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Acting Speaker: The Hon. Uriash Puqiqnak, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday April 20, 2000

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Hon. James Arvaluk, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Mr. Donald Haviyok, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Iqittuq, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Deputy Speaker (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): I would like to have Mr. Haviyok say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyok, good morning all Regular Members, Ministers and Mr. Premier, before we proceed with the orders of the day, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the pages for the past week.

We've had Haley Anawak from Iqaluit, Carmon Iqittuq from Hall Beach and from Pond Inlet Melanie Nutarak, Ivan Makpah and Janice Kaotainuk. Once again I would like to thank you and wish you good luck in your future school years. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister for Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 120 - 1(3): Arctic Science Summit**

Hon. James Arvaluk Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Research Institute, a part of Arctic College in conjunction with several agencies of the federal government have been successful in attracting next year's Arctic Science Summit to Canada. It will be held in Iqaluit during the week of April 22 to the 27, 2001. This meeting will attract over two hundred Arctic Circumpolar world's top research people including formal delegations from all circumpolar countries and representatives of many circumpolar people.

This will have positive economic benefits for Iqaluit and the Nunavut economy. It will also provide Nunavut with the opportunity to have input directly into the circumpolar research agenda. We can present to the circumpolar community many of the issues and concerns affecting science research in Nunavut.

(interpretation) One such issue is the impact of climate change on the people of Nunavut, and the proposed meeting will provide an excellent opportunity to build on the initiative outlined recently in the legislature by my colleague Peter Kilabuk, the Minister for Sustainable Development.

The meetings are generally self-funded, with support forthcoming from the federal agencies involved. An organising committee of community, the Nunavut Government and federal sponsoring agencies is currently being struck. I will keep members informed as arrangements for this event are finalized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker: Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Ng.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 343 - 1(3): Cambridge Bay Arctic College Graduation

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this past weekend, Premier Okalik, MLAs Donald Haviyok, Ovide Alakannuark and you Mr. Speaker, Uriash Puqiqnak and I attended several events in Cambridge Bay.

The main event was Saturday afternoon at Nunavut Arctic for the Kitikmeot Arctic College campus graduation ceremonies. There were twenty-nine graduates and twenty others recognized for their achievements at the ceremonies.

Liberal MP Nancy Karetak-Lindell, the Chairperson Joe Ohokannoak and the President Johnny Kusugak of Nunavut Arctic College and Mayor Keith Peterson were also present and participated in the ceremony. Premier Okalik was the guest speaker and turnout to the event was excellent.

There was a broad range of programs from which graduates were recognized. These programs included adult basic education general education diploma preparation, computer specialist certificate, environmental technology diploma programs, jewellery metal work diploma program, job readiness life skills program, management studies certificate diploma program and the social work diploma program.

Mr. Speaker graduates and participants, their families and instructors should be congratulated and commended for the efforts and achievements. I know that they have and will continue to make valuable contributions to the future success of our new territory.

Mr. Speaker, an unexpected surprise was during the ceremonies were two presentations by the students. The Nunavut Arctic College student council and the management studies

group presented the mayor with 2 cheques totalling 1 thousand 3 hundred dollars from their own fund raising activities. They were adding this contribution to the contribution fund for the gymnasium.

Once again Mr. Speaker this shows the commitment the community and the region has towards this important project. Mr. Speaker following the graduation ceremonies there was a public meeting sponsored by the hamlet to address the Kiiliniq High School project. This was attended by elders, students, teachers, heritage society representative and members of the public.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier and I, along with our colleagues and yourself included, also attended. We once again heard of the importance of the project to the community and to the Kitikmeot.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): The member for Cambridge Bay is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. You may continue.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker and thank you colleagues. At this time I want to thank my honourable colleagues in this house for recognising part of the needs and aspirations of Cambridge Bay and the Kitikmeot residents with the approval of the education budget which included funding for the full size gymnasium.

I sincerely hope Mr. Speaker, members will be as open minded in review of the Culture, Language, Elders & Youth budget which contains funding to allow for the much needed and desired cultural heritage centre to proceed.

Mr. Speaker, another event, which was worked into our busy schedule, was the opening of the new Nunavut Government's office building which the Nunavut Construction Corporation built. This event took place prior to the graduation ceremonies and was widely attended by members of the community. Earlier that morning Mr. Speaker, the Premier and I along with our staff held a meeting with the senior managers in the regional office to review the first year of operations and identify and issues arising out of that first year.

Again, I believe this was successful in providing a forum for open exchange of information between our senior managers and ourselves. Finally, on a Sunday morning we met with the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor Kugaaruk along with their MLA, Mr. Alakannuark, on their proposed school project and the concern that they have surrounding that project.

Prior to our departure the premier and I also had an opportunity to tour the wellness centre and receive some information on the child development program. Overall Mr. Speaker it was a very busy day and a half. I noted that the students and the members of the public were very appreciative of our taking time to tend to these events in the

community and I think it is also important that we showed our support to the Nunavut Arctic College student graduates.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the many organisers of these events, the residents for their gracious hospitality extended to us, and finally, I wish to thank the Premier and my colleagues, Mr. Haviyok, Mr. Alakannuark and Mr. Puqignak for taking the time out of your weekend to participate in these events in Cambridge Bay.

Many of us Mr. Speaker are off to see our families over the Easter weekend. So, to all my colleagues and our constituents all across Nunavut, I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter weekend. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ng. Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 344 - 1(3): Proper Facilities for all Communities

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am very pleased to rise to talk about the importance of education and its benefits to the people of Nunavut.

We all expect that we will be providing for the needs that we have in our communities so that these plans will become reality. I believe that we should proceed with our sessions and make information available so that we can treat all the communities of Nunavut equally.

Mr. Speaker when we discuss the important issues such as the needs and having the proper facilities in Nunavut. We should have all those proper facilities in our communities for our future generations.

They outweigh our concerns today because we have to make way for our future. All our facilities should be proper and safe. If we focus on one issue too much, we won't be making proper decisions Mr. Speaker.

As Nunavut as a whole, we would like to have a proper future and we should have proper facilities for our children.

Regular members along with the cabinet members have to work closely together for the sake of our younger generations. So we will make proper plans and resolve the conflicts and concerns we do face. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark.. Members' Statements. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Member's Statement 345 - 1(3): Cost of Air Travel

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker today I have a major concern in regards to airfares. Mr. Speaker, members have been asking questions to the government and we made statements in regards to the airfares. Mr. Speaker, today I will be asking questions during question period to the Minister responsible for Transportation, and Mr. Speaker I will be tabling some documents.

Mr. Speaker the airfares, if I was to come from Sanikiluaq, it would cost 3 thousand 662 dollars. If I was coming from Grise Fiord it would cost 2 thousand 648 dollars. Mr. Speaker at the point of this coming weekend if I was to travel from here to down south or somebody down south came here it would be 99 dollars on a special rate for Iqaluit to Ottawa as a weekend fair and we cannot take advantage of that.

