



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

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**Thursday, November 1, 2007**

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**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Peter Kilabuk, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**James Arvaluk**

(Tunnunuiq)

**Levi Barnabas**

(Quttiktuq)

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**Hon. Patterk Netser**

(Nanulik)

*Minister of Environment; Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board*

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**

(Amittuq)

*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Human Resources*

**Hon. Levinia Brown**

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Community and Government Services*

**Hon. Paul Okalik**

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## Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	2187
Ministers' Statements .....	2187
Members' Statements .....	2191
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	2195
Oral Questions .....	2196
Tabled Documents.....	2216
Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills .....	2217
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters .....	2218
Report of the Committee of the Whole .....	2254
Orders of the Day .....	2254

**A.**

**Daily References**

Thursday, November 1, 2007 ..... 2187

**B.**

**Ministers' Statements**

104 – 2(4): Recognition of the Contribution of Judith Varney Burch to Baker Lake & Nunavut  
(Simailak)..... 2187

105 – 2(4): Development of a Caribou Management Strategy (Netser)..... 2188

106 – 2(4): Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program (Akesuk)..... 2189

107 – 2(4): Language Legislation (Tapardjuk)..... 2190

**C.**

**Members' Statements**

227 – 2(4): George Metuq's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Aglukkaq)..... 2191

228 – 2(4): Dangerous Activity in Clyde River (Arreak)..... 2191

229 – 2(4): Recognition of Inuit Special Constables (Peterson) ..... 2192

230 – 2(4): Embrace Life Council Fundraising Supper (Picco) ..... 2193

231 – 2(4): "Staking the Claim" Film – Recognition of Late Sam Raddi (Curley) ..... 2193

232 – 2(4): Recognition of Panipakoochoo and Kyak (Arvaluk)..... 2194

233 – 2(4): Recognition of Seporah Kalluk Aronson of Resolute Bay (Barnabas)..... 2195

**D.**

**Oral Questions**

295 – 2(4): Appointments to the Liquor Licensing Board (Tootoo) ..... 2196

296 – 2(4): Dust Control of Community Roads (Peterson)..... 2197

297 – 2(4): Hudson Bay Summit (Kattuk) ..... 2200

298 – 2(4): Correspondence on the Need for a Mental Health Worker for Kugaaruk (Mapsalak)	2201
299 – 2(4): Medical Travel Policy (Arvaluk)	2203
300 – 2(4): Involve Inuit in Wildlife Management (Barnabas)	2206
301 – 2(4): Follow Guidelines in Regional Trials (Curley)	2208
302 – 2(4): Medical Travel Office Return to Iqaluit (Arreak)	2210
303 – 2(4): Satellite Cultural School Selection Process (Peterson)	2211
304 – 2(4): Guidelines on Homeowners Energy Rebate Program (Tootoo)	2214

**E.**

**Tabling of Documents**

136 – 2(4): Inuktitut Magazine Article -- “Inuktitut asks Sam Raddi about Inuvialuit in the Western Arctic” – March 1983 (Curley)	2216
137 – 2(4): Environment Assessment of the Eastmain 1-A & Rupert Diversion Project: Panel Report, November 30, 2006 (Kattuk)	2216
138 – 2(4): Dangerous Activities in Clyde River – Clyde River (Arreak)	2217

**F.**

**Bills**

Bill 14 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.2, 2007-2008 – Notice	2217
Bill 15 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No.2, 2007-2008 – Notice	2217
Bill 17 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2006-2007 – Notice	2217
Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee – Justice ....	2218

Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee – Economic

Development and Transportation..... 2225

**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Thursday, November 1, 2007**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Honourable Patterk Netser, Honourable Paul Okalik, Mr. Keith Peterson, Honourable Edward Picco, Honourable David Simailak, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Peter Kilabuk) (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask Mr. Simailak to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, and Members. At least the Halloween trick-or-treaters had fun yesterday. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Simailak.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 104 – 2(4): Recognition of the Contribution of Judith Varney Burch to Baker Lake & Nunavut**

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Judith Varney Burch.

For 25 years now, Ms. Burch has dedicated her time and personal resources to promote Inuit art and culture throughout the world.

With her "Power of Thought" exhibition she has helped raise the international profile of the art of the late Jessie Oonark, and of other Nunavut artists and printmakers.

Recently, Ms. Burch accompanied a special collection of tapestries from Baker Lake on an international exhibition, on which she also served as a lecturer. The exhibition materials have been translated into five languages. It has travelled to many major world centres, including Washington, DC, Mexico City, Tokyo, Moscow, and Beijing.

Judith Varney Burch's relationship with Nunavut and with my home community, Baker Lake, goes far beyond the art itself. She has always made sure that the artists are involved in the success of their works. She has repeatedly invited artists to come and exhibit in the United States where she makes her home during the winter months, and many artists have been invited along with their tapestries to the exhibitions to tell their stories in their own

words. When she isn't travelling or wintering in the U.S., she opens her gallery and home outside of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia to those same artists.

Judith Varney Burch's commitment and hard work has allowed many thousands of people around the world to share in the beauty and rich cultural meaning of Inuit art, and to meet and learn from Nunavut's artists.

She has helped to establish the world-class reputation of Inuit art, and strengthened international understanding of Inuit culture, accepting every opportunity to link the art and the culture.

I ask that this House join me in recognizing her important contribution to the promotion of Nunavut and as a champion of Inuit art and culture. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

#### **Minister's Statement 105 – 2(4): Development of a Caribou Management Strategy**

**Hon. Patterk Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department has recently started to develop a comprehensive Caribou Management Strategy for Nunavut. Caribou are of critical importance to Nunavummiut, as a food source, a part of our economy, and an important part of our culture. They are also an essential part of our ecosystems.

This strategy will address three critical goals. It will work to conserve caribou populations for future generations, provide the minimum necessary interference with the many Nunavummiut that rely on caribou, while not unduly inference with the development of Nunavut's economy.

Mr. Speaker, with increased mineral exploration and development activities we are witnessing the potential for increased impacts on our caribou. The strategy will provide the information needed to ensure that all parties involved in these activities have the information needed to make sound decisions that protect our caribou.

This will be a made-in-Nunavut strategy that will compliment caribou monitoring and management strategies already developed by our neighbouring jurisdictions and the federal government. However, it will also be respectful of our co-management process and be practical in terms of conservation and cost.

Mr. Speaker, we are engaging the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the NTI in the development of the Caribou Management Strategy since their advice will be crucial.



A first draft of the strategy is currently under development and will be reviewed at the upcoming caribou workshop which will be held in Iqaluit in mid-November. Input will also be sought from the relevant parties throughout the drafting process.

Mr. Speaker, the draft strategy will be taken forward for community consultation through a series of regional meetings that will involve all stakeholders. My department will work closely with all relevant GN departments to ensure that implications of mineral developments on caribou are accommodated within the strategy.

I anticipate that a Caribou Management Strategy for Nunavut should be completed approximately a year from now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

#### **Minister's Statement 106 – 2(4): Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome back. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the exciting new measure taken by the Nunavut Housing Corporation to encourage energy efficiency on the part of homeowners in the territory.

The corporation introduced the Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program, which was launched this fall. Homeowners will benefit from the rebate itself and will benefit from savings achieved from increased energy efficiency and related lower heating costs in their homes.

Mr. Speaker, this rebate can be for as much as \$1,000 in non-repayable assistance to approved homeowners and can be used by homeowners to pay for home energy audits, materials, and to cover labour and shipping costs into the territory when making their homes more energy efficient.

Those eligible costs include caulking and other sealants such as insulating spray foam, weather stripping around doors and windows and the installation of energy-efficient light bulbs and major appliances.

Mr. Speaker, the objectives of the Homeowner Energy Efficiency Rebate Program are to improve energy efficiency and comfort levels of Nunavut homes, and to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in Nunavut.

The rebate is one-time only and client expenditures must be made between September 1, 2007 and March 31, 2010. Projects undertaken after September 1, 2007 may be eligible for the rebate, Mr. Speaker.

The importance of energy efficiency on the environment has been of great concern to many Nunavummiut. And the Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program is indicative of the importance the Government of Nunavut and the Housing Corporation has placed on the environmental stewardship of our pristine arctic home.

Applications for this program are available from the Nunavut Housing Corporation district offices or on the Nunavut Housing web site at [www.nunavuthousing.ca](http://www.nunavuthousing.ca). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

### **Minister's Statement 107 – 2(4): Language Legislation**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. First of all, I would like to thank the members of the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* for conducting hearings on Bill 6, *Official Languages Act*, and Bill 7, *Inuit Language Protection Act*, with Nunavut stakeholders on October 18 and 19, 2007.

From the perspective of the Nunavut Government, the work on the language legislative project actively began in 2000, with the consultations held by the Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly, and followed by a wide variety of policy research and evaluation efforts, and by the additional consultations led by Iliqusilirijikkut from 2004 to the present.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to working with *Ajauqtiit* to ensure that Nunavut has the best legislative tools, so that the government and stakeholders will have very broad authority and scope of action that they need to promote all official languages and protect and advance the Inuit language in Nunavut.

This is an important moment in the history of our territory. This legislation will confirm to all Canadians that Nunavut, while being an inclusive society, is where the Inuit language is the spoken and preferred language of a majority of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, our elders have long waited for this sort of recognition. I believe through collaborative work with the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* and other stakeholders this will lead to a made-in-Nunavut language legislation that will cause great pride and celebrations amongst us all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Item 3: Members' Statements****Member's Statement 227 – 2(4): George Metuq's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. You don't hear him. You don't see him. He sits above us all. I said he sits above us all and keeps us all sane. He's the backbone of our organization in this House when it comes to our IT systems, whether it is the translations or the television and whatnot.

Anyway, I would like to wish George Metuq, who sits up here, a 40th birthday today. So happy birthday, George, and I hope we don't keep you here too long today so that you can go home and celebrate your 40th. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. (interpretation ends) A big happy birthday to George Metuq.

(interpretation) Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Uqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

**Member's Statement 228 – 2(4): Dangerous Activity in Clyde River**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about... (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to a dangerous activity that is risking the safety of our children.

Mr. Speaker, later today I shall be tabling pictures of children who are sledding down the slope leading from the door of the Clyde River Health Centre and onto the main road.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that our community health workers are far too busy with their work to be going out of their building and policing the activities outside their doors. However, something must be done to address the situation.

Mr. Speaker, as the owner of any building will be aware, there are serious liability issues should an accident occur on their property. I fear that an accident could easily happen and steps should be taken to prevent it. I also should mention, Mr. Speaker, that there have been near misses in that area.

I urge the Minister of Health and Social Services to work with the Minister of Community and Government Services to assess the situation of the slope immediately outside the health centre doors and leading to the road. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

**Member's Statement 229 – 2(4): Recognition of Inuit Special Constables**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to update the House on an important issue that I spoke earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, last March I informed the House about the recognition of Inuit Special Constables in Cambridge Bay. At that time, the community had identified four individuals from Cambridge Bay whom we believed had served as Special Constables for the RCMP.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that the RCMP 'V' Division here in Iqaluit, working with the RCMP archives in Ottawa, have successfully confirmed that two of the individuals were, indeed, Special Constables.

Mr. Speaker, the RCMP have ordered special commemorative headstones for their gravesites. Next summer, there will be special gravesite ceremonies for these constables who served their country and communities. Their families are very proud that these two Special Constables are finally being honoured.

Mr. Speaker, we have not given up on the other two individuals. Their families firmly believe that they served with the RCMP – we are turning over every rock looking for clues that will help us identify their service records.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite possible that they worked for the RCMP in the capacity as guides and provided invaluable services to the RCMP. They could have been paid out of detachment contingency funds instead of being on the regular RCMP payroll. We are investigating this possibility.

