationship or the funding of the Winnipeg Art Gallery at the present time. I'm interested in the honourable member's comments because she's referred to a recommendation that it be transferred to the Arts Council and I don't believe that's the position of the Manitoba Arts Council. I'm wondering if you are referring to that same report that was made to the Bayer Applebaum Commission.

MRS. HAMMOND: Probably from the Cultural Policy Review, I'm not sure. I think maybe it came out of that.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I was wrong. As I understand it, it is the position of the Manitoba Arts Council to have the Winnipeg Art Gallery transferred to its area. In fact, I believe at one time it was under the Arts Council but, in any case, there's certainly been no decision made to change that relationship. In fact, there are funds set aside in this appropriation to provide operating grant assistance to the Art Gallery for this fiscal year, so it's obvious that this year there will be no change and we're not actively considering any other change at this time.

MRS. HAMMOND: This may be getting out of this area a bit, but since we're on the Art Gallery, you were mentioning that the Art Gallery and what other group were looking at — in your opening statement you mentioned the Art Gallery and, I guess, the Museum of Man and Nature, was that it?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Museum of Man and Nature and the Winnipeg Art Gallery in consultation with the department are working on a conservation program. There is some funding available through the Federal Government and we're having

negotiations between the various organizations at our department and the Federal Government with respect to a conservation program.

MRS. HAMMOND: What exactly is a conservation program?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, basically the conservation program that's being developed is to allow the two major museums, the Art Gallery and the Museum of Man and Nature to preserve the artifacts that they have and also to, I think, more importantly provide outreach service to the many small museums that exist throughout the province so that they can have the benefit of a conservation program because, as the member is no doubt aware, the small museums throughout the province don't have the ability or the facilities to do that at the local level and they need outside assistance.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, is the department following policy of the previous government, funding the Arts Council to, I believe it was 15 percent?

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, the question wasn't clear. I think I know what the honourable member is . . .

MRS. HAMMOND: . . . referring to.

MR. KOSTYRA: . . . referring to. I don't believe that was the policy of the previous administration. I think it was an overall goal to increase the funding of the major performing Arts organizations, like the Winnipeg Symphony, the Ballet, to the 15-percent figure of operating budgets. I think that issue is still being taken under consideration by the Manitoba Arts Council.

I understand that the Manitoba Arts Council was looking at, with a view of not necessarily as a fixed figure, but with some flexibility to provide some incentives for the Arts organization with respect to their own fund raising and budget activities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for River East.

MR. PHIL EYLER (River East): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could tell me if Cultural Grants is the line item under which funding is provided to the Museum of Man and Nature.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the support to the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, with respect to its ongoing operating grant, is under this appropriation.

MR. EYLER: Could you tell me how much the increase this year is over last year?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the increase to the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature is \$257,700, which is an increase of 12 percent.

MR. EYLER: Does that include provision for salaries and wage agreements?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the grant does

include both items referred to; however, there is provisional support in the case if salary increases are higher than what may have been budgeted for, because the salaries for the museum are tied into salaries that are paid to civil servants working for the province through the government directly.

MR. EYLER: Under the previous government there was provision for two for one funding grants for special projects, whereby the province would contribute \$2 for every \$1 raised privately. Is this manner of funding being continued?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, that funding comes under the Acquisition and Construction section and there is provision in the budget for Acquisition and Construction of Physical Assets for the Museum of Man and Nature and there's been \$220,000 set aside. The policy in the past has been that those funds were given to the Museum on the matching formula that the honourable member refers to.

At the present time, we will be in discussions with the Museum with respect to their Capital Program and the ways that those funds would be given to them, whether or not they will be conditionalized, was in the past or under some other formula or no formula.

MR. EYLER: Does the Minister then anticipate that the funding is sufficient to maintain the museum operating at the same level of service and staffing as say six months or a year ago?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the operating grants with an increase of 12 percent provision for any additional salary increases would provide the museum with the necessary funds to operate at the same level of service as they did in the past year with the same staffing levels.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: If the Manitoba Arts Council had, or has, or is starting a Student Aid Program, what programs are not included for bursaries under, I guess under the Student Aid, from the Department of Education?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, quite frankly, I don't know the answer to that. I'd have to take that under advisement and report back.

As I understand the program, the Student Aid Program, the Arts Council is embarking on this to provide assistance for students that would attend arts, colleges or campuses that provide for training that doesn't exist in the Province of Manitoba, such as a conservatory or other such institution. How that ties in with the Department of Education, I don't know the answer to and I'd have to get that information for her.

MRS. HAMMOND: Well I guess the point is, it doesn't tie in with the Department of Education and that's why the Manitoba Arts Council is having to step in. Even programs, I think, that students in Manitoba can get bursaries for, programs that aren't offered in Manitoba through the Department of Education and I'm wondering why the Arts programs would

be any different.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, Mr. Chairman, as I indicated, I have to indicate I don't know the programs under the Department of Education and all I can say is that I would endeavour to find out the answer to the question and report back to the honourable member.

MRS. HAMMOND: The other thing that the Arts Council is getting involved in, in fact, I think it said they hired or were going to hire a Visual Arts consultant and due to the lack of opportunity of contemporary artists in Manitoba to exhibit their work, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, I understand, allows for limited shows. I wonder if they're going to be pushed a little further to hold shows for contemporary Manitoba artists.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I agree with the comments that are made by the honourable member and in fact, as late as early this morning, I met with the Winnipeg Art Gallery staff and board representatives and expressed those same concerns to them. They indicated to us that they're attempting to do more of that in the future.

MRS. HAMMOND: Under the programs of Cultural Grants, I take it that the Minister has indicated that there hasn't been a change in the programs and generally the programs that were ongoing before are ongoing now as far as grants are concerned.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, Mr. Chairman, there is no change in the areas of the major cultural grants. The only one area that we talked about was the Conservation Program. There are specific funds set aside for development of that program, but all the other major cultural organizations that receive grants in the past fiscal year are receiving grants in this fiscal year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. CHARLOTTE OLESON (Gladstone): Would this be the department under which there would be grants, for instance, bands travelling to other provinces or competing in other provinces or choirs in that activity?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources did have, a number of years ago, a grant program of assistance to bands or groups travelling outside of the province, but the previous administration stopped that program in March of 1981. There was no program in place for assistance for out of province travel for those type of groups and at present in these Estimates there isn't, though I could inform the honourable member that I have in the few months I have been in office seen many such requests for that type of assistance and have asked for review of this area for future years, because there seems to be some concern for those especially in the Youth Orchestra area that the lack of any kind of program of assistance for them to travel outside of the province is lessening the possibility of further development in that area by attending and performing in national competition. So, I am con-

cerned about that area but the previous program was stopped over a year ago and there's no provision in these Estimates for that kind of program. It is something that we will review over the next year in anticipation of looking ahead to future years.

MRS. OLESON: Included in that program in which you, I take it, are reviewing, were there grants for bands travelling within Manitoba because that is very important as well? Perhaps they could travel more in Manitoba before they venture forth.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairperson, with respect to touring in the province, there are under the Lotteries Funds, grants, programs for tour hosting within the Province of Manitoba that such bands could be eligible for assistance through the communities that are sponsoring their concerts. So there is provision for that kind of program within the province.

MRS. OLESON: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, does the department give any funding to the International Peace Gardens, the music program?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I am informed that the Manitoba Arts Council does provide some assistance to the music camp.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, I don't know how the department might be able to help in this, Mr. Chairman, but evidently there is a problem that is developing because the school divisions in the areas starting before Labour Day in Canada, that the music camps have seven weeks which I guess the Band Program mainly is in June except there is one week in July, and the sports goes for four weeks and there is talk of pushing the sports back a week which will push the music camp back into June which will create a big problem for the Canadian students. There are quite a number that participate in the Peace Gardens in the music camp there and they were, I think, looking for some help to see if there is anything that could be done through the government to see if we could keep at least one week of the music camp during July.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I was not aware of that particular problem until this moment and I would certainly direct staff in the department to meet with the administrators of the music camp to see what assistance we might be able to give to them to resolve that difficulty.

MRS. HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just found out about this today and they were asking if there was anything that could possibly be done. I guess, there's their travelling orchestra from the Peace Gardens and over 50 percent of the students are from Canada, so they will be touring Europe and it certainly has been an important area for Manitoba students, I know, to participate in and a wonderful

opportunity for the students to participate in. I know the St. James School Division gives bursaries of \$115 each for students to go to the camp, in particular, with the Band Program.

The other question I have is the Youth Orchestra. Are they funded at all by the department? That's the Manitoba Youth Orchestra — or they are going to change the name to Manitoba, it's probably Winnipeg.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, is the member referring to the Greater Winnipeg Schools Orchestra?

MRS. HAMMOND: If that's the orchestra — I am sorry, I don't have the name here, I remember they were just telling me that they were changing the name to the Manitoba — and they were just in Banff recently. Is that . . . ?

MR. KOSTYRA: The department does not provide any support to that orchestra.

MRS. HAMMOND: Will this be one of the areas that the department will be looking at when they're looking at funding Youth Orchestra? These particular students, I know, the majority of them evidently are planning careers in music and I understand that they too could use some funding because of the expenses of everything going up as it is everywhere.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I understand that there is an association being developed at the various youth orchestras and I understand that some of them are having difficulties with respect to funding. We talked previously about touring and certainly we would be prepared to meet with them as an association or as individual orchestras to determine the extent of their problems and ways that we might in the future look at providing assistance.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I just want to briefly mention that the funding that is given by the department for the Assiniboia International Band Festival certainly is put to good use. There is a Band Program in Manitoba right now, I think that is second to none, and this year there were close to 200 performing groups with about 9,000 students involved and over 100 of the optimist members acting as volunteers. It's a wonderful spot for all the band programs that are in the schools and they have bands coming from all over. I just feel the support for the bands and the music involvement that Manitoba has. Our musical festivals when it came to singing were second to none, I think still is, and the Band Program now is I believe equal and very deserving of support.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, I certainly agree with the comments made by the Member for Kirkfield Park. I had the opportunity this year of attending a small part of the Annual Assiniboine Optimist Club Band Festival and it certainly was an excellent event and opportunity for Youth Orchestra development. I think at this point I would just like to recognize the work that the Assiniboine Optimist Club have been doing because I believe that band festival has now been on for some nine or ten years. Really, the whole development of youth bands in the

province is to the credit of the Optimist Club of Assiniboia who have developed this annual festival that has given the opportunity to perform and to develop. It certainly has assisted in the development of youth orchestras in the province, particularly the City of Winnipeg.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask questions about Manitoba Day. Does that come under Development?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It doesn't matter. We can get all the questions out of the way and then we'll pass everything, so you can just go ahead.

The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Okay. I wanted to know what is being planned for Manitoba Day this year, if there is anything being planned and what it is?

MR. KOSTYRA: With respect to Manitoba Day, which is on May the 12th for those that don't know, we are planning to announce the winner of the search for the new Manitoba novelist here in the Legislative Building, coupled with a proclamation on Manitoba Day and a concert by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in the Legislative Buildings. We will be inviting all members of the Legislative Assembly and indeed others to attend the functions at the building that day.

MRS. HAMMOND: Is there anything being planned in the Legislative Building for students, anything in particular here, or is there a program that will be carried on in the schools with regard to Manitoba Day?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there is nothing specifically planned with respect to students at the Legislative Building on Manitoba Day, but the school divisions throughout the province are certainly encouraged to celebrate and recognize Manitoba Day. As you are aware, it's not a holiday in the province as of yet, so students are at the school and school divisions are encouraged to recognize the day.

MRS. HAMMOND: The other program I wanted to ask about was the Summer Festival. Will there be a summer festival this year as there was last year?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there will be a Summer Festival Program. It will be an expanded program as compared to last year's with an emphasis on multicultural groups and events.

MRS. HAMMOND: Will that be in conjunction with — what day is it, the Canada Heritage Festival that's being held here or will this be something separate?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairperson. The Summer Festival Program will be tied together and piggy backed with the Canada Heritage Festival that's being held over about a two-week period in the communities of Brandon and Selkirk and tied in with the centennial celebrations in those two communities and in the City of Winnipeg.

The Canadian Heritage Festival is a national festival

sponsored by the Federal Government that's held annually. This is the first time it is going to be held in the Province of Manitoba and the majority of the funding for the Heritage Festival is provided by the Federal Government, in excess of \$200,000, with some additional support by my department and also by the two communities of Brandon and Selkirk.

MRS. HAMMOND: Will the Ballet be performing in the park this year, also?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairperson. The Ballet will be performing as part of the Summer Festival.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to bring a little honour to the junior high school band in my area, from the Beliveau Junior High School. They raised their money in travelling around the province and the country by selling oranges and they are pretty nice oranges. But we won't probably have the opportunity of eating those oranges too much longer inasmuch as the school board in my area are now considering closing the only English junior high school and making it into a French immersion program. We will probably lose the junior high school band.

Now, under Cultural Programs, there is an increase of over \$1 million and I was kind of daydreaming at the very beginning, Mr. Minister, and maybe I missed it. Does this increase of \$1 million have anything to do with the pavilions at Folklorama or does it follow that program? If it is an increase of \$1 million, can the Honourable Minister tell us where the biggest increases are? I don't think I want to get right down to the nitty-gritty of every dollar and penny that is being spent on the program, but anything that is of a major increase considering that there's \$1 million being spent more this year than last.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We have gone from oranges to \$1 million. The area that you are referring to is the Cultural Grants to the major organizations and I will just run through it line by line. There are only 10 lines. The Manitoba Centennial Corporation is receiving a grant of \$1,134,900, which is an increase of \$283,400.00. The Francophone Manitobain Cultural Centre is receiving a grant of \$215,000, which is an increase of \$44,100.00. The Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre is receiving a grant of \$100,800, which is an increase of \$9,200.00. The Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium in Brandon is receiving a grant of \$51,500, which is an increase of only \$2,500.00. As indicated before, the Museum of Man and Nature is receiving an operating grant of \$2,339,400, which is an increase of \$257,700.00. The Winnipeg Art Gallery is receiving of \$1,203,100, which is an increase of \$151,600.00. There are funds set aside to implement the Conservation Program of \$113,000, which is a new expenditure that did not exist last year. The support to the Manitoba Arts Council is \$1,203,000, which is an increase of \$290,500 with an additional amount over and above that of \$30,000 for the Audit Program that I referred to. There

is a special grants program of \$50,000, which is a decrease of \$215,000 which was the amount that was expended last year. That makes up a total of \$967,000.00, not quite a million.

MR. KOVNATS: Is there any Acquisition and Construction monies in this Cultural Grants Program, particularly for the Festival du Voyageur. I know that there is a new building that is being built at this time or acquired or renovated and I know that the Provincial Government has given some monies. I was with the Honourable Minister when he gave them a cheque for, I think it was, \$30,000 in the middle of last winter. The Federal Government did too and there I was standing, poor little boy from St. Boniface with nothing to give them, but the Honourable Minister was giving them 30 and the Honourable Bob Bockstael was giving them another \$30,000 and there I was standing with nothing to hand over. Is there any additional funds being given to the Festival du Voyageur this year for the building of a permanent home?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there are no funds set aside in this department for assistance for the capital program of the Festival du Voyageur. I would have to take it as notice. There may well be some assistance through the Department of Economic Development in the Tourism Department, but I don't have that information.

MR. KOVNATS: Okay, that's fair enough. I am not trying to catch the Honourable Minister on questions like that, but I just, for my own satisfaction, would like to know because I support such a program. I would like to see them funded, not overly funded but to the full extent.

Can the Honourable Minister advise me whether the Piney Blueberry Festival that occurs every year is receiving any funds under this Cultural Programs?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I have got lists of grants that go about 14 pages. I could run through and record all of them into the record and as we do that we could see if there is assistance. I do not believe that there has been any assistance paid to the Piney Blueberry Festival, but it is certainly of interest to me because I love blueberries and I like the community of Piney. As far as I know, there has not been any request for funds from the Piney Blueberry Festival.

MR. KOVNATS: To the Honourable Minister, it might sound a little bit humorous and it was meant to be just a little bit humorous, but there was some seriousness in it also, inasmuch as I enter a float into the Piney Blueberry Festival Parade every year and I think that there is some discrimination against myself and particularly because I represent the Town of Menisino. I think that they put me into the parade at a position where I am not considered to win the float and I think that there are prizes of \$5.00 and \$2.00 and \$1.00 for the best floats in a row.