Mr. Speaker, 499 dollars for a Canadian airfare for a special rate from Iqaluit to Ottawa. That is more than what it costs from Grise Fiord to Iqaluit and during question period I will be asking the Minister of Transportation on why this is this way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 346 - 1(3): Literacy Learners Award

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker I rise today to speak about literacy. The National Literacy Secretariat of Canada funds literacy programs in Nunavut. One of these programs is the Iqaluit Literacy Committee through the Arctic College and Mr. Speaker, it is successful.

Bobby Suvaaraq of Baker Lake will be receiving the Literacy Learners Award today in Iqaluit. Bobby appreciates being in Iqaluit and he has a hearing impairment, but through the dedication and through this organization he achieved a grade 1 level in English and a grade 2/3 level in math. Uqaqti this may sound like a small step but for this individual with a hearing impairment it is a giant leap.

I would like to take this time to thank the Iqaluit Literacy Committee at Arctic College. In addition, Mr. Speaker I would like to wish all the members of this house and their families a happy Easter. Ma'na Uqaqti.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 347 - 1(3): Easter Holiday

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today this last day of sitting before this Easter break to wish all members of his house a safe trip home to their communities and families for the Easter weekend. I hope everybody finds a lot of Easter eggs this weekend.

Our session has been a long one. For those of us living in Iqaluit we at least have the comfort of having our families and friends close by. For those members whose families are in their home communities the burdens are even greater.

For me, I plan on spending the weekend painting my daughter's bedroom as well as spending some much needed time with them and the rest of my family. I sincerely hope that the others members have a relaxing and fulfilling weekend and I look forward to welcoming you all back to continue our session Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 348 - 1(3): Infrastructure for Smaller Communities

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a statement on an issue that has been a concern of mine from my constituency for quite some time. My constituents and community have written letters and tabled petitions to lobby for more money for use in the communities.

Mr. Speaker we have heard that there was going to be a big gym built in a particular community attached to the school. Twenty percent of it will be raised by the community and it will be the centre of that region. This gymnasium will be used by the people in that region. They have a lot of companies in that region and they would be able to lobby for some money for the larger gymnasium they will be receiving. Mr. Speaker they should have some ability to collect some money from the private companies.

Mr. Speaker this is one of the concerns that I have had and I have raised it in the house for quite some time because I feel the smaller communities should be given the advantage of getting projects done in their community as well. Just like any other community has been receiving. It seems like the larger communities get more projects than the smaller communities. The smaller communities should be able to get the same thing. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' Statements. Madame Minister.

Member's Statement 349 - 1(3): Importance of Easter

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am the only Madame so thank you for giving me that title. During Easter break I would encourage everyone to go to church with the children and their families. It will be good to take this Easter break. First of all I wanted to say Mr. Speaker that for our elders who are unilingual, I just wanted to express to them that this session has been a fairly lengthy one but the session has gone well and I appreciate all the work that has been done.

We will be resuming the budgeting exercises upon returning and we would encourage all members to represent their people.

I want to let the elders know and the public know out there in the Nunavut area that we are taking our Easter break.

I got a phone call from a resident of Iqaluit asking me whether we were doing our job properly or not. Just want to ensure the public that we are doing our best to represent the people of Nunavut, and make sure the budget is approved and make sure the wishes of the people of Nunavut are being fulfilled. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 350 - 1(3): Appreciation to Assembly Staff

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good morning to you. I too would like to thank the many staff who work at the legislative assembly. Who as you know, Mr. Speaker, work everyday along with us, including the long hours that they do have to after the house that sits and stops at 6 in the evening. Sometimes the staff are here to 9 p.m. and I would like to thank them for their dedication.

At times this House can be stressful, exciting and even tedious. Mr. Speaker at the end of the day as the member from Pelly Bay said yesterday, we have to work together for all our constituents and the people of Nunavut, because that Mr. Speaker I sure that is why we are hear. I would like to take this time to wish the member and the staff of this House a very happy Easter and the people of Iqaluit a good long weekend.

Mr. Speaker I will be joining some of my friends and neighbours and some of my children to go fishing. As you know Mr. Speaker, I am well known as a very good fisherman.

>>Laughter

I hope to catch more that candy this weekend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 351 - 1(3): Coral Harbour Easter Events

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This weekend there will be many people going down to Coral Harbour from Nunavik and Nunavut. They will be gathering there on a crusade about religion. My father and sister will be there to attend that event. They will start arriving on Saturday so I would like to welcome everyone who will be going to Coral Harbour to attend this crusade.

Also I will be going down to Coral Harbour this weekend and I will be happy to see my constituents and wish everybody a good Easter.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statements, Mr. Akasuk.

Member's Statement 352 - 1(3): Cape Dorset Youth Crusade

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a group of young people called Northern Lights that are going to Cape Dorset. They will be going there to a youth meeting to talk about social issues and having a religious crusade as well. This event has been organised annually for the past or four or five years.

They were in Kimmirut last year and now will be in Cape Dorset this year. There are some people that will take advantage of the healing and I would like to wish them a good Easter while they are in Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akasuk. Member for Pangnirtung. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 353 - 1(3): Happy Easter to Pangnirtung

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and our family members who are at home. I thank the members of their patience and today I would like to tell members that we were supposed to be going to Pangnirtung, but due to the bad weather we were unable to go.

I hope the weather clears so we can all make the trip to Pangnirtung. I was supposed to be going tomorrow but the weather is still bad and I will be staying. I would like to wish my constituency and my family to have a good Easter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 354 - 1(3): New Sakku President

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to congratulate my cousin Peter Tatty who was recently appointed as President of the Sakku Board and I know that he will do a good job on advancing private business. I also wanted to congratulate a person from Rankin Inlet, Louis Pilakapsie who was appointed to the Sakku Board.

I know the Sakku Corporation will be more effective with them. The new president is a private business owner and know that he will work hard on behalf of Inuit in private businesses. I just want to congratulate Mr. Tatty.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 355 - 1(3): Easter Break

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker today I am very pleased that I will be going home and I am glad I will not be reading too many documents for a change so my voice will come back. I will be happy to be home for a while. I know it get very hard being away from home. Everyone is aware that we do sometimes have conflicts during the sessions and I know that is part of life in the assembly.

When we go through a session like this I know it gets pretty hard. I would like to thank my colleagues for giving me support. So I will see you when I get back.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. We are on Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 356 - 1(3): Happy Easter

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really want to thank the people of Iqaluit and the members here. While I was here I have been well taken care of. I am happy that I will be going back to Kugluktuk and I wish happy Easter all. My wife and I are going home. Have a good Easter and your children and your family. Do not forget your elders too and help the elders. I want to say happy Easter to the Kugluktuk people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Members' Statements. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 479 - 1(3): Pelly Bay School Interim Capital Appropriation

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the Honourable Members question regarding Interim Capital Appropriation Funds for Pelly Bay. Asked by Mr. Tootoo on April 17, 2000. Mr. Speaker we have 300 thousand allocated in the Interim Capital Budget for the Pelly Bay School project. This is to assist with any project start up costs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Return to Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Return to OQ 432 - 1(3): Eligibility for School Gymnasiums

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Oral Question asked by Mr. Nutarak on April 12, 2000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to Mr. Nutarak's question on eligibility for school gymnasiums. Mr. Speaker gymnasiums and their respective size are determined by school enrolment in conjunction with community resources and our Capital Standards and Criteria.