Mr. Speaker, regardless, if they worked for the RCMP as a guide they were still serving their country and their communities during some very difficult times. As such, they are still worthy of some recognition even if they do not fall into a special category.

Mr. Speaker, if it turns out that the two individuals were guides I will be recommending to the RCMP that they recognize them "as friends of the Force" complete with the RCMP insignia. I will keep you and all members posted.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the House to join me in saluting the service of these individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. (interpretation ends) Member for Iqaluit East, Minister Ed. Picco.

**Member's Statement 230 – 2(4): Embrace Life Council Fundraising Supper**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. On Saturday, November 3, here in Iqaluit, the Embrace Life Council will hold their second AGM. Later that same evening, the Embrace Life Council will also host a fundraising banquet at the Frobisher Inn. Mr. Speaker, the tickets cost only \$60 and all proceeds go toward the Embrace Life Council and its activities.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of suicide has been raised many times in this House. The work of the Embrace Life Council cannot be overstated. Their proactive and positive messaging is well welcomed in our communities throughout Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members to attend the fundraising supper at 6 p.m. at the Frobisher this Saturday. Tickets are available from members of the Embrace Life Council, as well as I understand, there are a limited number available at the door. See you there, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Member's Statement 231 – 2(4): "Staking the Claim" Film – Recognition of Late Sam Raddi**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I rise today to recognize the film makers for filming "Staking the Claim" along with people from Ottawa. They were working for Sivuniksavut.

David Joanasi and Tommy Akulukjuk worked really hard interviewing people, and I read in *Nunatsiaq News* on October 26 that in the first paragraph it states that the young Inuit with sideburns and there's a picture with glasses.

So, Mr. Speaker, we are proud of the Inuit who have helped us in Nunavut. It states that the person in glasses cannot be here, Sam Raddi. Sam Raddi was President of COPE. He just didn't wear glasses, Mr. Raddi, who has passed on, but was he was the Chairman of COPE. He wore sunglasses because he was 95 percent blind. So that's why I rise today.

In *Inuktitut Today* it states how he lived, where he was a family man and a very good hunter. He helped us a lot with land claims because he was in ITC, and he was a good friend.

The other picture I'll ask the Government Leader and maybe inform the Assembly. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Tunnunig, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Member's Statement 232 – 2(4): Recognition of Panipakoochoo and Kyak**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the Panipakoochoo and Kyak families. When they had dog teams they helped the St. Roch Ship and their Captain Henry Larson. They went through the Lancaster Sound to go to Alaska from Pond Inlet. They originated from down south, but we can see different stories now, and the stories we hear, they only seem to praise Henry Larson's capabilities and they don't even mention Panipakoochoo and Kyak and their family.

I have been searching to read on this. It was the Inuit who were guides that made it all possible. From what I've heard, because I know the story where they had to keep them alive, especially Henry Larson's crew, where they had to keep them warm and feed them.

They went through a very difficult time. It states how difficult it was for Henry Larson and how challenging it was because it was very cold. Because it's the Inuit way of life, they were able to help them survive. I believe the Department of Defence probably uses snafu if it's okay.

We look for stories that recognize the Inuit. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

There's very, very little information from the public archives of a recorded version part of Inuit participation in this successful Northwest Passage. I think it would be in the onuses of the CLEY and the federal government to do more research on the participation on making successful, the Kyak and the Panipakoochoo family to make this a success.

It's not too late. The records have been corrected now. For example, the land claims agreement is a correction of the history, the federal government's acceptance and apology to the residential school victims is a correction. I think those kinds of corrections make the federal government's activities in the arctic helped by the Inuit like Panipakoochoo and Kyak, would be part of the correction.

I would urge CLEY to do some research and express to the federal government the editions that is needed in public archives.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Panipakoochoo and Kyak family, Nunavummiut, and all of Canada, I would like to thank and congratulate Kyak and the Panipakoochoo family to make this great contribution in making the Northwest Passage a success for the first time for the *Qallunaat* Northwest Passage. Thank you very much.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 233 – 2(4): Recognition of Seporah Kalluk Aronson of Resolute Bay**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues. I rise today, Mr. Speaker, also to recognize my constituency in Resolute Bay. Seporah Kalluk Aronson was awarded for excellent entrepreneurship.

They had an outfitting service called Uuttuq & Meetuq Outfitting. But even after her husband passed away, she was able to continue on. Seporah sits on the hamlet council, and brings up concerns and issues to me. She is very open and I have learned a lot from her. I am very proud of her. Even though she doesn't have a husband anymore, she is very strong and is able to keep the business going. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Item 3. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

**Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not too often I get up to recognize people in the Gallery.

I would like to recognize people from Clyde River. The closest is Levi Pallituq, who works as a guide and is a sergeant of the rangers. At this time, rangers are involved, they're usually involved now with searches, with very difficult tasks for the whole community.

Next to him is Jayko Enuaraq and following next to him is Jimmy Tasugat. They are from my community and I want them to be welcomed to the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a great pleasure to introduce to the House, no stranger to many of the members here, she is a community activist who works tirelessly here for the community here in Iqaluit and works with the Embrace Life Council, and she may have tickets for the members, she is sitting right over there behind Mr. Curley, Ms. Annie Quirke, the wife of our wonderful Clerk, Mr. John Quirke. Welcome to the Gallery Ms. Quirke. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Centre for Iqaluit, Mr. Tootoo.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 295 – 2(4): Appointments to the Liquor Licensing Board

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the new Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board, the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, eight individuals from a variety of communities were appointed to this important board in October 2005. However, their appointments expired within the last couple of weeks and it appears from the *Gazette* that only two new appointments have been made.

Can the minister indicate to the House today who's on the Liquor Licensing Board?  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Justice, Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm the minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board and they are continuing on. I received applications for appointments to that board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate if there are more than two individuals that were listed in the *Gazette* that are on the board as of today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have two that are appointed and they haven't met yet as of today. It will be made obvious when they are



going to be appointed and we are just preparing for their next meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the minister indicated that there are just two people on the board. There were eight people on there before. Can the board function with just two people appointed on it because, as of October, there were only two people on there. So can the board function with just two people in it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Justice, Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we need to work on it. October just ended and they didn't have any agenda items to meet about yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They haven't met yet.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just wondering if it's an eight-person board and there are only two people on it. Is that a functioning board? I guess my question to the minister is; it's probably good that they haven't met. They don't have a quorum.

>>*Laughter*

Can the minister indicate when he plans on filling the vacant positions on the board, so that there can be a functioning board? It's a good thing that they haven't had anything to review yet because there really isn't a functioning board there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As I said, I have solicited requests for names. I appreciate all the members that have put forward names and the members of the public. I want to give everybody an opportunity, a time to nominate. That has been done.

Right now, we're just reviewing all the names and coming out with a list that we will present to Cabinet in the very near future. So I look forward to making that announcement in the coming days. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

**Question 296 – 2(4): Dust Control of Community Roads**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, dust from the roads and runways in most Nunavut hamlets is a serious issue every summer. Dust is thrown up into the air with our four wheelers and trucks. For three or four months every summer it's difficult to breathe for many residents and it's dangerous. In Cambridge Bay, for example, along to airport road it is dangerous to walk or drive due to the billowing clouds of dust.

Mr. Speaker, my question for the minister: could the minister tell the House what specific program her department has to provide funding to hamlets to control dust in their communities each year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good question. I know that's happening throughout Nunavut and the increase in vehicles coming into the communities.

Although CGS funds the hamlet councils, I'm not sure what the situation is. I will be able to talk to him later on as to how the funding is dispersed to the hamlet councils and use them for repairs of the roads and for the roads that have too much dust blowing around in summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. I was actually reading a story on the weekend from last summer, "Rankin Inlet Hits the Dust." It reminded me to ask the minister about that, even though it's winter time, summer comes quickly up in the North.

Mr. Speaker, studies have shown that health problems are associated with dust. It includes aggravates existing heart and lung diseases, damage lung tissue, in fact, impacts mostly children, elders, and people with asthma, and people with heart conditions.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell the House if her department conducts community dust monitoring studies to ensure that dust conditions are within acceptable health levels for residents, and if not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take his comments to heart. There are also particles that are coming down in the air. We are aware of these situations.

The question he raised in this House this afternoon, I don't know if I am responsible for it and maybe another department deals with that. I will be getting back to my staff and officials to find out more about the situation and I will return to him with answers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister. I hope she is able to clarify that. Hamlets fall under the jurisdiction of Community Government and Services; fixing the roads; so I thought maybe monitoring the dust conditions would be in that category as well.

Mr. Speaker, there are five or six dust control methods that are available. These include water, chemical additives, speed limits, rerouting the traffic, and paving. Each method had advantages and disadvantages. Water, for example, needs frequent application; the opposite of that, too much water, makes the road muddy.

My question for the minister: can the minister tell the House if her department is working with hamlets to identify appropriate dust control methods that will provide long lasting relief from dust in communities during the three or four months of summer that we have dust? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Community and Government Services, Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Peterson, for your questions. I'm aware of the situation and I've been involved with the hamlet councils in the past. What we used to do was spray the water along the roads and up to now, I think they still use that process.

I'm aware of other products that are used to stop the dust flowing around in the communities, such as oil in the water. Although it takes longer to spread it on the roads, it is better than using water because the water evaporates. I'm aware of that situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information. Mr. Speaker, the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay was using water this summer. They would water the roads three to four times a day but it doesn't do the job. The dust was kicking up within hours of dousing water. As well, we were using water trucks. The water trucks are needed for refilling the houses and the hospital in Cambridge Bay, so I don't think that's a viable solution.

My question for the minister, Mr. Speaker: will the minister commit that her department will immediately consult the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and hamlets to develop a Dust Control Policy that will come into effect on or before June 2008 to address the large dust control issues in our hamlets? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can talk with them and the hamlet councils in the communities. I know they meet in the communities, so we can start the discussions to do their repairs for the roads.

Regarding what Mr. Peterson said to me about the road concerns and the dust flowing around in the community, I will bring that to the hamlet council in Cambridge Bay and we'll be talking about it in their next council meeting. I think you can bring this to your community to the hamlet council so they can deal with it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

#### **Question 297 – 2(4): Hudson Bay Summit**

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, later today, I will be tabling the Federal Review Panel Report on the Environmental Assessment of the Eastmain 1-A and Rupert Diversion Project.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the GN is providing \$100,000 towards the hosting of a Hudson Bay Summit in 2009. This conference will be held in Sanikiluaq. Can the minister update me today on the preparations for this conference? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through the Northern Strategy funding, we will be supporting that summit that will be held in 2009.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad they are preparing for that.

My supplementary will be: as the minister knows, my constituents and I are very concerned about this project as it will have a serious impact on the Hudson Bay ecosystem. This could change our diet and our environment significantly. Can the

minister indicate to me how his department is monitoring this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We are working with the NTK group to ensure that the member's community concerns are addressed for the hydro development project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell me if he has had the opportunity to personally discuss this issue with his federal counterpart or his Quebec counterpart? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So far I have not but we are monitoring the issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He said he has not. Will he be willing to do that in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm willing to sit down with any of my counterparts to address the issues of the member's concerns over Sanikiluaq. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Question 298 – 2(4): Correspondence on the Need for a Mental Health Worker for Kugaaruk**

**Mr. Mapsalak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, last week I raised the issue of the lack of mental health workers and social workers in my constituency. I received a copy of letters sent by the municipality to the Minister of Health and Social Services on this issue.