The Blueberry Festival is probably the last place in Manitoba where you do get fresh blueberries and it's an international festival inasmuch as people come across from United States to this Blueberry Festival. There is really nothing there, but we have a hell of a lot

of fun and we eat blueberry pies. It's once a year and I would think that, with the Honourable Minister giving increases and grants to a lot of different areas, at least there could be some small grant made to the Blueberry Festival and I would see that the Honourable Minister received a whole blueberry pie in return.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I am very much interested in what the member has informed us about and I look forward to receiving an invitation to attend the Piney Blueberry Festival. I would like to see your float. I am sure it must be one of the better floats in the parade. It seems to be with the price of blueberries that the Festival is probably self-supporting with the kind of funds they can raise, but if there is a request for assistance from that organization and if it fits the criteria of the various grant programs that exist within the party, it will certainly be considered for assistance.

MR. KOVNATS: I really was trying to see whether in fact that it would meet a criteria and would receive some assistance from the Provincial Government and, if it did, then I was going to ask for the Town of Menisino, which has a population of 15 or 20, and see if we could receive a grant for them and start some sort of Blueberry Festival at Menisino. That's really where the people in Piney get their blueberries, is at Menisino, which is about five or six miles away from Piney. I have made a little bit light about it, but these people in the southeast corner of the province are almost a forgotten group. They really should receive some recognition and I think that was the intent on why I brought it up. It was on a humorous vein, but I would like to see the people in that southeast corner, the Piney area, the Sprague area, the Vita area, receive some recognition as being part of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated that if there are requests for support from that area of the province and they fit with the criteria of grant support programs that exist in the department, they will certainly be considered. It is certainly my intention as Minister and I know the staff of the department to treat all areas of the province, all communities of the province, equally with respect to the kind of support that's provided by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources. So, I would encourage them to come to us if they need assistance or want assistance and if they fit in with the criteria of our grant programs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for La Verendrye.

MR. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister mentioned that there was a 27 percent increase to the funding to the French Cultural Centre. I wonder if he could explain why that increase.

MR. KOSTYRA: It will just take me a minute to get back. I was still looking for Piney Blueberry Festival. The total operating budget for the CCFM rolls from \$323,100 to \$382,900, which is an increase of \$59,800 or 18.5 percent, of which the major increases for salaries and benefits, building maintenance and adminis-

tration. Included in this was a significant increase for the replacement of alarm systems in the building and for renovation, repairs and measures to maintain the building. The reason that the increase in the province's assistance is at a higher percentage than the general operating budget of the organization is that revenue from sources other than the province are projected to rise at only 10.3 percent, which means that the province's grant is taking up some of that slack.

MR. BANMAN: I wonder if the Minister could inform the House whether or not there isn't a 50-50 cost-sharing agreement with the Federal Government with regards to the French Cultural Centre.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that the Federal Government pays for ongoing programs of the Centre, whereas the province's contribution is for the operation of the building itself.

MR. BANMAN: I think if the Minister will check that back a number of years ago when the operating was roughly at \$120,000, there was an agreement reached with the Federal Government for some of the deficit retirements that were undertaken and that the Federal Government was going to be providing some funds. I think that since this facility was cost-shared between the Federal and Provincial Government, the Federal Government definitely has a responsibility and it shouldn't be only the Manitoba taxpayers that bear the burden of the operating. I guess my question is, seeing the problems that other groups such as the Manitoba Mennonite Museum out in Steinbach face in trying to operate that particular facility, which happens to be a fairly large tourist facility; I would just say to the Minister in light of a 27 percent increase by the province for one single facility like this, that he better understand when other groups come in and are also asking for increased funds. Because one thing, I'm sure he's found out in his short tenure as Minister, when you're dealing with different groups, you have to have a policy which is relatively uniform that one group isn't singled out over the other one.

I just say to him that a 27 percent increase to one particular group is a pretty large one and that I hope he would look very favourably on other groups that come forward at a time when they're also struggling. I raise that matter here right now and tell the Minister that I'm sure that I know the group in my area who has been very aggressive in the last little while in developing the Mennonite Museum out in Steinbach is looking for some upgrading money also and I'm sure will be contacting him. In light of this 27 percent increase, I sure hope that he looks favourably on that group.

Going to another matter, I wonder if the Minister has had any representation from the Festival du Voyageur group with regards to funding for a facility which would house a permanent casino?

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to comment first on the Francophone Cultural Centre, the funds that are provided by the Federal Government for program funds far exceed what is paid for by the Province of Manitoba with respect to operating funds. The Centre, as has been recognized with other major

cultural organizations in the appropriation that we're dealing with, have had ongoing funds for a number of years.

With respect to the Mennonite Museum in Steinbach, I have indeed met with them already and have discussed their funding. There is, quite frankly, a problem with respect to funding museums and we're not in that area at the present time and I don't know if we want to open it up, but there exists a Museum Grant Program in the Province of Manitoba that has existed for a number of years and has maintained that at a maximum level of \$2,000 per museum.

Unfortunately there has never been developed in the past years in the department any kind of assistance program for the mid-size museum like the Steinbach Museum and that any assistance that's been provided to any of the mid-size museums have been on an ad hoc basis. One of the things since becoming Minister that I've asked for is a review of our Museum Grants Program with the view of looking at some ongoing grant assistance to the mid-size museums like Steinbach and there are a number of others like the Marine Museum, the Western Aviation Museum and others that fall into that range that certainly the Grant Program that has existed in the past of \$2,000 does not provide them any meaningful assistance.

So, that is one area that I've certainly directed myself to look at for the near future because I too recognize the value of museums like the Steinbach Mennonite Museum and also recognize that there has to be some better support programs in place for that size museum.

With respect to the question of the Festival du Voyageur building for a casino, I have not had any requests for assistance from the Festival du Voyageur for assistance from my department for that facility.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's 2.(a)(1) Cultural Grants — the Member for LaVerendrye.

MR. BANMAN: Dealing just briefly with the Mennonite Village Museum, I guess one of the problems we have in dealing with a straight museum versus sort of a cultural museum is that unless I know the guidelines that the department operates under right now; unless there are certain activities that happen within that framework of that museum, the museum is classified as an ordinary museum and is not classified, I guess as a cultural — I don't know if you'd call it a cultural museum or a cultural facility such as the Cultural Centre or the Ukrainian Cultural Centre where a lot of the activities that are related to that particular culture are carried on. I guess one of the problems that the people out in Steinbach face is that during the summer months, of course, many of the activities that happen there are based right around the culture of the Mennonite community, of the Manitoba Mennonites, who form a fairly large segment of the population here in Manitoba.

I would just say to the Minister, when he's deliberating on these things, you'd sort of hate to see them being forced into doing certain things to comply with the grant in order to get that grant, when I think they are doing an excellent job at the present time in dealing with that. I just hope that he takes that into consideration. I know they are eligible for the \$2,000, which

is a small amount compared to what the total activity of that place is. But it is to a very large extent not only a meeting place, but a place where a lot of the children and the older people in the community reflect on their heritage and reflect on the things that have made this country and have added to the cultural mosaic of this particular province.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I share the views of the Member for LaVerendrye. As I indicated, I have met with representatives from the Mennonite Museum; I have, prior to being the Minister of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources, been at a number of times at the museum. But I think I should make it clear that comparing the museum in Steinbach to the Franco-phone Centre isn't a correct comparison because the Centre was set up and is a facility owned by the Province of Manitoba and run by a board appointed by the province, whereas the Mennonite Museum is a community, in fact is a private museum insofar as it's an independent organization, with what I believe to be quite strong community support in that area, as is there are a number of other museums throughout the province. As I indicated, I don't think the member could expect me to be able in a few months to turn on a situation that existed for a number of years with respect to support for museums in the Province of Manitoba. But I indicated that I think there has to be some change in the way that we support museums and I'm certainly committed to seeing some better level of support, particularly in the area of the mid-size museums that have not had any kind of meaningful grant program in place.

With respect again to the museum and its cultural activities, there are other programs available in assistance to cultural organizations in the province and indeed the member is aware that cultural organizations in the Steinbach area receive grants from the department for cultural activities. One that I'm sure the member is well aware of is the Treble Teens that have received assistance in the past and will receive assistance with respect to cultural programs.

MR. BANMAN: The point I'm trying to make and I guess to highlight it a little more; one of the problems the Minister will have and probably is having in dealing with this particular department is that many of the grants are worked out on almost an eleventh hour basis. A group will come in and say that we have a fairly horrendous deficit and what happens is that if you don't give us the money, we're going to close down. They hold the gun to the Minister's head, it doesn't matter which political group happens to be in office at that time. I guess my concern is, we have many groups out there that are conscientious, running fairly well, who don't employ that type of tactic and I would just ask the Minister to keep that in mind. I know that he'll be looking at that and experiencing some of that over the next little while but one always gets the feeling, and I know it's a tough policy to try and bring in, but it's very difficult to explain to people who are running a good shop themselves. They almost get penalized for doing that because if they haven't got a deficit very often it's hard to get the funds.

It's a problem we face, I guess, not only in this

department but in some others, but there always seem to be that eleventh-hour bailout where a group will come in and say, listen, we've got the deficit and you've got to help us out because if you don't help us out, we're going to close the doors. It's a real problem and I just hope that when the Minister is looking at new policies, at people who do run a good tight ship and where there is a lot of volunteer input in these things, that they aren't overlooked in this and they don't get the feeling, and I know the feeling is there with some groups that man, if we just let her go and then go to the government and say, hey, we're going bankrupt, we're going to close the doors, there's enough public pressure that the governments have to cave in and give them money. I know there's no easy solution to that but I just hope that some of these people who do show initiative and show that they're running a good ship and doing a service in the community, that is somehow taken into any policy that the Minister is going to develop.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, those are the kind of things that we certainly are going to take into account and, I think, not only from the department's standpoint that we're going to look at better planning ahead with respect to the way we support various museums in the province, but I think there has to be some responsibility on the part of the museums in the province.

There are some museums that go and take projects on without knowing whether or not they are going to get support from the department and then after they complete those projects, come to the department saying we've now done this and we're now in deficit of \$50,000 or \$70,000 and they want the department and the government to bail them out. I think that some of those local organizations have to take some responsibility with respect to their own planning and budgeting and the way they conduct their organizations.

I think I should just share with the committee that the Mennonite Museum in Steinbach has received since 1972, \$193,000 from the Province of Manitoba.

MR. BANMAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, and I think if the Minister checks, it's almost all for Capital Grants. The operating they're doing themselves; a large part for the Windmill and most of the money was for operating.

I just say to him that you hate to lose that volunteer spirit that is out there right now and I just say again that hopefully one can recognize in-government policy, people who are doing a good job in developing it and are not doing very precisely the same thing that the Minister has indicated because there's a tendency to move into that area to do something and then come to government because the government is put in the position of not being able to say no. That's an unfortunate position because I don't think it lends itself to the direction that all of us want to see these things happen.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, as I indicated, Mr. Chairman, I share those concerns but the member made a comment that the assistance to the Mennonite Museum was in the area of Capital. My understanding is that

most of the assistance in the last few years was with respect to deficit reduction after the Museum had run into a deficit position and had come to government for assistance and some was provided to help them with their deficit.

MR. BANMAN: I think if you'll check, it's basically for the — they ran into deficit because they constructed some buildings which have been paid off now and they didn't have to borrow any money to pay them off, so I know what the Minister is talking about. It's just a matter of developing these policies so they're equitable for everybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(1) Cultural Grants—pass; 2.(a)(2) Cultural Development (a) Salaries—pass; 2.(b) Other Expenditures—pass; 2.(3)(a) Salaries—pass.

2.(3)(b) Other Expenditures — the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome a chance to talk about public libraries because that's one of the very important things that I've been involved in over the years.

I notice in the Annual Report which you tabled in the House a short time ago that it says on page 13: "Highlights of the year included the implementation of an improved funding formula for rural libraries and the initiation of Audio-Visual Services to provide talking books for the print handicapped and 16 mm films for patrons of rural public libraries." Also, it talks about operating grants to municipalities and establishment grants that had been increased.

I'm wondering if you are proceeding to study this program and to possibly implement increases in the near future. I'm sure we're all aware of the rising cost of books. I know from being a purchaser of books for school libraries that books we used to order for \$3 are now somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$12.00. So it is a very difficult matter for public libraries to not only pay staff but to do the very thing that they're there for, to supply books for their patrons, and I wonder what you have in mind for the future of rural Manitoba libraries.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, I share the concerns of the Member for Gladstone with respect to the area of the purchase of books. The cost increases in that area have been substantial in the last number of years which has put strains on libraries throughout the province.

We plan to review the operating grant formula for public libraries in the Province of Manitoba over this next summer. There are no increases provided in the grant formula this year outside of the government reviewing and dealing with the problem of the new census figures which would mean a reduction to some library boards, to some municipalities, with respect to the grant program because of the decreasing population in some areas of the province. That's one particular area that we're going to be dealing with in the next short while and deciding on how that situation will be dealt with. But with respect to the operating grant formula, it is remaining the same as it has in the last year for the present year, but we're

going to be reviewing that over the summer.

MRS. OLESON: Are you also reviewing ways in which you could encourage municipalities to join regions that are already in existence?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I've had some discussions a few months back with the Manitoba Library Association who also are concerned or would like to see more libraries joining regional library systems and I would say directly to the question, yes, we are in favour of that happening and that department staff would work with the local libraries and regional libraries to accomplish that.

MRS. OLESON: I'm sure that you're aware, Mr. Minister, over the years there have been a great number of studies made of public library services in Manitoba. I have in front of me at least four names of people that have done studies. There's a Mr. Park that did a study, and Mr. Hamlin; there's a Newson Report and David Steen has done a study. I would hope that in your review and study of this library program that you don't fall into the trap of asking for yet another large study, which will be filed, because, I think, we've studied it to the extent that we will now have to study the studies and I think instead of spending money in that direction, we should implement some of the recommendations that have been started and continue with the strides that the previous government had made in the changing of the grants.

I'm wondering if you are going to increase your grants to the Manitoba Library Association and I'm wondering also, about the Manitoba Library Trustees Association. Over the years I've worn several hats in this regard and the Manitoba Library Trustees Association, of which I'm currently a member, has a great deal of difficulty in inter-library meetings with other provinces, for instance, and in even holding their own annual meetings because of the expenses involved. It often means that, especially with Canadian Library Association Conferences, a limited number of people, if any, can go to the meetings because of the costs involved. They are a week-long meeting and they are very expensive. I know small library boards, there's no way that they could take money from their funds to go to these and, at least, their trustee association delegate should be able to be funded to go.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the first comment or question, it's certainly not going to be my intention, as Minister, to launch any further major studies. The review, that I was referring to, would be a review done by the department and I would hope to have consultation with the two respective associations and indeed individual libraries throughout the province for their views, rather than launching on any further major study.

With respect to the question of assistance to the two organizations, there is going to be increases. The assistance to both associations in the past year, I'm informed, was \$1,000 each and we're going to allow increases in grants to those organizations to a maximum of \$5,000 on a matching membership formula with them so they will have the possibility of significant increases.

MRS. OLESON: Something else I wanted to ask about in connection with public libraries, the Capital Grants Program with lottery funds that has been in place, are you planning to continue that program?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MRS. OLESON: There has been some discussion among people that I know in the field that since this was for capital and it was a 50-50 proposition, it was difficult for some libraries to even initiate a capital project that they could even pay half of. So, I understand that these funds have not been fully expended in the past partly because of that reason.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairperson, there are problems with the Capital Grant Programs for libraries. Those funds come out of the Lotteries Funds and in the last fiscal year only 42,000 was spent under that program. For this year, there is allocation of \$208,000, which includes part of the carryover from the previous year, but that too is the other area that we'll be reviewing over the summer, both on the operating side and also on the Capital Grants side, because I am aware of the problems that the member is referring to.

MRS. OLESON: Also, Mr. Minister, can you give me an update on the status of the grant for the Brandon Centennial Library?