For example: A school with less than 88 students would not be eligible for a gym. A school with 132 students would also not qualify for a gym if there is an alternative recreational facility in the community that is a community hall that is used for recreational purposes. A school with an enrolment of between 133-396 would be eligible for a small gymnasium - 396 square metres. A school with a design of 397 and above would be eligible for a large gym or full sized - 527 square metres. A school/community requesting a gym when enrolments are below the accepted Capital and Standards and Criteria require Ministerial and Cabinet permission. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Returns to Oral Questions. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise a couple of people from Cape Dorset who work for the Nunavut Government Saila Audla and Mali Curley. They are originally from Cape Dorset. Also I would like to recognize Peter who is sitting over there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. Welcome to the Gallery or to the Legislature. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti, bear with me I forgot to wish my constituents in the Baker Lake a Happy Easter. As my colleague beside me pointed out and Mr. Ng pointed out with a note. I apologise my constituents in Baker Lake for not wishing them a Happy Easter and I will see them all this weekend.

I would like to recognise a young lady from Baker Lake who is doing page duty, Kimberly Neigo from Baker Lake and I would like us all to make her feel comfortable.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I would like to recognise my colleague the Member for Baker Lake. When he made his statement previously he stated that he I have much more hair than he does. Today he is asking to get some of my hair from me. So although he has less hair than I have I would like to wish him a Happy Easter and enjoyable stay at home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I would like to start by saying I would not mind having some of Mr. Iqaqrialu hair either. Mr. Speaker at this time I would like to take this opportunity to welcome to the House people that have been with us quite a while now.

Our technicians in the booth there especially Mr. Echo and my other friend hid, so I can not see who he is. Our interpreters and translators, and in the communications booth representing the fifth estate, the members of our very courteous media Ms. Salomie Awa and Mr. David Michael Lamb with a wonderful hat again today.

Also, the man Mr. Speaker here in Iqaluit who brought down the House, himself Mr. Saumik and excellent Joseph and the Technicolor star and great person all around. I would like to welcome them to the Gallery and to this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the House. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I have many relatives that I have finally realised. I think it was in the 1980's I found out that I have more relatives that I knew. So I have been finding out relatives since I came to the Legislative Assembly and I would like to recognise the daughter of my mother's cousin. I

would like to recognise the interpreters and Mary Nashook who is a very professional interpreter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise someone who has supported me all along here in Iqaluit when I first came here. I would like to recognise the Commissioner Mr. Peter Irniq who supported me very much when I first came here to the capital.

>>Applause

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Welcome Mr. Commissioner. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise two people and Mr. Speaker, I want to apologise to my constituents that I would also forgot to mention to wish them Happy Easter. Mr. Muckpah who is from Pond Inlet and John Ilupalik from Igloolik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Welcome to the House. Welcome to the Nunavut Legislature. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to say that when we recognise people, they do not even show the person on TV. Perhaps we should resolve this situation because when we recognise somebody or anybody. The camera does not go to those people. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although my name is Peter, there were two other Peters. Perhaps I should recognise myself first. During our proceedings starting from Rankin Inlet in February. But we do work with people who are tireless staff. Our Assistant Deputy Minister Peter Ittinuar. I would like to recognise him since the beginning of the session in Rankin Inlet. He has been with us. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Welcome and welcome Mr. Ittinuar welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 488 - 1(3): Minister's Home Visit Allowance

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I will be directing my first question to the Premier. Mr. Speaker although I think I know but for the benefit of my new colleagues, my question is how many times is the government allowed to pay the Cabinet Members' plane tickets to go home from the capital. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like clarification on the question so that I can answer it properly.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Perhaps Mr. Barnabas you can rephrase your question.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I was asking how many times are Ministers allowed to go home in a year.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Member for Iqaluit. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): The Cabinet Members do have the constituency funding. I will take your question as notice then reply to you properly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): He is taking your question as notice and he will get back to you. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 489 - 1(3): Treatment of Regular Members

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Premier. The Cabinet Members and Regular Members sit across from each other. Yesterday the regular members were treated like nothing, with no respect. I would like to ask the Premier if it is proper to treat each other that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): I would like to caution the Member. Your question relates to the conduct of the House so therefore you can not ask a question in regards to that. Member for Kugluktuk. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 490 - 1(3): Kugluktuk Decentralization Status

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question to the Premier. It has been 10 months since we were supposed to have people relocating to Kugluktuk. I would like to know when this would occur.

The people of Kugluktuk are concerned. There are offices in Kugluktuk ready so my question is when will they be occupied. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): I heard two questions. If you would like to respond. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes there was more than one question. The Language specialist from the Culture, Language, Elders & Youth will be moving there and will hire new employees. So will be opening as soon as possible as we have the funds available. They are 10 staff members from Health and Social Services and the Minister responsible will be identifying which positions will be going there. I know that the office facilities will be available now. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Getting back to the agenda. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 491 - 1(3): Lottery Licences

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker I would like to know how the Department issues lottery licences to communities.

If I was to apply for a lottery licence how would I go about it. This is not for the sake of myself Mr. Speaker, for my colleagues as well. Since they will need to know to obtain lottery licences. I understand we as Members of the Legislative Assembly must support the Hamlets by way of letter attached to their application for lottery licence and if they want a lottery licence how would they go about doing it.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Minister for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think they sort of go together, like the bingo and lottery licences the Member is asking about.

I am sorry there are two types of licences. The community can apply for a licence and if you do not have an application you can go to my Department and ask for an application. They can fill out an application depending which licence you would like to obtain. As long as the community does not break the law we can approve the licence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I wanted a lottery licence where do the individual write to. Write to Mr. Anawak. Which Department.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You can address it to myself as Minister of Justice and I could probably give it to one of my staff. We will know where to send it. In the future will let the public know exactly where you can obtain a licence for lottery and we could always directed to whoever deals with the licences.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 492 - 1(3): Cost of Airfares

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I made a statement in regards to airfares earlier. I would like to ask the Minister of Transportation this, every year we pay a lot of money for airfares and has the Minister asked the Federal Minister for assistance in regards to airfares being so high in the North.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Transportation Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I replied to the Member for Amittuq, I mentioned that we are doing a review on airfares and I mentioned here in the House recently that the review should start soon and that they will finish in October. I replying to the Member from Amittuq I will just use this as an example that we live in the High Arctic in Grise Fiord or Resolute Bay. These are not the only communities that are paying high prices for their airfare. We realise that airfares are really high.

I cannot respond to the member because I do not have the information right now. We will be reviewing this to see how we can best address the high cost of airfares and because we do not deal with air carriers we will have to do a review on that first before I can respond to the member properly.