Can the minister confirm whether or not she has received correspondence on this issue dated August 20, 2007 from the Mayor of Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I received correspondence from the Mayor of Kugaaruk some time over this summer. Whether it's that same letter or not, I need to confirm that. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister provide an update as to what steps have been taken to address the concerns raised in the correspondence from the Hamlet of Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If it's that same letter that I received from the Mayor of Kugaaruk related to the vacancies in Kugaaruk, related to health, from what I understand, the jobs are posted.

It takes about on average 60 days to complete a competition. So whether there's an offer that has been made or not, I'm not aware, but I do know I have seen the ad out for the vacant positions in the community. I would have to get that information from my staff to see if those competitions have been finalized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the answer. I believe in that letter, it stated that they wanted mental health workers that can work with their traditions, cultures and so on. They wanted to see someone that they can work with. Has the minister put that into consideration? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All positions of the Public Service are filled through a competition process, as we have a central HR process that we follow. Every vacant position is put out for advertisement and its through the public process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last March the minister indicated that her department was looking at recruiting a director of mental health. Can the minister update this House on the progress of that recruitment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've had to run that competition two or three times already because we were not able to find applicants for that file. We've since advertised in the south for that particular position, and to date, as far as I'm aware, the competition is not yet complete. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tunnunig, Mr. Arvaluk.

#### **Question 299 – 2(4): Medical Travel Policy**

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, last spring I brought forward a motion to relocate the medical travel service back to Iqaluit from Pangnirtung. When she spoke to the motion on March 29, the minister assured this House that her department was trying to improve services delivered by the medical travel office in Pangnirtung.

Can the minister inform this House, what specific steps have been taken to improve medical services in the Baffin since last March? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had spoken to that very question many times in this House in terms of what we're doing to try and improve the system in providing travel services to our clients.

Again, I'll explain them. We've hired more staff for the Pangnirtung office, we have hours that go beyond five o'clock, we have established 1-800 numbers for people to call, and we have met with the airlines to streamline the process of processing plane tickets at the airport. We have also created a client services coordinator position. We have produced a new Client Travel Policy, which I will be tabling in this House, and flyers and information for every region, which I'll also be tabling in this House. So there are a number of steps that have been taken to improve services.

At the same time, we have trained our staff to provide better service to people in the Baffin and throughout the North. The staff has also been keeping track and logging complaints and mistakes by the office in Pangnirtung.

So at the same time, when a person is discharged from the hospital, the paperwork goes directly to the travel office in Pangnirtung. The client does not have to process that on their own any longer. We do all that for them and the information is shared to the members that are travelling when their tickets are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's clear from questions brought forward by my colleague yesterday those problems with medical travel arrangements still persist.

I, too, continue to hear complaints from elders and others about medical travel issues. These are not just individual case-by-case problems. There is a systemic problem with the way this whole service is being delivered. Will the minister reconsider relocating the medical travel office from Pangnirtung back to Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The questions yesterday related to weather and the booking of a person travel as a result of weather. Going through the questions I got yesterday, that's what the questions were. When the weather is out, we re-book on the next available flight.

I have also since called my office to check to see if there was an elder stuck here for three weeks, as the member had stated yesterday. We're not able to find that information through our office. So it is on a case-by-case basis because most times travel plans go according to plan and when there are issues and problems, we need to follow those up to improve the system.

So if there are concerns from individuals, please let me know and I will follow up to see what happened, and at which time I can pinpoint exactly what happened to that individual's travel.

It's difficult to correct something when we don't know what the problem was as it relates to scheduling travel for someone. It could be mechanical, it could be weather; it could be a number of things. So it's difficult to answer a question that is so broad in nature when it comes to this type of issue when there's a number of players involved and a lot of situations that can happen.



So, again, I asked the member to provide me the name of the individuals and I will gladly follow up and provide an adequate response to the individuals on a case-by-case basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. I wanted to assist in clarifying the motion that was defeated in this House and could only be reconsidered by the House in a new Assembly. So please, take that into account when posing those questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies. I mentioned it, I didn't say it was defeated or carried as mentioned. It is that the member continues to insist that it's individual case-by-case, yet there are repeated problems with that. She also indicated that if there's a complaint, the follow up will take place. I'm sorry. The passenger already missed the plane. There cannot be a follow up. It's already done.

Members of this House have asked them a number of times for improvements to the Medical Travel Policy to be made public through some sort of information campaign.

Can the minister update this House on what specific efforts have been made to ensure that Nunavummiut are made aware of these policies for medical travel?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the Baffin alone, we process over 14,000 tickets. We don't have problems with 14,000 tickets. We have some problems that we encounter because of various reasons, and that's why I ask who the individuals are, what plane did they miss on what day, and so on.

It's difficult to answer a question that is so broad in nature that we cannot follow up to correct because it's so broad in nature. There are 14,000 tickets, 14,000 people and we do try and provide an adequate service but it's difficult, again, to respond to questions like that that are hypothetical in nature until we get the name of the person. So we will try and address them as they go along and we will do that.

The other question is: what have we done? We have improved the policy, which I will be tabling in this House, and that policy addresses the concerns that you have raised in this House. It will outline the concerns and I have moved forward in addressing some of your concerns in the policy which I will be releasing during this time. It will also provide information to travelling patients, a booklet on contact numbers when they have questions related to the boarding home, or airlines, or our office, and that outlines all the options they have to address their concerns.

So there are a number of steps taken and I will be tabling that in the House for the members' information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I should have raised a Point of Order but I'm too polite.

All of these problems are hypothetical. In fact, one person used his own personal Visa to go home. I cannot use peoples' names because we're in the House. We've been trying to tell you that for a long time now.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, following the Cabinet Retreat in Kugluktuk in September, the Cabinet directed their staff to submit a review of the Medical Client Travel Policy. Can the minister inform this House when the Medical Client Travel Policy will be made available for members to review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If a medical client paid for their own ticket, then we would have to reimburse that person. Again, I would encourage the member to advise his constituent to put forth an invoice to us so we can reimburse the person who paid for his own ticket and find out why that happened.

Again, he can name the person with me privately. He doesn't have to name the person in the House. He can speak to me after session and I will gladly follow up, which I do on many occasions when concerns are raised by Members of this House.

The Client Travel Policy is complete and it's just in the process of being translated and printed. As soon as that's done, I will be releasing it in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

### **Question 300 – 2(4): Involve Inuit in Wildlife Management**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

As he stated in his Minister's Statement, they are developing a Caribou Management Strategy. Mr. Speaker, the NWMB will be engaging with NTI to develop the Caribou Management Strategy.

My question is... well, just to state that in all the communities there are elders' societies in our constituencies and they are the ones that know the wildlife most. So will these elders' societies be involved in the development of this strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the *Wildlife Act* was established, the Department of Environment was asked to establish an elders' advisory group.

We're now working on that and not too long from now, they'll be establishing an elders' advisory group and we will get their benefit from them. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Netser. Your first supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to the *Wildlife Act* being enacted, they did consultations only through the headquarters in each region. The smaller communities were not consulted, or visited when they were dealing with the *Wildlife Act*. So what is going to occur with this Caribou Management Strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Environment, Mr. Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we start dealing with wildlife, we involve all the HTO chairpeople and they will be involved because we work with the HTOs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to state that I'm not against non-natives and Nunavummiut but what is going to happen with the non-natives because they are allowed to harvest five caribou and they can give that right to anyone. I think there are approximately over 4,000 caribou that they can harvest. So what is going to happen to that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Environment, Mr. Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to the right to harvest caribou, it's not going to change for those people who hold general hunting licenses but we are going to establish an MOU during the time when we make the

Caribou Management Strategy and we'll be able to deal with that at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Question 301 – 2(4): Follow Guidelines in Regional Trials**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to me asking the question to the Minister responsible for Sports North, just recently they have been planning to have soccer team regional tryouts.

There are many young people who are 14 and under who have been competing in the Keewatin and they just completed their competition last week. There are quite a few valuable players coming from the communities like Lisa Tatty, Julie Paniuq, and Charlotte Karetak.

I would like to ask the minister, during the regional tryouts, because they are planning for a territorial competition in November, do they follow the Sports North guidelines at that time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the member can clarify what kind of guidelines he is talking about for Sports North. Perhaps, if he can clarify his question because I did not quite understand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley, could you rephrase your question please? Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My first question: do they follow the Sport North guidelines when they have regional tryouts? Because they are planning for the Arctic Winter Games; regional tryouts means that the ones that are most capable will go out to territorial tryouts; does Sports North follow the guidelines for 14 and under? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, and Minister responsible for Sport Nunavut, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, for example, according to their age, when they go to tryouts this winter for the Arctic Winter Games in Yellowknife, right now, there are tryouts and we do have a guideline, but if they're underage, they need to have coaches when they go out for tryouts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, very much, minister, for explaining that to me.

First of all, my second question, I believe that we politicians should not be interfering with the recreation and sports, but I believe that young people and parents should be recognized. I'm very proud of young athletes and their parents.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the minister that they follow their guidelines and they need permission from the parents if these athletes are 14 and under. However, the most valuable players were told that their parents were not even informed that they had been taken out from the regional trials list even before the November tryouts started. Could the minister find out why they have been taken out? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Sport Nunavut, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for that question. I have not heard about this situation but I can look into that and I will inform my colleague once I get the results. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also forgot to thank the coach for the regional tryouts. His team worked very hard and had been in Baker Lake, and now, they did a regional tryout in Rankin Inlet to prepare for November.

Kaitlin Kusugak did not sleep for three days because the first three volleyball players have been taken out by the Sports North. So, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the minister has to look into it to make sure the guideline has not been contravened. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Sport Nunavut, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will look into that definitely. They must have had a reason, so I will look into the reasoning why this occurred and I will inform the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The young people work very hard in their community and they represent their regions. They try to represent their

communities to the best of their abilities but one thing that we want to find out that the young people, 14 and under, that this guideline should not be broken. Even though they're 12 years old, they're capable.

These athletes were told that they're underage but according to the guidelines, Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell the minister that we would like to know if they had followed the guideline. The parents of the athletes would like to find out, too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for Sport Nunavut, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the policy for regional tryouts, I don't have the guidelines right now, but I will look into his question and I will also inform my colleagues in the House in regard to this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

#### **Question 302 – 2(4): Medical Travel Office Return to Iqaluit**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Although my question is similar to the one that was asked yesterday and today, I come from Baffin Island and I believe this problem would not occur if this was set up properly, there would be fewer complaints coming from my constituency.

In my community Clyde River, during our meeting, going through the local radio stations, there are always complaints about transportation issues. Although the minister has stated that this is being resolved, the problem still occurs in my riding. There are so many patients sent out, yesterday she mentioned that 15,000 tickets were issued and today there were only 14,000 that were issued.

As long as this situation is not resolved, we will keep speaking to this issue. Will the transportation office be moved to Iqaluit and perhaps, replace that responsibility with another thing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I said earlier, again, it's important to know who the clients are and I'll explain why. We have two travel offices. We have a travel office here in Iqaluit and we also deal with Ottawa.

So depending on where that person is, we don't know if it's Pang, we don't know if it's Iqaluit or Ottawa, we need to know on a case-by-case basis who these individuals are. I can't say the problem is Pangnirtung without knowing the individual's name because travel is also processed out of here; travel is also processed out of Ottawa as well as Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. At this time I can't give her a name. So I would like to ask the minister: can the minister give me a name as to why they can't go back the same way so I can make a motion to remove that person? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. I would just like to remind the members that we are not supposed to ask for individuals' names. It's up to the minister if she wants to respond to that question. Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's very difficult, like I said, to respond to questions related to a travel case when we don't know who the person is. It's like asking someone upstairs on the third floor and say, "There are lots of problems with organizing travel for MLAs," and then what?