MR. KOSTYRA: The Brandon Centennial Library and combined Arts Centre received a grant from the Province of Manitoba of \$800,000 and that has been paid to the City of Brandon. In my recent travels to Brandon, they are working on concluding the provisions with the architect to start doing the renovations on the building and we anticipate those to start within the next few weeks or within the next few months and that they're planning on opening that centre sometime later this fall.

MRS. OLESON: Also in the annual report it was mentioned, and I recall them happening — mind you I didn't have time to get to them — but there were seminars for rural librarians and rural library systems and rural library workers. From all reports I have heard that they are very very useful and I'm hoping that you will continue that program.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, as the member indicated, there have been seminars and I attended one last fall or earlier this past winter and it's intended to continue those seminars and to hold two such seminars a year. The member raised earlier a comment about traveling costs and she may be aware that for those seminars there is assistance for travel to attend them.

MRS. OLESON: Yes, I'm aware of that. Also, is there going to be an increase in the large print books available to readers with reading difficulties? I understand that they are circulated through Public Library Services, am I correct?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There will be increases. There is only a set number of them pub-

lished and any book that is published is purchased by the Provincial Library Services.

MRS. OLESON: I know from just my limited experience with our one local library at home that those are a very important addition to the library, but of course, if you have them in the library, if you purchase them, they become a static collection because of their — I won't say limited readership, but it isn't everyone that wants them, of course, and so the best way, I think, to use them is to circulate them from one set place and I think in that way we can supply a better variety to our readers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(3)(b) Other Expenditures—pass; 2.(3)(c) Grant Assistance—pass; 2.(b) Provincial Archives, (1) Salaries—pass.

The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Have there been any changes in the staff man years in the Archives?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I had answered that question this afternoon in response to a question, but there's an increase of four staff man years in the archives for two additional assistant archivists and a clerical position and one conservation technician.

MRS. HAMMOND: Has there been an increase for the Hudson Bay Company Archives?

MR. KOSTYRA: No, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HAMMOND: As far as the building —(Interjection)— The Auditorium is what I was thinking of. The Archives Building, you're right, Have they carried on with the construction that was to go on in the Archives to upgrade it?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Archives or the old Auditorium Building, I think there was a comment made by the member that I am too young to have been in the old Auditorium, but I should just report that I recall being in the Auditorium in June of 1969 at the Leadership Convention of the New Democratic Party when Ed Schreyer was elected Leader of our party and went on to become Premier of the province. —(Interjection)— I don't go back that far.

The additional work will be going on. The other sections of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources will be moving from the Archives Building into another location and then the further expansion will take place for the Archives.

MRS. HAMMOND: Has the location been decided on? Will they be going into some of the historic buildings in the core area?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There are negotiations taking place now with respect to lease in a building in the core area of Winnipeg and in the Heritage Winnipeg area of the core area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: I was just going to ask, have the four positions that had been increased under Salaries been filled?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, they have not been filled, but are in the process of being filled at the present time.

MR. KOVNATS: One other question and it is a personal question. Has the Honourable Minister ever been through the Provincial Archives?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I have been through part of the Archives, but I haven't had the time unfortunately to take the kind of detailed tour that I would like to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It's 2.(b)(1).

MR. FILMON: Have they till got my papers in there?

MR. KOSTYRA: You didn't leave them in my office, so they must be somewhere.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(b)(1) Salaries—pass; 2.(b)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; 2.(c) Historic Resources — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: I understand that the government has designated The Pas Jail and I —(Interjection)— Is it the Court House? How much money has been allocated for the renovation of the Jail, Court House?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, no funds have been allocated for the renovation of The Pas Court House. The building is owned by the province and is the responsibility of Government Services. What will be happening or is in the process of taking place is a study to look at possible uses of the building and also to get estimates with respect to costs of renovating the building.

MRS. HAMMOND: I believe a while ago when they were looking at upgrading the building, they were looking at in excess of \$1 million. Is that figure still relevant?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I am not aware of any figure to renovate The Pas Court House. As far as I know, there has not been any study done as to the costs of renovating the building and that's the study that is going to be undertaken by the Department of Government Services now to determine what the costs of renovations will be to bring it up to today's standards.

MRS. HAMMOND: I believe, probably if you maybe check with Government Services, that was the figure that was suggested before to bring it up to fire standards and I'm just wondering about designating buildings and not at the same time allocating any money to bring them up to any standards. It's fine to designate buildings, but someone has to keep them up and I am just wondering what the policy is going to be of this

government then, as far as designating buildings and funding them.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, as the member is aware, there is by legislation, by statute, a Historic Site Advisory Board that exists and advises and makes recommendations to the Minister on the designation of historic sites in the Province of Manitoba. The Board has made three recommendations to me since I have become Minister. One was The Pas Court House, which we acted upon and there are two other recommendations pending, one being the Neepawa Municipal Building and the Virden Auditorium.

What I am proceeding to do with respect to the latter two buildings is, I have communicated to the local councils in the area, both town and rural municipalities and in the two cases mentioned, also to the community committees that have been formed in those two areas to attempt to save those buildings and then discuss with them the recommendation from the Historic Sites Advisory Board, what could happen if the building is designated by the government as a historic site and also to get input from them as to what plans they have.

In the case of the Virden area, the community there, on its own initiative, and the concern of the Virden community and area has raised close to \$78,000 in order to save that particular building. I will be discussing that hopefully in the next few weeks with them.

In the case of Neepawa, the two municipal councils there, the Town of Neepawa and the Rural Municipality, are both now discussing possible uses of that building because it is presently used as municipal offices for the two local governments. They are looking at the option of either rehabilitating that building and maintaining their offices there or building a new structure.

MRS. HAMMOND: I wonder if there has been any discussion about the Playhouse Theatre. I understand that the city has been trying to have the province take this over for a number of years. They are in a position right now where it is losing something like \$54,000 this year. What is happening with this particular building?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I have not had any discussions directly with the City of Winnipeg with respect to the Playhouse Theatre. I know that it is one of the outstanding matters that has been before the Urban Affairs Committee of Cabinet and the official delegation of the City of Winnipeg for a number of months, in fact may be longer. There is nothing new to report on that outside that it's a matter pending. I have not had any discussions or further representations from the city as Minister of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources.

MRS. HAMMOND: I wanted to ask just a couple of quick questions about the Heritage Working Group. They recommended Manitoba Heritage to work at arm's length from the government to direct Heritage development and to disburse funds. Has the government, Mr. Chairman, made any recommendations or have they come to grips with that report at all?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated in my opening statement, the government has not accepted that recommendation of the Heritage Working Group and we are still discussing the various aspects of that report, though it is my feeling that in the area of Heritage that the government should be the one that sets the policy in that area in and it ought not to be done by an arm's length agency. In fact, that same view is held by a number of the Heritage groups in the province including, I believe, the Association of Manitoba Museums who were of the opinion that recommendation should not be acted upon by government.

MRS. HAMMOND: Was the recommendation in that report also to include the Archives under that same policy?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MRS. HAMMOND: Does the Minister have the same feeling about the Archives? Myself, I find that a little strange that it would be separate from the government.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We haven't dealt with that specific recommendation in any detail, but I would share the same comments and the concern with respect to the Archives as the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: Have there been any changes in direction as far as expenditures or in staff man years in the Historic Resources Department?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, there is an increase of 5.04 staff man years in the Historic Resources Section; one for Administration, 2.21 for Architectural Conservation, .37 for Archeology and .5 for History Research.

MRS. HAMMOND: The St. Norbert Heritage Park, how is that development coming along and what is the forecast for the opening of the park or some part of it?

MR. KOSTYRA: That park is proceeding. There is going to be further activity there this summer and it is hoped over the next three or four years, that buildings will be opened for use at that site. I indicated earlier with respect to two of the buildings.

MRS. HAMMOND: That particular development, is it cost-shared with the Federal Government?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, portions of that park development are shared through the ARC agreement with the Federal Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition.

HON. STERLING LYON (Charleswood): Can I perhaps, Mr. Chairman, interject one question to the Minister about a piece of property in that same area, it is on what we used to call the old No. 14 Highway, that was purchased back in the '70s. As one drives by now, one sees evidence of construction of a house, probably an ersatz log cabin or some such thing. It's a piece of property that was bought, as I say I think sometime

in the early '70s from private owners on the river. I am trying to think of the name of the former owners and it is in a residential area. Why the government bought it, I have never been able to ascertain. What's happening on it?

I candidly confess I was never able to ascertain when I was Premier. Why it was bought, I was never able to ascertain. I wonder if the Minister can offer any enlightenment now? I'm sorry I can't be more definitive as to a description.

MR. KOSTYRA: Is that the Moody property?

MR. LYON: The Moody property, yes.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. That is 78 Turnbull Drive, which is part of the ARC program and that is the two buildings that I referred to earlier, the Bohemier House and the Maison Turenne.

MR. LYON: Are located on that?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MR. LYON: That's very interesting. Has anyone been able ever to arrive at a reason for the purchase of that particular piece of property which was residential? What aspect of the public interest was served by the purchase of that property?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I am informed that was developed as part of the ARC agreement and the significance of that piece of property is that it is at the confluence of the LaSalle and the Red River and that it was part of the overall ARC agreement for the Red River Corridor.

MR. LYON: When did the ARC agreement actually start? When was it first propounded as a Federal-Provincial program?

MR. KOSTYRA: I am prepared to get into that. Unfortunately, I don't have all the details because that agreement directly comes under the Urban Affairs and that is where that line is. The Department of Historic Resources delivers, on behalf of the ARC authority, some of the programs and that's the couple we are dealing with. I think it was 1977, when it was signed, and then they went through a process, as I understand it, of consultation with various groups and formed a development plan which was approved just last September, I believe. Work is now proceeding on the basis of that development plan which was approved by the two levels of government. It was approved by the previous government.

MR. LYON: Mr. Chairman, I rather have the impression and it's only an impression that property was bought some time before the ARC agreement was in common parlance or before it was really something that the government was involved in. What I am really trying to get back to is whether or not this property was bought for the purpose of the ARC agreement or what was it that stimulated those in office in those days to buy the property, other than the fact that there was a For Sale sign on it and government apparently

had lots of money in those days and bought it?

MR. KOSTYRA: The Leader of the Opposition is really trying to take me back into history. I am informed that the property was purchased in 1974, in anticipation of the ARC agreement because, apparently again I'm informed, that the ARC agreement was being developed at that point in time. I could try to get a more detailed response.

MR. LYON: I appreciate that much light being shed on it. As I say, I was relatively unsuccessful, even as Premier, in being able to find out anything about it.

MR. KOSTYRA: You expect me as Minister to do better?

MR. LYON: Be under no misunderstanding as to the powers of the Premier's Office to get to certain facts.

I see a large, rather heavy, gate on the property. In fact, I went to the trouble once of driving in there one day when I say the gate provisionally open and could find neither man nor beast who could tell me what was going on and it just looked to be nothing. Then all of a sudden, as I say, there appeared this log cabin, which one can see as one drives south towards the Floodway, which people in that part of the world do, at this time of year. I saw it not too long ago and wondered now what's going on in this strange piece of property that the government bought.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well you've certainly got my interests. I'm going to have to get down there as soon as possible to have a first hand look at it.

MR. LYON: Now I've found an ally.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're on 2.(c)(1)

MR. LYON: I'll look forward to the enlightenment that you can provide.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(c)(1) Salaries — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MR. HAMMOND: Yes, I just wanted to ask about the former Brandon Correctional Institute, what stage is it at?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, with respect to that facility, we just received, or I just received last week the study that was done, commissioned by the previous government through the Department of Government Services, on the costs of rehabilitating that building and I haven't had a chance to review that.

Once I do, then we would be meeting with the City of Brandon and sharing that information and the local historical societies in Brandon, who have indicated interest in having that building preserved.

I can attempt to get a more detailed answer once we've had a chance to study the report, but that's where it sits at the present time and once that information is available, we'll be sharing it with the City of Brandon and the Historical Society in Brandon.

MRS. HAMMOND: What are the costs?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I believe it was in the range of \$4,000 or \$5,000. I can attempt to get a detailed response on that.

MRS. HAMMOND: And this was to be used as a museum in Brandon?

MR. KOSTYRA: The purpose of this study by Government Services was to ascertain whether or not, as I understand it, that the building could be rehabilitated and at what cost. In other words, determining whether or not the structure was sound of the building to facilitate rehabilitation and the study, as I understand it, is to determine that it is feasible and that the costs of rehabilitating and bringing it up to today's standards, with respect to fire and building codes, would be somewhere in the range of \$400,000 or \$500,000.00.

The study was not done to determine actual use. There was suggestions, as I understand it, over the past few years from the City of Brandon and I believe the Historical Society in the Brandon area, to look at using that building as a museum, but no decision has been made with respect to whether or not the building will be rehabilitated or what use may be made of the building.

MRS. HAMMOND: Did the Historic Sites Advisory Board recommend it as a designated site?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, that was done some time ago.

MRS. HAMMOND: How then do you judge between recommending this building in Brandon, where you have got some costs, and designating the Jail in The Pas, where you haven't got costs. What is the difference between the government's policy between the two sites?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, with respect to The Pas, there was recommendations and requests from the Town Council in The Pas to designate it as a historic site and The Pas Historical Society.

There hasn't been any such requests from the City of Brandon at this point and that's part of the reason that we're going to be meeting with them to see what their views are and what their thoughts are, on that building.

MRS. HAMMOND: Well is the Brandon Correctional Institute — it's a government building, isn't it?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MRS. HAMMOND: Well then if the City of Brandon decides that it would like to have it designated, then who is going to pay the cost, if that's going to be the criteria, to have it designated.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well to have a building designated does not necessarily mean that it has to be totally rehabilitated. It can be just maintained in that state for viewing or it could be rehabilitated for possible uses.

In The Pas area there was, as I indicated, a motion of the Town Council to have that building designated

and preserved and maintained, and a great deal of community interests, both from the Town of The Pas and The Pas Historical Society, looking for possible future use of the building.

In the case of the Brandon facility, there hasn't been at this point, that I'm aware of, that same level of interest and commitment from either the City Council or the Historical Society.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, I was under the impression that you designated the building in The Pas because you didn't want to see it deteriorate, or the government didn't want to see it deteriorate. So if you're saying that you can designate a building and then just leave it, what then happens to the building without some upkeep?

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, Mr. Chairman, there's various things that can happen. One, the building can be maintained in its present state, so that there's no further deterioration and it's maintained so that it won't deteriorate any further, or the building could be upgraded, either for possible use or to be maintained without it being utilized as a functional building. There's many things that could happen.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, when you say that the building could be maintained, what does that entail? As the Brandon Correctional Institute is vacant and I imagine it's mothballed, I don't know if they're heating it; what costs will be entailed then to maintain it?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I don't know the actual costs, but they aren't significant to maintain a building. It means keeping some low level of heat in the building, so there isn't deterioration of the basic structure because if a building does not have any heat, then the structure itself will be damaged through frost.

I could get the actual cost, but I'm of the opinion that they're not significant to maintain a basic level of heat and the building can be, as the member referred to, mothballed for future use, because what could happen if the building isn't maintained is that it deteriorates beyond the point of any possibility of repair, or the possibility of even maintaining that it could be in danger of collapse.

An example of that is the Empire Hotel, which we had to take, in conjunction with the City and Great West Life, action on this past winter in order to save the facade because the building was in danger of collapsing if there was a heavy snow fall and the weight on the roof would have caused the whole building to collapse and it would have been lost completely. There was a decision and agreement between Great West Life, the province and the City to remove the facade and save that as a historic site in itself.

MRS. HAMMOND: Yes, are there any other sites like the Brandon Correctional Institute and The Pas Jail that are sitting, waiting to be designated, if a council, or if there is some clamoring for it in the community?

MR. KOSTYRA: The Historic Sites Advisory Board has made recommendations on the three that you mentioned. Also the Red River House Museum, which

is Captain Kennedy's house on River Road out on the way to Lockport; Display Building No. 2 in Brandon, which I believe is on the fairgrounds; the Eastern Judicial Jail which is just a stone throw from this building, it's referred to as the Vaughan Street Jail; the church residence guesthouse and Trappist Monastery in St. Norbert. Those are the seven buildings that have been recommended by the Historic Sites Advisory Board for possible designation.