I will do a review as to why they charge so much for airfare. We will be doing this review and I feel that this is an urgent matter and I will give a reply to the member as soon as I can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister commit to communicate with the airline as to why discount fares are not offered to people living in the smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister keep the members up to date by providing us with copies of all the correspondence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Your last and final question, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister responsible, the regular members and the ministers are allowed to go home 23 times. Is it true that the new minister would probably use 90 thousand dollars for 23 flights. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Member your question is different from your first question. Your supplementary is different from your first question. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 493 – 1(3): Clyde River School Addition Deferral

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education. This morning you announced in the media that due to a lack of staff, the school addition in Clyde River had been deferred. Perhaps this fiscal year, will you find enough staff members this fiscal year.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister of Education.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No it will go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 494 – 1(3): Gjoa Haven Fuel Situation

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Nattilik had asked a question about petroleum products problem in Gjoa Haven. There has been bad gasoline for the past winter. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works. What are you doing now about the bad fuel situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank you Mr. Speaker, you have been very good in dealing with the concerns of your

constituents and you kept them informed about the gas situation and approaching me to resolve the problems you have encountered in Gjoa Haven.

To answer the question and to thank the Member for Tunnuniq, I can say that this coming weekend we will be bringing gas to Gjoa Haven for the use of skidoos and they will be provided with gas year around for skidoos and other vehicles. Therefore, the concern of the Tunnuniq MLA will be resolved. I would like to wish all the people of Gjoa Haven a good Easter and First Air will be bringing gas to Gjoa Haven right away for the use of skidoos because they have run out of gas at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): On the same question about the Gjoa Haven gasoline. As you have stated that this gasoline is going to be used for the snowmobiles, what about the outboard motors. Is that gas safe to use on outboard motors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister for Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the fuel that we will be delivering is going to be good enough to be used for outboard motors. We are working to resolve the concern of that community and I would also like to thank my staff for working on this. Every time I ask them to work, especially the Superintendent Brent Boddy, who lives in Cambridge Bay and went to Gjoa Haven to review the gasoline situation every time they start experiencing that, he is always there ready and available to go to the community.

I would also like to thank the Mayor. The gasoline or the fuel will be good enough to use for outboard motors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions. Item 6 on the orders of the day. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 495 – 1(3): Cost of Flying in Fuel

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. The minister just indicated that the department will be flying in fuel to Gjoa Haven and I am glad that is happening. Maybe just wondering is, I can imagine, can I ask the minister what the costs are going to be as a result of having to fly in that fuel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The bottom line was that the community needed fuel and we had to address the situation. I don't have the dollar figures for this. I know it is going to cost money but the community needed the fuel and we had

to do it with this strategy of bringing it in by First Air. I can get that information for the member and give it to him or through you as the member for that riding, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the minister said that it's as a result of bad gas that is there that is not good. The costs that the department is going to have to incur to fly in good gas, will there be any way of recouping that cost. Is there any way of going back on the supplier of the gasoline and finding out at some point where and who is responsible for providing bad gasoline to the government.

If there is a supplier, is there some type of warranty or guarantee on the quality of product and a way of recouping some of those costs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have never said as a department that the gas was bad gas. That fuel is on spec and can be consumed during the warmer months, but the community has said that it is not on spec. According to their knowledge their skidoos seem to be having problems and so we are trying to address it as best we can because that's what the community has asked us to do.

However, according to our tests we have never said that it was bad gas, because according to our tests it is on spec. We are using the fuel for trucks and Hondas that old gas, but the community has said that they wanted better fuel for their skidoos. That is why we are addressing this problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, based on what the minister is saying, if any community is not satisfied with the petroleum products that they get, then they could do the same thing. I think that just on spec if the fuel isn't good I would hope that the government wouldn't incur those extra costs for no reason. I think by sending in better fuel it is an indication that there is something wrong with the fuel that is there.

I am just wondering if the plans are to provide and have that fuel tested to see if there is actually something wrong with it. I would think that any fuel should be able to be used at any time of the year, not just fuel for the summer and fuel for the winter. My understanding of gas is that gas is gas and you use it whenever.

Is there going to be some kind of a test to see if there is a quality problem for the fuel or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We spent over, I couldn't tell you exactly how much but I am pretty sure it was over 50 thousand, to test that fuel. According to our spec list the fuel is on spec. I have tabled all those documents here, but we are listening to the people of Gjoa Haven. We are listening to the people and to the community, they want gas for their skidoos, separately and we are doing the best we can to address that situation.

I have already tabled all the tests on that fuel. This is what the community wished us to do and according to their Inuit knowledge that's what they said they would want us to do. So we are doing the best we can and we have been talking to the community and also to the MLA, yourself Mr. Speaker, and if the member wants me to dig out all that information again, I could show them. But I have already done what I can to test the fuel in Gjoa Haven. We have concluded that if the community wants that for that specific reason then we have done the best we can to address the situation.

That doesn't mean that we are doing that for everybody else in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the work that the department has done to accommodate the needs of the community. Again, I would just ask, the minister indicated it is something that they will not be doing for all the communities.

If another community runs into this type of a situation, would the department be willing to look at the concerns if they happen to be raised by another community as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The process for Gjoa Haven to get to this situation took about a year of testing of going back to the community, going back and forth. So if there were a problem with somebody's gas we would have to go through the whole process again, which would probably take sometimes over a year, to do some testing.

This was a problem raised by the community, a concern raised by a community since the last government. So this is the solution we have come up with for Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Before I recognize a member for another oral question, I would like to go back to item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery.

From Grise Fiord Aimo Akeagok and Kisak Alikatuktuk from Qikiqtarjuaq there they are. Welcome to the Nunavut Legislature.

>>Applause

Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 496 – 1(3): Health Positions to Kugluktuk

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, the Kugluktuk people are awaiting ten positions that will be relocated to Kugluktuk for health. I would like to ask, first, when are the jobs going to be moving to Kugluktuk.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. You have already asked this question before therefore I will not allow you to ask that question again. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

There is a point of order. Mr. Havioyak.

Point of Order

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a different question that I am asking. I am asking the question to the Minister of Health. This is a different question from before. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Minister of Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to take this opportunity to thank the member for the question and also for the good work that he has done on behalf of the community of Kugluktuk as an advocate.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health & Social Services has decentralized offices from headquarters in Rankin Inlet. We are also Mr. Speaker, in the midst of finalizing the numbers for the decentralization of the regional offices into Pang. Mr. Speaker, also the decentralization of headquarters positions into Kugluktuk.

The delay over the past few months the member has been asking these questions to me privately and so on, has been the number of jobs and what positions we relocate. Working with the member and I still make that commitment Mr. Speaker, as the Premier has, that we are committed to decentralization and we will be moving the ten positions to Kugluktuk and we are hoping to be able to do it as soon as possible.

