kidney complications and high blood pressure. The financial toll to the health care system will come with a price tag of $1 million. Studies done during and after the epidemic show overcrowded housing and poor sanitation facilities were contributing factors in the spread of the disease.

We have recurring cases of TB, a disease that is supposed to have been wiped out in the 1950s and the 1960s. We have hepatitis A in near epidemic proportions could more easily be controlled with better sanitation and more adequate housing, less overcrowding, and a better standard of facility. Two weeks ago our health board went back into Arviat, a community which was, for the most part, largely affected by the E. Coli outbreak. They were surprised to see that the snow was piled high in the community. At the meetings that were held to discuss with the community how the epidemic was handled, one of the overriding messages from the experts who had been called into deal with the epidemic was a better need for better waste disposal, adequate standards for housing, and better water supplies. I think if you go into a house and their sewage tank is filled, you definitely know. You can smell it from outside, before you walk in the door. That's not a standard that anybody should have to deal with in the 1990s. Sometimes they have to live eight days with overflowing sewage containers because there is no delivery available due to snow conditions. Do you wonder why we still have these types of recurring instances of what the health board would consider Third World diseases? (Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Issue No. 28A:125-6)

In Iqaluit, Mr. Doug Sage, the Acting Superintendent, Department of Social Services, spoke about social service concerns relating to housing in the Baffin region. His concerns include overcrowding in the region and the fact that construction is not keeping up with the birth rate. With respect to family violence he noted:

"I can tell you that it's escalating and that crowded and inadequate housing is often referred to by the people who come to the shelter as one of the major frustrations that help to create that problem... We're finding that women and children aren't leaving abusive situations because, other than the shelter, they have no place to go. Relative's homes are already full. In fiscal year 1991/92, 88% of all the women reporting to the shelter here had been there at least once in the past year, so we're seeing the return of people, again because there's nowhere else for them to go... child sexual abuse is a cyclical problem. It is learned and we're finding that generation upon generation is falling into those patterns because of being in overcrowded housing situation." (Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Issue No. 28A:52)

Other social problems were discussed:

"Transients fall between the cracks in our system quite a bit, and I don't think that we have adequate numbers on how many homeless and transient people there are. For the aged and handicapped people we have inadequate housing.... To tell you that there's an alcohol problem in the north would be nothing new, but to tell you that it relates directly to the housing shortages and the types of frustrations that develop from that would not be an exaggeration....

"In corrections we have people coming out of incarceration with no home to go to." (Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Issue No. 28A:51-54)

Mr. Sage concluded with this comment:

"I would like you to urge your colleagues at all levels of government to become aware of these major social problems as they relate to housing... five years from now it will be worse, and ten years from now it will be impossible — and that the infant mortality, child abuse, suicide rates, substance abuse, financial assistance usage, and corrections issues are already higher here than the national average." (Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Issue No. 28A:54)

In Iqaluit, Mr. Chuck Tolley, Director of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education noted that overcrowded housing is not conducive to learning.