We process a lot of files in the North for travel. So there are different circumstances that every single time that we have to follow up on. If there are ways to improve it, we can. We have done a lot to try to improve the service, which I'm going to be tabling a report in the House on the Client Travel Policy.

We appointed Andrew Tagak Sr. to take calls from clients and to also address issues related to the boarding home to travel, he's there. We've set up 1-800 numbers in Pangniqtuuq. We've set up two offices. We need to follow up on a case-by-case basis what the issues are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

### **Question 303 – 2(4): Satellite Cultural School Selection Process**

**Mr. Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

Mr. Speaker, the cultural school was approved for Clyde River and then the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth selected Igloolik and Baker Lake as locations for satellite cultural schools. There were no satellite schools selected for the Kitikmeot. Delegates at the Kitikmeot Inuit Association Annual General Meeting expressed their concern about CLEY's decision and planning in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister clearly describe to the House the process that CLEY used to select satellite school locations in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way I understand his question is that it's about the folk cultural school. I believe it was last year or two years ago at our Full Caucus Retreat in Arviat that we stated we needed a cultural school in Nunavut.

So the department sent a letter inviting communities who were interested in getting a cultural school, including the hamlet councils and elders' societies. We requested if they were interested, to get a list of possible satellite campuses, for example, what infrastructure do you have? Is the Inuktitut language strong in your community? What can you offer that would be very beneficial? So we put that out.

The communities came up with some suggestions and responses. Firstly, Tunngavik and the Departments of Education and Culture, Language, Elders and Youth were spearheading this, and once we received those letters we had questions. I don't know how many questions but we put them in order.

There was no interest from the Kitikmeot. There was one from Taloyoak but they didn't have much to offer. So for that reason, we considered Arviat, Baker Lake, Igloolik, Clyde River, and there is another community.

When the working group from CLEY, Education, and Tunngavik screened them, they met with the hamlet councils. Those communities said they had lots to offer, so when they came back, they reported to the Cabinet that these communities were the most ideal places. That's why they voted Clyde River. The Cabinet decision was that we needed satellite campuses in Baker Lake and Igloolik according to their interest.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Just to remind you, try to make your responses as brief as much as possible because our Question Period is short. Your second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That might be my fault; I asked for a clear and detailed response to my question.

>> *Laughter*

That was fairly detailed.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I recall at the time when proposals went out for the cultural school that in Cambridge Bay there was a certain error, there was a short notice. The heritage centre



and the hamlet didn't get their information. They didn't have time to respond to the deadlines. And then of course, there was a proposal from Taloyoak.

The concern in the Kitikmeot is not necessarily with the cultural school, it's more with the decision on the satellite schools and that came up at the KIA AGM. The delegates there said that the Kitikmeot is very distinct and unique in Nunavut. I think that came out and came across very loud and clear. They said that the Kitikmeot Heritage Society has done a lot of work to raise awareness on Kitikmeot Inuit culture and traditions.

So my question for the Minister: can the minister explain to the House how the Culture, Language, Elders and Youth will include the Kitikmeot Inuit culture and traditional history and activities in the satellite schools that are located in the Kivalliq and Baffin regions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a working group that is working on the preparation of the cultural school. Right now, they are working on what policies they will have and how many programs there will be.

We also have someone from Kugaaruk and one from Cambridge Bay who are in the planning group. They are involved so that when the cultural school becomes a reality, how can we include those? They have given us very invaluable information as to what we should include in there. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the information. I was aware that Culture, Language, Elders and Youth have this planning group that is overseeing the development of the planning for the cultural school and the satellite operations. I'm aware that there are some members from the Kitikmeot.

My question for the minister: could the minister explain to the House how this planning group or steering committee interacts with community groups in the Kitikmeot, for example, the Kitikmeot Heritage Society and the hamlet councils, to ensure that the Kitikmeot's interests figure prominently in their planning? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the planning stage... how can I say this... with every progress, they keep us up to date as to what stage they're at and there are some cases where we have to make decisions on how it will be done.

At this time we can't say this is how it will be because it's not completed. In the winter time we will be able to give you an idea of how it will be. Of course, I will keep the members informed as to the status of the planning group. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information. Mr. Speaker, the minister attended the Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM to make a Culture, Language, Elders and Youth presentation and hear concerns and questions. The delegates were very appreciative that the minister took time out from his busy schedule to come over and meet with them for a couple of hours.

Mr. Speaker, at the AGM we heard firsthand from the KIA delegates that a satellite cultural school should be located in the Kitikmeot. He indicated earlier that maybe the Kitikmeot wasn't interested, there's no interest from the communities, but I would argue, Mr. Speaker, that there is interest in a satellite cultural school in the Kitikmeot.

My question for the minister: can the minister tell the House if he will instruct his officials to begin consultations with the Kitikmeot to assess the feasibility, cost and the possible location of a satellite cultural school in the Kitikmeot, and if not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his questions. What we are planning that was approved by the Cabinet, once it's ready, as I've stated before, this is just the beginning but once it's been completed, we want to continue, especially in the communities. We will look for some ways how we can help the communities and how we can promote the language and cultures in the different regions and in other ways.

This is a concern for us and we are more than willing to help as a government but we have to complete the planning. We will continue to try to help and include the concerns that the Kitikmeot has. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Question 304 – 2(4): Guidelines on Homeowners Energy Rebate Program**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, in the Minister's Statement today he was talking about the Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program that they launched this fall. He indicated in his statement, Mr. Speaker, that it was as much as a \$1,000 in non-repayable assistance to approved homeowners.

I'm just wondering if the minister has information on what kind of guidelines and restrictions are in the program. Are they there for every single homeowner to apply for? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the homeowners program in Nunavut, the funding will be given to those homeowners that want to do energy saving in their homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just wondering if there are any caps on, again, I know in some of the Housing Corporation programs there are income thresholds. I'm just wondering if this is absolutely open to everybody, the homeowners in Nunavut, or if there are income thresholds, or any other restrictions on it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to all the homeowners and people who have houses with that ceiling of \$1,000, and it depends on their income. It's directed to all the homeowners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just wondering if the minister is aware of, and if he is, could he provide what those income thresholds are for this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't follow the criteria of their income. We are trying to get the homeowners to save their energy. There's no ceiling. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no ceiling.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad that the minister clarified that that there is no income threshold or ceiling for this program. Again, is there any other, because just the way it is worded, it says, "assistance to approved homeowners." Are there any other criteria out there that would disqualify someone for applying under this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It will be assistance for the homeowners so that they can improve their homes for energy saving. If there are any problems in our program, then I will inform him later on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The Question Period is now over. We are going to go back to the Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns 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. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

### **Item 13: Tabled Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 136 – 2(4): Inuktitut Magazine Article -- "Inuktitut asks Sam Raddi about Inuvialuit in the Western Arctic" – March 1983**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table this document that was an excerpt from the Inuktitut Magazine that was done many years ago on the life of Sam Raddi. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Please bring the document to the Clerk. Be patient, they're handing in the Tabled Document.

Thank you. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Sanikiluaq, Mr. Kattuk.

#### **Tabled Document 137 – 2(4): Environment Assessment of the Eastmain 1-A & Rupert Diversion Project: Panel Report, November 30, 2006**

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table today the Federal Review Panel Report on the Environmental Assessment of the Eastmain 1-A and Rupert Diversion Project. Most of you may better know this as the James Bay Project. This project would divert large amounts of fresh water into Hudson Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Please bring the document forward.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

**Tabled Document 138 – 2(4): Dangerous Activities in Clyde River – Clyde River**

**Mr. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table pictures of dangerous activities in Clyde River. These pictures show a group of children sliding down the slope at the front of the health centre and into the main road.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that steps be taken to address this dangerous situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Arreak. (interpretation) Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Simailak.

**Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**

**Bill 14 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.2, 2007-2008 – Notice**

**Bill 15 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No.2, 2007-2008 – Notice**

**Bill 17 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2006-2007 – Notice**

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills.

First, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, November 5, 2007, that Bill 14, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2007-2008*, be read for the first time.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, November 5, 2007, that Bill 15, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2007-2008*, be read for the first time.

And third, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, November 5, 2007, that Bill 17, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2006-2007*, be read for the first time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 15. Notices 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 16 with Mr. Barnabas in the Chair.

Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:11 and Committee resumed at 15:39*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Barnabas)(interpretation): Thank you for coming back, my colleagues. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 16. What is the wish of this committee? Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Chair Barnabas. We wish to continue with Bill 16 and the review of the Capital Estimates for the Department of Justice, followed by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, and if time permits, the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. (interpretation ends) Does the committee agree we continue with the Capital Estimates for the Department of Justice?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee – Justice**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Okalik, would you like to have witnesses brought to the witness table?

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses to the witness table.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. For the record, Mr. Okalik, please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is my Deputy Minister, Marcus Weber, and on my left, Mr. Edward Dingle, he's our Director of Finance in our office at the Justice Department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. (interpretation ends) Does the Chair of the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* have comments? Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* has reviewed the proposed Capital Estimates of the

Department of Justice for the 2008-09 fiscal year, and I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments.

Mr. Chairman, the committee notes that the department's proposed 2008-09 capital budget of \$2,900,000 is approximately 52 percent higher than its 2007-08 budget, primarily as a result of the proposed new men's healing facility in Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Chairman, the minister has indicated that the correctional centre will primarily house residents from surrounding communities and that Rankin Inlet has the policing and medical resources required to provide support to a facility of this size. The department expects that this new facility will cost \$34,084,000 in total. Mr. Chairman, the committee is hopeful that the department may spend less in the long term by repatriating offenders currently being held in the NWT and other facilities outside of the territory.

The Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* recognizes that having two major correctional facilities in Rankin Inlet and in Iqaluit will require significant ongoing operations and maintenance expenditures. The standing committee urges the department to adequately budget for this.

Mr. Chairman, members would wish to see the new facility offer culturally relevant programs, as well as counselling to reduce the rate at which Nunavut inmates re-offend. Now that the location of the facility has been determined, the standing committee would like to see the government move forward with local training and employment opportunities while ensuring a high quality of staffing in this facility. Mr. Chairman, the committee notes that the Nunavut Housing Corporation's projected budget for staff housing for this facility is slightly different than the Department of Justice's figures. The committee recommends that the responsible ministers work closely together to ensure that adequate housing will be ready and available for the staff of this new facility.

Mr. Chairman, members are pleased that the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* is in the process of being implemented as this will also help reduce the rate of re-offending in Nunavut. Members expect to be regularly updated on the implementation of this new law.

Mr. Chairman, in May of 2007, the department brought forward a number of capital carryovers. One of the carryovers was for the Iqaluit Women's Correctional Facility in the amount of \$1,187,000. Mr. Chairman, the lack of a women's facility has always been a concern for this committee and it has also been an ongoing issue for those women of Nunavut who, unfortunately, have gone through the justice system.

Mr. Chairman, the minister has indicated that the major work for this facility is to begin in 2008. The cost of the project is estimated at \$4.5 million. Members expect to be kept fully informed on its progress.

Mr. Chairman, members remain supportive of on-the-land programs, particularly for young offenders. The minister did indicate that his department is in support of these types

of programs and encouraged members to inform their constituents in their home communities that funding does exist for these types of camps.

That concludes my opening comments. Individual members may have their own concerns and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates.

Do members have any general comments? Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister. The minister's officials went to Rankin Inlet recently and we had a meeting along with my colleague from Rankin South. We were able to have a meeting in regard to the healing facility.

We also had a public meeting on that issue and I would like to inform you that the people were very pleased with the discussion. We also had a discussion with the hamlet to find out where the site of this facility would be.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to tell the minister that after the officials were there, as they were both deputy ministers, the people of Rankin Inlet were very pleased that we were going to proceed with the building of this facility.