We are identifying hopefully over the next couple of weeks, firming up the number of positions and what those positions are. Mr. Speaker, we are trying to make sure that those

positions are positions that can be filled within the community of Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Picco. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that it is a couple of weeks. I would like to know exactly what you mean by a couple of weeks, I feel that a couple of weeks become a couple of months. I would like to seek an answer because Kugluktuk would like to know. What do you mean by a couple of weeks. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Minister for Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, indeed I am not able to say if it is two weeks or three weeks. Of course as the member knows if we are trying to hire in that community we would have to advertise the positions. We would have to have that information before we would actually be able to hire. We would have to go out and we would have to recruit.

What I am hoping to do Mr. Speaker, is the actual hiring of people from Kugluktuk. I don't necessarily want to just move people and bodies from headquarters to Kugluktuk. I would rather have positions that are not filled at the present time and fill them with people from Kugluktuk, which is what the member and indeed, when I was in Kugluktuk last summer, what the people of Kugluktuk had indicated.

So that's why the delay Mr. Speaker, on the actual when the jobs will be in place. I can commit to the member that over the next couple of days, while the member is in town or when he comes back next week we will sit down with my officials from the Department of Health & Social Services to iron out an exact time that we will be able to move forward on the hiring of the positions. But it will be over the next several weeks, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Picco. Member for Kugluktuk. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also thank you to the minister. I have been saying this many times that we are getting tired of waiting. Also, for the jobs that will be filled I would like to know exactly here in the House, exactly when you are going to put out the advertisements to fill the jobs in Kugluktuk.

I would like to know exactly when you will be putting them out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over the past 12 months in the Department of Health & Social Services, we have been trying to ascertain what positions we would move to Kugluktuk and Mr. Speaker, there have been some suggestions that have come forward that I have talked to the member about. For example the repatriation of patients in the south, would I put a facility in Kugluktuk to accommodate that.

Mr. Speaker, we were looking at other positions within headquarters. Would I move for example, epidemiology to Kugluktuk and an epidemiologist. Those positions may not be able to be filled in Kugluktuk. Earlier this week Mr. Speaker, I mentioned in this House that we had a briefing on the new travel policy that I am hoping to bring forward to the Cabinet and then Mr. Speaker, to the government.

In that travel policy there is an opportunity where I would be looking at setting up a decentralized office which would give me the positions in Kugluktuk. That is the direction that we are moving in right now Mr. Speaker, so I can't say exactly when to the member. As the Premier has said, as this government has said, as I have said as the Minister for the Department of Health & Social Services, we will move positions to Kugluktuk and I am trying to move positions where I can fill those positions in Kugluktuk.

I would rather do that than put people into Kugluktuk as the member had stated. So because of that I cannot say when that will happen. What I can say is that it will be over the next couple of weeks. We will be able to come back to the member, give him a firm date, and give him the positions so that the people in Kugluktuk will have an opportunity to apply for those positions, Mr. Speaker. Because that is the whole idea of decentralization of this government is to bring jobs into communities, not necessarily to transplant people into communities. That's what we are trying to accomplish and that may take a little bit more time, but Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day that would be a better plan I think not only for the people of Kugluktuk but for the people of Nunavut.

Because that's the whole principle behind decentralization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Picco. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for your answer. I am sure that there will be many people that will be interested. As you stated that you would like to get people from Kugluktuk to take over the jobs, this is very good to hear and I am sure that there will be training.

I am sure that there will be people that will be willing to train. Are you going to be having any kind of training for these people.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, under the auspices of the good offices of the Premier, he has set up as the member knows, the decentralization secretariat

that is looking at the aspects of logistics and the administrative aspects of decentralization.

One of the things that I would commit to the members is that if we are going to move jobs from the Department of Health & Social Services into Kugluktuk we are going to hire people in Kugluktuk. That may mean giving on the job training and providing that type of assistance. Mr. Speaker, I make that commitment to the member that we will as a department put that type of training in place. Whether it be a formalised, academic training program or I think Mr. Speaker, probably it would be some kind of OJT or on the job training so that at the end of the day people in Kugluktuk benefit from the decentralization of jobs to Nunavut.

Something similar to what we are trying to accomplish with the Power Corporation in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Akesuk.

Question 497 – 1(3): Kimmirut Social Worker

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Health & Social Services Minister about Kimmirut. Kimmirut has been requesting a social worker for quite some time and the minister informed me that he would be getting a social worker as soon as they can and I want to find out when that will happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Just before the minister responds I would like to recognize a resident of Pond Inlet, Elijah Erkloo. I would like to welcome him to the House.

>> *Applause*

Minister for Health & Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think in all honesty one of the frustrating things of being a minister and indeed, I think for all the Government of Nunavut has been some of the concerns that we have had in recruitment.

Mr. Speaker, as I have tried to relate in this house over the past few months, and give credit where credit is due Mr. Speaker, the member of Kimmirut and Cape Dorset has repeatedly brought up the concern of Kimmirut for a social worker. I have had several conversations with the Mayor of Kimmirut. We had thought earlier about six weeks ago that we had a person. We had gone through the interview process, we had made the job offer, and at the last moment the person turned down the offer of social work for Kimmirut.

One of the problems with Kimmirut as the member knows is housing. We have now secured housing so we have gone back out to re-advertise the position to get the social worker position in Kimmirut. Mr. Speaker this not a unique case. We are short social workers in other communities and we are trying to recruit for those communities. We do know that we have the benefit of several people who are now graduating from social work in Igloolik who may want to take on a position in one of our communities.

That may be a opportunity and in the mean time all I can tell the member is that I have requested and I know that my department is working very hard to try and fill the position of social worker in Kimmirut. Again after the session today I will make inquiries at the Department of Health & Social Services to see where we are in staffing the position in Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Member for the High Arctic. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 498 – 1(3): Changes to Minimum Wage

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Finance. (interpretation ends) The poverty line translates into a minimum wage of 10 dollars an hour. Minimum wage is way bellow that in Nunavut and the cost of living is much higher than in the rest of Canada.

When will the changes be made to the minimum wage rate in Nunavut to more accurately reflect the living costs in Nunavut.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I apologise I did not hear the full extent of the question but in response to a question by one of the members last week I undertook to look at the minimum wage issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 499 – 1(3): Regional Superintendent Spending Authority

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. My question today is for the Minister of Finance. I wonder if the Minister of Finance could answer me this question. The regional offices in the Baffin, Kivalliq and the Kitikmeot, the regional directors I think they are still called, or superintendents. What is their maximum spending authority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Finance.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable member is good at asking me questions that I do not have the full details on. I will have to get back on this specific matter and report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, your question is taken as notice. Mr. McLean

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. The reason that I wanted to ask the question, and I'm sure that he will get back to me because he is really good at it. There are communities that have initiated community empowerment so when they take on added responsibility then comes the financial requirements to run the municipalities that were set years and years and years ago by the old territorial government of 150 thousand per superintendent.

I'm sure with the cost of living and community empowerment and additional pressures put on the superintendent or directors that they shouldn't have to go to the deputy minister every time they need to buy a case of toilet paper or Javex or various other things like rubber boots.