MRS. HAMMOND: I want to ask just one question. Will the Minister be able to come up with any sort of figures on the amount of money, the cost that it would take to not only just designate because that is easy enough to do, but to renovate and put these buildings in some sort of order?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I already indicated with respect to the Brandon facility that it was in the area of \$400,000 or \$500,000 and I will give you those actual figures if I can just have a chance to review the report. With respect to the other buildings, I am not aware that any studies have been done in the cost of rehabilitating them. I can get for the member the average or the costs of maintaining a building so that further deterioration doesn't take place, such as the case as with The Pas.

It is very difficult, because unless an actual study is done, you don't know those costs. You can just take wild guesses and again there are various levels. In the case of the Brandon, I believe the report indicates that the large part of the building can be rehabilitated and the costs are associated with that, and one portion of the building is just to be shut off and mothballed. So there are various levels depending on what one might want to do with the building.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. OLESON: Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, I am wondering do you have a set criteria that you use in designating a building. Do you just go by the age and type of building, I am curious to know just what is the criteria for designating a building?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Well, The Historic Sites and Objects Act has a mandate for the Historic Sites Advisory Board and that gives them the power to make recommendations to the Minister for designation of buildings which are of provincial historic significance. The board gets many recommendations, in fact, I believe they have, not recommendations, but requests for 20 or 30 such designations and they do a study as to whether or not that particular building is of provincial historic significance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Inkster.

MR. DON SCOTT (Inkster): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is one building that I have not heard mentioned yet tonight and certainly sits out as almost a crown jewel on Portage Avenue and that is the Bank of Nova Scotia Building. I am wondering what the status of that building is at this time, if the Department

of Cultural Affairs has had negotiations both with the bank and with the city. I understand that there have been for quite some time calls for the building to be designated as a historic site, that probably the finest example of that kind of architecture in the province perhaps outside this building itself. I'm just wondering, what has been done and what the prospects of that building are for the future?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: That particular building has not been designated by the province. I should also make the members of the committee aware that the City of Winnipeg has the right to designate buildings and they have a means of designating buildings. I believe it's three categories of historic significance, and the City of Winnipeg has designated a number of buildings into the three levels of designation. With respect to that particular building, the city has not designated as a historic site under the City of Winnipeg by-laws, but they do have agreement from the bank that nothing will happen to that building without discussions with the city and giving the city at that time the opportunity of designating it.

MR. SCOTT: Has the city, Mr. Minister, been involved with the department in doing any kind of a historical analysis of the building to evaluate its significance from a historical perspective?

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, the department is part of the Historic Sites Committee of the City of Winnipeg and it has been involved to that extent with that particular building.

MR. SCOTT: Could you perhaps give us an indication of the preliminary results or the preliminary recommendations from the department?

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, I can't give any detailed response to that. I would have to inquire directly of the city. As I indicated earlier, it has not been designated by the city, but there is agreement between the city and the bank that nothing will happen. There will be no development of that building or that site by the bank without prior discussions with the City of Winnipeg.

MR. SCOTT: Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Minister.

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

Resolution No. 45 — Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$10,805,900 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources for Cultural and Heritage Programs for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1983—pass.

We'll move on to No. 3. Acquisition/Constructions of Physical Assets — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister answered the questions from the Member for Assiniboia earlier in the day. Am I correct?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's right.

Mr. Minister.

MR. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, he asked some general questions with respect to this area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 46 — Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$942,500 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources for Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1983—pass.

Now we'll go on to the Minister's Salary. 1. (a) Minister's Salary — the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. HAMMOND: I just want to briefly mention that I know that the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources gets into its really busy season right now and that the staff, when coming into the summer, works double time — the Cultural Affairs Branch and the Historic Sites — I know that you'll appreciate the kind of work that your staff will perform for you. I've seen how they work and I want to commend them on that.

I just have one little item that I forgot to mention and it's the Sturgeon Creek Bridge for the mural, historic mural. I'm just wondering if the Minister had made any decision on that particular item.

MR. KOSTYRA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I'm glad to hear the comments from the Member for Kirkfield Park with respect to the staff. I would just add that I haven't had the opportunity of seeing the staff working throughout the summer months, but I can certainly inform her that the time I've seen the staff working through the winter months for me, I certainly appreciate the efforts that they're doing on behalf of the Government of Manitoba and the people of Manitoba in the area of Cultural Resources, Cultural Affairs and Historic Sites.

With respect to the Sturgeon Creek Bridge, I did receive a request for assistance in that project and I informed Councillor Eadie that there was no funds available in this year's Estimates for any work there but it would be taken under consideration for next year's Estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 44, Be it Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$2,197,500 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources for general administration for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1983—pass.

This concludes our committee on Cultural Affairs. Committee rise

SUPPLY — HEALTH

MR. CHAIRMAN, Jerry T. Storie (Flin Flon): The committee will come to order. We are continuing with the Manitoba Health Services Commission, the Medical Program.

The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Chairman, I have been able to put together more information on one of the questions that I didn't have enough information before the dinner hour and I'd

like to answer this at this time. It's a question of the Honourable Member for Fort Garry and I'm talking now about the position in the rural area especially. It is difficult to attract new graduates who would like to work in a group practice. Nevertheless, there is a full-time chairman now of the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower that's devoting a great deal of time on this problem, that's Dr. George Johnson has assumed that responsibility. He will be visiting at least two of the above mentioned area over the next two weeks and that is Riverton, Eriksdale, Ethelbert, Gilbert Plains and Cartwright, where they are trying to recruit a doctor. He will visit at least two of the above mentioned areas within the next two weeks to discuss what can be done to attract a physician.

Also, the MMA have been charged with operating a Physician Placement Service Bureau, and have advertised widely for the past year, both in Canada and abroad. The MMA has achieved some success in placement.

With regard to the supply of specialists, there is no longer any crisis in connection with the number of available anaesthetists, both in rural and urban Manitoba — through an adjustment last year, the Manitoba Health Services Commission fee schedule and short-term six month Anaesthetic Training Program.

With respect to ophthalmologists, an additional three or four could be used, although any additional could have to be staged, because extra resources in hospitals would be required.

With regard to psychiatry, the shortage is mainly in institutions, as we've covered already, such as the Brandon and Selkirk Centres where about eight to 10 could be used. The problem is mainly due to the number of present psychiatrists who will soon be retiring. This is being addressed vigorously by the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower; also with regard to child and adolescent psychiatry, upward of five or six could be used.

With respect to Laboratory Medicine, pathologists, there is also an aging problem in within the next two years the province could probably use eight to ten. While there is a sufficient supply of diagnostic radiologists, the province could probably two or three therapeutic radiotherapists. In addition to the above, six to eight public health physicians could be accommodated over the next five years.

The Standing Committee on Medical Manpower are very cognizant of the problem and is actively addressing the issue of encouraging doctors to practice in areas of the province designated as being medically underserved and is also addressing the problems of any shortage of specialists. The Committee also works very closely with the Directors of the Residency Training Programs in our teaching hospitals.

From the foregoing, it will be noted that more is presently being done than ever before to develop measures which will attract Canadian graduates into those specialties which are in short supply as well as the appropriate distribution of physicians geographically. This is not only being done locally, but also nationally in co-operation with the Associated Medical Colleges of Canada.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN: I thank the Minister for that information, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask him a question for information first, before I ask a question about anaesthesiology. I would like to deal with the question of cardiovascular thoracic surgery in Winnipeg teaching hospitals. My question to the Minister at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, is whether that should be dealt with under the Hospital Services Program or, since it involves medical personnel and recruitment and establishment of medical personnel, he would prefer to discuss it under Medical Services? It doesn't matter to me.

MR. DESJARDINS: It doesn't matter to either. We could look at it now. Actually, it comes under Hospitals, because some of the decisions that cause the problems, if any, were taken by boards of hospitals, but I don't mind. We can discuss it here; it doesn't matter.

MR. SHERMAN: I would like to discuss it at some juncture, Mr. Chairman, and certainly we have still got the Hospital Program and Personal Care Program to come and the Minister's entire capital program. Perhaps, we could take a look at the cardiovascular surgery question here, under this line of the Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the community learned in the December-January period that adult cardiac surgery had been resumed at the Health Sciences Centre and that capability for performing such surgery was being established by the Health Sciences Centre board and administration. The question as to the justification and authorization for same was subsequently addressed briefly in question and answer exchanges between the Minister and myself during Question Period one day after the current Session of the Legislature got under way, but naturally, any detailed examination of it was not possible in Question Period. I know the Minister has been expecting to discuss it with the committee in the Estimates process.

I am very concerned, Mr. Chairman, that decisions have been made arbitrarily by the Health Sciences Centre administration and board which threaten to compromise the accountability and the responsibility of the government of the day. I am just as concerned for the government of an NDP persuasion as I was for the government of a Progressive Conservative persuasion or/and for the government of any political stripe, because in the final analysis we are talking about the people of Manitoba, the taxpayers of Manitoba and the resources and capability of this province to cope with the medical and health challenges that face us and the wise and prudent application of available resources over a whole spectrum of programs and among a wide range of competing and very legitimate, but oftentimes unaffordable ambitions.

What has happened, Sir, is that without the authority of the previous Minister of Health and, I am satisfied, without the authority of the present Minister of Health and without the authority of the Manitoba Health Services Commission under the previous administration and, I am satisfied, without the authority of the Manitoba Health Services Commission under the present administration, a highly sophisticated, highly technical and potentially very expensive service has been established or re-established, re-

introduced, at the Health Sciences Centre. The 57 elected members of this Legislature have never passed an opinion on it. Therefore, the people of Manitoba have never passed an opinion on it and yet we are in a situation, where because of the emotionalism associated with various medical and health services and in this case the particular emotionalism associated with cardiac surgery, open heart surgery, it becomes extremely difficult for a responsible government to make its point and to make its case to the public without appearing somehow to be on the side of the devil. In other words, to be opposed to open heart surgery.

Nobody in this Committee, whether NDP or Progressive Conservative, is opposed to open heart surgery. Everybody in this Committee, whether NDP or Progressive Conservative, believes that insofar as one million Manitobans can afford it, we require, we need and we deserve an effective quality cardiovascular surgical capability in this province and for obvious reasons in the capital city, the largest urban centre of the province, namely Winnipeg.

We have one, Sir. You don't need reminding, Mr. Chairman, nor does anybody in this Committee that we have, under Dr. Morley Cohen and Associates at St. Boniface General Hospital, one of the finest cardiac surgical units and capabilities in North America. Now it would be very nice if every place in Canada and every community in North America could have cardiac surgery capability, cancer capability, bone marrow transplant capability, various sophisticated and technical capabilities covering the whole range of modern day medical procedures. But everybody in this Committee knows — and I'm sure that most Manitobans appreciate that that is impractical and it's unaffordable — and that one takes one's resources and particularly in an area like health care which is so demanding of physical, fiscal and mental resources, distributes them as equitably, as sensibly and as prudently as possible.

It may never have been established in fact, but it certainly has been accepted by two previous Manitoba administrations, the Lyon administration and the Schreyer administration. In as far as I know, it's accepted by the current administration, the Pawley administration, that in a province of one million people, if you have got a high quality adult cardiac surgery capability and you have got a high quality cancer research and treatment capability, you are doing very well by your constituents and by North American standards. To look to going beyond that to establishing two or three in those highly specialized, sophisticated and expensive fields is impractical because you wind up robbing Peter to pay Paul. You wind up depriving some other area of health care services of the necessary dollars and the necessary energy and the necessary mental capacity and input. So, we have operated in some years in this province on the theory that we seem to be able to address the needs of Manitobans in these two specialty areas rather well and perhaps even enviably, by having our major adult cardiac surgery capability at one teaching hospital, the Health Sciences Centre, and our major cancer treatment and research capability at the other teaching hospital, St. Boniface General Hospital.

Now, Sir, we have got, because of particular ambi-

tions, which I don't fault, I think it's only natural, certainly it's human nature, and I think it's only natural for any major tertiary care teaching hospital like the Health Sciences Centre to want to have additional sophisticated capabilities. So, I'm not faulting it in terms of logical human natural ambition, but we've got, now, the Health Sciences Centre determined that in order to maintain its status and its influence and its level of prestige, all of which are highly desirable as a major North American tertiary care centre, teaching centre and research centre, the position articulated by its board and by its administration, that it's got to have adult cardiac surgical capability.

There was adult cardiac surgery performed at the Health Sciences Centre many years ago, before the excellent unit at St. Boniface had really achieved the extent of its current capabilities and achieved the North American reputation that it enjoys, but that was a considerable number of years ago. To my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, there has not been adult cardiac surgery performed at the Health Sciences Centre for 14 years. Pediatric cardiac surgery, yes, but not adult cardiac surgery.

Now in December, 1981, in January, February, March of 1982, we have got, because of the ambitions of a great hospital, to be sure, the Health Sciences Centre, adult cardiac surgery being performed there without approval by the 57 elected representatives of the people of this province. I find that a very disturbing and threatening trend. I'm not saying that if the question was put to this Legislature that I would not support it. My point, Mr. Chairman, is the question was never put to this Legislature. It was never put to my Cabinet, it was never put to my Treasury Board and, as far as I know, it's never been put to the Minister's Cabinet or the Minister's Treasury Board and yet we've got it. What we're seeing is the possible establishment there, of a unit that will require all the sophistication in terms of equipment; in terms of service lines; in terms of support and in terms of staffing, intensive and acute care, high quality cardiac surgery professional staffing and technical staffing that will be duplicative of what is in place at St. Boniface at the present time.

Now the case can be made that we need more capability in this area and if that's the case, then the Minister of the day, whoever it is, whoever it was and whoever it may be, would presumably, by all practices and procedures that we normally follow in a democratic Legislature, take such a proposal and such a question before his colleagues; ultimately it would come before the House and the case would be put and the verdict would be rendered as to whether or not we did indeed need an expansion of that capability. It might well be that the answer is yes, we do need 50 more beds or 100 more beds or 150 more beds; that still begs the issue that I'm addressing, Mr. Chairman.

Those 50 or 100 or 150 beds should perhaps be built at St. Boniface, where the service lines are in place; where the support systems are in place; where the intensive care nurses are in place; where the proper anaesthesiologists are in place; where the cardiac surgery team is in place. Why should we create a whole new complex and a whole new cadre of personnel of that kind and equipment and space of that kind. 14 blocks down the street at the Health Sciences

Centre. That's the case that is at issue here and I know the Minister has considerable concerns about it, but I would like to find out, on behalf of my constituents and my colleagues and indeed, Manitobans in general, how we ever got to the point where there is active cardiac surgery being performed at the Health Sciences Centre right now, despite the rejections of the concept by two governments and what the intentions of the government are, with respect to the future course of adult cardiac surgery in this province.

I believe that not only is there a threat to the capability and capacity of our province and our taxpayers to support the necessary health services by moving in a direction of this kind, there is a threat to the authority of the elected representatives of the people; there's a threat to the concept and principle of responsible government and equally importantly, Mr. Chairman, there is a threat to the morale of Dr. Cohen and Dr. Cohen's team at St. Boniface.

Some people have suggested to me, well it's all blowing over; it's all settling down. I don't believe that for one instant, Mr. Chairman. I still have considerable rapport of which I am very proud and for which I am very grateful with many many members of the health community and there are many persons at St. Boniface Hospital whom I number in that group. I don't believe it's dying down or blowing over one bit. There may be an attempt by the Health Sciences Centre to gloss it over through certain trade-offs, or compromises, or blandishments that are being proffered in one area or another, but there is extreme concern, disenchantment and frustration bordering on demoralization, bordering on serious damage to morale at St. Boniface and in that cardiovascular unit at St. Boniface as a consequence of what is happening.

So, Mr. Chairman, I had always intended since the 18th of November — well actually it wasn't the 18th of November, I think it was about the 30th of November that the Health Sciences Centre started doing this — but certainly since the 30th of November to put these questions to the Minister.

I know he's fully prepared to discuss them because it came up in question period and now we are at a point in his Estimates where we can look at it and I would appreciate his report to the Committee on the current situation, Sir.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Member for Fort Garry for that question because it is something that I certainly want to clarify. It is something that it is difficult during, as he stated, the question period to really respond to all the queries and of course it puts the person asking the question in a difficult situation because he is limited in answering the question. In other words, both the questioner and the one that answers are limited.