I think it would be good to have you go to the communities to give them a follow-up on what is going to be happening and the people will be extremely pleased with that. We were told by the residents of Rankin and also the elders who couldn't make it to the meeting, I had face-to-face meetings with them and they were extremely pleased. I wish you would keep doing that.

Again, I would like to emphasize to your department, the people of Rankin Inlet were very pleased and I just wanted to give you that message. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Are there any general comments from the members? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and his officials here. One thing I just want to ask, just a general question that I'll be asking the minister if he could clarify as the chairman of the committee indicated that the women's correctional facility did not proceed.



I know that that's something that when I was on the committee and for a number of years now, I have been raising that issue with the department. Had the minister been asking questions on when we can expect to see a facility for women here in Nunavut coming up in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Are there any general comments from the members? Thank you. At this time I have no other names on my list for general comments. So we will proceed with the Capital Estimates for the Department of Justice. We will begin with page E-6. (interpretation ends) Justice. Detail of Capital. Directorate. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. \$400,000. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the chairman of the standing committee pointed out that there was one carry over for Iqaluit Women's Correctional Facility in the amount of \$1.1 million, I'm just wondering if the minister could give an indication as to why that project did not proceed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) From what I understand, we did some studies over the past year and trying to make some plans to build the facility. We had to make some changes.

Also, I want to thank my colleagues in FMB. They recently approved a planner just for the sole purpose of getting this done, along with the Rankin Inlet facility. So we hope to make some gains this coming year and build a facility because we know that this is much needed.

We're currently using a trailer but we also know that we have to do a better job of housing our female inmates. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to I guess echo the minister's comments for thanking his colleagues for putting a planner in place for this project. He indicated that they're hoping to make some progress.

I'm just wondering if he could give a more specific indication or something we could look forward to when we could start to see the construction take place on this facility. Will it be next year or the year after? Can he give an indication if they have an idea of when we can see the actual construction take place on that facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are planning to get the materials on the next sealift and, hopefully, get the construction completed.

It's not a big facility, so, hopefully, we can get it done within the coming fiscal year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Justice. Detail of Capital. Directorate. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$400,000. Total Tangible Assets. \$400,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Now, we will go to page E-9. Justice. Detail of Capital. Corrections. Tangible Assets. Kivalliq Region. Total Kivalliq Region. \$2.5 million. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not so much a Kivalliq capital question but rather; even with the present plan to create a facility in the Kivalliq region, which we pray will be a useful facility; I'm concerned somewhat that some community facilities but not so much facilities but camp programs have reduced in their use.

I know that the department still supports that but how much effort is made to accommodate some deficiencies in the camp program? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for posing that question.

With regard to the lands program, it's excellent because it helps the inmates and we would like to see more lands programs geared toward inmates. We give them support and we're hoping to see more. It's very beneficial, especially to the young people, and it also helps us out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we are all aware that the young people need the assistance. It's very beneficial for them to be a part of the lands program.

A very high percentage of these people have been growing up more or less on their own, and when they're given guidance and the support from the elders, they start fixing their lives right away. They are usually the ones that were brought up in dysfunctional families.

I think that knowing the reason why they're incarcerated helps a lot because when we find out that they grew up in a dysfunctional family, we'll know how to get them back. In the lands programs, do you do that sort of stuff? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Usually, we try to give the best support that we can to the outpost program. We give them the programs that they request and we would like to see a lot more of that happening. If you would like to establish a camp program, we would be more than happy to help you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question is; recognizing that most of the communities know the reason why the young offenders and the younger adults need that assistance, however, there hasn't been much research done by the Departments of Justice and Health and Social Services, maybe even CLEY, on why the young offenders had committed the offense and needs help. This trend, I think, jumped a significant point in the past years but before that, there probably were hardly any.

There are many factors, such as economic boom during Pan-Arctic, or other activities of the government, or the federal government coming into town, etcetera, or maybe even when the hostile residents become parents. Many factors like that when maybe the economic situation for some parents and the others, the gap widens.

My question would be: are there any plans to find the root cause of these trends and work more on the prevention in many areas, not just in Justice but many areas of Nunavut to recognize that lack of education is one of them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's a very good comment. Our staff works in that field and they try to work with the inmates and help them to find out what the root cause is of why they have been incarcerated.

We're trying to turn this around so that we can start healing the inmates. As we are all aware, in the past, there used to be barrier problems for Nunavummiut. So therefore, we're now focusing more on healing programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Mr. Chairman, I'm not trying to go away from the capital but we are dealing with the capital because of these issues. The federal government has contributed, in their apologies to former students, a significant amount for healing.

Are there any plans to talk with the federal counterparts to get a similar type of funding for a healing process for other people, especially young people, on the issues they may have had before going to these facilities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're very pleased that these facilities will be used for healing. I cannot really tell you exactly what they're going to be but there is some planning in progress right now.

Our staff try to find out why these individuals have been incarcerated. They focus on healing. If one's life is not healed that life is not going to change. So each individual's reasoning varies because it's very hard to figure out all of the inmates. Each person is different; some are incarcerated with individual issues, while others may have institutional issues.

Therefore, our staff tries to do each of their own jobs to find out more and provide healing for each individual. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We'll go to (interpretation ends) Justice. Detail of Capital. Corrections. Tangible Assets. Kivalliq Region. Total Kivalliq Region. \$2.5 million. Total Tangible Assets. \$2.5 million. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** We'll go back to page E-4. Justice. Department Summary. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$2.9 million. Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Are you agreed that the Department of Justice is concluded?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister, if you have closing comments, you may do so now.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the comments that were made, especially in the outpost camps, we have encouraged the outpost camps to do camp programs because we wanted to see more of them.

Perhaps, we should do that publication in this department. It would be beneficial, so I will ask my officials to start planning on that and that they will publicly ask the Nunavummiut to open an outpost camp program and apply for it. We'll try and do that again next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik, Mr. Webber and Mr. Dingle. At this time, Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. We still have items to cover during the Committee of the Whole. I would like to ask Minister Simailak, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, if he has opening comments. Minister Simailak?

**Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee – Economic Development and Transportation**

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Yes, I have opening comments. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Please proceed, Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to present my department's 2008-09 capital plan to the Committee on the Whole.

The Department of Economic Development & Transportation is proposing a \$9,470,000 Capital Plan for the fiscal year 2008-09.

Safe and reliable transportation is crucial for development of an economy for Nunavut. Recognizing this, and considering the high capital cost of transportation infrastructure, nearly 100 percent of my department's capital plan for next year is dedicated to transportation related projects. This is to provide Nunavummiut improved access to their resources, to each other, and to the rest of the world.

Over 80 percent of this total capital commitment will be carried out in community specific projects, while the other 20 percent will be used for strategic projects that affect the territory as a whole.

**Airports**

The focus of our funding in 2008-09 will be on completion of two major airport projects.

Construction of the Arctic Bay Airport will be in its third year. Activities will include completion of the civil works and electrical components of the project, and construction will begin on the air terminal building and navigational aids.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, we will be undertaking work to improve the runway surface at the Kimmirut Airport. Granular sources for this project are located several kilometres outside the community and are not currently accessible. In the course of this project, we will be working closely with the Hamlet of Kimmirut and the Department of Community & Government Services to provide a long-term solution to the granular needs of both the airport and the community.

Completing these two major projects demonstrates our commitment to maintaining the quality of the runways and the related infrastructure that allows safe aircraft operations.

### **Surface Transportation**

The department's investment in the Community Access Road Program is once again \$500,000 for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

Access roads are public roads and trails that connect a community and its residents to nearby locations, including harvesting or camping areas, tourism, and sites of cultural importance.

This program has been very well received by the communities, and we are pleased to be able to continue extending access to a community's resources outside of their municipal boundaries.

The 39.7 kilometre Arctic Bay/Nanisivik Highway continues to be used as an access between the community and the airport, and will be needed until the Arctic Bay Airport is complete. In the capital plan we have allocated \$70,000 to ensure that the road remains in a safe operational state over the course of the year.

### **Small Craft Harbours**

The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans in collaboration with my department released the Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report at the end of 2006. The report concluded that small craft harbours in our communities could provide very high returns in safety, access to our resources, and economic activity.

Mr. Chairman, we continue lobby Fisheries and Oceans to begin construction of these facilities, which includes recent letters from the Premier to the Prime Minister, from my office to Minister Hearn and from Deputy Minister Keenainak to the DFO Minister.

We have included \$1 million in this fiscal year to contribute towards that program. To help try to advance projects along, design proposals for the Pangnirtung harbour have been evaluated jointly by DFO and my department, and a contract will be issued shortly.

Through showing this level of commitment to the federal government, we believe we will see results through DFO investment in this badly needed infrastructure.

### **Small Capital**

There are also some other projects, under \$300,000, which are grouped together under the heading Small Capital Projects.

We have allocated \$1.2 million to complete these projects, which will include an airport snow-blower for Resolute Bay, a plow truck for Repulse Bay and a grader for Gjoa Haven.

In addition, we will undertake planning studies to ensure our dollars are properly spent on developing the economy and transportation system of the territory in fiscal years.

### **Conclusion**

Mr. Chairman, during our standing committee appearance in September, there was a question about the new Driver's License System project. I am pleased to say that this project is progressing and is close to being awarded with an expected completion date of February 2008.

The other question was in relation to other airport development priorities. My department is working closely with the Departments of CGS, CLEY and Finance on negotiating the Building Canada Fund, which will see much needed infrastructure funding for Nunavut. My colleague Minister Brown is the lead on this and the negotiations are going well.

Mr. Chairman, these are the major projects we will be undertaking in the 2008-09 fiscal year. I believe this plan makes good use of our limited resources, and is well focused on the department's mandate.

I will continue to work hard with my department to ensure that partnerships with the federal government, with industry, and with the communities are strengthened, and that the current level of activity in Nunavut has a lasting value on the economic and social future of our territory.

I will be glad to answer any questions from my fellow members. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. At this time, are you going to bring your officials down to the witness table? I asked, Mr. Minister, are you going to bring your officials down to the witness table?

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Yes. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses to the witness table.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. For the record, minister, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Rosemary Keenainak and Reverend Methuselah Kunuk on my left. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. At this time, I would like to ask the chairman of the standing committee if he has opening comments. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Yes, I do have opening comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank the minister for his comments. Welcome to the Assembly, Deputy Minister Keenainak and your director.

As Chair of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development, I am pleased to provide opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's 2008-09 Capital Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation in September of this year to scrutinize the department's draft 2008-09 capital estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2007-08 capital estimates included \$1.0 million in funding for the GN's contribution towards the construction of small craft harbours in seven Nunavut communities: Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Kugaaruk, Clyde River, Chesterfield Inlet and Repulse Bay. The department's 2008-09 capital estimates also include \$1.0 million in funding. The GN's total budgeted contribution of \$6.0 million over the next several fiscal years represents approximately 10 percent of the total expected cost for these important projects.

The standing committee remains disappointed at the lack of federal support for the development of Nunavut's small craft harbours, given their potential to enhance the territory's economic development and self-sufficiency. Members support the minister's ongoing lobbying efforts in this area, including his appearance earlier this year before a Senate Committee.

While the standing committee recognizes that the department's annual appropriation in this area represents our share of overall funding, it is disappointing to see the amounts lapse as a consequence of federal inaction. Members are hopeful that the infrastructure investment plans announced in the federal government's 2007 budget will help enable Nunavut to achieve progress in a number of strategic transportation and economic development sectors, including harbour and airport developments. However, in the event that federal support does not materialize, the department will need to examine what it can achieve with its own resources.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes with approval that the department continues to include funding in its annual capital estimates for community access roads. The planned amount in 2008-09 is \$500,000.