Could the honourable minister re-evaluate what the spending authority is for superintendents and let me know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I thought the member was speaking directly about the Regional Superintendents of Finance in respect to his question. But he is obviously referring to superintendents of different departments and I don't have the specifics. That is a very detailed question and maybe more properly addressed as a written question. I will undertake to provide that information.

However, I will say that each department is different. It depends on the departmental structure and what each deputy minister authorises for their directors and on down. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ng. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 500 – 1(3): Motorised Wheelchair Status

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Last year when we were first elected I had asked a question in regards to disabled persons in the community about a motorised wheelchair. We have been anticipating that motorised wheelchair for the longest time. We have been waiting to receive that wheelchair for over a month. So my question is, when are you going to be providing that motorised wheelchair. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the member for his question. As the member knows I have met with the individual here in Iqaluit and helped him arrange a wheelchair for him while he was in Iqaluit, while he was attending the Council for the Disabled. At that time Mr. Speaker, the regional health board through the hospital had ordered a motorised wheelchair as the member had stated.

They had said at that time it would be 3-6 months. I don't have the current briefing note or the current information provided to me to suggest otherwise. What I will have to do Mr. Speaker, is at the end of this question period today is get the information for the member for when the motorised wheelchair will be arriving for the individual in question in Clyde River. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 501 – 1(3): Social Services Vacant Positions

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker I will direct in my question to the Minister of Finance. I have been seeing a problem in my colleague Mr. Akasuk's riding and also it occurred in Clyde River, when they could not fill the positions for some time but my colleague's social service worker position has been vacant for well over a year.

I had asked a question when we first elected about the job opportunities being advertised and how you would be hiring people who are fully qualified for social services. The staff we are hiring must be all certified, is that always going to be the case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It depends on the program and what that employee has. The responsibility for the situation of a social worker, there are some statutory requirements and proper procedures and protocol that require a certain level of certification. When you are dealing with issues that involve courts and families within communities, there are certain levels of experience and expertise required. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although you replied to me before your response was if an Inuk person is capable of doing that job they will be hired. Elders are very capable counsellors and even more so than the qualified people although even if you are educated you need experience so you will really know. We have very certified counsellors although they are not certified and they should be hired. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I recognise what the honourable member is saying and counselling is one aspect of what a social worker's duties are. There is a multitude of other factors as well. We are trying to address this more on a longer-term basis through Nunavut Arctic College, through the social worker programs that we are providing. We need enough of a broad base for individuals to enter that profession. In the long term of course we will cultivate our own people to occupy those positions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The employment policy that we currently have, will you be reviewing them to make sure that the Inuit that are not certified could work as social workers. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The job evaluations are always being evaluated on an ongoing basis and trying to reflect or accommodate as many people as possible providing that we can provide the duties that the position JD outlines to carry out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister Ng. Oral questions, member for Baker Lake, Mr. McLean.

Question 502 – 1(3): Deferral of Capital Projects

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. My question today is to the Minister of Public Works. The session seems to be drawn out and there seems to be a lot of controversy about what projects are going ahead and what ones are being delayed. How many projects are going to be delayed this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is nothing as of today that will be delayed.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Madame Minister. Orders of the day. Oral Questions. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Responses to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Barnabas.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 89 – 1(3): Airfare Rates

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I made a statement earlier on under members' statements and I said that I would be tabling a document. This document comes from the high arctic and their discussion about the high cost of airfares in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Clerk.

Tabled Document 90 – 1(3): Response to Petition 9 - 1(3)

Tabled Document 91 – 1(3): Election Returns and Declarations

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a couple of documents. First document is a response to petition 9 - 1(3) tabled by the member for Baker Lake which has been filed with the clerk's office. Also, pursuant to section 1.83 (4) of *The Nunavut First Elections Act*, I am tabling the election returns and declarations respecting election contribution expenses for two candidates. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on April 25 I will move the following motion. I move that rule 68 (1) be waived and that the period for the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services to report back to the House on Bill 11, An Act To Establish Nunavut Day as a Holiday, be extended to the Fourth Session of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notice of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 13, Tabled Document 41 - 1(3); Tabled Document 61-1(3) Tabled Document 85-1(3); Tabled Document 87-1(3). According to the power vested in me by motion 3 – 1(3), the committee will sit until it reports itself out, with Mr. Iqaqrialu as the Chairperson. We will take a 30 minute lunch break before we begin.

>>*House recessed at 11:51 a.m. and resumed at 12:37 p.m.*

Item 19: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairperson (interpretation): We now have a quorum, members. We will resume. We have Bill 13, tabled documents 41 – 1(3), 61 – 1(3), 85 – 1(3). General comments. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. General comment. I have been asking the minister and I will be asking for a response. Some of the JPs cannot even read English. I have been asking the Minister of Justice if they have to use the Justice of the Peace at the community level.

Chairperson (interpretation): I forgot to mention that we are dealing with the Department of Justice. Minister Anawak and your officials if you would like to go to the witness table. You may do so now so that Mr. Barnabas may ask his questions.

Thank you Mr. Anawak. Could you introduce your officials please.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. To my left is Nora Sanders. She is the Deputy Minister for the Department of Justice and Rebecca Williams, Assistant Deputy Minister. Another official sitting over there also works for the Department of Justice. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. General comments and questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes. As I have stated before, I have asked the minister numerous times in regards to the Justices of the Peace. Some of them cannot even read English and there are unilingual speaking people and they have to be assisted by the RCMP when they charge somebody. The JP has to abide by the regulations that are set forth and I know that they are only in English currently. They still have not been translated.

I have asked the minister if they will be translated. I am just wondering what the status of this is now. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Yes I thought we were just going to go straight to general comments. At this point the Justices of the Peace are now being trained and I know that we are now trying to get the Summaries of Statutes translated and the regulations. However, if they have not already been translated they will be translated and Neil Sharkey who is responsible for that it is evident that he will proceed to work on these.

I know that the actual Summaries of Statutes are not translated into Inuktitut, the ones that we inherited from the GNWT, if they are not already translated they will be translated. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you. I am just reiterating the question that was asked before. The Justices of the Peace, when they do their work they are paid an honorarium of 40 dollars. Are you going to increase that rate because they have to deal with social issues and the Justices of the Peace do have an impact on the people who have been charged and going to court.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. I know that as we work on the issue of Justices of the Peace it is evident that we will start training them. As we proceed with the training, we have not considered their honorarium rate but it is evident that as we progress with the training program that we will start working with the Justices of the Peace.

At this point I am sure that I could say that as we proceed with the training program we will ask Neil Sharkey to review the rate that is paid to the JPs.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Any other general comments. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have spoken to the minister himself personally and I would like to ask him a question. In the communities we would like to see a correctional centre within Nunavut where the people get help. When people are sent outside of the community for example to Edmonton, when they have to be incarcerated and when they have been away from home for a long time they start losing their self-esteem.