I have very little argument, if any, with what has been said today. I am not going to rehash the history. The history is exactly the way the member stated. At no time did the Health Sciences Centre receive permission from the former government, our government, the Commission before November the 17th, the Commission after November the 17th, that is truly correct. Now I would like to take it from there and tell you what happened.

It was probably, I think I was sworn in as Minister on

December 1st, and it was the first crisis that I was faced with. During the period between the election and when the new government took over, if you remember, there was a team. There were two former Cabinet Ministers who were asked by the then Premier-elect to look at the situation. They contacted the different departments, Deputy Ministers, and asked them what was pressing and so on, which I felt was a good thing, it certainly made things a little easier. At that time that was planned and the correspondence in the letters of the former Minister were also sent with the package.

These people took it upon themselves — they didn't know who the Minister of Health would be — took it upon themselves as directed by the Premier-elect to inform the Health Sciences Centre, whoa, nothing is done until you deal with the Minister of Health. Following December 1st, it was brought to my attention. I looked; I perused all the documents and there is no doubt that this wasn't approved. I wasn't any happier than the former Minister was at the time or is at this time.

The first thing I did, I made it quite clear that I wasn't going to stand for it. We had the Deputy Minister get in touch with them and told them that under no consideration — because they had said we'll stop for a month; we'll start, I think it was, January 1st — and we told them that under no circumstance would they start until they had permission from us.

The first thing that we did is I met with the St. Boniface Hospital. It is no secret that I am the MLA for St. Boniface and that I have been on the board of St. Boniface Hospital for a long time, that I have known Dr. Cohen and respected him, praised him and bragged about the team in St. Boniface Hospital for a long time and as a member of the Opposition, the Health Critic of the Opposition as far back as 1959-60, I used to defend the right which I felt at the time that the Health Sciences Centre even then were trying to take over from that team. They did everything possible — and I guess that's fair game — to recruit Dr. Cohen. They called other people that came from the States to get set up here at the Health Sciences Centre. They looked around and they saw Dr. Cohen and they said, you don't want me, you've got one of the best in North America. There's no room for two. Okay. So having said that, I was faced with the situation the way it was outlined.

Well in 1977, the backlog of adult patients on the waiting list for cardiovascular surgery at St. Boniface resulted in approval of an expanded capacity of the adult program from 265 to 300 cases annually. About the time that there was this change of government, it was obvious that they were falling behind.

There was a waiting list of approximately 90 and they had to wait about three months. I received some calls from people who said, it's a question of life and death; I've got to go to Rochester; I've got to go somewhere because I can't wait; I don't know what is going to happen.

The first think I did is I asked the President and the Chairman of the Board of St. Boniface Hospital to come and meet with the Deputy Minister and staff and people from the Manitoba Health Services Commission and I tried to explore with them what the situation was, what they can handle. I must, in all honesty, say

that there was a problem. They did not have the facility to go ahead and it wasn't that easy; it wasn't something that was going to be done in a very short period because they are faced there the same — not quite as much as the Health Sciences Centre where they are so diversified with the Children's Hospital, cancer, people and so on — but of any projects of prioritizing with different disciplines and different specialties. If you give too much to one, the others then are shorted and they are not too happy, so it was a real problem. There is no doubt about that.

They were falling behind and even they — I think it was always felt and it's ironic if I use the word healthy, but I think you'll know how I want to use it — I think it was always felt that it was good, if not healthy, to have a waiting list because there is no way that you can just give a bed right away and then they certainly exercise a little more care. But certainly if it's not good or healthy, it's certainly accepted. But the length of the waiting list was a real danger, so that was one of the situations.

I met with the St. Boniface Hospital and I asked them two things, if they thought that they could do it on long-range planning, if they could take the slack; and also what could be done if there was something that they could do immediately to try to catch up. Well, my recollection was, the immediate solution wasn't that easy because they had to deal with other directors or other chiefs in different disciplines, but they felt that they could plan if they had the assistance of the Commission and they needed funds if they were given permission to go a little further, they felt they could resolve that, but it would take a certain time.

Of course, by then the Health Sciences Centre were getting quite concerned because they were going to start, so I met with them. I think they got the message in no uncertain terms that this wasn't going to ever happen again. Then I asked them the same situation, why they were doing it, and if they felt that they could do something in a short term. I said that if we had to wait to make a decision or plan for the long range, and if they were given the permission to go ahead at that time, would they accept, it would be on the understanding that there was no commitment. You know, oftentimes it's thought if you open the door then you'll never be able to close it and I'm sure that a lot of people thought that. But the way I looked at it, they had the team here already; they had the equipment; they had everything. So that was a possibility that they could start immediately; I think they were talking about maybe two a week or something like that.

Then my next move was to meet with the university. I met with the President elect, I think it was at the time, Dr. Naimark, and the acting dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Fylef, and I discussed that with them. They didn't give me the answer as clearly as I had anticipated or I had hoped. I then called the three groups together. We had a real confrontation, the Health Science Centre, the St. Boniface Hospital and the university, and we agreed on certain terms.

Now, it was felt that there was a problem, that we had to catch up. That was a real problem and we start with, clearly understood by every single person there, that I would allow it — they apparently had the funds, they weren't going to come for funds except after

March 1st. I guess, to go ahead they were using the team. It had been approved that the pediatric unit was going to be at the Health Science Centre, although they were performing very few operations. They use that as an excuse, I guess, to say that'll be a backup, that'll get us back in that kind of surgery.

I might say, the member is absolutely right. The problem is not over and there are a lot of people concerned. But at the time, I think, it was agreed - I don't know with what degree of joy - that we would do two things, try to bring an immediate solution and that we would allow the Health Science Centre team to work, to do two - I think it was two a week - again, with the strict understanding and I have correspondence that I insisted on having, signed by the Chairman of the Board at the Health Science Centre and the President. I think it's quite clear that they realized this is to meet the immediate need, that the decision for long-range planning would be done fairly soon and they would abide by the decision, not necessarily by the recommendation of the committee, but abide the decision of government, because there are a lot of things that we have to look at.

Then we set up a committee. I asked them to participate, they all agreed and set up by our good friend - I say my good friend and former Minister's good friend, I'm sure, Mr. Cunnings, whose done so much in the field of health here, who's helped us solve so many problems - to chair the committee composed of members representing the St. Boniface Hospital, the Health Sciences Centre and the university. They are working quite hard; they are taking this very seriously; they brought in consultants. The jury is not in yet. I'm told that apparently one of the consultants feels that the more, the bigger the better, and another one seems to think that when you have reached a certain amount, then it's time to start another team.

We will certainly look at that. I can assure you the decision will not be made to appease one or divide them. The first priority of St. Boniface Hospital can, and will, do it and if the cost is right and if the recommendation of the experts seems to favour that, there will not be any hesitation. There won't be an attempt to try to divide and appease anybody and say, well, here's your share; although there's always a point, you can always make a case that if you get that you'll attract more people. Well, that could be said of the other teaching hospitals for other reasons, other services.

Now, I expect that very shortly now, I'll have a report from the Cunnings Committee and then a decision will be made. We won't hide behind it; we won't use the excuse of it was in place; we will take the best recommendation; we will look at the cost; we will look at all the issues, the morale at the different hospitals and also the reputation of the present team, Dr. Cohen and his team. Then we'll make a decision we'll have to stand by. But this is the situation. It was a difficult thing. But we're not out of the woods yet.

Now there were two things we had to do, good clear planning, long-term planning, set up a good program that we would not regret, but still we had to meet a certain need immediately. There is no doubt that this wouldn't have been done in that way had they not recruited, had they not had the equipment, the facilities and the team. It was allowed only for that reason.

It has been made very very clear to all concerned and then, as I say, the decision should be made, I imagine that we'll still be in the House. So, I'll have to answer in the House, not on the outside of the House, and it'll be a decision that we'll accept full responsibility for at the time.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the Minister's information, filling in answers to some of the questions that are current with respect to this subject and this project at the present time. I do have some other questions I'd like to ask him about.

Can the Minister advise the Committee what the present capability or capacity is at St. Boniface for adult cardiac surgeries? He did remind the committee that in 1977 the capability was expanded from some 265 to 350, that is, operations per year. I was certainly of the impression, Mr. Chairman, that the immediately present government, the Lyon government, increased the capability at St. Boniface for adult cardiovascular surgery, for open-heart surgery. What does the Honourable Minister mean by 1977? Does he mean prior to October 11, 1977 or after October 11, 1977?

MR. DESJARDINS: Apparently the possibility exists that it was increased from 265 to 300 in '77 and there might have been another small increase by the former government; either that, or there has been a demand, they had requested it. But nevertheless, the St. Boniface is going at the very maximum capacity and it is receiving current demands exceeding the 350 and that's where the immediate problem is.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, I think it's helpful just to clarify that point, because it's important to fix the mathematics in our minds in order to determine where we're coming from and where we have to be going in this area.

I believe when the Lyon Government came into office, the capability was 300 operations a year, so the Schreyer Government would have increased the capacity in its last year, 1977, from 265 to 300, then the government of which I was a member expanded that capacity from 300 to 350. Again, it's important to point out that we're talking about operations per year here, so that works out virtually to a capability to perform one adult cardio-vascular thoracic procedure per day at the unit in St. Boniface.

Now there is no question that there were people on a waiting list and that pressures were building up. One can say that, of course, about almost any service in the health field, that once a service is in place, there is going to be almost limitless demand for it. Certainly in the area of cardiovascular surgery, we're dealing with a demand that exists in a critical area of life and death and as a consequence, those demands, even if they seem limitless, certainly command a very conscientious respect from any facility capable of carrying out those procedures and from any government responsible for making expansion decisions, and it was right and proper that the capability be expanded.

But what is the extent of the pressure today? What would the waiting list be, for example, for cardiovascular procedure at the St. Boniface Unit, at any given point in time? Could Mr. Edwards advise the Minister, for example, what the caseload would be tonight of

persons waiting for adult cardiovascular surgery at St. Boniface?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry that's the best information — I might have erred when I said from 265 to 350. I'm told now that this was forgotten, that it's quite likely there was another increase. But, having accepted that, the main thing is that the maximum is 350; the capacity is 350 right now, and from experience across Canada, Manitoba is doing less heart surgery than any other province, with the possible exception of Saskatchewan.

The feeling from that preliminary report that we're getting now and we'll be getting more, I'm sure, when the Cunnings Committee report, that it should be somewhere between 550 and 600 and that's going by the experience of others. I feel that this is something I'm told, that they're very careful in Manitoba, but even Dr. Cohen himself felt that 350 wasn't enough. I think that's going to be an important point also; you know, if you go to seven or eight hundred, it might not be exactly the same decision as if you go to 350 or something like that. That's going to be a factor and that is one of the main things that they are trying to find out. It might be that the two hospitals do not agree, or the chiefs in the two hospitals do not agree, but all of them feel that 350 is not enough, that it should be increased by quite a bit more.

Now, as I say preliminary report information that we get - not from that committee - as far as I'm concerned, I haven't talked to this committee; I'm waiting until they're finished and I didn't want to influence them one way or the other. But the other information that past experience here, especially in Canada, would be between 550 and 600.

MR. SHERMAN: So in round figures, the waiting list at any point in time would be a constant one. For everybody who is receiving cardiovascular surgery at St. Boniface and that's 350 a year, which is virtually one a day, there are another 250 to 300 who the Health Sciences Centre feels and some other medical experts with whom he has talked and with whom the Commission has talked, feel should be or justifiably could be, accommodated and served by our system. If there are 250 or 300 added to the 300 that we have now, we'd be looking at 600 a year, which is approximately two a day instead of one a day, so can we assume that there is a constant waiting list of one, that is always there?

MR. DESJARDINS: No, I couldn't say this, because that could be misleading. What I was trying to say is that if we perform the operations at the national level, it would be somewhere between 550 and 600, a little over 600.

Now, the information is and I'm not saying it's bad, that the cardiologists here in Manitoba are somewhat more conservative in their treatment. So, I think the waiting list, although I'm talking about 550 - 600 and there's only 350 places, I don't think that you should say there's that many people waiting. You know, they might have been discouraged or they might have been told you don't need an operation, I want to make that quite clear. I was referring to the national average, rightly or wrongly, it might be the only ones that are right could be in Manitoba.

The waiting list, I'm told was about 90 or so. Now, there could be more waiting and I know that there was some going outside the province, but I guess that'll always happen.

This is the main thing and I'm told they've had to wait for up to three months or so and I guess they get kind of nervous, but this is something, as I say, I want to make quite clear; I don't want that mislead the Committee, this is just preliminary information that we have received. I want to be careful, if I went to the trouble of setting up this committee, I don't want to jeopardize this committee; I don't want to say this was just a face-saving and I want to make sure that we get the proper information. Without trying to blame anybody, one of the reasons that I did that, and again, I want to make it clear, I'm not saying that Dean Naimark felt that it should be at the Health Sciences Centre, but he had doubt that the St. Boniface could handle it all at the time and he was far from sure and that's probably what convinced me — and Dr. Naimark is a member of the Board at both hospitals and he's been very friendly to St. Boniface — I know, I sat on the Board with him. Maybe I shouldn't have said that but I think that's one of the things that influenced me to think, well if a man like that who should not be biased feels that there's a possibility, feels that we need to give this a little more thought that it's not cut and dried; that probably was in the back of my mind as one of the things that influenced me of setting up this committee and maybe allowing this to go on just to catch up for the time being.

But as I said, there is no decision made. I don't feel committed to either side at all. I certainly want to respect and keep the reputation of the Cohen team. This is somebody I know and somebody I feel has done an awful lot for Manitoba and for Canada — maybe North America — in this field. But as I say I await with a little bit of impatience, the Cunnings Report and the recommendation and even then, we'll have to look at the costs and look at a lot of factors. We hope to get enough information. We'll look at the recommendations but we're not even bound to go with the recommendations at this time, there might be other factors we might feel, to make the last decision, we must accept the responsibility. It may be less in the medical part of it, but in other areas we might have to make a decision. I can tell you that the decision will not be long in waiting once we get the report.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister says that he does not feel committed and perhaps he doesn't feel committed, but does he not feel compromised? The Minister's in a very difficult position. If we've got procedures of this nature being carried out at the Health Sciences Centre, people who are presumably going on a waiting list at the Health Sciences Centre, there is a chief cardiovascular surgeon who is in place there, who was imported from Atlantic Canada and is in place there and functioning, the Minister is in a position where he has — if he does come to the decision that it should be at St. Boniface, with every passing month as the Health Sciences Centre performs more procedures — he's getting himself deeper and deeper into a position where he runs the risk of being accused of having junked open heart surgery at the Health Sciences Centre, when he never approved

it in the first place.

So he may not feel committed but I would suggest to him that — well, he's been in politics a lot longer than I have — but Ministers of Health have enough problems without being exposed to that kind of possible misinterpretation of their positions.

MR. DESJARDINS: No, Mr. Chairman, I don't. I don't feel committed — well I feel on the spot and I feel on the spot 365 days a year — I know that in many instances government can't win, you're going to get the blame no matter what. I don't say I relish it, but I'm ready to accept that.

It would have been different had I said, if their request was, we know somebody that we can bring in here and we can get a team in no time; in a week he'll have a team, that would have been different. But then when I made the decision, the whole team was here, they had the money and so on. Mind you I made it clear, I asked them to have a signed document that would say that they understood; there would be no criticism and no trying to blame me, to say here, you led us astray. You made us believe that this is what's going to happen. You've hurt the Health Sciences Centre. I wasn't satisfied with the first answer, I sent it back and I said that's not what I wanted. I am satisfied and I'm ready to act.

Now, I'm not ready to go back to where it was before, you've got to do something and this is why I'm requesting — you will see that I request \$450,000 operating costs and \$750,000 capital costs — so if it is at St. Boniface, St. Boniface has to come up with a solution. If St. Boniface tells me, we have no ways; we can't do it; we're going to have to fight with the other specialty; we have no ways at all, well then there's not much I can do, if they don't want to do it. But then it might end up in — which would be the last thing we would do — but the possibility at Health Sciences Centre, St. Boniface are free standing which would be the cost here and I think it should be in their hospital, but that's also a possibility.