Members remain concerned about the implementation status of long-term plans to achieve necessary airport improvements across the territory. Members recall that the government's 2003 Nunavut Air Services Study outlined several infrastructure priorities that are necessary for improving the level of service from airlines. Current runway lengths and their composition reduce the level of service that airlines can provide and can also increase the cost of providing services. Members encourage the minister to work towards implementing airport upgrades that enhance service opportunities for Nunavut's airlines. Members also stress the importance of taking into account the benefit of investing in projects with the potential to support economic development in other sectors, especially natural resource development in regions where exploration and extraction are rapidly moving forward.

Mr. Chairman, on August 10, 2007, the federal government announced a number of major investments in the High Arctic, including a docking and refuelling facility in Nanisivik. It is unclear what plans the federal government has with respect to the Nanisivik airstrip. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is budgeting \$6.4 million in 2008-09 to substantially complete the Arctic Bay/Nanisivik Airport Redevelopment project. \$70,000 is also being budgeted for ongoing highway upgrades between Arctic Bay and Nanisivik.

The standing committee urges the GN to work closely with the federal government and the local community to maximize the benefits of this sovereignty initiative. The standing committee also encourages the GN to continue lobbying the federal government to achieve progress in developing other deep water port facilities in the territory.

Mr. Chairman, \$75,000 was budgeted in 2007-08 for the GN's support to the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project. The substantiation sheet for this project indicated that 2007-08 would be the final year of GN funding.

During the minister's appearance before the standing committee, he confirmed that the GN remains supportive of BIPAR and continues to be involved in the project's management committee.

The standing committee encourages the minister to provide regular updates to the House on the progress of this important initiative and the ways in which the GN is helping to move it forward.

In June of this year, \$66,000 in funding for the Manitoba-Nunavut Road study was carried over in a supplementary appropriation. The department's draft five-year capital plan includes \$5.0 million in funding for this project. However, a specific starting date for actual construction has not been determined and funding has not been confirmed. The standing committee recognizes that this nation-building initiative will likely cost more than a billion dollars and will require a significant commitment from Ottawa in order to achieve substantial progress. Members encourage the minister to continue his lobbying efforts in this area in partnership with his Manitoba counterparts and local Nunavut stakeholders, such as the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the 2008-09 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. (interpretation)Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, members may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates.

Do members have any general comments? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As for the comments of the chairman of the standing committee, I just wanted to point out that back then, when we were young, it cost \$500,000 for the construction of access roads. It still remains the same today, \$500,000.

What Inuit seems to be put at the back burner for development? It seems like they go forward more with what the government wants and not what the Inuit want. That \$500,000 that was mentioned but we haven't seen an increase in this section.

Inuit know that we're trying to revive our culture and our language. They don't just want to stay in their communities, especially in spring and summer time. They go out hunting to get food for the winter, whether it's fish or caribou, and to also pass on their knowledge to their children. They use up all of their holidays being out on the land.

There hasn't been an increase for the funding of access roads, especially in the eastern coast of Baffin Island. It is almost impossible to try and develop access roads because of all the hills. I want this to be considered.

It takes longer now for the ice to form and it melts earlier now in the spring time. For example, even though we can go down to the flow edge, it's almost impossible to go anywhere else on the ice. Because there are inlets, the ice melts faster in those areas.

Mr. Chairman, what I'm trying to say is that the word "access road" also means putting a bridge over a river. In all of Nunavut, we know there are a lot of rivers. I want this to be considered. These things should reflect what the community wants, especially the access roads.

The second thing I wanted to mention are the ports just as the chair mentioned before. Do they know that the territorial government is working really hard? They might have to lobby somewhere else so that they can come up with an agreement. The federal

government will be utilizing quite a bit of money for admitting and recognizing the mistake they made of sending students to residential schools.

It should be included in the agreement that its purpose is to promote and become more self reliant. That should be the goal for encouraging the communities to be self reliant. They want to develop, whether it's in businesses or development cooperation. They want to be able to be self reliant and not just getting handouts from the government.

I know what I'm saying because when we were encouraged to purchase our own homes, a lot of people applied. They were quite eager. I think the territorial and the federal governments have to be shown. If you read it in the preamble, it says the mission is to promote self reliance. Having a port should be included in there.

Towards the conclusion of his remarks, the minister mentioned the licensing project. It's not funny but sometimes it sounds funny. Sometimes it takes six months to get a driver's licence. I thought it was just in Pond Inlet but apparently it's like that in other communities. Because you can only work if you have a driver's licence, once they get a job, they have to wait for their licence. I want this to be worked on, so I'm happy that it's included in there.

Lastly, I want say to the Department of Economic Development that the Mary River Mine, where there will be royalties gained by Nunavut Tunngavik because it's 100 percent Inuit owned. However, the surrounding communities of Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Clyde River, Hall Beach, and Igloodik will be bypassed. Maybe there will be a few jobs they could take but they won't really benefit from that.

So I'm urging the GN that the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement should be included in the negotiation process. How will they get things directly? As the Chair mentioned, the ports and the runways should also be included in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. We're still on comments by the members. I have no more names on my list.

We're on Capital Estimates for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Starting with K-7. (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Capital. Grants and Contributions. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$1.5 million. (interpretation) Do you agree? Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the minister to COW today. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the minister could provide us a list of the projects that were funded on the Small Craft Harbour Program for the current fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** The project that was funded this year was the engineering stage for the Pangnirtung Harbour design. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Am I correct that we're on page K-7? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Yes, Mr. Peterson, we're on K-7. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. I wonder if the minister could give us a bit more detail. I'm referring to the Small Craft Harbour Contribution, there's \$1 million. I think there's \$1 million set aside for that work. What projects were financed through that \$1 million? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have requested funding for these small craft harbours. I think you are asking for the prior year's estimates.

We were going to use this \$1 million to assist the project but we haven't started this project yet. We will want to use this funding from the estimate for the Small Craft Harbour Contribution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for clarifying that. For the \$500,000 for the access roads, could the minister provide some detail on what those funds will be used for? Do you have any projects in mind? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. An example of what we did in this current fiscal year, 2007-08; there were ten applications received from ten communities and they were all funded anywhere from \$20,000 to \$60,000 at various levels. For the 2008-09 capital estimates again, \$500,000, we will accept applications, probably by April 30 of next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that information. Could the minister indicate whether it feels that \$500,000 is a sufficient amount to meet the demand from all the communities in Nunavut?

He mentioned ten applications but there are 25 communities in Nunavut. So I would assume that most communities would want some funding. Could he give us an indication; he funded ten applications but did he get 25 applications? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it is not nearly enough at all. In fact, for the ten applications that we received for this summer's Access Road Program that we had, just those ten applications alone totalled \$1.6 million. That's only ten applications - ten communities.

In the five-year capital plan, we were hoping that the Access Road funding will increase to \$1 million in 2010-11. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Simailak for that answer. It certainly seems like a program that's in great demand in Nunavut.

I wonder, could you give us a sense or an outline of how you receive the applications from the communities? How do you prioritize which community gets a level of funding and how do you deal with communities that don't get any funding? How do you go through the applications and determine who should be funded? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** We did not come across that problem this past summer. There were 10 applications received from 10 communities, although our funding is only \$500,000 and the applications totalled \$1.6 million. For every community that applied this past spring, I received some funding for the Access Roads Programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Simailak for that. I realize there's no shortage of applications that I know of, so I guess you're short \$1.1 million in my calculator.

So that sends a large message to us that the access roads, at least in those 10 communities, need repairs. I'm assuming that the estimates that they got for them for the repair and upgrading of those roads are probably fairly accurate. It does send a message to us. We know and the people in the communities know that there are more and more vehicle traffic with four wheelers, trucks, and motorcycles; I'm not sure what vehicles might be on the road.

How do you, when you receive that application for a project, let's say that's for \$150,000 and you can only fund \$40,000, how does the community fund the balance? Where do they get the funding from, or do they have to cut back their projects a little bit, or would they endeavour to try and fund the remaining from the following year from the same program? Can the minister give me a sense of how that works with when they're dealing with the hamlets? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What some of the communities have done is they have accessed some funding through a couple of our other programs, the Strategic Investments Program and the Small Communities Initiatives Fund. That has helped.

Other communities have just simply cut back their project for the summer and plan to apply again in the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Simailak for that information. I know, with the Department of Community and Government Services, they work closely with the Nunavut Advisory Committee, which is made up of three departmental officials and three mayors. So they receive the applications and prioritize what they can fund and then repeat the process the following year.

So I'm wondering, do you have people within your department that will work with the hamlet, or work with the hamlet to help them develop a prioritization process to review the applications or determine which roads should be funded and which can be put off for the future year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, we received 10 applications for this past summer's Access Road Program and all 10 were funded to a certain extent and a lot less than what they originally asked for. We do have a couple of the programs within the department that the communities can access.

At the moment, there's an internal process within our department. We do work with the hamlets that do apply to try to work something out that would be agreeable because there's no way that we could have funded the \$1.6 million request this past summer. Yes, we do work with the hamlets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Simailak. If you had a situation where you had all of the communities in Nunavut apply for funding, I'm assuming that they're all aware...

It always seems inconceivable that there's this funding there and only ten communities apply because every community has roads, and every mayor and council has constituents who always complain about the roads. So it would be worth the mayors' and councils' time to access the funding.

So if you had all of the communities apply for \$500,000, how would you sort through them? How would you help them out? How would your officials work with the Public Works people in the communities to develop their funding proposals and access the other... I think it's called 'Piggy Backing,' so you go to the Strategic Infrastructure Program or get a bit of money from every pot.

How does your department help the communities, first of all, to become aware of all the programs that are available and exactly how you put them all together so that you can fund the projects or improvements to the loans from two to three sources within your department? Can you give us an overview of how that works? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of keeping the hamlets informed, I have mentioned it a couple times at the NAM AGMs, and every spring, every hamlet receives a letter reminding them of the Access Road Program and how they can apply, etcetera.

And, those that do apply, our regional offices work very closely with them in developing their proposal and then our people over here, again, also through the regional offices, try to come up with an amount that would be agreeable to both parties because there's no way we can fund every projected total. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Simailak. I think our hamlet got some money this summer for the road to Mount Elia Uviak. It was certainly a lot smoother during the summer. So if he did fund this, I appreciate it. That was good to know.

I've been to a few communities in Nunavut and most roads are in very rough conditions. I'm just trying to get a sense here of how you get the applications and how you work with the hamlets. Most hamlets don't have the expertise to fix up roads but you could get proposals to get it.

So who in your department, who can they contact, or what people do you have that would go work with the hamlet to put their proposals together to access all your funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. People at our regional offices are usually the first point of contact for communities. All of our regional offices have said that they know about the program very well and if they can't answer any questions, then they are referred to our people over here.

You've got to remember, too, these are basically trails, these are access roads or trails; they're not necessarily built to road standards, if you want to call them that. A lot of these are basically ATV trails to various sites around the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank the minister for giving us the information. I also have questions in regard to access roads.

I would like to ask the minister about how they differ from Community and Government Services monies. Is there a difference between the two pots of money? Some communities get funding for access roads through CGS and then there are the access roads funding from your department. Do you have different conditions, or is it open to all communities? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Community and Government Services have funds for roads within the hamlet. What we have here is access roads that go outside of the community proper, and usually, these access roads are used for four wheelers and so on, and usually they lead to camp sites, fishing lakes, and popular areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, very much, for that information. I have another question with regard to the conditions that are set by your department.

If it's for access roads, I'm sure it would have to go through the Hunters and Trappers Organization. Would they be the ones making the proposal, or could individuals apply, or does it have to be a recognized entity? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.