For example when they come back to the communities, I know in Kugluktuk and you also know, when a person is incarcerated it is very difficult for the people and I feel that there should be more correctional centres closer to home within Nunavut. I believe that we could have a better future when we are actually with our own people. We have to make sure that these people are using their culture, they are away from their culture when they have to go elsewhere to be incarcerated.

I feel that when they have to go down south they leave their culture and language behind and there should be healing for these people because they need it. I am seeking support from the minister himself and I am making sure that this is known publicly because it is very important to the people of my riding.

For example, it is not only Kugluktuk, it is all over Nunavut that it is getting very difficult for many people. It changes their lifestyle, this is our own culture and heritage, and it gets very difficult for people who have to be incarcerated outside of Nunavut. I feel that it is very important that we should start having more places where people could be healed. We all know, it is right in front of us, that we are losing good people, people that have knowledge. I feel that there should be a place where people could be taught that there is a brighter future than they have now.

I feel that this is very important to the people of Nunavut. This is a concern within my riding and I feel that we could have a better future if we start having places like that within our own communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyok. If you can understand his question. It is mostly a comment. Mr. Anawak if you could reply.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes we understand his concern. The people that go down south to serve their sentences and back in Nunavut they usually go to Yellowknife to be incarcerated. We have noticed that there are a lot of them that have committed crimes and they have to be sent down south to be incarcerated and their way of living changes drastically when they come back home.

One of the problems is because their relatives cannot go and visit them because it is too expensive to go down south. Just as an example, the people that have spent time in a penitentiary, they can get visits from their relatives. However, Inuit that go down to a Federal Penitentiary are not visited very often by their relatives and they cannot stay for any length of time when they go to visit.

For this reason we are trying to look at ways to get some funding from the Federal Government to see whether we can build a maximum-security facility in Nunavut. I know there is already a correctional centre here in Iqaluit but it is not very big. We feel that if there is no other correctional facility over here it would be better and staff at the Department of Justice have worked with this and I will be meeting with the Solicitor General of Canada in the near future.

I already had a meeting with him this winter and perhaps we can talk to him about this during the meeting that I will have with him in the near future. Yes, to the member's question or comment, Kugluktuk has wanted a correctional facility in their hometown or in the Kitikmeot region. At this time we are looking for some funding from the Federal Government.

The Solicitor General is not with Justice so I am not sure how to put it into Inuktitut. I will be meeting with him in the near future to talk about the concern of the member. Because we have our own territory now I will be asking him if we can get funding to build a facility. The kind of facility we want and the location also has to be reviewed.

I feel for the member's comment and his riding has written us a letter to build a facility in Kugluktuk, but at this time we cannot say what we might be doing. I will meet again with Lawrence Macauley the Solicitor General for Canada and when I get some information as to the money that we might receive, we hope to get some money but we don't know how much it would be and when it would be so I just wanted to make that comment. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Haviyok.

Mr. Haviyok: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Sometime in the near future maybe could we get just a little more accurate timeline. Maybe a month, three months, a year down the road. Just do you have any idea when you say the near future. Just for my information. Koanna.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyok. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The staff is working at getting together a meeting between the Solicitor General's staff and our staff here at Justice in about 10 days. Within 10 days. Shortly after that they will be working at getting a meeting between the Solicitor General and myself. So I would hope that we would have a meeting within the next three weeks with the minister and from there be able to report I hope some kind of progress on looking for some funding for a correctional facility in Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. I do not have any names on my list at this time. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was just falling asleep. Just to elaborate on Mr. Haviyok's comment or question. It seems like these people are sort of left behind and the women are treated a lot better. Some communities have had that concern for the men to be given more fair treatment just like the women inmates in regards to healing.

I would like to ask the minister if they could have more healing sessions for men. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Currently the work that is carried out by the Department of Justice is geared toward corrections and the majority of the inmates are usually male. We are trying to work on that but on top of that you have to realize that many of the inmates, most of them are male. We want to produce some programs that can be better suited to the male population to see if they can have social and life skills training programs and such.

These are some of the programs that we are working toward. I was talking about that yesterday because I said that there would be four positions opening that are going to be dealing with those programs. Even for people who have just gone through the court system, whether they actually spent time as an inmate or not. These four people would be working mostly with the Inuit on the healing matters. The treatment programs are usually in another division completely because if a person is interested in treatment and healing, what we want to do is have it initiated by the community while we are support people.

We would be more than happy to encourage the communities to ask for our support but they are the ones that have to initiate the healing and treatment programs and trying to help their inmates adjust. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. My question was not a full question that was just a part. This concerns inmates when they return to their communities after they have been in corrections. It seems that all they get is welcome back, I think there should be some aftercare because welcoming a person back and not doing anything to help them does not really contribute to correcting one's mistakes or lifestyles.

When a person has been through the court and jail system he seems to be just dropped off as soon as he gets out of jail and I think there should be some proper treatment or healing programs. They should have some counselling provided to them by way of interviewing and things like that because they seem to have no other place to go once they have been through the justice system.

I think there should be some follow up because the women inmates seem to get all the help that they need. However, if you look at this in the future, although I was interested in starting up a program I would probably have to raise some funds for healing programs for our male inmates. I would like to see our community start something like that too. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Yes. Thank you. As I stated yesterday there will be four new positions. One in Iqaluit, one in the north Baffin, Keewatin and Kitikmeot. I will start with that for now. We have these four positions so that they could help the people that are going to go through court and they could also help to work with people that have committed crimes.

Also when they come back from their incarceration these four positions will do the follow up. It is true that the majority of people who have been incarcerated down south finally come back home to something even worse. Sometimes their family members are no longer around, they lose their house and their equipment and their property, and I know that there is no form of assistance given to ex-inmates.

The social workers are responsible to take care of these inmates that are coming home and they have on top of that the responsibility for example, if a guy beats up his wife the social worker has to work with the offender and the victim at the same time. That is where the problem occurs. That's why this winter we will establish four new positions, if we are able to get more funding in the next fiscal year we would like to see more positions open. All of the comments of the members from Tunnuniq and Kugluktuk are very important to us so that is why we are bringing these four positions out. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The four positions since you have already announced where these four positions will be going. Will we have to approve the budget first before the positions are advertised.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): We expect that once the budget is approved that we will have advertisements for the four positions. This is urgent so we will begin as soon as we have the money.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I guess my ten minutes is up. I will leave it at that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister and his officials for appearing before the committee of the whole. Although I do not have many questions but I would like to say that I am a true blue Inuk. As the minister had stated a majority of the people that tend to commit crimes tend to be male, yes I agree with that and it is a fact.

But today some of the men are just scared and fearful of women even when they are couples, some men. It is not the case with all the men, but some of them are fearful of their wives because they know that the wife will get all the support and services. They have all the support and services for the women. In the past that is not how it was, the men were not denigrated by the women, but today it seems to be that way.

I would think that the majority of the people that commit crimes are usually men and I feel that the men are instigated to commit crimes. I hope that sometime in the future when a couple has charged her spouse, I would suggest that we look to the root cause of the problem. If the female charges her husband or her boyfriend and right away after he is charged he has to go through the court right away, rather than trying to find out what the real cause of the problem is and that guy has to go through the court system.