So this is something that could be done and if we do it, it might be that we might phase it out or phase it in, I should say — well, maybe a couple of months or whatever — if the decision is to go to St. Boniface, well you put things in place. If it's at the Health Sciences Centre, well then it would be approved, it would be the program and the funds would be there. But I can honestly say — maybe I'm naive, maybe I'm very naive — that I don't feel committed at all. It was something that was done, everybody knows it. Without permission they took it upon themselves, the member is absolutely right, you don't act like that, you don't force governments and Ministers of Health and the Department of Health and the Health Sciences Centre and say, well, we'll take matters in our own hands then they can't do anything about it. I will not feel committed at all to them and I won't really feel embarrassed.

As far as the concerns with the public, maybe my decision was a bad one. I would do exactly the same thing again — you can only do the best you can — because had I not done that and we waited in the meantime, then there might have been more deaths, I don't know and I'm not going to start trying to be emotional or pretend that I save lives, that's not the point, we'll never know. But I think that it was agreed

that the figure might not be as high as 6 and 650 or even 550 but everybody agrees that 350 wasn't enough. At least, if nothing else, if I've got to take the blame for it I'll gladly take it. At least for the last three months we're able to do a little more than 350, so it accomplished that, if nothing else.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister's getting into the very quicksand that I fear the previous Minister, he himself and any other Minister in that position, is pushed into by these positions, discussion of life and death; discussion of saving lives and that's where you lose control. That's where you suffer the slings and arrows of misinterpretation.

Mr. Chairman, if it was a matter of life and death the Manitoba Health Services Commission would have come to the Minister of Health of the day as they would come to the Minister of Health today and say, it's a matter of life and death, the first thing you've got to have in your Estimates for this year is expansion of the St. Boniface Cardiovascular Surgery Unit; that did not happen. The Health Sciences Centre never even used that as a rationale for starting up cardiac surgery.

The rationale they used was that in order to maintain our prestige and our reputation as a major tertiary care hospital in order to attract the right kinds of medical expertise, in order to attract research, and in order to attract and retain the right kind of residents, we have to have this kind of capability.

I can understand as an intellectual argument, that they did not go to the Manitoba Health Services Commission and say to Mr. Edwards, look, this is a lifesaving service that is desperately needed in this community. If there was a lifesaving service that was desperately needed in the community, why would we not all have considered expansion of the St. Boniface Centre first? Is it impossible to expand the St. Boniface Centre beyond the capability of 300 or 350 that it's currently serving? There may be some physical requirements at St. Boniface in order to expand it, certainly, but that's a fraction of the cost of building up a whole new team, all the support systems and associated beds that will be involved in establishing an entirely new unit at the Health Sciences Centre.

I'm not faulting the Minister for what he did. As a matter of fact I'm trying to be helpful in this situation, whether it appears that way or not. I think that the Minister is depending very heavily on the public's understanding of his decision. The day that he announces that he's sent the cardiovascular surgeon at the Health Sciences Centre back and rejected the cardiovascular capability there, the kind of impression the public may get may be quite different from the kind of impression that he anticipates. I hope the public does understand what's at stake here. What's at stake here is the expenditure of a lot more dollars on a service that need not necessarily be duplicated; it needs to be expanded granted, but it doesn't need to be duplicated.

The Minister has said that he is budgeting \$450,000 for operating costs for the new unit and \$750,000 for capital costs. That is presumably the annualized cost for one year, for 1982-83 I assume, approximately \$1.2 million. Is that correct? That's the 1982-83 — not '81 — the 1982-83 figure?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, I believe that this would be the cost including the expansion. Now, Mr. Chairman, I realize and I do believe that my honourable friend is trying to be helpful. I think we're fairly close on that. Maybe it's a question of judgment. But I don't see it the same way as my honourable friend does. He said, well, you place yourself in an untenable and an impossible position. Let's see what would have happened if I had said no.

There was an ever-increasing waiting list at St. Boniface. St. Boniface did not have the facility. There was a team here in Winnipeg, not recruited by me or anybody else in government, but the team was here and I was told that this could be done with no increased costs. I think I would have been in a pretty difficult situation if I would have said, no, fight it out. I am not even going to try to defend the Health Sciences Centre, that's no concern of mine, they were wrong. So I am not trying to defend them at all, but the Minister, I believe I want to refresh his memory.

The Commission had gone to the Minister and that was one of the options that he had in his plan that I had to look at before this happened, some time in September — and I don't think anybody can remember everything — and they warned him. They told him that they were going to the limit and I think this was one of the options. I don't know what decision he would have made, but all I'm saying — and I want to correct the Minister and say — well, nobody came in. I never should have mentioned the question of lifesaving. I wasn't trying to be melodramatic.

I was saying that and I know and the member is absolutely right — I have made that statement before and I even used probably another bad term when I said it's healthy to have a waiting list — I meant that it is advisable in this case, the same thing as Personal Care Homes, the same thing as in a hospital. We know that and probably there is a happy medium with politicians that might not know too much about health that are saying, well, just a minute and the people that want to give all the best of care and sometimes they might be wrong. So I think there's a happy medium somewhere and I think you need both the people that are pushing, the militant and the people that have to say, well yes, but somebody's got to pay for it. That's not what I meant.

I was saying that everybody agreed that it wasn't reasonable to have a backlog, to have such a waiting list, that we were in danger. I just finished stating that if we're going to look — I put the Cohen team ahead of anybody in Canada or certainly in part, probably anybody in North America, so they might be the only ones that were right — but if we look at the guidelines of what is being done in other provinces, Manitoba as I stated, there might be less operations in Saskatchewan, I'm not sure.

So I was faced with the situation of having the problem, of having things in place that were here and I chose to say, it's not going to cost you any more money. You're here now. I know I am going to be criticized, but I am in no position, but I would have been in the same position, that's what I'm saying.

I agree mostly with what has been said so far, except we might disagree, it's a question of judgment. I don't think it's ideology and I don't think that it's partisan — well it's certainly not partisan in my case

because I was in favour of St. Boniface Hospital which I could have been accused of doing — so my decision was, it's there. There is a waiting list. We have a chance to catch up a bit. It's not going to cost us any money. So the first thing I wanted for political reasons — the member is right, I have been around for a little while — and I said, yes, but you are going to put it on paper that we're not starting a precedent, it is this. The fact that you have started doesn't give you an in with the recommendation on long-range planning. We will look to see and the first thing, naturally, would be what the St. Boniface think, where can they go, and can they handle it? That was the first thing I did.

Now they have all agreed — I have to compliment them on that — I think they agreed that it was the best solution temporarily. I think they might not all be happy when the final decision is made, but that's what they stated. I received approval. I think I can state from the university also who were quite helpful in bringing the group together and they are working together and there will be a recommendation.

If we choose to go to St. Boniface, I won't feel any guilt at all. I'm not getting rid of a team because they had no business being there. I just borrowed them for awhile to help the people of Manitoba. They have no commitment and if the Health Sciences Centre made a commitment, well, that's their problem, not mine.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I am not suggesting that the Minister should get rid of the team. As a matter of fact I have a couple of suggestions to make. I haven't got to them yet. I am trying to establish the ground rules here. I would like to say three things about what the Minister just said.

First off, I don't deny for an instant that the Manitoba Health Services Commission said to me as Minister, look, one of the things that we need is expanded cardiovascular surgical capability at St. Boniface Hospital - of course, that was said to me and, of course, it was in our range of things that we wanted to do. If I've left the wrong impression on that, then I wish to correct it. My point that I was trying to make was they never said to me, to my recollection and I stand to be corrected by Mr. Edwards, but they never said to me, look, it's a matter of life and death, so we've got to go with the unit at the Health Sciences Centre. As a matter of fact, I had quite the opposite impression, that they were as frustrated by what the Health Sciences Centre was doing as I was.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, with reference to partisanship, I want to assure the Minister that I'm in precisely the same position he is. He says that there's no partisanship on his part because if anything, he would be slightly partial to St. Boniface and he studiously demonstrated in this instance that he is not and I agree with that. Well, I want to say the same thing vis-a-vis myself and the Health Sciences Centre. I don't think that there are many Health Ministers in the history of Manitoba who've done a great deal more for the Health Sciences Centre than I have. I may not have done as much as anyone on the list, but there wouldn't be a great many of them who done a great deal more for the Health Sciences Centre than I have. I feel a very strong affinity to the Health Sciences Centre and certainly tried to do my best to initiate its regeneration and its recapture of a sense of pride and

morale. So, I think that I'm being equally non-partisan in this instance. If I were to be partisan about it, I would be plumping for establishment of that unit at the Health Sciences Centre.

The third thing that I want to say, Mr. Chairman, is that the Minister said that the team was here and it was something he inherited and he was confronted with a fait accompli and I agree wholeheartedly and entirely with that position, and the determination now has to be made as to where we go from here. But he also said, Sir, that they guaranteed him that it wasn't going to cost any more money.

Well there are two things I'd like to know at this juncture. The first question is how much money did it cost them in the last quarter of fiscal 1981-82? It certainly cost them some money and I'd like to know where they got the money from, because it certainly wasn't in their budget.

The second question is, what does he anticipate it's going to cost downstream? We're looking at \$1.2 million for 1982-83. I think that anybody with any experience of health programs would agree with me that if that unit is established and sanctified, that \$1.2 million is going to be peanuts, to what it's going to cost five years from now. So we're not just looking at the capability of the Health Sciences Centre to scrape up a few dollars somewhere and get it in place for the last quarter of 1981-82 and claim that it wasn't costing any money, nor are we just looking at a \$1.2-million expenditure, in terms of the kind of impact that the Minister of Health has to consider with respect to downstream health budgets. We're looking at a potentially very substantial addition to the Health budget of this province.

If we need another 50 or 100 or 150 cardiac surgical beds in this province, I would estimate that they could be established at St. Boniface with the existing team and services that are in place there for a lot less than it's going to cost to put them into the Health Sciences Centre.

My third question on this point, Mr. Chairman, would be a question as to what Dr. Morley Cohen and the team at St. Boniface said on the subject, if, as and when they were ever asked by the Health Sciences Centre or by anybody else, what they felt about the establishment of that unit at HSC.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, as far as what Dr. Cohen said, I think it would not be proper for me at this time to say this. Of course, I've discussed that with him, but there was with Dr. Cohen's knowledge and I imagine that maybe he's the one that delegated somebody from his team to sit in this committee. So I think the member will understand this would be prejudging or undermining something of the committee, when I'm quoting somebody from the same team that is presented on the Committee.

Now, I want to make this clear: when I say that I inherit the team, I'm not blaming anybody; I mean it was here. Now, from what I am told, they had recruited that team as far back as 1980 I think, late '80, but nobody knew about it. The Commission didn't know, the Minister of the day didn't know at all; it was only after this came in. Forgetting the Health Sciences Centre, there was a paper brought to the attention of the Minister and it was an option, quite properly done,

I'm not complaining. I just wanted to say that it was brought to the attention and there were different possibilities, one to go ahead at the Health Sciences Centre.

One was, you know, because of the team, they were supposed to work with the children; they weren't doing much of that. The other was to expand at St. Boniface Hospital or do nothing and it was felt there was another option - not a question of saving life, I never should have given this example, I meant that there would be more - but the other thing that we faced would have been a lot costlier, because we would have had to have send - and I think they were starting to send - people out of province, because of the waiting list.

Now when I say that there was no more money, I can assure the member right now, or the members of Committee, that we will not - of course, it costs money. But when I say that they asked for it; they made it clear they weren't going to ask for any money; they had block funding and they were going to use that.

Now, the next question will be yes, but they probably will have a deficit; that's probably the case. And if that is the case, I can assure you that we will not pay any deficit that can be attributed to that and we have something in writing on that again. We made it quite clear. They signed this document and we will not, I repeat, not pick up any deficit because of that, so I'm saying, that I make it clear, as far as they're concerned they had the money to do it and as I say, the team was here.

Now, I don't know if I was trying to clarify things; the Member for Fort Garry said that he would advise me on what to do with this team. Did he cover that? I would like to get them because that's going to be a problem. It's not going to be my biggest concern. I won't like it but I mean, I had nothing to do with it. You know, maybe I'll wash my hands of it, it's not that I necessarily mean that it's the right thing, but if there's any suggestions and if by chance, they are not going to work and I'll tell you before, don't tell me they'll work at St. Boniface. It won't work.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, before we get to that, I would like to know where the Health Sciences Centre thinks it's getting the money to pay for this service even in the last quarter of fiscal 1981-82. The Health Sciences Centre was already headed for a deficit. Now, I understand that they uncovered or discovered or developed some money-saving techniques relative to their laundry and maintenance system. They found a way in which they were going to be able to save several hundred thousand dollars by performing their laundry and maintenance system procedures in a more efficient manner. But, Mr. Chairman, if you are coming in to the people of Manitoba with a deficit anyway and you have got some kind of saving that you are able to effect through a more efficient operation at your plant, isn't that the nature and the definition of creative hospital management? Would that money not normally be expected to go to offset the deficit?

It's not really an acceptable argument to me, to say look, we're headed for X number of dollars deficit and it's not going to be any greater than that because we

can find a saving over here and we are going to put it into cardiovascular surgery. They are still coming to you and you are still coming to the representatives of the people in this Chamber with a Health Sciences Centre deficit. I would like to know where they got the money to pay for this.

I want to make one thing clear before I am totally misunderstood on the position I am taking. I am not opposed in any way, shape or form to the Health Sciences Centre. It is a great facility, a great North American hospital, but let's keep our hospitals great. If we start to get into this whip-sawing competition between expensive facilities and expensive institutions, we are going to be in deep, deep trouble. We are in trouble now with Medicare; we are in trouble now with inadequate funding for certain medical services in this country. We have got a disenchanted medical profession now, largely because there aren't enough dollars to make the Medicare schedule flexible enough to meet the legitimate professional aspirations of the medical practitioners that we have in this country. Why? Because the largest portion of the dollar by far, Mr. Chairman, is going into the hospital system.

If you look at the health dollar, the hospital system consumes 60 percent of it; Medicare consumes about 20 percent of it; the other 20 percent goes on all the other services: public health, mental health, preventive medicine, dental services, personal care homes. The hospital system outstrips Medicare, the insured medical services system, three to one in dollars spent and if we get into this whip-sawing competition for highly sophisticated and highly technical programs which require new generations of technology every two or three years in terms of the equipment that is required, we are just going to dig ourselves deeper and deeper into that hole, where the equation is totally out of balance and the hospital system is consuming dollars that could be going to maintain a more viable morale in the medical field.

So, that really is what is at the root of this whole question, Mr. Chairman. I want to make that point lest I be misunderstood with respect to my feelings for the Health Sciences Centre. In months and months of negotiations with the Health Sciences Centre on its redevelopment plan, on assessment and reassessment, evaluation and re-evaluation, drafting and redrafting of the sequence of items and categories to be dealt with in the redevelopment plan over a period of 10 years, nowhere while I was Minister, Mr. Chairman, was there ever any mention of a cardiovascular capability, certainly not in Stage 1. To my recollection, there was none in any part of the redevelopment plan, but there certainly was nothing in the first five years, the first stage of the redevelopment plan.

So, when the Minister says that the team was hired and put in place some time ago without the knowledge of the former Minister and the Health Services Commission, he is absolutely correct because we went through hours and hours and weeks and weeks of discussion of that redevelopment plan and there was never any mention of this concept. Suddenly, it is thrust upon us and now, upon the new government and therefore upon the limited resources and revenues of the people of the Province of Manitoba without any preannounced intention of doing so.

I would just caution the Minister that the current

situation seems to offer the very dangerous possibility of establishing a precedent that might be very difficult for the health system of Manitoba to live with. There is probably no turning back the clock at this point on this one at this moment. Certainly, I have no quarrel with the Minister's establishing the committee that he's established and waiting for their recommendations, but I think it should be made very clear to every member of this Chamber and to the people of Manitoba that this is the kind of activity that can potentially bankrupt the health system of this or any other province. I would hope that he is taking very stern and strong action to articulate that message to the health system of this province and, particularly, to the hospital system of this province and, particularly, to the teaching hospitals who are, by definition, nature and inclination and by orientation, perhaps more vulnerable to that kind of thing than some of the smaller community hospitals are.