**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you. It usually goes through the hamlet council and there has to be a motion supporting the proposal. We usually go through the hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley**: Thank you. (interpretation) Why is it that it's more open to the hamlet councils than to other entities? Nowadays, a lot of the hamlet councillors are not full-time hunters and they're not contributing as much as they should in some communities.

In Levinia's and my riding, we have two rivers on each side of the community and I think they're about a mile or a mile and a half in distance. Just from October to December, usually during freeze-up, the flow of the river slows down. There's usually flooding, especially in windy conditions. Usually, there is an overflow that reaches up to the level of the bridge.

I wonder if it's possible to make a proposal because we know some of the conditions that the hamlet doesn't know. Some of the access roads that are used go right through soft terrain. For instance, just recently we heard on the radio that an elder got his ATV stuck and he had to work for three hours to get it out of the trail. It's not that steep over there but because of the soft conditions, I think it would be an excellent idea to put gravel in that area.

Is it possible to include other individuals other than the hamlet? There are some people who just say, "Even if I make the proposal, they're not going to approve it." So I think it's better if we use other entities or other individuals than the hamlet. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's at the discretion of the community but it has to be supported by the hamlet council by a motion. If they want to do any projects in the community, it's up to them. It's within their jurisdiction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I think that it was last year, when we were dealing with the operations and maintenance, we were talking about the operations and maintenance but it doesn't apply in this case.

At times we hear about too much red tape preventing some of the individuals or entities from accessing the grants and contributions and other pots of money. I'll just leave it at that.

The other question I have is in regard to the small craft harbours. Mr. Minister, when we're talking about the small craft harbours, does it just apply for small craft harbours?

There are also breakwaters and other types of wharfs. Where does the Small Crafts Harbours Contribution apply? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you. I will have Mr. Methuselah Kunuk respond to that question.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Kunuk.

**Mr. Kunuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the small craft harbours, there were seven harbours and they are not just breakwater. They can also be used for unloading of ships. Some of them are breakwaters and some of them are docks.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. During the standing committee, we were told that, even if we just wait for the federal government to start building these harbours, we're going to be waiting for a very long time.

I think it doesn't take very long if you work with a technician or engineers but you have to look at the tides and other conditions of where you want to build. Isn't it possible for your department to build whatever is required instead of just waiting for the federal government? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chair. (interpretation ends) We're not just waiting for the federal government. We are finishing projects that are required. We had done the fish habitat studies and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have been informed that we would like to get the specs for Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Broughton Island, and Pangnirtung from the federal government and we will be using that \$1 million to start the projects.

In regard to actually building docks and so on, it's the responsibility of the federal government. They look at all of the docks and breakwaters right across Canada, including Nunavut. So that's where we are at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, very much, for that information. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say, I think it's true what I say, that we're going to be waiting forever if we are going to be waiting for that pot of money from the federal government that you believe is going to be \$1 million.

Even in Iqaluit, I'm sure it's about \$1 million but I hear that it's approximately \$400,000. With some of the communities that absolutely need breakwaters, why is it that we have to wait for the federal government? Can we not increase this pot of money? For example, if we have to build a school on an emergency basis, some funds are taken from various departments' budgets in order to build the school.

We can do that by splitting that pot of money into two by paying half of it and getting the federal government to pay the other half. Is it not possible to do that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you. We have \$1 million that we use currently to build the necessary facilities. We're looking at Arviat and Cape Dorset and what type of breakwater or facility it would be. We're currently doing two studies on those two companies using that \$1 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, very much, for that information.

We have to constantly lobby the federal government to access those funds but some of the communities are doing really well in building whatever is required as an infrastructure, but Rankin Inlet hasn't accessed any of those funds. It's kind of like a sheltered cove and they just push some gravel in there in order to facilitate the docks a little more.

We're giving you full support, Mr. Minister, and the consultation report was really good. I just want to thank you and we would just like you to keep going and doing your excellent job. I'll leave it at that, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I'm very pleased to get that advice. Yes, we have been lobbying.

Last month I met with the DIAND Minister in Baker Lake when he was there to see the mining company. He had seen it, so therefore, he was in support. He is now encouraging and lobbying the Department of Fisheries Minister to start dealing with this as soon as possible. He is now in support and our Premier has been writing a letter to the Prime Minister with regard to this issues.

Yes, we will continue to work on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to supplement. Some communities have made their designs already and Pond Inlet even paid for their own designs for a small craft harbour.

Sometimes it's very difficult to understand the tides in the communities and the ebbing of the water. For example, in Pond Inlet, after a big gale force wind, when the wind is going 60 miles an hour, sometimes it goes beyond that. When there are gale force winds during high tide, the waves are very huge.

An elder who is a very capable hunter had died in the water by falling in. Even last summer, there were two boats that were damaged and they were covered by waves. The gale force winds are getting stronger every year due to climate change.

As I stated earlier, Inuit don't just want to be given handouts. They want to be self-sustained. In Pond Inlet, for example, and I'm sure it's like that in other communities, they want to get a fish plant. The minister mentioned the fisheries in OA. Sometimes they go and unload in Nuuk and Pangnirtung very rarely, and also to Clyde River, which is very close to that fishing zone.

Although I will be asking questions, but to elaborate further, the Arctic islands belong to the government and for sovereignty purposes, they will be putting in an army training program in the High Arctic in Resolute Bay and also in Nanisivik. It seems like the Americans are just laughing at this, even though they are trying to bark at the little ships.

I believe that and they believe and show other countries, such as Norway, Denmark, Americans, and Russians that the Arctic Archipelago... to show them how you provide support to arctic islands for sovereignty purposes?

There is only \$42 million that has been allocated. I think they had so many billions that were in surplus, whereas the Nunavut budget, perhaps \$908 million. Once the federal government makes their budget report, they will just put asterisks because this is too miniscule.

Perhaps, you should tell the Department of Environment that this has been approved already by the government. If they want to be a good government as they say, then please go ahead with the programs that the Liberal Government was supposed to do.

My question is; Mr. Chairman, although you had mentioned it earlier that last month in Baker Lake that you met with the minister: how many times within the last two years, who have you met with in order to negotiate the Small Craft Harbour and Port Program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Our officials within the Department of Economic Development and Transportation have been meeting with the officials of DFO many times. Our Premier has been corresponding with the Prime Minister of Canada and also to the Minister of Department of Fisheries and Oceans. I met with the Minister of DIAND when he was in Baker Lake.

Every time we met with various federal ministers, we continually spoke about these to make sure that they provided more support to this program. It is being provided but the funding that has been identified for this use has not been implemented yet. That's the only thing that's holding us back at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That \$42.6 million is extremely small in the government's budget or the federal government's coffers.

As you stated already, Mr. Minister, that all of the ports that are important to economy and safety in the Maritime Provinces are provided for by the federal government. You also stated that that's why Nunavut is being neglected from that.

Isn't that against the constitution by neglecting one part of the country and favouring the other? Is it not against the equal rights? What seems to be the reason why they don't want to fund that very small amount? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: I can't answer for the federal government but they have been telling us that the hold-up right now is that they have not found that \$40 million plus to fund these seven harbours within the DFO budget.

The federal minister has not found the \$40 million plus that we need yet. So that's where the hold-up is. I'm sure there was a huge surplus that the federal government announced, but he hasn't found the money yet and that's where the problem lies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: I have a last quick question, last one. Mr. Chairman, the funding to rebuild Afghanistan, this money was found very easily, it's probably in the billions by now. It's more important, I guess, for the Canadian Government because it's not Canada, in the same way that North America was discovered but the people who always lived here never did discover it.

Mr. Chairman, there's no indication at all whatsoever from them of what seems to be the stumbling block from there, from their point of view. For example, the Indian Affairs

Minister, who spoke to you, did not indicate anything at all what the stumbling block is in making the money available. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will keep lobbying the federal government to fund these seven projects. That's all I can do, or that's all I can say at the moment. We will keep lobbying whenever, however, and wherever we can. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We are on page K-7. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder, just for the record, if the minister could provide the names of the seven communities that we're talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In March of 2004, the Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Oceans set up an Intergovernmental Nunavut Harbour Working Committee. It was that committee that did the Nunavut Small Craft Harbour Report and identified seven communities earliest to benefit from a commercial fishery.

In the Baffin, there's Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, and Pond Inlet. In the Kivalliq, there's Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet. In the Kitikmeot, there's Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. K-7. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Capital. Transportation. Grants and Contributions. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$1.5 million. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Grants and Contributions. \$1.5 million. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** I am sorry, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's my favourite part of the page here. We're on the Kitikmeot region now.

There's a reference to the Bathurst Inlet in there and there's no funding mentioned. I recall in the standing committee and our chairman mentioned it as well, you indicated that the Government of Nunavut supports the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project.

So I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if there's no funding identified on the capital plan, could the minister give us an indication of how the Government of Nunavut supports this particular project? It is a high priority project for the Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A draft Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared by the Management Committee and we, the department, are contributing \$326,000 towards that statement being prepared.

The budget for the Environmental Impact Statement is \$1.85 million and we have contributed \$326,000 to that work. The remainder of the money required is coming from the industry.

We have provided funding, organizational support, and advice to the work of the Management Committee and we will also be contributing \$75,000 to support the permitting stage of the project scheduled for 2008. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that information. It's good information to know.

Can the minister tell me what level of support you are going to provide to the project in your five-year capital plan? Is there any information you can shed on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next stage is going to be the funding issue. There are two development models that have been discussed. The project was initially envisioned as a P3, a Public Private Partnership. The second model is similar to the one that was used for the Lupin Ice Road.

So there are options being discussed right now as to how the project will be funded, and once that's been determined, then we will look at our contribution towards those costs. So until that happens, we have nothing in the five-year capital plan right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that update. Mr. Chairman, I recall, I think it was in August, reading the *Hansard* from the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, where the NWT MLAs were urging their Minister of Transportation to hurry up and build a road from outside of Yellowknife into the Lac de Gras area before those guys from Nunavut build their road from the Bathurst Inlet.

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, I know the ministers and their counterparts have meetings from time to time but there are probably chances that you haven't yet, did you talk to the former Minister of Transportation for the NWT to get an understanding of where they're going and where their interest is in getting into the area versus Nunavut's interest in building a port and road into that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was supposed to be a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Transportation Ministers' Meeting earlier this month, but that got cancelled or postponed because of the Throne Speech that was coming down.

But no, I have not discussed it personally with the previous Transportation Minister about the Bathurst Inlet Road and Port, that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. I wonder if the minister could confirm for the record if the Bathurst Inlet Port Road Project is still one of the two Nunavut priority transportation projects that you submitted to the National Transportation Policy. Can you confirm that for me, please? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is still the case. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for confirming that information. In the Kitikmeot region, I've been lobbying for several years, previously as the mayor and now as MLA, for upgrades to our airport in Cambridge Bay.

I read a news paper story last week in *News North*. They talked about the increase in usage of airports in Nunavut and they presented some statistics. They mentioned that the Cambridge Bay Airport is increasing, which we know from data that's being collected.

I know that in the past the minister's department has submitted funding proposals to the Airport Capital Assistance Program in Ottawa without any success, in fact, for the Kitikmeot, or the Cambridge Bay Airport proposal.

I wonder if the minister could give me and my constituents an update on where his department is in terms of making the case and lobbying for funding from the federal government to expand our airport runway in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.



**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The problem we've been running into to date is that Transport Canada has not accepted that the correction of the deviation stanzas at the Cambridge Bay Airport is eligible under the Airport Capital Assistance program. That's the problem we've been running into.

Cambridge Bay is a gateway airport, and those are very much a priority, and the necessary expansion and improvements to the Cambridge Bay Airport will be identified to the federal government as a department of priority for other federal infrastructure funding.