I would like to ask if your department has considered if they have ever thought of doing what I just said.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Some of the people have to go through the court system, some of them are charged for summary convictions if they committed a crime. According to the Inuit way perhaps they could have had an opportunity to resolve their issues before going to the court, and sometimes individuals have to wait a long time to go to court, both the offender and the victim. When they have finally made up, they end up having to go through the courts. In court they start fighting amongst each other again. We are trying a pilot project in Rankin Inlet to resolve their problems before the case being seen in court.

Sometimes the couple had forgiven each other and after they had forgiven each other they still have to pass through the court. This way there would be less conflict. We are sensitive to that and we are now trying to work on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Sometimes the older people are in the court or there are some elders who go into court to resolve something and they are unable to make a decision that the offender has to follow, whether it is a conditional order or something like that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are trying to assist the communities to be able to take on the roles that they would like to take, according to the Inuit culture. We are very grateful to Judge Brown who works in the communities with the elders that could help and assists them in doing justice in the communities. However, we all know that this is just the beginning and we will continue to work on this, on trying to improve by using the Inuit culture in the court system.

We are very grateful for people who have started this in the communities and we are thankful to our staff for being able to implement and use Inuit culture because they recognize the Inuit culture has a lot more to offer when it comes to people who commit crimes. We will continue to work on that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Anawak already mentioned about the Justices of the Peace and the numbers of Justices of the Peace in the communities are growing and they will be taking on some training as well. I was wondering if the plan that you had in place for the JPs has been implemented now.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Starting on April 1 there is only one physical courthouse in Nunavut. Only one location. What we are trying to do in the communities is have the JP and the Nunavut court work together, and the Justice Committees work together as well in the communities with the JP right in the community as long as they are willing to take on those responsibilities.

Right now we have only one court here in Nunavut but when the Nunavut Government began we started doing a review of the Legislation and we are trying to revise that. As an example, last week there was somebody in court and they were told that there was nothing in place in Nunavut because we were following the GNWT way.

At this time we are trying to get the Justice Committees in each community and the JPs to work together. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak do you have any other comments. Thank you. Mr. Haviyok.

Mr. Haviyok: Mr. Chairman do we have a quorum. Anyway, I wanted to ask the minister and his staff. You touched on on-the-land camps and alternative homes. A few years back I was involved in setting up one of those camps in our region. How well do those kinds of camps work. I am just curious because you were talking about that in your opening comments.

I am just curious because I know the one in our area didn't work very well because of the distance. I don't know I just want to know how those camps operate, did it fail, why, those things. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyok. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you. We would like to do as much as we can for the outpost camp program. I guess part of the problem in the past was that there was probably not adequate preparations to start an outpost camp program. So in the outpost camp program, of course some worked better than others. We are in the process of setting one up in Arviat as I speak right now where the camp is about 100 miles up the Goose River.

What we want to do is promote the outpost camp program but in the process make sure that the people who operate those outpost camp programs have the training required, have the necessary knowledge of whatever their responsibilities. Again, I think that if we can get more outpost camp programs or if there are more proposals for outpost camp programs we would look at it because we want to promote that.

We just had a gathering of outpost camp operators and alternative homes to give them more training. So I would just respond by saying that in the past, maybe part of the problem was inadequate training, inadequate funding or inadequate knowledge of what

the responsibilities were. However, we will provide all that if we are going to initiate an outpost camp program. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Just a minute please. I would like to ask the members, I know that I do have general comments to make so I would like to ask if Mr. Nutarak could be the Chairperson for the committee of the whole while I ask my questions.

Chairperson (Mr. Nutarak) (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I will be making my general comments because I think it has been four or five years that I have been a Justice of the Peace and I would like to talk about some of the suggestions or some thoughts that I have had on it.

Since I have been working as a Justice of the Peace, I have seen some of the problems of a Justice of the Peace myself. I know that we are starting to resolve some of the problems that occurred for Justices of the Peace. To me the problem is that the regulations or the policies do not reflect the Inuit way of life. That is where the problem kept occurring. As a Justice of the Peace, you cannot bypass these regulations or policies. According to my experience, these regulations governing the Justice of the Peace should reflect the Inuit way of life.

When you are a Justice of the Peace and you have to deal with a person who has committed a summary crime it becomes very hard especially when you have to follow the rules that you cannot bypass. As Inuit people since I was a child I am sure some of us can remember, that if we did something wrong we would be talked to and disciplined that way so that the problem that occurred would not reoccur.

So we used to be disciplined orally if we did something wrong. That way the discipline used to work a lot. As a Justice of the Peace you cannot do that. So that is where I have seen the problem.

Secondly, I understood the fact that when you live in a community everyone knows each other, especially when you are a Justice of the Peace. When you are from the same community you tend to be related to each and every one in the community and I find it pretty hard having to try someone who is your relative. As a Justice of the Peace, I used to think that the JP locally should go to another person in a different community rather than trying a relative in the home community. I know that it would cost money but that is one of the solutions that I have thought of, going to a different community to try an individual who has been charged.

I know that this has created a personal problem for me when you have to try your own relative in the court. This breaks the family unity when that happens. So I have seen that problem as a Justice of the Peace. I apologize for coughing and I forgot my glass of water up there.

I also would like to stress that the elders take part in the court system and when they help the judge out when the judge is trying an individual, these elders who are sitting up there with the Judge they don't even receive an honoraria. They are not paid a penny and they have to get away although they have work at home and they are not even paid a penny.

I have seen that myself personally, these elders really do not know the means how to make money so this has to be considered and this needs to be resolved and if the Justices of the Peace could be allowed to verbally reprimand the individual. I know that I have encountered this problem and this needs to be resolved.

I just wanted to point this out under my general comment. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Please say thank you Mr. Chairman after you do your comments. Anyone else. If there are no more comments would Mr. Iqaqrialu come back to the Chair. Thank you.

Chairperson (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Any more general comments or questions on the Department of Justice. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I think we are going to have a problem as we don't have enough time to do the Department of Justice and some members have to go to graduation and some of them need to leave town and I would like to report progress. At about two o'clock we will be going to the TEP graduation and awards. I think I would like to report progress. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. There is a motion to report progress. We are going to have to have a quorum in order to vote. Do we have a quorum. Mr. Nutarak made a motion to report progress and we will get back to the Department of Justice. All in favour. Against. We will not ask the Speaker to come back to the Chamber.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I would like to thank the minister and his officials that just appeared before the committee of the whole. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 13 and tabled documents 41 – 1(3), 61 – 1(3), 85 – 1(3) and 87 – 1(3) and would like to report progress. And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder. Mr. Alakannuark. All in favour. Opposed. Carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Orders of the Day for Tuesday April 25th

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
 - Motion 22 – 1(3)
 - Motion 23 – 1(3)
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 13
 - Tabled Document 41 - 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 61 – 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 85 - 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 87 – 1(3)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday April 25, at 1.30 in the afternoon. Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 1.35 p.m.*