So, I would just ask the Minister at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, where the Health Sciences Centre has indicated to him or to the Commission, it is getting the money to pay for the establishment of this program. Does he have any information on that?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, for most of the time I agreed with the member 100 percent. Now, at the end there were a few things that I want to clarify. I repeat that it costs money, no doubt. Their global funding, they are using their capital, this money at this time. It has been made quite clear and I think the estimation of the member was very clear. They have a deficit; I'm sure they are going to have a deficit, so how can they say, we have the money. It has been made quite clear. I think there is only one answer. They will have to pay for it themselves. That was made quite clear.

They requested, if they saved money on house-keeping or some of these things, could they put it to the cardiovascular. We said, no. Now, whatever that amount of money is they spent, I can assure the Committee that their deficit will be subtracted from that amount of money and they will have to find it. That is a commitment, that is another thing. We made a pretty hard bargain before this was done. There was the exchange of letters and I was saying the commitments that we had from this, and also in this area, because they came and told us that it wouldn't cost any more and we said, okay, that's one of the conditions. I'm talking now until the end of March, during the former fiscal year.

Now, the member said that this is not something that we have to be careful that we don't encourage these sites between the two teaching hospitals. I agree with him. We're not going to encourage them. We didn't start it. You didn't start it. It was there. I gave the rationale, the reason, why I felt that we should go ahead. I repeat that I don't feel committed, that I don't think I'll be turning back the clock if I have to make a decision that doesn't favour the Health Sciences Centre. I can assure you that's my feeling and I gave the reason why I went ahead.

I can also, for what it's worth, reassure the member that I certainly have not heard anybody in this committee or any members of our party blaming or suggesting that the former Minister has it in for the Health

Sciences Centre and I hope that this is not said about me in regard to the St. Boniface Hospital. In this discussion I never felt that for a minute and I agree with most of the discussion. If anywhere I disagree, as I say, it was a question of judgment. I was faced with a set of circumstances and I think what I did cost the province less money and I think that we rendered the people of Manitoba a service.

In my mind, apparently the member doesn't share that feeling, I don't feel that I've committed myself at all, that I made any commitment or if I had to reverse — well not reverse the decision because they were never given permission to go on a long-range planning or establishing a program — I don't feel that I would turning back the clock.

I want to say another thing and that definitely will not happen, the member said we have to be very careful or it's going to bankrupt the province. We will not let it bankrupt the province. We will find out exactly. That is one of the first things that we will have to be told, the information: What will the cost be for this alternative, what will the cost be for the second alternative? It'll be a big factor in arriving at the decision, I can assure you of that.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm not suggesting that this action by itself would bankrupt the province. I'm suggesting that if it becomes a kind of an accepted procedure that hospitals make these decisions independent of those who are responsible for the public purse, that it could bankrupt the province. We're looking at a Health Budget, this year, of \$913 million. Last year it was 725; this coming year it's 913; next year it'll be well over the billion mark. Our 10-year projections, that were worked out with the Commission when we were in government for a 10-year programming span, both in terms of capital facilities and programs for Manitoba, concluded at a 10 percent inflation rate and it's often a lot higher than that, concluded that by 1990 the Health Budget in Manitoba was going to be \$2,046 million. That's probably low, that's probably low and that is proceeding on the basis that we distribute our revenues, our reserves, our talents and our resources as prudently as possible. But if we get into duplication of many of these highly expensive programs and capabilities, then even that \$2 billion will pale into insignificance by comparison with the real figure 10 years down the road when we look at the Health Budget.

So there is a very real onus, an urgency on the part of both governments and Oppositions in Legislatures across this land. Mr. Chairman, to make sure that Health dollars are spent as prudently as possible and that duplication not be encouraged, certainly unnecessary duplication be discouraged and any kind of duplication be fully justified before it be established. Here we have an example of duplication that has not been justified. If the Minister has already budgeted \$1.2 billion in 1982-83 for the program, then I fear that he is digging himself into a position from which it's going to be very difficult to extricate himself.

Mr. Chairman, on that point I wanted to ask one other question and it had to do with the extent of the team that's in place at the Health Science Centre, are there personnel being added to that team? I know that there is a chief surgeon, presumably there would be,

perhaps, a supporting surgeon or two, certainly some O.R. nurses and intensive care nurses and there would be the necessary technical personnel that are required for such critical procedures as cardiac surgery, but it's one thing to have a cardiac surgeon in place with the minimum of necessary support and another to be building a team that is continually expanding and entrenching itself before a decision is made. Can the Minister advise the committee as to the status of that team at the Health Sciences Centre, how large it is and what it consists of and what personnel may have been added to it, or may be in the process of being added to it at the present time?

MR. DESJARDINS: I'd like to give an example to my honourable friend. I think that he first agreed with the planning of the CAT Scanner at the St. Boniface Hospital and I think he feels that it was a good decision. I can tell him that the people of the Commission think it was a good decision and I want to tell him that I think it was a good decision, and he must know that because I announced today that we will go ahead and spend the money. But that's the kind of example I don't want us to leave tonight; I want to be fair with this committee; I have doubts, I'm not too sure. It's not something to save face and the decision is already made. That's not the case and I can say that when I brought this CAT Scanner at St. Boniface Hospital in Cabinet, I received the same arguments as my honourable friend made today about the two teaching hospitals. I had to go back to the hospital and get a lot of materials to convince them that this was a case that it was justified to have one at both teaching hospitals. This was something that they never had before, that was at the Health Sciences Centre. So the only reason why I'm saying it, I want him to keep an open mind, not to get himself into quicksand and if there's a decision that he can look for and say, well, okay, that was the decision. I don't like the way it was done and I will never approve it.

Now when we talk about the cost, I'll agree with him. What he knows and I know, that some of those things are based on political decision and I'm not saying this is one of them — but we were talking about the cost and the Member for Fort Garry said some of the things that might bankrupt the province — and when I say political, I don't mean partisan; I don't even mean to seek votes or to please people. It is something that you cannot convince people that they haven't got the rights to do and you will c/o it and I will give him two examples. I am sure that he knows that they didn't really need the maternity unit at the Seven Oaks Hospital — I know it — and I probably would have made the same decision he did. This was a political thing; these people feel that it should be them. It goes against all recommendations of the medical profession and it is something very costly. It is something that we will have to look at but it's going to be very difficult.

Then I won't put words in his mouth, but I'll tell him that I, very very clearly, I feel that small hospitals we have in certain part of rural Manitoba are not viable. I think that is one of the reasons why they don't attract the kind of people that they have, but you try to go and tell that to these people. We know what happened to people who were dedicated that tried to save money

for their provinces and we know what happened in Saskatchewan a number of years ago. We know what happened to our friend, the former Minister of Health in Ontario, Mr. Miller, not too long ago when he tried to close some of these beds.

I don't want to confuse the issue, but I think that we should recognize that sometimes there are certain things that because of public opinion, because of what people really want, I think that we have to educate them. I certainly will be very careful not to encourage more construction of smaller hospitals or even to renovations of hospitals that are too small. I might be overruled by the Cabinet, I don't know.

There are other factors, sometimes even as far as the economy is concerned, it might be a good thing. I don't know, it might bankrupt, not the province by doing that; but if you don't do it, it might bankrupt a municipality or a village or a town. These are some of the factors that I want to mention.

The main point that I wanted to make is to say that the CAT Scanner is a good example and I was taken to task at first by members of my Cabinet because many of them feel exactly like I do and exactly like the member does. They repeated exactly the same thing especially when it comes to this would-be jealousy between the two teaching hospitals. They said there's an example — and the CAT Scanner — I had to go back to the Commission and say, well is this justified? Is this one of the other things? The same thing at the St. Boniface Hospital I tried to prove. I am told that that wasn't the case.

All I'm saying is I'm appealing to the member. I think I got the message. It seems to be fairly clear that had he been Minister a little longer he might not have made the same decision but I'm ready to stand on what I did, I'm sure that he would have done what he thought was right and I did what I thought was right. I still think it was the right decision. The big test will be what the decision will be when we get the recommendation of the Committee.

I would hope that these people don't feel that they've done all that work for nothing, that all that was said today I'm sure they'll hear about it and they'll take that into consideration before they make their recommendation. I certainly can assure the members of the Committee and the member that I will remember what was said today — I think a lot of it was good advice — before I make the decision. But I don't want this to be made automatically and to think that at no time when you have a teaching hospital should there be the services in both areas such as the CAT Scanner which, I think, was a good decision which I approved of 100 percent.

I think you wanted to know about the teams. I think there was a surgeon, the infusionist, the intensive care nurses and the anesthesiologist.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister is quite correct when he refers to duplications that already exist in the system, I agree with that. But what I'm suggesting here, we should be warning ourselves to watch out for unnecessary additional duplications.

The problem is that all of us inherit a system as it exists and many duplications are in place that now are almost impossible to remove because of the political and community pressures that are involved, and the

professional pressures that are involved, that's why it's so important to be on guard against extension or expansion of the duplication syndrome in the health field.

I know what the Minister is saying about the CAT Scanner at St. Boniface and certainly it was our decision, it was my decision and I stand by it every inch of the way. I don't think it's analogous to the open heart surgery unit at the Health Sciences Centre. There was no CAT Scanner purchased and put in place at the St. Boniface Hospital prior to discussion with the Minister or with the Commission.

Secondly, as a matter of fact, Dr. Lionel Israels who as the Committee knows, Sir, is the head of the Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation and one of the most respected cancer researchers and specialists in North America, offered at least his sanction if not his blessing of the concept of a CAT Scanner at St. Boniface.

There's a situation where we really are looking at contemporary political and social pressures because so many jurisdictions in North America are now talking about the required ratio being one CAT Scanner to every quarter-of-a-million people or one to every half-million people and we've always proceeded as was always the accepted norm in the past on the basis of one for a million people. When you get other jurisdictions moving to the ratio of one for half-a-million or one for a quarter-of-a-million it produces pressures that are very difficult to resist or withstand and as a consequence soul-searching examination was given to the question of the need for a CAT Scanner at St. Boniface and that decision was made. But it was made and then everybody knew it, the Legislature knew it and St. Boniface went ahead and planned on that basis.

It's quite a different situation here where the Minister has been confronted with a fait accompli and I'm sure he would agree with me that we lose complete control if hospitals go out and do those things before they even seek approval and agreement on doing them.

I would agree entirely with what the Minister has to say about a number of small rural hospitals actually effectively being nonviable in many ways and about the question of duplication of obstetrical units and the need for rationalization of them. All of this comes down to the urgent requirement for reform of the hospital system really, which is something that he and I and every other Minister of Health and chief Health critic in Canada have got to be looking at within the next very few years, reform and rationalization of the hospital system, because of the enormous amount of the Health budget that it commands.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I want to say to the Minister that one of the reasons why I have raised these questions is because of my own concern for decisions of this kind and for the utmost necessity of the Minister's being in control insofar as that is possible in the health field of what spending commitments are being undertaken and what spending commitments are unavoidable. Every effort should be made to ensure that this Minister and, indeed, any Minister should not have these decisions forced on him or her by factors or pressures over which he has no control. That's substantially the reason why I've raised the issue in

such detail with the Minister and asked the questions that I've asked, but equally important has been the fact that a lot of people have called me about this.

I don't know whether the Minister has had a significant number of calls, but I've had quite a few phone calls and face to face conversations with patients of the St. Boniface unit and former patients of the St. Boniface unit and their relatives and families, who have been most upset about what they perceived as a threat to the integrity and the morale of that St. Boniface unit. It is out of responsibility to them and their feelings as much as responsibility to my constituency and to my role as Health critic and responsibility to my party and responsibility to the taxpayers of Manitoba in general and the health consumers of Manitoba, in general that I have wanted to explore this issue as carefully as we have done with the Minister.

In the final analysis, Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of importance for all the health consumers of the province because we must guarantee them that our health dollars, which are limited and finite and precious and fragile, are expended as prudently and as efficiently as possible. If this sort of thing becomes the norm, then other areas of health care, very necessary and urgent areas of health care, will suffer for lack of funding.

That leads me to one final question of the Minister on this point and that is, Mr. Chairman: what trade-off has the Health Sciences Centre suggested, if any, for the establishment of an adult cardiovascular capability? Is the Health Sciences Centre looking at, prepared to look at, discussing with the Commission, prepared to discuss with the Commission, its range of activities and prepared to say that we believe that adult cardiovascular surgery is a high priority capability that we must have and we recognize that dollars are limited and therefore, we want to implement that procedure, that practice? We want to build that into our spectrum and we are prepared to give ground in some other area of the hospital's operation?

MR. DESJARDINS: I will try to answer the last question. I think that my position is quite clear on that, but before leaving it, I would like to very sincerely invite all the members of this Committee, not necessarily all, but any members of this committee if they wish to appear in front of the Cunnings Committee. I would be glad to make the arrangements and make sure that they are heard, if this is something that they feel that they would like.

I haven't received any offers from the Health Sciences Centre of a trade-off. At this stage, I am not particularly interested because they might not have anything to trade to start with. I think it's probably fair to say this cardiovascular program is probably one of their first priorities, but I repeat, their priority, not necessarily the government's. I might say about the trade-off or about the whole situation, that I have discussed this with Dean Naimark in front of them and I asked them to — it might be this committee will keep on operating. That's a possibility; that's one of the recommendations that I'll ask, where they will bring in any of these things where there is some kind of a dispute and try to work together because they received the message and I will repeat them especially after tonight to make sure just in case the message wasn't

understood, that we will not stand for that kind of pressure or that kind of jealousy or competition between the two. That's not healthy for Manitoba.

Competition to try to have the best hospital and best care, yes, I think that's healthy, but not try to compete for the dollars at this time. I think we should work together. They said they would accept that. I was encouraged by the reply of Dean Naimark, the President of the University, and I have tried to get the committee to have wider terms of reference and to discuss anything like that. If there were trade-offs, or if there an area where they felt that they could complement each other, or that they should leave the lead to one of the hospitals, so I hope that this will be done.

I think I have gotten quite a bit out of this. We don't agree on everything. I think, in general, we do in this case. It is not a question of ideology, but I certainly will make sure that they get the message, just in case it hasn't been made sure, that they can't force people. They have a certain responsibility and so do we and we will not feel committed if they try to do what they have done in the past.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to offer a suggestion. Perhaps, it is best to propose it in the form of a question to the Minister, but I told him that I wanted to discuss a couple of ideas with him. One really emanates from the last question that I put with respect to trade-offs, the whole question of whether the Health Sciences Centre is prepared in order to take on that capability, which will be an expensive one downstream, in the context of an understanding that perhaps there is some other area of service which duplicates things being done, for example, at Seven Oaks or at Misericordia or at Victoria or even at the Municipals and Deer Lodge Hospital, which could best be transferred over to those facilities and taken out of the Health Sciences Centre. That is one suggestion that I wanted to make to the Minister and it has already been put on the record in the form of a question which he has answered. I would hope that he would have his officials and the President of the University and the committee that is studying this subject, and the administration of the Health Sciences Centre look at that very conscientiously in the interests of responsible health care spending.

The other suggestion I wanted to make to him which again I will put in the form of a question, Mr. Chairman, is the question as to whether it would be viable to pursue an integration, or to explore an integration of the Health Sciences Centre cardiovascular team into the St. Boniface system? We need more capability. We need to meet a larger waiting list. We need to be able to respond to more demand in this area. Is there validity to exploring the concept of integrating the two teams?

In other words, that team that's in place at the Health Sciences Centre would remain in place. No one would attempt to disband it or dismantle it or remove it from the City of Winnipeg and the Province of Manitoba but it would work as an integral part of the St. Boniface system. The technical capability for adult cardiac surgery would in the main continue to be concentrated on the St. Boniface site.

MR. DESJARDINS: This has been discussed at length.

In fact, this is a very strong possibility. This is pretty well one of the conditions or one of the points that the St. Boniface people made, it was accepted by the Health Sciences Centre. Now the only concern was the university. The university accepted that that's the way it probably was going to be but they couldn't say — well, I'm going ahead of myself — the head man would be Dr. Cohen. But they couldn't say well he'll be the head man forever and a day because they didn't want to make a commitment because the way it is chosen, it is selected by the university and it could be anywhere. It could be that even if there's no program at this time they might select somebody else. They wanted to make that clear. So they couldn't be specific. Fine. There's a guarantee Dr. Cohen will be the head man but, it was clear that everybody wanted that.