So that's where we are at now. We are now looking for other federal infrastructure funding that we can access to do the necessary work at the Cambridge Bay Airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the information. I recall from, I think it was around the year 2000, the estimate to upgrade the airport runway was \$6 million, or roughly in that neighbourhood. I believe from the information I read during the standing committee that the estimated costs now are \$18 million, or close to \$18 million. So they're climbing substantially as each year goes by.

I'm getting a little concerned that at some point there that it's going to become prohibitive to upgrade that airport and that'll be the next reason why we can't get an upgrade because it costs too much. So I'm a little worried about that.

You mentioned other federal funding. I'm aware of a new program called, I think it's called, "Infrastructure Advantage," and I think it was your own department that provided that information to us during the standing committee that in that program, I think they mentioned funding that's available for priority transportation type projects.

I wonder if the minister could tell me if the Cambridge Bay Airport might qualify as a gateway project under that Infrastructure Advantage Program, which is a federal government program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The latest estimates that we have are that the cost to widen the graded areas is now \$8 million, and the cost to lengthen and pave the runway is \$12 million. So we're already up to \$20 million just for that work.

The Federal Budget 2007 identified their new Building Canada Fund, which is \$25 million a year over seven years, and that's to assist in infrastructure spending on gateways, roads, highways, and other transportation facilities which are listed as national priorities in Budget 2007.

So we're hoping that airports would qualify for that funding but that's the sort of information that we're still trying to clarify with Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that information. So it's already gone up \$2 million in two or three months? I guess that really is inflation and this time next year it could be \$40 million?

Can the minister tell me, this Infrastructure Advantage Program, or Building Canada program, how much money is available to each territory and province and over what length of time it is? Can he confirm that for me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, as I mentioned earlier, it's \$25 million a year over seven years. So it's \$175 million in total. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for confirming that information. Could you tell me, have your officials met with federal government officials? Are there some terms of agreement that you're negotiating to put in place that would govern the \$25 million flowing into Nunavut?

Regardless of what the federal government says, the money should be used for... we have some Nunavut specific types of projects that need to be funded. Is something like the Cambridge Bay Airport something you would envision the funding being used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Community and Government Services is actually the lead department on that file. We have been working very closely with Finance, CLEY, and ED&T.

The Framework Agreement is being worked on now, between the Government of Nunavut and Canada, and the list of projects is also being developed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that information. I recall from our meeting with the Minister of Community and Government Services the other day and her officials, they mentioned the Framework Agreement as well. I think the

deputy minister mentioned that the \$25 million funding could be used in the current fiscal year.

Are you hopeful that this Framework Agreement, that you can use \$25 million in the first year, in the current fiscal year of which being the year 2007-08, and the projects, that might be on your books right now, to be developed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Deputy Minister Keenainak has the latest current information on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Ms. Keenainak.

**Ms. Keenainak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As the CGS Deputy Minister has indicated, the way the agreement is done right now, or the way the federal government announced it, the funding is supposed to be rolling out effective this year for the next seven years.

However, the Framework Agreement is still not finalized. I think Nunavut is actually one of the first ones that may be in the position to sign. All the other jurisdictions are behind as well. There is the Treasury Board issue for the feds as well.

Even if the money is given to us this year, there's no way that we'll be able to do any constructions. We haven't agreed on any of the projects or what's going to be brought forward.

One of the other things that we have been talking about with the feds about is rolling over to see if that could be done in future years. So that's yet to be finalized and that's still being discussed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Keenainak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and Ms. Keenainak for that answer.

Actually, that was one of my concerns being that it's already November and you're still negotiating the Framework Agreement. It gets a little tricky because when they say seven years, but then you lose the first year because you're getting caught up in negotiating and they don't allow you to roll it over.

You know \$25 million is a lot of money. So hopefully, you can roll it over and still use it for seven years. I wish I could help you down there in Ottawa. If you need my help, I'll bring a proposal with me as well for the airport.

My question for the minister; when I go back to my Cambridge Bay riding, the mayor and I are going to be sitting down at some point: what can I tell her about the situation or the prospect of this airport funding application being approved and funded at some time in the near future? Can you give me any level of comfort that it's a priority and funding will, at some point in the next year or two, be available? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned a couple of times, the Framework Agreement is still being worked on. CGS has the lead on this file. The list of priorities is still to be drawn up.

Hopefully, because this money has been identified to be spent on gateways, roads, highways, and other transportation facilities, I would hope that that airport would qualify for that funding, especially our gateway airports of which Cambridge Bay is one. The Cambridge Bay Airport affects the entire Kitikmeot region by being a gateway airport.

So I would hope that the airports will be a high priority once that priorities list is drawn up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. I don't have any more names on my list. We are on (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Capital. Transportation. Total Grants and Contributions. \$1.5 million. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Now, go to page K-8. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Capital. Transportation. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$1.2 million. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Qikiqtaaluk Region. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region. \$6,770,000. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no real objection to this because I guess we can be charged by the contractors now in any amount they want. I know we have lost control of our budget.

You have prior year cost for \$12.4 million for Airport Redevelopment in Arctic Bay, and in 2008-09, you want another \$6.4 million. Is that because it also includes an actual air terminal along with everything included? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is the case. This is for a complete airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's really too bad that you were thinking about Arctic Bay before Mr. Harper did.

Did you hear anything about when he reconstructs the docking facilities there or the port that he will also upgrade the Nanisivik Airport and start reusing it again, because they will need to have an airport, presumably, or will they use the Arctic Bay Airport when they are carrying out the facility in Nanisivik? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Initial discussions between the Department of National Defence officials and officials in my department indicate that DND is requesting very modest improvements to the existing port facility, that DND does not expect to keep the Nanisivik Airport operational, and that they would be using the Arctic Bay Airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear that the Arctic Bay Airport is relatively close to Arctic Bay down near the shoreline. I guess my question is: who is willing to keep the road open then from the Nanisivik Sea Port to the Arctic Bay Airport in order for Defence to have access to the Arctic Bay Airport? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We plan to keep the road open until the Arctic Bay Airport becomes operational because we have to use the Nanisivik Airport, naturally. DND is not interested in keeping the Nanisivik Airport open but they may have an interest in keeping the road open between Arctic Bay and the port during the summer only.

So, naturally, those negotiations will have to take place and that will include who will maintain the road, whether we would do that, or whether DND would do that. Those negotiations are yet to take place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this page here, somewhere, I'm not sure if it's the right spot, but it's just dealing with...

I know I see the Airport Redevelopment, the rehab on the runway/apron in Kimmirut, and I know it's something I had mentioned in the past that there was, at one point, a master plan or study for the international airport here in Iqaluit. I'm just wondering if I could get an update from the minister or his officials of where things are at with that project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kunuk can answer that question in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Kunuk.

**Mr. Kunuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the development we did this summer and last year in Iqaluit is part of the implementation of the Iqaluit Master Plan. That one is now done. The next step would probably be trying to get the airport terminal in the future place. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the minister or his officials have any indication... I know a lot of it is linked to federal dollars, however, is there any indication of when they would be looking at that moving ahead? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Transport Canada has told us, under the ACAP program, the Airports Capital Assistance Program, that they are not prepared to entertain any more applications until we bring our current projects to near completion before they consider any new major projects. Then, we would actually submit an application to Transport Canada for the new Iqaluit Airport. I don't have the date at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated that they weren't going to entertain any more applications until the current applications are completed. Did he indicate the ones for the airport here or all the ones throughout the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's the projects for the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then, would the minister give us an indication of when that may happen? Some could be on hold for quite some time. Does that mean that we're, until those projects are complete, not going to be able to pursue any other projects?

If I could just get an idea or get an indication from the minister of when do they anticipate having those projects completed so that new applications for other needed projects will be able to be submitted to the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are probably looking at another three years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let's hope so. There are a lot of other things needing to get done that won't be able to even get looked at for another three years. So, hopefully, we can move forward on those projects.

I'm just wondering, in the delays, was it always anticipated it would be in three years that those would get done, or are they delayed, and if they are, for what reason? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it's three years to complete the projects that we have right now.

With respect to Iqaluit, this could be one of the projects that we could propose under the Building Canada Fund, or it could also be done possibly as a P3 project. There are other options out there that we are looking at for the various airports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there are other options out there to look at, does the department have a prioritized listing of projects that they would look under instead of building or funding infrastructure, under the fund that you just mentioned, the Building Canada Fund, or whatever fund that you just mentioned?

Do they have a listing of projects that they would like to submit for funding under that program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned earlier on, that was the priorities for the Building Canada Fund specifically, that would have to be done GN-wide. As mentioned earlier, CGS is the lead on that file, working with CLEY, Finance, and ED&T.

So the list of priorities for the Building Canada Fund money itself has not been done yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if the minister can give us an indication of, if that work hasn't been done yet, when they will start the process on that to be able to develop that list. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We, as a department, are working on our own priorities list and that would have to be integrated into the work that the working committee is doing. We'll see where we go from there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Simailak. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering, if the department is looking at putting priorities on that list, if they would consider looking at something that Mr. Harper promised us that would get here, and that's the deep sea port and a small craft harbour integrated facility in Iqaluit on that list, as well as potentially, if they're looking at a hydro electric project here that would require a road to get to that facility.

Would those types of projects be considered to be inputted onto that list? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our position has been, for small craft harbours, for example, is and has been a DFO responsibility. So that kind of project should be done outside of the Building Canada Fund.

The Building Canada Fund itself is, again, to assist in infrastructure funding on gateways, roads, highways, and other transportation facilities. As I mentioned, as a department, we are currently drawing up our priorities list and we will try to integrate that into the work that CGS is doing as a lead department on that file. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.



**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think my colleague, Mr. Arvaluk, got some of the information that I was looking for on the status of the Nanisivik Airport.

I was a little concerned there that, with the announcement of the deep sea port up there, that what was going to happen with that airport. I heard, related to Nanisivik, an announcement that there was a deep sea port there in the federal government announcement a couple of months ago.

I wonder if the minister could comment on whether he thinks that was a good decision by the federal government to place a deep sea port there, and secondly, if he could comment on whether he feels that there's a need for a second and third deep sea port elsewhere in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I will leave it to the minister to answer the question for now. As he was seeking an opinion, I'll leave it at the discretion of the minister. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would welcome, as the Transportation Minister, other deep sea ports across Nunavut. It's just a question of when and where that funding would come from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer with somebody whispering in his ear about opinions. There has been a lot of talk, Mr. Chairman, over the last few years about deep sea ports in Kimmirut, Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay, and as I mentioned, Bathurst Inlet Port, there was the announcement of Nanisivik, and there was several other communities.

I wonder if the minister could comment, not give his opinion, on whether the department is considering developing a policy related to that type of infrastructure, deep sea ports? It seems to me like it's something that's very important for Nunavut and maybe something that we should consider putting in place just to guide our future development over the next five to ten years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would take that as a very good suggestion and ask the department to start working on, perhaps, such a policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that comment. Hearing my colleagues on the way here, perhaps it should be, rather than be a policy, be more appropriately a strategy. If the minister could comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Policy or strategy, it could go either way, I guess, but it's something that's needed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): At this time, its six o'clock. I would like to thank Mr. Simailak and his officials for making an appearance in Committee of the Whole. Do you have closing comments, Minister Simailak? Sorry, we are not finished. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members, going to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Barnabas:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 16 and the Capital Estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. There's a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is 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. A reminder of a meeting of the Standing Committee on Health and Education at 6:30 tonight in the Tuktu Committee Room.

Orders of the Day for November 2:

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
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration for Committee of the Whole and Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 16
20. Report to Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning on November 2, 2007.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:04*