They felt that it would be the chief part of the program — it could be an integrated program — would be held at St. Boniface Hospital without giving an absolute guarantee because we don't select the head man — head man isn't quite proper — the department chief. It was felt though that probably this wouldn't happen and they would have to go and recruit if Dr. Cohen ever was replaced. It would be wrong for them to say yes, we're promising to a man because that's not the way it works.

Well that has been done already and it's pretty well been admitted, that's the only way it would be done. If Health Sciences Centre started they would be part of the St. Boniface team. That in fact, I think it was a suggestion and certainly agreed by the people at the Health Sciences Centre without any problem at all. That's certainly a possibility. Again, if it works like that they're allowed to operate, they're given permission to start if we accept their request.

Now as far as the trade-off — not necessarily on that, I don't want to say okay, if you have that you'll get something else — but this is something that should be ongoing. I don't even like the word trade-off because we don't have to trade-off with anybody where the people of Manitoba are paying the cost then if it's better that it should be done somewhere else, fine, but this should be an ongoing thing, a committee between the hospitals. At first, I envisaged only the two teaching hospitals and I think the member has a point. Maybe we should bring more of the hospital from the Greater Winnipeg area anyway and discuss this and to see that there's no duplication; that we get our money's worth for what we have because we're limited in a province such as Manitoba.

So as I said, we had requested that maybe this committee or at least these groups representing the two hospitals and the university would keep on meeting to look at these things. But there is nothing preventing us from saying we'll widen this committee a bit and have a kind of an advisory committee to it.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, that's all the questions I have on this particular subject. I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I want to thank members of the Committee for their indulgence and their patience in permitting me to pursue this subject with the Minister. I've been anxious to do it since we first broached it in question period.

I think it's an important subject because it goes

right to the heart of the main challenges in the health care system today, not only in Manitoba but right across this country. So I do thank them for their patience and their indulgence. I didn't mean to usurp the time of the Committee but it was a subject that required exploration in my view and I appreciate the frank exchange that's been possible.

I want to thank the Minister for the information that he has provided the Committee on this subject to date and assure him that I won't have any more questions on this subject at least until next week.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Dauphin.

MR. JOHN PLOHMAN (Dauphin): Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the Member for Fort Garry for winding up right now. I just sent him a note, Mr. Chairman, because I wanted to ask a couple of questions of the Minister.

At the outset of the Session tonight the Minister mentioned that efforts are being made to assist some communities in helping them to bring doctors to those communities where they're having difficulty; where there are no doctors at this particular time.

As the Minister may be aware, last year in Winnipeg the community there went for approximately six months without a physician and it caused a great deal of hardships in that community. People had to travel to Dauphin in most cases for medical attention and in some cases, of course, they had to take ambulances to the nearest hospital at that time which was Dauphin.

I would just like to ask if the Minister could perhaps give some information on what kinds of programs are currently in place to assist rural communities in enticing physicians to those communities; and also perhaps what kinds of programs that the Minister might be contemplating to further assist communities in being able to provide the kind of services through the resident physicians that would be necessary, that the people in those communities would deserve and require?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, we realize that this is a concern, a problem in certain areas and that was the reason why in '79 the then Minister set up a Standing Committee on Medical Manpower. Now it's a Standing Committee; it's meeting; there's representation of the MMA on that and we now have a full-time chairman. It's the former Acting Deputy Minister of the department. In fact, a former Minister of Health in Manitoba. I mentioned that he will be visiting some of these points and he's worked quite closely with them, and the MMA also have been charged with operating a Physician Placement Service Bureau, and I think they received some funding that is not committed for this year, but it was at one time. This is under review now.

That Standing Committee I mentioned made certain recommendations and I think there is a program now and has incentive for attracting to it doctors in the rural area and the remote areas also. The four main parts of this program are: first, it's support for summer work experience of five 1st or 2nd year medical students in rural and Northern Manitoba under the supervision of a rural physician. The Department of Family Practice at the University of Manitoba makes

the specific arrangements. The specific purpose is to familiarize students with the nature of rural, medical practice and life in rural communities.

Number two, loans are offered annually to two 3rd year and two 4th year medical students to assist them in their education, again it's an agreement to serve in a medically underserved area or an underserved specialty, presently only psychiatry. In other words, in a rural area or a go in psychiatrist even in the city, because we need psychiatrists. The agreement is carried out; the loans are totally forgiven.

Number three, the Rural Residency Program provides four residency slots specifically for graduate students who decide to switch from specialty training courses. The course is specifically designed to improve their qualification to practise in rural Manitoba or, alternatively, to provide support for short-term training for doctors already practising in rural areas. They're given the opportunity to gain newer improved skills which would provide better medical services in the community.

Number four, an incentive program that provides a system of establishment of practice grants or income guarantees to doctors who establish a new practice in the medically underserved areas.

On the recommendation of the Committee, a Physician Placement Bureau was established, operated as I said by the MMA. This has completed its first year of service and is now being evaluated.

MR. PLOHMAN: Mr. Chairman, has there been any study done and a report on incentives such as a differential in the fee schedule for remote rural areas similar to what happens in Northern Manitoba; also to determine the number of rural applicants that are being allowed into the study of medicine and, if indeed these people are being allowed to enter in the same proportion at perhaps other areas, such as urban areas, which might be getting into the medical profession, and whether there should be some emphasis in that regard? Have there been any studies done to determine if the rural applicants are being allowed into medical school.

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, on the differential in fees, there is a 10 percent higher fee, an increase in fees, in the North right now for all doctors.

As far as the University, that is the Faculty of Medicine, this is a little touchy. We have been working, we can only work at this time anyway with the University, with the Faculty. They are the ones that run the College; they are the ones that set it up and we can't say, you're going to take these people, but they are working in co-operation with the government more and more. I think they realize that something will be done or the government might have to step in, and that's the situation of trying to encourage people to rural areas and Native people also. I can't give you any figures how successful it is, but they're aware of it and I'm told they're co-operating as best they can.

MR. PLOHMAN: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to mention in regard to the rural areas, the remote rural areas or the rural areas that are not classified as northern, but are quite a distance from Winnipeg, very often are the ones to suffer the most in this situation because

the doctors there do not qualify, I would imagine, for the northern allowance and yet there's no more incentive for them to go to those remote rural areas than there is to say a northern community. That is why I brought up the matter of a differential in terms of rural areas, as opposed to northern. I wasn't asking about the northern differential. I asked if there was a consideration made for remote rural areas.

You just might want to comment on that, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to know as well whether there is any consideration given when a facility is closed, such as Winnipegosis was for six months last year because there was no resident physician there, whether people who require an ambulance, because they cannot get treatment at that facility, would have that covered by Medicare in that particular circumstance?

MR. DESJARDINS: Madam Chairman, I'm aware of the problems they have in rural Manitoba, but I think that, no we have no other special programs. If we did, you know, we'd never end. It might be something that we will look at someday, but certainly there are other priorities. We can't do it all for everybody. I think that we're looking at fees now and the fees aren't that — I don't think that's a real problem.

I think the problem is that the doctors find it very difficult to work when they're isolated. It's not the same way of practising medicine as the old days and they want to be where the facilities are and where there are other doctors, in other words, the way they work in the city in replacing each other, but then to work with their peers to keep on progressing. That seems to be the main concern. It's not just money. In fact, some of the people left two years ago, three years ago, to go to the States and they found out the situation wasn't that good. They came back and took a big reduction because they'd sooner be here. So that is a problem we can never stop trying to solve.

That is a problem that we will never solve. I think it's only natural there are times you might have a surplus of doctors in populated places, such as Winnipeg, and large cities. That problem exists in every province in Canada and I would dare say every country in the world. That doesn't mean we shouldn't try to improve it and we're doing that with all kinds of programs and I think the programs I mentioned are certainly a start.

Now as far as paying the ambulance, well again I say there's a limit to what the taxpayers can do. I think certainly you have to have a responsibility for yourself. It's not something that is impossible to do. It would be wrong in doing, but I think there are other priorities we'll have to do in the money, with the budget that we have at this time. It's not something we're even considering as an option at this time.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Mrs. Doreen Dodick (Riel): The Honourable Member for Dauphin.

MR. PLOHMAN: Yes, I just wanted to close, Madam Chairperson, by — (Interjection) — Yes.

MR. DESJARDINS: Before he starts, I would like to give you the average payment in 1980-81 to general practitioners and I'm not talking about the North, urban and rural. Urban, the average is \$71,250; rural,

\$82,060, so there's approximately \$11,000 difference.

MR. PLOHMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman, I just wanted to say that I can compliment the Minister on the programs that are going on. I think they are excellent, but I think that when you look at the matter of ambulance only when a facility is closed, which is a very unique situation; that when you talk about priorities for those particular people, in many cases elderly people who would have to pay for an ambulance because the facility was closed; because there was no doctor in that community that would normally have the facility open and working and servicing those people; that in that particular situation, perhaps there could be some consideration given. I wasn't saying that all ambulances for all areas.

MR. DESJARDINS: Madam Chairman, in answer to that, so far the province has never accepted responsibility for an ambulance service either in the city or anywhere, except I might say, some responsibility in the Northern Ambulance and Transportation Program. There has been the program in ambulance to assist these different municipalities in the city but the responsibility stays with them. That could be far-reaching; this is something you look at but if any of the hospitals were close then you would have people that would, in the next step, say: "We should have a hospital; we haven't got a hospital and it's even worse. It's not closed because we haven't got one." Then you'd have to start saying to people who are living such a distance from the hospital, we'll provide the ambulance, and it could be quite costly. We've moved in that direction. Not too long ago there was nothing at all. There's some help. The municipality can get together on that to get their grants and pool them together to have one ambulance; that's permissible. A lot of them are doing that, so as I say, this is not something that we've looked at seriously. It is something that we could look at again but I can't, certainly at this time anyway, offer too much encouragement with all we have in front of us in the little funds that we have.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Flin Flon.

MR. JERRY T. STORIE (Flin Flon): Thank you, Madam Chairman. I just have one comment that I'd like to make and perhaps get the Minister's response and perhaps some clarification as to the exact requirements of this situation.

Right now, in the community of Snow Lake, a community of approximately 3,500-4,000 people, there is a community hospital, a four-bed hospital. My understanding is that it was scheduled to be an eight-bed hospital but as of the building of the new hospital, it is a four-bed acute-care hospital. Originally, there was scheduled to be two doctors, two physicians available in the hospital; over the last two years, for the majority of that time there has only been one doctor. Recently I understand, as of December I believe, they do have another doctor.

One of the major concerns with that community has been, and continues to be, that families, women in the community, are not able to carry their pregnancies through to term and deliver their babies in the com-

munity. My understanding is, and the Minister can correct me if my understanding is in error, that the reason the women of that community cannot deliver their children in the hospital there is because of standards that are set by the Canadian Medical Association or the College of Physicians or whatever. Right now, to this point, the women in the community have to go by ambulance, at the point of delivery, to either Thompson or The Pas, a distance of some 100-120 miles. Now, that's not only an inconvenience, and I think, a health risk for the women who have to take those journeys.

I think there's also the question of the cost that they incur as families when the women are outside of the community for the delivery of their child or children. The families have to arrange for accommodations in those communities, either The Pas or Thompson, and I think it's expected that the family and particularly the husband, would want to be there on the occasion of the birth of a child; I think it's only right to expect that. I think given the fact that it's a community of 4,000 people or 3,500 people, if you look in the immediate vicinity of Winnipeg, any community that has a population of 3,500 people has the capacity to deliver babies. I think that's an expectation and a hope that the people of Snow Lake have, that sooner or later the women in that community will not have to leave the community to have children. As I've said, it's an expense and it's an inconvenience.

I guess the first question is: is the requirement that there be an anesthesiologist present one that is set by the province, or is that simply a medical code? The second question is: is there some possibility that, in the near future, Snow Lake will meet the necessary requirements to allow parents, to allow mothers, to deliver their babies in those communities?

MR. DESJARDINS: Madam Chairman, the situation is a little different than has been stated here this evening. I think the Commission has always felt that this certainly was a right, something that should be encouraged, to give them the service in their area. A new hospital replaced an older hospital not too long ago. Exactly, to give this service, the Commission allowed two salaries for the two doctors to deliver babies in that hospital. I think that one, on salary, had been practising fee-for-service. I understand that they are both back now on salaries, but either they don't feel qualified, they don't feel comfortable, but it is the doctors themselves that don't want to deliver babies in that area. My information is the wrong type of people, or they feel this is not their specialty, or they're not interested, therefore they are not taking any patients. That's the information that we have. It has nothing to do with us, with the Commission or standard at this time.

MR. STORIE: I'm heartened to hear that. I spoke personally to the newest addition, the new physician in Snow Lake on the 21st of March, I believe, a woman doctor who I discussed this with. She was the second doctor in there and it was my understanding that two doctors were what was required to meet the standards and to ensure a safe delivery. She informed me that they were not, at this point, delivering babies in Snow Lake; that they were not likely to, simply because

there was some requirement, and perhaps it's not the Manitoba Health Services Commission that make the requirement, but it was her understanding that there was some code that would prevent them from delivering babies in the community. My understanding was as well that it was the need for an anesthetist to ensure the safest possible delivery of babies in the community.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, Madam Chairman, I certainly will have our people check our staff check. I would suggest also, the member should get in touch with this doctor and ask him to get in touch with the College of Physicians also. Now, we are ready to fund it. If it's any standard it's certainly not the Commission - it would be the College. If people aren't qualified, it's up to the College; we're not going to interfere with that at all. My understanding was a little somewhat different than that; it was that they weren't interested. But, we will check and I would suggest to the member that because of the discussion that he had with that doctor that he suggest that maybe she should get in touch with the College of Physicians. But, we will check also to see if we can get more information. If there's a misunderstanding, we'll try to correct it.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Madam Chairman, where was the Diabetic Education Service being funded? Was it under Medical Services or under the Hospital Program?

MR. DESJARDINS: If the member remembers we covered that: we had a question on that. That was done under the department. It was covered already.

MR. SHERMAN: I just wondered, at the termination of that program the Minister indicated that some suggestion had been made to Dr. Moorehouse that he should make application for a research grant. But, my question was whether that was at the time it was in place as an intended program, was that to be funded under Medical Services or under the Hospital Program or was it entirely independent of the commission? Can Mr. Edwards perhaps advise the Minister where it's at?

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Jerry Storie (Flin Flon): The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: It was entirely under Public Health Medical where we covered it.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I just want to exchange a question with the Minister on the matter of procedure here. There are a number of issues under Medical Services that I would like to discuss. I don't know how long he wants to continue this evening, but I just want to advise him that there are a number of issues under the Medical Services aspect of the Commission's area of responsibility that I still wish to discuss with him. I don't believe that we will be very long on the Personal Care Home Program or the Hospital Program. I don't believe we'll be very long on the Minister's Capital Program. I can't speak for every member of the Opposition component of the Commit-

tee obviously, and I certainly can't speak for Government Members of the Committee but, in my own capacity as chief critic for the Opposition, I don't anticipate being very long on that. I was delighted to see that the Minister's Capital Program is essentially a reinforcement and continuation of the program that was in place and intended for '82-83 by the previous government.

But, I do have a number of questions under Medical Services still. We've had a good examination of the cardiovascular surgery question but, I want to discuss the shortages of certain specialties with the Minister, particularly programs aimed at addressing the shortage of anesthesiologists. I want to discuss the concept of designated internships and residencies. I want to discuss the question of enrolments at medical schools and the numbers of graduates coming into the Canadian medical market. I'd like to discuss the training of geriatricians and some important subjects of that nature. So, I just want to advise the Minister of that and ask him whether he wants to think about that for a minute and consider as to how he'd like to proceed?

MR. DESJARDINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, no I think that we've had nothing but co-operation in this department and I have no problem with that. We'll just adjourn at this time and there's no point in questioning. We'll come back tomorrow and I thank the member for giving us an idea of some of the things that he wanted to discuss. I'll try to get the information available as much as possible anyway and try to answer the questions.

I would like to move the Committee rise at this time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise