

#### Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker Hon. James Arreak (Uqqummiut)

Hon. Lorne Kusugak

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East) Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Immigration

> **James Arvaluk** (Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq (Baker Lake)

Hon. Tagak Curley (Rankin Inlet North) Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

> **Ron Elliott** (Quttiktuq)

Adamee Komoartok (Pangnirtung)

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove) Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister of Energy

> John Ningark (Akulliq)

Johnny Ningeongan (Nanulik) Deputy Speaker, Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Paul Okalik (Iqaluit West) Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

**Enuk Pauloosie** (Nattilik) Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Keith Peterson (Cambridge Bay) Minister of Finance, Chair, Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice Allan Rumbolt (Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell (South Baffin)

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk (Arviat) Minister of Environment; Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

#### Hon. Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq) Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Languages; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

Hon. Peter Taptuna (Kugluktuk) Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre) Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness

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#### Iqaluit, Nunavut Thursday, March 19, 2009 Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Paul Okalik, Mr. Enuk Pauloosie, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo.

#### **Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. James Arreak) (interpretation): Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Taptuna to say the opening prayer. Mr. Taptuna.

#### >>Prayer

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Taptuna. Good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, my colleagues, all Nunavummiut, and my grandchildren in Clyde River. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley.

#### **Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

### Minister's Statement 016 – 3(1): Qikiqtani General Hospital Accreditation

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Madam Premier, and my colleagues in the Legislative Assembly. I will be making my statement in English as it is quite complex to try and translate the terminology and it's in regard to the hospital.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform members that the Qikiqtani General Hospital voluntarily invited Accreditation Canada to begin the accreditation process for the hospital. Members of the survey team visited the Qikiqtani General Hospital from February 22 to 26, 2009.

There were a number of improvements made to QGH since 2005. At the time, Mr. Speaker, the older Baffin Regional Hospital needed better risk management and quality control systems. Today, we have a new facility and invested \$2.3 million towards rectifying the situation. We have filled 26 key positions that are critical, including positions in nursing, emergency and the operating room.

Mr. Speaker, we reviewed and updated all QGH policies and procedures; developed a hospital-based disaster and emergency plan; formalized the policy and procedure process; developed an infection control manual; and created new incident reporting processes.

Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of educational sessions delivered to staff, including non-violent crisis intervention, policy and procedure development, and identification of performance indicators.

It is a top priority for the department to attain accreditation status. We want our clients, staff, and the general public to recognize that we are a modern hospital and are able to meet national standards.

Mr. Speaker, Accreditation Canada is projected to issue a forecast report that

indicates what status QGH is likely to receive. This means the department will have six months to address the recommendations, if any, prior to the final report. Thank you.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. If there are no more... Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Eva Aariak.

### Minister's Statement 017 – 3(1): Levi Nowdlak – Wise Woman of the Year

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the recipient of this year's Wise Woman Award, a yearly award handed out by the Qulliit Status of Women Council to honour a woman who has made a positive change in her community.

On March 8, the Qulliit Status of Women Council celebrated International Women's Day. This day is marked internationally as a celebration of the achievements of women and of the progress towards equality.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions women in Nunavut have made to the North's social, political, economic and cultural environment. There are countless women in Nunavut who have dedicated themselves to making positive change in their communities. Women in Nunavut have worked on issues such as family violence, political representation, child care, education, the preservation of traditional knowledge, and in general, the health and wellness of our communities.

This year's recipient of the Wise Woman Award was Levi Nowdlak, who is here, please stand.

#### >>Applause

She is a young woman from Iqaluit who spoke out about abuse in order to help other young women like her break the cycle of violence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask members to join me in recognizing Ms. Nowdlak and congratulating her on winning this award. I am confident that she will continue to be a strong and positive role model for other young women in Nunavut.

#### >>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize Levi Nowdlak, who won the award, and Shylah Elliott, who is also part of the Qulliit Status of Women Council, as well as Trista Mercer and Jennifer Condon, who also work at Qulliit Status of Women Council, and Rian van Brugten, who is a Government of Nunavut employee. We would also like to acknowledge Evie Onalik, the mother of Levi Nowdlak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Tapardjuk.

## Minister's Statement 018 – 3(1): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajiit

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, my *Annuraaqatik*, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the newlyappointed 15 *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajiit*:

- From the Kitikmeot

Marie Anguti, Kugaaruk Alice Ayalik, Kugluktuk Arnaoyok Alookee, Taloyoak

- From the Kivalliq

Erksuktuk Eetuk, Coral Harbour Andre Tautu, Chesterfield Inlet

- From North Baffin

Koonoo Oyukuluk, Arctic Bay Laisa Ningiuk, Grise Fiord Leonie Qrunnut, Igloolik Gamailee Kilukishak, Pond Inlet

-From South Baffin

Qabawa Qatsiya, Cape Dorset Jacopie Ikalukjuaq, Clyde River Sammie Peter, Iqaluit Peteroosie Qarpik, Pangnirtung Ragelee Angnakok, Qikiqtarjuaq Simeonie Akpik, Kimmirut

They will serve all Government of Nunavut departments as an advisory on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* for a three-year term.

According to each member's life experience, interests, knowledge and skills, and in order to serve the government better, each member of the *Katimajiit* are grouped into one of three groups. Groups will focus on issues of justice, education, and health and social services. To effectively address departmental requests, other subgroups will be established as needed.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what the previous *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajiit* membership has achieved over the past six years.

I look forward to the advice and support from the new *Katimajiit*. Their work will continue to help improve operations and services within all aspects of the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Shewchuk.

### Minister's Statement 019 – 3(1): Wildlife Symposium, Rankin Inlet March 16 to 20

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to provide an update on the wildlife symposium taking place this week in Rankin Inlet. The event has been organized by a steering committee comprised of representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the Government of Nunavut.

In order to respond to the needs and concerns of Nunavummiut, we must engage in constructive dialogue on wildlife issues. The Department of Environment has been working in collaboration with co-management partners to plan this symposium. The goal is to improve the way we cooperatively manage wildlife in Nunavut. I see the symposium as a positive step toward our collective vision of ensuring the sustainability of wildlife into the future.

Participants at the wildlife symposium include at least two delegates from each community HTO, and each RWO, as well as representatives from NTI, NWMB, NIWS, and federal government departments involved in wildlife management in Nunavut. Approximately 130 participants are expected to participate.

We know many of the issues and challenges surrounding wildlife research and management in Nunavut are complex and will not be solved in one meeting. However, this symposium is a significant step for my department in drawing on the strengths of both science and traditional knowledge.

The symposium's theme, "Working together for Wildlife Sustainability," reflects the common vision shared between all Nunavummiut and organizations involved in wildlife management. This vision is for Nunavut's wildlife populations to thrive and to be available to future generations. To achieve this, it is critical to integrate our knowledge and learn from each other rather than letting our differences prevent us from taking steps forward together. This is why engaging in dialogue is critical and this is exactly the kind of environment we hope to foster at the wildlife symposium. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Tapardjuk.

#### Minister's Statement 020 – 3(1): Council of Ministers of Education, Canada's Aboriginal Education Summit

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to tell my colleagues about a groundbreaking national gathering on aboriginal education.

Last month, education ministers from around the country joined more than 40 national and regional aboriginal and Inuit representatives to discuss how to eliminate the gap between First Nation, Métis, and Inuit learners and other Canadian learners.

Mr. Speaker, it was an incredible experience to hear what is happening around the country in regard to aboriginal education. It is also a great privilege knowing that Nunavut is well ahead of the curve in terms of delivering culturally-appropriate and Inuit language based programming in our schools.

Over the course of two days, all the jurisdictions and aboriginal organizations had the opportunity to voice their concerns, share their success stories, and elaborate on best practices. It was an insightful and invigorating few days and everyone involved committed to strengthen partnerships.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated was one of the representatives at the summit. They provided a strong voice for Inuit at these discussions and were invaluable in explaining the situation in Nunavut. They were also happy to see our territory's progress in developing and delivering education tailored to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, initiatives like the Bilingual Education Strategy, the community-specific Language of Instruction models, using the knowledge of elders in creating curriculum, and the implementation of the made-in-Nunavut *Education Act* are all proof of the Department of Education's dedication to providing excellence in our school system.

The Government of Nunavut is excited to deliver the best in Inuit education excellence and we are happy to share our accomplishments with our partners throughout the country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. If there are no more, Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

#### Item 3: Members' Statements

### Members' Statement 041 – 3(1): Willingness to Work with Members from the Kivalliq Region

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just prior to making my statement, I would like to speak about my constituency, Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk in Akulliq. I would also like to recognize the individuals that Madam Premier mentioned first of all. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, I am from the Kitikmeot community of Kugaaruk. I would like to work with the members from the Kivalliq region, whom I will mention on record.

Hon. Tagak Curley, I wish to work closely with you; Hon. Lorne Kusugak, whom I also would like to work closely with since I am now connected to the Kivalliq region. Additionally, Hon. Daniel Shewchuk from Arviat is another person I wish to work with, as well as Moses Aupaluktuq. Last but not least, I also wish to work with Johnny Ningeongan since my connection to the Kivalliq region is through my constituency community of Repulse Bay.

I have not forgotten my colleagues from the Kitikmeot as I see them continually. With respect to being a member, representing your constituents is the biggest priority. It is always gratifying to eke out a win since elections are not too predictable.

The riding I was elected to, Akulliq, with the two communities of Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk being in two regions, is unlike any other riding in Nunavut. As an example, if I were to go to visit Repulse Bay via snowmobile, it would only take a day from Kugaaruk. If I go via the airlines, it takes two days to arrive in Repulse Bay.

This is an issue that will have to be revisited in the future to ensure that the desires and aspirations of the residents of Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk are taken into consideration, not what I, as a member, want. That's why I would like to work with the members that I mentioned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

### Member's Statement 042 – 3(1): In Support of Sealing

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of the government's efforts to maintain the sealing tradition in Nunavut. I am confident that all Members of this House will recognize the importance of hunting seals in our territory.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to hear views expressed from both sides of this House that show just how important the seal is to Nunavut residents, to Nunavut's economy, and to Nunavut's identity.

Mr. Speaker, by working together, we can send a strong message to the rest of Canada and to the rest of the world that this issue is extremely important to us and that when it comes to defending the sealing tradition in Nunavut, we will not give up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

## Member's Statement 043 – 3(1): Ensuring Opportunities for Nunavut's Small Communities

**Mr. Ningeongan**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to call upon our

government to work towards ensuring opportunities for Nunavut's smaller communities.

Mr. Speaker, residents of the smaller communities like the ones I represent often feel left out of major initiatives and developments. That is not to say that these communities cannot come up with some very productive developments of their own, such as the one in Chesterfield Inlet that I spoke of earlier this session.

However, residents of the smaller communities often hear of investments in infrastructure and programming in the larger communities and it leads to the perception that they are missing out.

Mr. Speaker, residents of our smaller communities do not want to get left behind. It is not always possible or practical for them to leave their homes and families and a familiar environment to seek out new opportunities. I feel that our government should be making more of an effort to bring opportunities to them.

Mr. Speaker, one area that will be critical to the ongoing success of Nunavut is the promotion of education and training. Our government needs to invest in ensuring that our schoolchildren have safe and adequate schools where they can pursue their education and their dreams.

Our government needs to invest in establishing training programs in those communities where the surrounding environment lends itself well to certain types of training or where the opportunities for employment in specific industries are coming up. Mr. Speaker, a good example of the government bringing infrastructure and training programs to the community is the building of a community learning centre in Pond Inlet with a view to providing training programs directly linked to employment opportunities at the Mary River mining site.

Mr. Speaker, we need this kind of investment throughout Nunavut, in all the regions, and especially in the smaller communities, and I urge the government to work towards that goal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

#### Member's Statement 044 – 3(1): Constituency Office Update/Hockey Centre Update

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to send my greetings to my constituents in Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove. I would also like them to know that my offices are now open in both communities, and my assistant in Whale Cove is Manu Nattiq and Johnny One, John Ayaruaq, is working out of the Rankin Inlet office. I just wanted to inform my constituents of these developments.

Secondly, I wish to express my pleasure for the hockey tournament occurring in Rankin Inlet. Hockey is a very popular event in our community and there are always games going on. I happened to watch a game last week where we had teams from all over playing hockey. We even had a team come in from the Kitikmeot and they were welcomed to our community when they came to play in the tournament.

I would like to notify all future teams that they will be warmly welcomed and that we will always welcome them should they travel to our community to attend these events.

I was quite proud of the winning team of the 2009 Avataq Minors Cup. Furthermore, I am very proud of the Rankin Inlet Bantam Hockey Team that came in second during their Sunday game here in Iqaluit. Also, the younger team that played in Rankin Inlet won their game. I am very proud of them and I encourage them to continue to play hockey in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

#### Member's Statement 045 – 3(1): Snowmobiling Safety in Iqaluit

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues have probably already heard through the news about this issue in Iqaluit that seems to be getting hazardous and even downright scary, especially for snowmobilers who have had difficulties. It's becoming a larger concern as Iqaluit is growing and this matter will not disappear overnight.

I urge the government as well as our local government to look into it and work with the snowmobilers and the hunters on how best to plan for safer driving as we don't want anyone placed in a dangerous situation.

I encourage all governments to work together to resolve this issue to ensure that our future is safer for everyone involved and not have dangerous situations occurring in our communities. This can impact different communities because they're all experiencing growth.

I wonder how we can best provide a plan of action to have a safer community by involving all parties affected. I wanted to mention this to all levels of government so that they work with our hunters to resolve the challenges we face. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. If there are no more, (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognitions of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ningark.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am quite proud to recognize my lifelong partner in all matters and who, when I was feeling low during my campaign, worked even harder than I, my wife, Celine, along with our grandson whom we adopted, Jonathan, John Jr. Thank you.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Eva Aariak. **Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though I already congratulated these people, I would like to recognize them again as they worked very hard on behalf of women. I would like to recognize the recipient of this year's Wise Woman Award, who is present along with her mother, Levi Nowdlak. Please stand up.

### >>Applause

Evie Onalik, Levi's mother.

>>Applause

Shylah Elliott, an employee of the Qulliit Status of Women.

>>Applause

Trista Mercer, a board member.

>>Applause

Jennifer Condon, also a board member.

>>Applause

And Rian van Brugten.

#### >>Applause

Did I miss anyone? I would also like to recognize a woman from Pond Inlet that I know from when we used to live there, Pat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### >>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. If there are no more, we'll move on with the Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Pauloosie.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

### Question 035 – 3(1): Assistance for Homeowners in Smaller Communities

**Mr. Pauloosie**: I stand up once again for questions to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, for a number of years, Nunavummiut have been encouraged by the government to become homeowners. However, Mr. Speaker, as any homeowner knows, once you buy a house, your problems have only just begun.

In larger communities, there are plumbing companies and tradespeople available to make repairs and perform manual services on furnaces and boilers. In our extremely harsh winters, this work must be done regularly. However, these services are often lacking in smaller communities.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate if the Nunavut Housing Corporation has examined these issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is indeed an issue that has been identified not only by the Housing Corporation but by the Department of Education and the Nunavut Arctic College as well.

I think it's one of the key principles behind the delivery of the Northern Housing Trust units across the territory for the last three years was to put a very strong emphasis on training tradespeople so that those tradespeople that obtain that training through the construction of these units over the last three years obtain their trade and are in the communities to be able to provide that service within the communities.

So we have recognized that there is a shortage of tradespeople in whatever area across the territory and that's why one of the main components of the Housing Trust Delivery Strategy was to provide training. There was a commitment by the corporation through that process to provide between 35 and 40 journeypersons throughout the life of the program.

Also, a commitment by the corporation, through the training component of it, was to at least set a target of 60 percent Inuit employment on the payroll to be able to provide those training opportunities for people that are interested in working in those trades, to give them that opportunity to learn that trade. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Pauloosie.

**Mr. Pauloosie**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been suggested to me that our local housing associations should hire more maintainers.

In communities where there are no private companies to do maintenance and repair work on private homes, there may be an opportunity for maintainers to do work for private homeowners. Of course, the homeowners would be expected to pay a reasonable fee to the housing association for this service. Can the minister indicate if he would be willing to look into this option? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would love to be able to provide more dollars to the LHOs to hire more staff but unfortunately, within the fiscal restraints and limitations that are provided to the corporation, we are barely able to keep the basic stuff happening to be able to look after the public housing units that the local housing associations are responsible for.

I know that it would be great if we could be given more resources to be able to provide more resources in the communities to not only look after the public housing units that we're responsible for but also to assist the homeowners as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Your second supplementary, Mr. Pauloosie.

**Mr. Pauloosie**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In smaller communities, people are often so desperate to find qualified and licensed tradespeople to do work on their homes that they have to go on local radios to ask if anyone is available to do the work and in some cases, to no avail.

Can the minister indicate how the NHC is working with such organizations as Nunavut Arctic College to provide trades training for residents from smaller communities who would like to pursue careers in such areas as plumbing? This will also certainly create local employment in our smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my first response, the corporation is a strong component of the Housing Trust Strategy and delivery with training opportunities in conjunction with the Nunavut Arctic College and Department of Education. I think there were about 17 pre-trades courses offered over the past year or so dealing directly with individuals and tradespeople working or involved in the Housing Trust construction over the last few years.

And, Mr. Speaker, I also want to assure the member that it's not only in the smaller communities that you have a hard time finding tradespeople or that to do the work. Even here in Iqaluit, it's a challenge to find. There's too much work for people to do. We recognize that it is a problem and it's a territory-wide problem being able to have enough skilled tradespeople to do the work that's needed throughout the territory, but we are continually working.

That is a strong component of the trust delivery for training, in conjunction with the Department of Education through the apprenticeship program and the college providing the pre-trades programs on their campuses, and we continue looking to continue doing that as we move forward over the next couple of years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

### Question 036 – 3(1): Testing of Walrus and Other Traditional Food

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment, although I'm not sure if I'm directing it to the right department. I was speaking with my predecessor, Steve Mapsalak, this morning and he gave me a very good question to ask and I thank him very much for that.

In Repulse Bay, they used to send samples of the walrus meat down to Rankin Inlet to be inspected to ensure that the meat was safe and good to eat. The results used to be sent up very fast. This past summer or perhaps two summers ago, they started sending samples to Northern Quebec to be inspected. The hunters are stating that there's a long waiting period before the results are sent back to see if the walrus meat they have is edible.

My question to the Minister of Environment is: is there a laboratory in Nunavut that performs inspections on walrus or other meats? Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Minister of Environment, Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for the question; it's a very good question. At present right now, in the Kivalliq region, if there is a concern about walrus meat and the trichinosis in walrus meat, it can be sent to the Rankin Inlet Health Centre where it will be examined and an answer provided back to the communities. In regard to other wildlife, with caribou, or musk ox, or other terrestrial wildlife, those samples can be provided to each regional biologist in each region of Nunavut. Thank you very much.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder why these samples were sent out to Northern Quebec last summer because it took a long time to get the results back from those samples. I wonder if the minister can look into this and provide me with correspondence on his findings. Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Member. I don't know why it would have gone to Northern Quebec or where you say that this has been, but I could check into that.

However, I just want to let members know that walruses are not our jurisdiction; it is a DFO jurisdiction, so it's under DFO's authority. But we definitely work in cooperation to sustain healthy populations and provide information to all Nunavutmiut. Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Your second supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Whether the meat is safe for consumption by Inuit is the question. Yes, I know that the meat is generally safe to eat, but many Nunavummiut go hunting for their food and some people prefer to eat fresh meat.

I appreciate what the minister stated if he understood me correctly and I would like to ask him when he can provide me with an update. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will check and inform you as soon as I can while we're sitting here in the next week or two.

I just want to provide the member too with information that if there is concern about any wildlife and diseases within Nunavut, every community has a conservation officer, a wildlife resource officer, that samples can be taken into and gotten to our biologists that we can test them out to. Thank you very much.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

#### Question 037 – 3(1): Breach of Privacy Act

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yesterday, I tabled a document which disclosed some breaches of our *Access to Information Act*. I would like to ask a question to the Minister responsible for the *Access to Information Act*.

A lot of ministers in our country have lost their jobs for disclosing medical information of constituents. It was brought to my attention that one of my constituent's medical matters were disclosed on the government website. So my question is: has anything been done on this matter? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague for posing the question.

In Nunavut, section 23 of the Access to Information and Privacy Act protects an individual's personal information. For example, if an employee needs to be hospitalized, or sick, or taking vacation leave, or any type of leave, one of the benefits of being employed by the government is that they can take a leave of absence and the details of that leave of absence are, if I were to say it in English, (interpretation ends) personal information.

(interpretation) With regard to the different types of leave that are provided by the Nunavut government, that information is not put out to the public but access of this type of information is permitted for administrative purposes.

(interpretation ends) The Government of Nunavut is in compliance with the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. (interpretation) Those have all been removed from the Internet (interpretation ends) and out of caution from the GN public website to ensure that no personal information remains on them.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, this is something that's very important to the people of Nunavut. There's information available on the Internet if you want to find something in particular and to see what types of services are provided.

As I said, this has been removed from the Internet. It will be put back on the Internet as soon as the personal information is taken out. (interpretation ends) I'll say that again in English in case I'm misunderstood. The staff list will be reposted as soon as we can confirm that no personal information is being disclosed.

We welcome these matters being brought to our attention, but we would ask for everyone's help in keeping personal information confidential. We recommend that all MLAs, and I would like to thank the member who brought this up, for notifying us yesterday, make these matters known to us personally or ensure that the names of innocent third parties are removed before making documents public. Disclosing them without that care makes that information more public than it should otherwise be.

The GN, through the ATIPP manager and the records manager, provides ongoing training to all GN employees on preventing the unauthorized collection, use and disclosure of personal information by public bodies.

(interpretation) We empathize, as a government, of the pain that is caused by inadvertently exposing personal information to the public. We will have more oversight on the protocol for the disclosure of information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Okalik. **Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to see that the website has been taken down.

I appreciate the efforts of the government, but my job is to try and make sure that these things don't happen and that we follow the laws that are in place to protect everyone. This was publicly available to everyone and I believe I was doing my job in the interest of openness that is so often coined in various legislatures.

In light of the breaches that took place, I'm not asking for a ministerial accountability at this time but I ask that those that were impacted by these activities by this government be written a letter of apology. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for his comments. We will conduct a review on this matter for which I believe he is asking that this government write a letter of apology to those individuals who were impacted by this event. Is that right? Thank you.

**Speaker**: Your second supplementary, Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From a legal perspective, the rights of these people were breached and they were not the only people impacted. There were quite a number of individuals from different communities affected by this event and they need to be provided with an apology for having their rights abrogated by this government.

I prefer that we not see anything of this nature in the future by anyone, but these people have already been affected by this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear a question but if you would like to respond, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't believe that there was a question but rather a clarification on the matter. I thank the member for that clarification and we will undertake a review on the matter. Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

## Question 038 – 3(1): Part-time Workers in RCMP Detachments

**Mr. Schell**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I won't be picking on Hunter Tootoo on the first question. I have a question for the Minister of Justice, Keith Peterson.

I had a request from the local RCMP in Cape Dorset and they used to do this about 10 or 12 years ago, they used to hire a part-time secretary to work in the office. As you are probably aware, probably half of the work that the RCMP do is paperwork and if you would hire a secretary, it would obviously be done a lot faster and they would be able to do the things that they are supposed to do that they don't have time to do.

My question to the minister is: would you take a serious look at, and I'm sure every community has the same issue, maybe supplying some funding so they could get a part-time secretary and if that secretary could also work as a translator? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for asking that question, a timely question in fact. I had a conversation with the chief superintendent last week. We have discussed that and we were discussing how we can provide clerical support to the detachments that require it and be local hires so that they can communicate with the folks in the communities in their dialect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

### Question 039 – 3(1): Reviewing Income Support Regulations

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education, whose department is responsible for the Income Support Program.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I spoke about the high cost of living and the difficulties faced by the residents of Sanikiluaq in making ends meet.

I would like to ask the minister if he has any plans to review Nunavut's Income Support Program in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank Mr. Rumbolt for posing that question. In regard to Nunavut's Income Support Program, the last increase was in 2005 and to date, the same rates still apply. We haven't considered exactly what we will be doing in regard to the Income Support Program.

I can tell the member that we have heard the concerns. I would also like to tell the member that we haven't taken anything into consideration nor do we have any plans for making changes. That's how it stands as of today, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Your first supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: I thank minister for his response. Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Department of Education's Income Support Division conducted a review of the food allowance rate zone allocation for Sanikiluaq a short time ago. Can the minister indicate what is taken into consideration during such a review and what the results were? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to the food allowance rate zone allocation, the rates are set by the federal government through INAC. The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada sets the food allowance rate according to the cost of a food basket for a family of four. There are five zones in Nunavut and these food allowance rates that are provided through monthly income support payments are set according to each zone, depending on airfreight and the cost of living in the community. For those reasons, the rates are set by INAC and it's not one of the programs we administer, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Your second supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I thank the minister for his answer. As I stated, the GN recognizes the cost of living in Sanikiluaq to be higher than in Iqaluit. Yet, income support pays less to a family of nine, as I stated yesterday.

I am confident that the minister will agree that there are some inconsistencies between the way the government determines the appropriate communitybased northern allowance rates as compared to the way it determines the community-based food allowance rates.

Will the minister commit to consulting with his colleagues in other departments so that similar standards and criteria are used to measure the impact of the cost of living across Nunavut communities for all residents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, this is the responsibility of INAC and they are the ones who set the rates. The reason why there are five zones is that airfreight in some communities are considerably higher and that also raises the price of retail items, so they have higher rates in order to offset those extra costs.

I can commit to reviewing this matter further and if I want to make any changes, I will have to seek the approval of Cabinet. Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate that INAC is responsible for those rates and we follow the rates that are set by them.

I can also commit to see if we can take all this into consideration, but again, I will have to get the approval of Cabinet. This hasn't been entirely spelled out, but I'll commit to informing the member as information becomes available, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik. Mr. Ningeongan.

#### Question 040 – 3(1): Status of Medical Travel Review

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

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I tabled a series of resolutions that were passed at the Kivalliq mayors meeting held in Coral Harbour. One of those resolutions reads: "Be it resolved that the Kivalliq Mayors express grave concern over the level of air service being delivered to the citizens of the Kivalliq Region when on medical travel. We want a review of the present contract as it relates to patient care and comfort. Therefore the Kivalliq Mayors petition the Minister of Health to address this issue." I understand from reports in the news that the Minister of Health and Social Services will be spearheading such a review in the near future. Can the minister confirm that such a review will take place and when it will occur? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the member for posing that question. We recently received the information on the meeting in Coral Harbour when it was tabled in the House. It's currently being reviewed by our department.

I can tell the member that the concerns in regard to medical travel will definitely be reviewed. At this time, what we are going to be doing, whether we are going to be setting up a program directly related to this, will have to be done on a case-by-case basis as it will have financial implications. What I can tell the member is that we will definitely deal with the concerns since some of the patients are elderly and require more assistance.

We would appreciate any further information that the member may have and I want to be kept well-informed. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to this matter we are discussing, such as the elderly or people with disabilities, or those who get tired easily but require medical travel are reasons for looking into this matter.

They face a long ride with the medical travel directly from Rankin Inlet to Winnipeg discontinued. Previously, they were given the option of staying overnight in Rankin Inlet prior to travelling to Winnipeg and there were less stops along the way, which caused less disruption and it was more comfortable for the patients.

Will the minister consider the impacts on outlying community medical patients when they are looking at this issue? There are a number of stops along the way on their travel to Winnipeg and it is tiring when you are not a medical patient. So I would like to ask the minister if he can fast-track the review of the medical travel issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking those questions. I know exactly what he's talking about. I do feel for the medical patients in the Kivalliq region, especially the elderly and the patients who had just had surgery.

Last year was an especially bad year as I was told by this elderly individual who was trying to go home from Winnipeg that he might not make it all the way to Rankin Inlet because he couldn't stay in one position for a long period of time. He did manage to make it but he ended up on the flight we call the milk run. It's something that we have to consider, especially for the elders and for the people who just had surgery, not just for Rankin Inlet but also for the outlying communities of Repulse Bay, Coral Harbour, Baker Lake, and Chesterfield Inlet.

Due to this reason, Mr. Speaker, I can state this: I have informed my staff and we finally signed off on a medical travel contract last year and the airlines were restricted to the contract deliverables. Prior to that, it was entirely a free market. At that time, any available seat on any airline was used.

We now have a signed contract. They will have to use specific airlines; 65 percent for one and 35 percent for the other. We do have to abide by the contract that we signed and not wanting to break it, I asked my department staff how we could address the needs of the sickest people without breaking the contract.

In the upcoming two months, our department is preparing a review and we would like your support to come up with recommendations to ensure that we have the best service available to meet the needs of our people. I commit to ensuring that I treat this matter seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those of us in the outlying communities, we have to go through harder travel routes, especially for Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet. I am very pleased with the minister's response in regard to better accommodations of those in need and it looks like he is going to be reviewing the matter.

I wrote down a list of the concerns for medical patients and I will be giving that correspondence to your department, especially the concerns about the boarding home and the accommodations. I will provide the minister with a list of concerns that we have and also things to be considered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think a question was posed, but I take the concerns seriously with respect to the boarding home in Winnipeg. Some of the patients spend a long period down there and some of them cannot stay at the boarding home. Some patients have had to get an apartment to continue their treatments.

The assistance we provide, the Non-Insured Health Benefits, have restrictions on what it can be used for. However, for people who have terminal illnesses or long-term disabilities, they have to be allocated an apartment to continue their treatment.

We will continue to take these concerns seriously when they are expressed to us and we will continue to monitor the situation. Once we have more information, we will provide it to the members and I would be able to meet with the members on this matter at any time. Thank you. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Komoartok.

### Question 041 – 3(1): Accommodation for Family of Cancer Patients

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Approximately two weeks ago, a resident of our community was sent to Ottawa for medical attention. This person is an adult, but younger than I am, and the children are still quite young. This person was sent to Ottawa for a check-up and they diagnosed him with cancer and that it had spread throughout his body.

When this person was in Pangnirtung, over the course of an entire year, he kept going to the medical centre in our community and the nurses just kept giving medication such as Tylenol and since he also had abdominal pains, he was given Ex-lax. This occurred over a period of a year and it was not until he was sent to Ottawa that the cancer was finally diagnosed and this person now requires radiation treatment.

This person is younger than I am and when this happens to younger people, it tugs at your heart. He would be returned home after each visit to the medical centre and he was never scheduled to see a doctor either. All of a sudden, he was placed in a precarious position once the proper diagnosis was done with the news of his sickness. This is a difficult situation to be placed in and it has affected all of us who know him. His children are still quite young and once the diagnosis was done and the cancer discovered, his spouse was immediately sent down to Ottawa, but his children couldn't go. Our community held a fund-raiser over the weekend where they raised over \$5,000 so that the children could be sent down to see their father. They were sent down to see their father while he is still relatively healthy.

In some ways, Mr. Speaker, some of the people who go to the medical centre complaining about ill health are downplayed and quite a few are never referred to a doctor, although some people do get referred. This health situation we face today requires a lot more improvement in the way medical services are provided because when people are sick, only a doctor should be diagnosing the person as the nurses do not have the proper medical training to do a proper diagnosis of the ailments being complained about.

I would like to hear from the minister with respect to the health centres personnel, to stress to the nurses working in the communities not to downplay or trivialize the people who keep returning to the health centres and to refer them to a doctor in a timely manner.

I would like the minister to send a directive to all of the health centres on this matter as most communities don't have a doctor, although we occasionally get doctors visiting our communities. I would like to get clarification on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley. **Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for disclosing the situation regarding this individual's plight and for keeping that person's name off the record. However, I would like to meet with the member in my office so that we can discuss this matter and get more information pertaining to this particular matter.

I would also like to state that in the smaller communities where they don't have a doctor or medical practitioner, many people are misdiagnosed and some of the illnesses are really hard to spot and seemingly in hiding. But once a proper diagnosis has been done, they finally can deal with the sickness and we need to thank the health care professionals for providing the required services.

The visits to the communities are too infrequent and what we're trying to do is at least provide those visits once a year but it's very hard to do and it's hard to provide diagnosis, especially in the smaller communities. If possible, we would like to see more frequent visits to the communities and to revise the scheduling. It's a lot better than it was a few years ago but there's also room for improvement.

As I get further information, I will make sure that the House is updated so that there's better diagnosis provided to the patients in Nunavut. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

#### Question 042 – 3(1): Housing Authority Staff to Assist Homeowners

**Mr. Ningark**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to Hon. Tootoo, my friend, my colleague. I will carry on from my colleague's, Mr. Pauloosie, questioning.

In a small community, Mr. Speaker, many of the homeowners do not have the certification to fix the mechanical things in their private homes. However, every small community has certified people working at the local housing office.

Mr. Speaker, the minister has the authority to instruct his staff to do something for the people that own their own homes who are not able to fix their own furnaces, check the electrical stuff, to do the annual checklist. Will the minister do that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague and my other colleague for raising this important issue. In the communities, I think that is something important that needs to get looked at.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, when we were trying to address that issue, like I said in the last year, there were 17 pretrades courses that were offered through Nunavut Arctic College and I think there's the target of 35 to 40-some apprentices being trained through the construction of the Northern Housing Trust units to try and help alleviate that.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I know that that's more of a long-term and hopefully permanent fix if we can identify and provide training opportunities for apprentices and people to become journeypersons in their communities, they're always going to be there to provide that service.

Mr. Speaker, the public housing stock across Nunavut is I think around 4,200 units. The number one priority for the local housing associations in each community is to look after the inventory, the public housing units that they have in their control. I know of some cases in the past, and I've experienced it myself when I was living in smaller communities, where there was a request that would come in for an oil burner mechanic working for the housing association to go in to look at somebody else's unit.

But I would say that the decision on whether or not they're able to do that would be a decision of the local housing association board of directors, they have a say in that as well. I again say that their first priority is to look after the public housing units that they have and that they're mandated to look after. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize the priority of the local maintenance people is to maintain public units, we knew that, but my request is to do an annual check on mechanical parts in private homes. Will the minister commit to perhaps talking to his people to direct the local housing association of my concern? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said, the local housing associations have their priorities and their mandate to look after, and the staffing to look after. They're barely keeping their heads above water and keeping their maintenance people. They barely have enough time, in most communities, just to do what they need to do for the public housing units.

I think the whole issue is if there was some type of a program to provide staffing positions, maintenance-type positions, whether it is within the corporation or through the LHOs, to provide maintenance services to homeowners, it would be a different issue. But like I said, right now, given the limited resources that we have to work with, we don't have the manpower to be able to go out and do that to every single house in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. minister. The concern that my colleague from Nattilik and I have is that I think we want to encourage homeownership. We're looking for incentives and we're looking for safety factors. Will the minister at least consider looking at our concerns and get back to us in the near future? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry, I apologize to my colleague. I should have said I would have no problem bringing that issue forward to get some feedback from my staff at the corporation to maybe come forward with some proposals or some ideas as to what it would take in order to provide a service like that throughout the territory.

But like I said, Mr. Speaker, my guess is, right now, given our current fiscal situation and manpower situation, we just don't have the people to be able to provide that service in the communities. I will ask my staff to bring forward to me an idea of how and what it would take to be able to provide that service throughout the territory.

And, Mr. Speaker, like I said earlier, I know it has been done in the past through the housing associations but I think that the important thing is, as my other colleague mentioned, that those services are paid for, it's not a free thing because that person's time is worth money. So if a program like that is developed, it would be a on a fee-forservice type basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Mr. Okalik.

### Question 043 – 3(1): Suicide Prevention

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier a question.

She made an announcement along with NTI on March 12 to launch a program entitled 'Talk About It!' They made a

statement about starting up the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. I believe this was used by our employees in the past. Is that true? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We, as the Government of Nunavut, are collaborating with NTI on this issue. Additionally, we are working with the Embrace Life Council.

With respect to the question he posed, I didn't hear it in its entirety, so if he could repeat his question, please. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was with respect to training, specifically the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. This seems to be mentioned and I seem to recall in the past that we had employees who undertook this training. It seems to have appeared recently as a new initiative and that is why I asked the question. Wasn't this training already used in the past? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you. This was something we brought up at this meeting when we discussed suicide prevention training and there was a meeting of the trainers who trained people who would do that in the communities. They have added new training modules which are currently being revised in Calgary, where this training initiative originated from and it's still ongoing.

We continue to brainstorm as to how best to meet our challenges in this area as a government. It's obvious that the member asked this question as he faced that issue previously. We have made some improvements to this training program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this is to try and make recommendations.

Are we continuing the previous program? I asked whether we have a new program because this training has been utilized in the past for quite a while. It has been used by GN employees as well. We still haven't seen any results and that's why I have offered to assist this government in searching for better ways to combat suicide.

The reason why I asked if we were just returning to something that has already been tried is because I would like to see improvements and a more effective program that can assist us with real results, especially since this is a real concern for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I don't believe there was a question, but if you would like to respond, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the member is completely forthright in his assessment that this is a very serious matter that we are trying to combat and we will have to continue to brainstorm on this issue.

We will also do a careful review of this recent training program as to its effectiveness and this course that was utilized requires a review in the future to see whether it has had an impact. We will continue to monitor the progress of this matter. Thank you.

### Speaker: Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once this process has been completed, and I am just commenting here, I will want to see a report on the veracity of the program and its effectiveness, as well as recommendations to improve this course prior to it being adopted by our government.

So I urge the government to make improvements because the prior program needed to be revised. Although we applied this training and tried to implement it, it didn't seem to make a marked difference. That's why I want this program thoroughly reviewed, to recommend improvements, so that it can be better utilized by all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I agree with you. Thank you. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. If there are no more, I believe this is the first time that we have ever concluded Question Period before the time was up. Moving on to Item 7. Written... I'm sorry, there was one more question. Written Questions. Item 7. Mr. Okalik.

### **Item 7: Written Questions**

#### Written Question 001 – 3(1): Health and Safety Standards for Government of Nunavut Buildings in Nunavut

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to ask the first Written Question as my colleague and I were competing for it.

(interpretation ends) I have a Written Question for my hon. colleague for the Ministry of Community and Government Services concerning the environmental status of Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit. The term used is the 'sick building syndrome.'

The question is lengthy, so I would ask that it be read into the record.

 With respect to Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office location (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) how often are these buildings scheduled for air quality, contamination and ventilation testing?

- 2) Since April 1, 1999, for all Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) how many air quality, contamination and ventilation tests have been undertaken and how many of those tests have not passed quality control standards?
- 3) Since April 1, 1999, for all Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) how many complaints related to building environmental conditions such as air quality, contamination or ventilation, have been reported by employees?
- 4) Since April 1, 1999, for all Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) how often have environmental health officers been requested to inspect office environmental conditions?
- 5) Since April 1, 1999, for all Government of Nunavut offices

in Iqaluit, broken down by office location (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) how many employee sick days have been reported due to building environmental conditions or Sick Building Syndrome?

- 6) Since April 1, 1999, for all Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre) what steps have been taken to address reported concerns about building environmental conditions?
- 7) To date, how many lawsuits relating to Sick Building Syndrome have been filed by current or former Government of Nunavut employees who worked in Government of Nunavut offices in Iqaluit, broken down by office location (including, but not limited to, the Trigram, Brown, Federal, Aeroplex, Governor and Sivummut buildings, Building 224, Building 1079 and the Nunavut Justice Centre)?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Can we have those questions brought forward to the table, please. (interpretation ends) Written Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

## Written Question 002 – 3(1): Contracting, Procurement and Hiring Activities of the Nunavut Housing Corporation

**Mr. Schell**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess Paul beat me out on the first one; I was trying to get the first question in. I didn't have an Oral Question for Mr. Hunter Tootoo, but unfortunately I have a written one here.

I have a Written Question for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation concerning the contracting, procurement and hiring activities of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

This also is a very lengthy one, so I would ask that it be entered into the record as read.

- Expressing the information in the same format as that which is contained in the annual *Procurement Activity Reports* and *Contract Activity Reports* that are prepared and published by the Department of Community and Government Services, what were the contracting and procurement activities of the Nunavut Housing Corporation for the following fiscal years:
  - a. 2006-2007;
  - b. 2007-2008; and
  - c. 2008-2009 to date?
- 2. What were the names, position titles and salary ranges of the positions of individuals hired by the Nunavut Housing Corporation between April

1, 2006 and March 1, 2009, in the following categories of employment:

- a. Indeterminate employees;
- b. Term employees; and
- c. Casual employees?
- 3. What were the names, position titles and remuneration ranges of individuals engaged by the Nunavut Housing Corporation as contractors and/or consultants between April 1, 2006 and March 1, 2009?
- 4. What travel and housing benefits are provided to individuals engaged by the Nunavut Housing Corporation as contractors and/or consultants?
- 5. Which contractors and/or consultants engaged by the Nunavut Housing Corporation between April 1, 2006 and March 1, 2009 were previously employed by the Nunavut Housing Corporation on an indeterminate, term or casual basis?
- 6. What conflict of interest policies are followed by the Nunavut Housing Corporation with respect to its hiring, contracting and procurement activities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Can we have those questions brought forward to the table, please.

Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. (interpretation ends) Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

#### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### Tabled Document 019 – 3(1): Reply to Opening Address

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to my reply to opening address yesterday, I wish to table the written copy and I apologize for not providing it to our interpreters in advance. I am tabling this document so that it could be used to make corrections to *Hansard*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Can we have that document brought forward to the table, please.

(interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Mr. Shewchuk.

#### Tabled Document 020 – 3(1): Environmental Rights Act Annual Report from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following document: *Environmental Rights Act* Annual Report from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. 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. (interpretation) Item 19. Consideration in the Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 1 and Bill 2 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair. Before we proceed with Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15:05 and Committee resumed at 15:42

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. I call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bill 1 and Bill 2. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to your new Chair. We would like to begin our review of Bill 2 and once that's concluded, we would like to deal with Bill 1 and the capital estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree that we first deal with Bill 2?

Some Members: Agreed.

#### Bill 02 – Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 – July 31, 2009 – Consideration in Committee

**Chairman** (interpretation): The Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson, has opening remarks to make. Before we proceed, maybe Mr. Peterson can make his opening remarks. Welcome. **Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 2 is an interim appropriation bill in the amount of \$369,290,000 to provide funding for the period from April 1 to July 31, 2009. This bill will allow the government to continue to fund its operations until the main estimates are tabled in the June sitting.

To determine the requisite amount of funding for the first four months of 2009-2010, one third of the departmental approved targets for the 2008-09 main estimates plus the two supplementary appropriation bills that were passed by Members of the Second Legislative Assembly were used.

In addition, there was an allowance for departments that have more cash flow requirements early in the fiscal year, such as the Legislative Assembly and the Departments of Justice and Community and Government Services.

Mr. Chairman, this is not the first time that an interim appropriation bill has appeared in front of members. At the end of the First Assembly, Bill 50, *Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 to June 30,* 2004, was passed by Members of the First Assembly so that Members of the Second Assembly could have time to carefully consider its first budget.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I'll be pleased to take questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do you have a witness that you would like to bring to the table? **Hon. Keith Peterson**: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do members agree to bring in the witness?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Minister, you can go to the witness table. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witness in.

Thank you. Minister, please introduce your witness.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Deputy Minister Peter Ma, Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. 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 would first like to ask if members have any general comments. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's too bad that we have to approve the interim supplementary appropriation from April 1 to July 31 before we see the details. We don't want to do that again after this; we want to see well prepared and more detailed documents perhaps at our spring sitting. But we also know that as regular MLAs, we have to approve the interim supplementary appropriation because operations have to go on and that can't happen if there's no Act in place. We understand that, but after this, we want to see a well prepared document before the next estimates.

I will be raising questions on the contents of the bill, so I will leave it at that for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Are there any other general comments? As there are no more general comments, we will proceed with Bill 2 and it's in your white legislation binders. Was that clear? Bill 2, *Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 – July 31*, 2009. Clause 1?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 2?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will go to the Schedule on page 3. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, it's not in detail, it only lists how much is allocated to the departments. If we look at Item 6, (interpretation ends) Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Environment, Community and Government Services, and the Housing Corporation, (interpretation) those departments are given contributions. Are they already included in there? For example, Environment and CLEY have programs that are heavily relied upon in the outpost camps and by those who wish to take people out on the land to help pay for fuel, naphtha, or what have you. They also contribute to hamlets and the local housing associations through the Housing Corporation. Are those already included in there and will they be able to access them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Chairman, all departments were contacted and consulted with their requirements for the cash flow for the first four months of the fiscal year so that on April 1, they can continue their operations and normally all programs and services that they would normally deliver would continue.

The first four-month figures are based on the main estimates for 2008-09 plus the two supplementary appropriation bills. So everything will continue as normal and this will allow the government to continue its operations and deliver programs and services to communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Schedule. (interpretation ends) Interim Amounts Appropriated for the Period April 1 – July 31, 2009. Vote 1: Operations and Maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$369,290,000.

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Total Interim Appropriation. \$369,290,000.

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): We will go to clause 3 on page 2. Clause 3 on page 2. Clause 3?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do members agree to Bill 2 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do members also agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 2 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I apologize, I am exhibiting the nervousness of a first timer, but it' not intentional and I wanted the members to know this.

With respect to Bill 2, I would like to thank the Minister of Finance as well as his deputy minister for making their presentation and for being available to answer questions. I believe we will be going to our last item on the agenda. Minister, if you have any closing remarks, please feel free to proceed.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Don't feel nervous, this is my first time as well in the hot seat, so it's a learning process for both of us from our days with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities.

I would like to thank the members for taking your time this afternoon to allow us to appear before you as witnesses.

I assure the members that all government departments and Crown agencies are hard at work on their main estimates so that we will have that information in May. We look forward to appearing before you for detailed questioning in May and June. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you for being available. We will move on to the next item. At this time, I would like to thank the officials for being here to deal with the bill. As we are finished dealing with that particular bill, we would like to thank you for your comments.

We will proceed. I would now like to ask the Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak, if he has any opening remarks. I welcome you.

#### Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2009-2010 – Community and Government Services – Consideration in Committee

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will commence with my opening remarks for this presentation and go to the witness table shortly afterwards. Is that the procedure?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to appear before you today to provide an update on the 2009-2014 Five-Year Capital Plan and in particular, the 2009-2010 capital allocation for the Department of Community and Government Services.

The Department of Community and Government Services has many roles in the delivery of capital projects for the government. Our staff provide a wide range of services to all departments to assist them in developing their capital plans. These range from initial project identification and development to final technical reviews and actual project management.

(interpretation ends) In addition to assisting government departments, CGS is also responsible for assessing and securing funding for the immediate and long-term capital needs for all Nunavut communities. Our efforts depend on strong partnerships between the government and each of our individual communities. We recognize the trust and community expectations we face and it is our responsibility to deliver essential capital infrastructure in a fair and equitable way. (interpretation) During the community consultations last winter and the department's participation in the regional mayors meetings, concerns were raised regarding the replacement of the aging mobile equipment fleet and depleting granular stocks.

Another concern raised was with respect to depleted granular quarries and borrow pits. Several communities are experiencing shortages of granular materials in Nunavut and it seems most of the communities were outside of Coral Harbour.

In response to these concerns, my staff is undertaking an extensive review of the current mobile fleet and all granular stocks to look at quicker replacement options for machines such as front-end loaders, graders, dump trucks, and all granular stocks within Nunavut. My department will be presenting options to address these issues in the new fiscal year.

As Minister of Community and Government Services, I am looking forward to introducing some new approaches to how the government deals with communities because different communities have different needs. As a government, we tend to give them the same things when they actually have different needs.

(interpretation ends) For instance, I have challenged staff to review the way we apply standards and criteria to capital projects. Currently, the system calls for a similar infrastructure to be built in all communities. These standards no longer reflect the needs of our territory. Communities are now asking us to consider an equitable approach to funding community infrastructure. With this in mind, we are updating our standards and criteria to better reflect the priorities of our communities.

We have included 10 projects in the department's five-year capital plan that are 50/50 cost shared with Infrastructure Canada through the Municipal Infrastructure Fund (MRIF). Canada's maximum contribution under this program is \$19.5 million. We have also included four projects in the plans that are 50/50 cost shared with Canada under the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF). Canada's maximum contribution under this program is \$20 million. (interpretation) Both the MRIF and CSIF are set to expire on March 31, 2012.

(interpretation ends) The projects funded under these programs are all recommended by the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee which is comprised of three mayors and three GN employees. The main role of this committee is to ensure our communities have a strong voice in determining their capital project priorities.

(interpretation) The members must note that all of the mayors in Nunavut appoint three mayors to the NAM executive. They are contacted by their regional mayors to discuss issues to ensure that the regions have an equal voice.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, some significant water and waste projects are also currently underway. These include work on upgrades to the Kugluktuk water system, Qikiqtarjuaq's municipal services, and to the Resolute Bay sewage and water works. We are utilizing a combination of Government of Nunavut and federal dollars for these projects.

In the Petroleum Products Division, there are also a number of projects currently underway or planned within the next five years based on priority need. New and evolving regulations for fuel storage facilities are placing added pressure on our limited resources to ensure code compliance and improve safety. As communities grow, the demand for petroleum products also increases, which then require larger storage facilities.

Mr. Chairman, we realize that we will be facing many challenges over the next five years due to aging infrastructure. We also recognize the added pressure on the GN capital plan due to the needs and expectations of Nunavummiut.

With funding from the federal infrastructure programs such as the Building Canada Fund and the extension of the Gas Tax Program, we are confident that we can continue to be effective in meeting the most urgent needs of our communities.

However, the needs expressed by communities sometimes exceed what we can accomplish within our budgets. We recognize this discrepancy, however, we must act to live within our means in order to be credible when attempting to access new funds.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I hope these comments give a good overview of the demands upon my department for capital funding and the challenges associated with prioritizing projects. Our awareness of the great need and the challenges communities face is what drives our capital planning process. Our vision of the future is one of partnerships to best support communities and to try and address the needs of all Nunavummiut.

Those are my comments, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Do you have witnesses that you wish to bring to the witness table?

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, yes, I would like to have my officials with me at the witness table. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do members agree to have the minister's officials at the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister Kusugak, for the record, please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. To my left is David Akeeagok, my Deputy Minister, and to my right is Mr. Roy Green, Director of Community Infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do you have opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus, Mr. Arvaluk? **Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2009-2010 Capital Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. Members note that the department is proposing to appropriate \$36,194,000 for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Its capital budget was \$16,576,000 in 2007-08 and \$23,107,000 in 2008-09.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the operations of this department have a significant impact on the success of the overall GN's capital planning process. In recent years, Members of the Legislative Assembly have expressed concerns with respect to the issues of project management and capital carryovers. On September 9, 2007, a GN news release indicated that the department had been directed to "present solutions for the future management of large-scale projects and materials transportation that could benefit from economies of scale."

Members are aware of the impact that such factors as inflation, higher prices for steel and fuel, the Alberta economic boom, and a lack of sub-trades availability have had on the construction costs of major capital projects in the territory. Members are also aware that the recent economic downturn across North America may impact on the GN's capital planning process in relation to these factors.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, members note that a number of this department's project substantiation sheets indicate that the budgets for a number of capital projects now include a "project development contingency" and a "market contingency." (interpretation ends) Members encourage the Department of Community and Government Services to evaluate this approach and to work with other GN departments to examine the advisability of their also incorporating it in their capital budgeting.

While members are supportive of efforts to build capacity in the Department of Community and Government Services in order to strengthen the GN's capital planning process and address the need for more reliable and accurate cost estimates, it is essential that Members of this Assembly retain the right to consider, approve, or reject proposed capital projects at the initial stage of their development. That's important to this Assembly.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, in February of 2005, the government announced the creation of the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from the GN and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. The primary role of this body has been to "determine the long-range infrastructure plan for all community infrastructure requirements funded through the Department of Community and Government Services."

While members recognize that the needs of communities greatly exceed available GN resources, a consultative and cooperative approach to capital planning and priority setting is critical. Members support the department's efforts to access federal infrastructure funding under such initiatives as the Building Canada Fund and encourage the minister to consult closely with MLAs and communities in determining priority projects.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the January 2009 federal budget announced the creation of a recreational infrastructure fund to provide \$500 million "over two years to support construction of new community recreational facilities and upgrades to existing facilities across Canada."

Members are strongly supportive of initiatives to improve the quality of recreational facilities in Nunavut given their important role in fostering health and wellness in our communities. The need for a new community arena in Pond Inlet, which I've mentioned over and over again, is just one example of a project that deserves consideration. Members look forward to being kept informed of the GN's success in accessing our territory's share of this federal funding. Members also recommend that the department explore opportunities to undertake improvements to existing recreational facilities in order to increase the number of months that they can be used during the year. One example of such an improvement is the installation of artificial ice in arenas.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, members are pleased to note that while there was no funding for granular projects in the department's 2007-08 capital estimates, \$192,000 was budgeted in 2008-09 for granular projects across the territory and \$300,000 is being budgeted in 2009-2010 for granular projects under the department's small capital budget.

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The department's 2007-08 business plan indicated that one of its priorities was to "establish a granular program." (interpretation ends) The department's 2008-09 business plan indicated that it had "met with and consulted with communities, departments, and other levels of government to more accurately determine future aggregate needs.

We have examined various equipment and crushing program options and are considering the requirements and costs associated with necessary training and options implementation. The program methodology is in the draft stage; it is expected to be able to be made available for consideration next year." (interpretation) Members look forward to regular updates on this important initiative.

Members also encourage the department to work closely with communities and the Nunavut Housing Corporation with respect to the issues of gravel supplies and lot surveying.

Mr. Chairman, the department has budgeted \$7,365,000 in 2009-2010 for water system upgrades in the community of Kugluktuk. This is the department's single largest capital project for 2009-2010. The substantiation sheet for this project indicates that despite the community having received a new water treatment plant in 2003, Kugluktuk's "filtered water does not meet the Canadian drinking water guidelines for turbidity."

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the provision of safe drinking water to our communities is a fundamental function of this government. It is unclear as to how many of Nunavut's communities currently meet national guidelines for drinking water quality and how many do not. We don't know that. During the Legislative Assembly's consideration of this department's 2008-09 capital estimates, a request was made for the minister to prepare a report on drinking water quality in Nunavut's communities and to table this report in the Legislative Assembly. (interpretation) This has not yet been done and members recommend that the new minister commit to tabling such a report before the end of this calendar year.

(interpretation ends) The Municipal Training Organization, which is funded by this department, has developed a course for municipal water treatment plant operators in Nunavut. Members recommend that the minister also table a report in the Legislative Assembly on the success of this course. Members also recommend that the government periodically reports to the Legislative Assembly on its participation in the activities of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, the issue of sewage treatment in our communities is also important. On February 17, 2009, a federal-provincial-territorial news release announced that:

> (interpretation ends) "Ministers recognized the work done to date in developing the Canada-wide strategy for the management of municipal wastewater effluent developed by Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. A number of jurisdictions have endorsed the Strategy and are ready to begin implementation.

The strategy sets out a harmonized framework to manage discharges from more than 3,500 wastewater facilities in Canada, many of which are currently in need of repair and upgrading."

Members note that the *Canada-wide* Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent indicates that:

> "Due to extreme climatic conditions and remoteness of Canada's Far North, a viable means to improve human and environmental health protection needs to be carefully considered. Therefore, a window of up to five years is provided to undertake research into factors that affect performance of wastewater facilities in northern conditions. During this period of time, the governments of the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Ouebec, Newfoundland and Labrador and the federal government will work collaboratively to:

• assess the performance of existing wastewater facilities...

In the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, agreements will be developed, taking into account the respective roles of the regulatory bodies.

These agreements will address the implementation of the standards over time, one-window regulatory reporting, public reporting and other management activities such as inspections and enforcements."

Mr. Chairman, members recommend that the Ministers of CGS and Environment regularly update the Legislative Assembly on the government's activities in this area.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2009-2010 capital estimates documentation indicates that \$4.4 million will be provided to the City of Iqaluit in block funding through the federal government's Building Canada Fund. In prior years, funding was provided to the city through a capital contribution agreement with the department.

(interpretation) Members recommend that the minister table an annual report on the city's spending under this agreement so that all Members of the Legislative Assembly and the general public will have a clear picture of how the funds have actually been used. Members also encourage the department to consider entering into such agreements with other communities that can demonstrate the capacity to manage such an arrangement.

I apologize, Mr. Chairman, I'm having a hard time opening the page.

(interpretation ends) Members note that the department's 2009-2010 capital estimates include \$4,060,000 in funding for small capital projects, which includes such items as heavy equipment acquisitions, community planning studies, block funding, and granular programs. Members encourage the department to clearly list these projects in the annual capital estimates document which is tabled in the Legislative Assembly given that they amount to over 10 percent of the department's total planned spending.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, from time to time, all Members of the Legislative Assembly receive official correspondence from the government that outlines budget transfers between capital projects that have occurred during the course of the fiscal year. It is important that members be kept informed of the exact status of capital projects that have been impacted by such transfers and encourage the government to provide detailed information in these advisories.

(interpretation ends) Members recognize the need for the department to address the issue of bulk fuel storage in our communities. The growth of communities and more stringent federal regulations will require the department to modernize and expand existing storage facilities. Improvements in this area may, in the longer term, help to reduce the need to periodically resupply communities by air, as has been required in prior years. We have seen that.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the 2009-2010 Capital Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Do members have any general comments? Mr. John Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank Minister Kusugak and his officials for their careful preparation of these capital plans which enable members to understand the process. I also thank them for including the mayors and the councils in their planning.

On page 2 of your opening comments, near the bottom of the page, it alludes to the depletion of gravel in Nunavut. I'm in complete agreement with that assessment and the wording is quite comprehensible.

With respect to the depletion of gravel, we may have to revert to blasting hills and mountains which may affect the scenery of our lands whereas most Inuit prefer to live in scenic areas. We have also heard about some communities whose shorelines are eroding due to the warming climate in the Arctic. We also hear about global warming which is alleged to be causing the seas to rise.

Perhaps when we start brainstorming on challenges such as the erosion of the shoreline, the rising of the seas, and maybe even the future changing of local scenery based on the needs of our growing communities, we ought to consider using concrete to meet our future requirements, assuming that concrete isn't too dangerous to our environment, seas, lakes, rivers, oceans, and lands.

This is just an idea that I'm throwing out for your consideration. I'm not making a recommendation, just a comment. I thank the minister again. I thank you as well, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Rumbolt has a general comment.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Recognizing that CGS works

with other GN departments in the capital planning process, I would like to make a brief opening comment on the subject of facility size.

It's my belief that we need to plan for what our population will be in ten years time, not what it is today. For example, when CGS is working with the Department of Education to plan the size of a school, we need to consider what the student population will be in 2019, not 2009. I think that if we build new facilities in this manner, we can save money down the road as the government won't have to look at renovating or expanding existing facilities.

Mr. Chairman, I would appreciate hearing the minister's thoughts on this issue. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Next on my list is Mr. Adamee Komoartok.

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question to the minister. He stated that we need more tank farms in most of the communities because of forced growth stemming from an increase in population. The minister indicated that they're currently reviewing the situation and plans will be prepared accordingly.

I think this is the third year in our community where we had to fly in fuel because we had depleted our stock. Homeowners were forced to use avgas to heat their homes before the fuel resupply arrived by ship.

We're lucky this year because it hasn't been too cold, but new housing is being constructed by the Nunavut Housing Trust and they will require heating fuel. The new health centre that is built will require fuel as well.

I would like to ask the minister when the report that he indicated will be tabled in the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Adamee Komoartok. As a reminder at this time, I asked for general comments from the members, not questions. Members will have an opportunity to ask questions when we review the capital estimates. At this time, I'll just let Minister Kusugak respond to the question. Minister Kusugak, if you would like to respond to Mr. Adamee Komoartok's question.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you for asking the question. We will try to respond to those questions at the appropriate time. But in any case, tank farms are not keeping up with the growth of the communities. With more schools, health centres, and community halls being built, demand is outstripping the capacity of tank farms.

Our staff is currently working on how they can keep up with the growth of communities. It's not only one community which is running short on fuel. We are currently working on this and prioritizing which communities will be dealt with first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. The floor is open for general comments and we will go to questions after that. If there are no more general comments, we will go to page J-3 in the 2009-2010 capital estimates. Mr. Arvaluk. **Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a general comment, but I have a question on the opening comments of the minister before we get into questions during the page-by-page review if that's okay with you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I apologize; if you have a question about the minister's opening comments, I give you the floor.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 5 of his opening comments, at the top of the last page, he stated that the Government of Canada announced the creation of a recreational infrastructure fund.

However, they haven't provided information on how the fund will be spent. I would like to ask the minister if he is anticipating having those funds available before the shipping season.

The reason why I'm asking that question is because some of the communities have already planned for their recreational facilities, I believe they're called shovel ready.

Will the Government of Canada have this fund available before the start of the shipping season? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you for asking that question, Mr. Arvaluk. We have been waiting for a while now for the money from the recreational infrastructure fund. We are expecting a response shortly in the next few days and hopefully we will get the details before the shipping season. It may even be a little bit late today because we have to prepare for the shipping season.

To answer your question, yes, we would like to see this money being made available before summer and most importantly, to see exactly how much money will be provided.

We had a meeting a few days ago with our Member of Parliament, Ms. Aglukkaq, and we asked her to inform her colleagues of the urgency of our situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. I don't think you have any more questions, Mr. Arvaluk. Thank you.

We are on page J-3 of the 2009-2010 capital estimates. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going back to November, it was interesting when Mr. Kusugak was not asking for acronyms in terms of short forms for stuff, but he sure gave us a lot of them today.

Can we go back further to J-1? I have a question about that and that's the accounting structure chart for the department. The question I have is under the Protection Services Division and then there's the Safety Inspections. Does that include your electrical inspectors and your building inspectors?

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Thank you for the question. Mr. Elliott will note that with every acronym I gave him, I first gave him the long version of it, not wanting to make that same mistake as our briefing in November. To answer your question, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of employment, I have been sort of following the new Housing Trust and asking questions about why some of the slowdowns and why some of the problems, and that's why I'm asking this question leading up to something else, which is: how many electrical inspectors are there and do we have a building inspector that's hired at this time? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Kusugak, if you would like to respond to that question.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Mr. Chairman, I believe we have three electrical inspector positions and two are currently hired, and I don't think we have a building inspector right now. I can give him more detail as I get it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. I should remind members that perhaps if we can stick to the agenda here. We're dealing with page J-3. Capital Planning. You may note that you may come across the issues that may be appropriate for you to ask the questions then. **Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if I'm going to be turned on, am I? Oh, I am allowed to go.

#### >>Laughter

My final question in this line of questions is that I have heard that a number of people were hired and that's what causes the slowdowns in construction and whatnot.

With all of the capital projects that are being done and being built and some of the holdbacks and drawbacks, is this going to affect the spending in terms of bringing the prices up for projects because they're delayed, delayed, and delayed? Do you foresee that in the future? That's what I'm getting at. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. At this time, I will give the floor to Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to go back to the brief statement I made about the size of facilities being built for the future. I'm just wondering if the minister is going to comment on my brief statement. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Kusugak, if you would like to respond. **Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, I would like to respond to the question. (interpretation ends) Yes, in my opening comments and in previous discussions, I have often said that we would like to look at new approaches in our department in terms of standards and criteria on capital projects. That encompasses a wide range of things and it includes current standardization of buildings that we become responsible for.

So I think now is a good time, when our department is looking at rethinking how we plan and go on with a design, to look at the possibility of designing buildings so that they are not too small by the time the construction of the building or buildings is done.

So that's what we are looking at and that's what I have directed our department to start taking a look at and see where possible that we could do things like that and those ideas that Mr. Rumbolt had. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. We are on (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Branch Summary. Capital Planning. Total Capital Expenditures. \$29,329. I'm sorry, \$29 million...

#### >>Laughter

**Chairman**: Pardon me; I should have brought it to \$29,329,000.

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Go to page J-6. (interpretation ends)

Petroleum Products Revolving Fund. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like some clarification. This revolving fund is usually a huge amount. Is the department requesting this amount because they had to pay for additional resources and therefore the revolving fund was short by \$6,865,000? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): No, I think it would be best if Roy can respond to that question.

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

**Mr. Green**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The capital for the Petroleum Products Fund is financed outside of the revolving fund. The revolving fund is strictly for the purchase of fuel and paying for operating expenses. So any capital tank farms that were built for the communities are always funded outside under Vote 2, under CGS capital planning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not quite clear. Perhaps what you're saying is this has nothing to do with the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund. I thought that the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund was that you purchase the fuel and I, as a customer, buy it and at the end of the year, it's supposed to come to zero. If this is not a negative or there was not enough return, then the balance that you're requesting from this Assembly is \$6,865,000.

Can you explain to me again as to exactly what this is for? I could understand that the funds provide a working capital to finance inventory. Can you tell me that in my English language so that I can get a clear picture as to exactly what this \$6,865,000 is for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): I believe my deputy minister can respond in a language that you can comprehend. I ask that David respond to the question.

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

**Mr. Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you. What the member states is true. As a government, we provide capital funding for tank farms and storage. The government spends monies to build the tank farms so that it doesn't have an affect on the monies coming in or out.

The six million dollars on page J-7 will be used for tank farm construction, capacities, and code compliance. As a government, we provide funds for the construction of tank farms and that doesn't affect operating revenues or cash flow. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So why is it called the

Petroleum Products Revolving Fund? Is that because after you make a profit, you use \$6,865,000 to build tank farm resupply pipelines, capacity, and code compliance, etcetera, for those four communities? If not, why is it called the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): It's been called the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund for a long time. (interpretation ends) It's just been the title. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. We're on page J-6. (interpretation ends) Total Capital Expenditures. \$6,865,000.

#### Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): The members agreed. Thank you. We will now go to page J-2. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Community and Government Services. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$36,194,000.

# Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do members agree that the Department of Community and Government Services is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I would like to thank the Minister of Community and Government Services and his officials. If you have any closing remarks, Minister Kusugak, you may proceed.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. I believe we should rename this fund and I will look into that, Mr. Arvaluk.

I wish to thank the committee for their lines of questioning with respect to my department. Working cooperatively in this Legislative Assembly and with the mayors, hamlets, and other organizations are the focus of our department's operations. I commit to continuing this cooperation this year and in the future.

Hamlets work extremely hard to ensure that the aspirations of the communities and their operations are met. I, too, have experience as a mayor, as do a number of my colleagues, including our chairman. We did not play around when we represented our communities. Hamlets work extremely hard to try and get all of the capital items they require, so I totally empathize with them.

Our departmental staff both here at the witness table and within our department work really hard to develop these capital plans, especially in developing Nunavut's communities.

I thank my colleagues for their questions and I would like to collaborate with them this year to enhance Nunavut's capacity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

#### >>Applause

**Chairman** (interpretation): I'm sorry but we forgot that Mr. Elliott had a question to ask. Mr. Elliott, I give you the floor at this time. **Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since this is a learning process for me, I need a couple of other questions answered. I didn't know as this is the first time we're going through this process, so we went through day 3, day 4, and whatnot, and came up with that. But when we initially went through and discussed this the last time we were down, we went through a big binder and the third party funding was in there as well.

I noticed it's in the back at A-IV-4 and all of those projects in there as well. Is it standard? I don't know since this is the first time I have been through this process. At what point do we ask questions about those? Is it now a chance to ask questions about those as well or am I going to be told to ask them somewhere else? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I apologize, Mr. Elliott, you can ask your question to the minister at this time.

**Mr. Elliott**: My question was actually directed to everybody because I don't know if everybody here understood that we were able to ask questions on these specific projects. On A-IV-2, it talks about the Arctic Bay Sewage Lagoon and \$500,000 is supposed to be put in there.

One of the questions I had was and I guess I learned this from this morning when it was explained to us that if a project was under \$100,000, it would be I don't know if it was open sourced or contracts would be sent out as invitations. Since it's under \$100,000, will there be a request for proposals for that or will it just be invitation only? Thank you. **Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Yes, we do issue tenders for projects like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if my question was totally answered. Will that be an open request for proposals or tender? I get my terminology wrong, I'm sorry. Will it be a public one or will it be an invitation because it's under \$100,000? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Yes, it will be going through the public tender process, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the questions is in terms of the project that will be completed in Resolute Bay. In the substantiation forms that were provided, it mentioned that at this time, it doesn't reach the Canadian codes for the standard for sewage waste and whatnot. Once the money is spent this year, will the project be up to the national standard? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could ask Mr. Green to respond to that. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Green**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're currently in the planning and design phase for the Resolute Bay Water Works. We're expecting to issue an RFP some time this spring to start the construction and when that happens, it should take care of the regulatory issues with the community's water and treatment works. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Green. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Under section A-IV-5 where it's Grise Fiord's community hall/hamlet office, I would like a little more clarification. I understand that it's a Building Canada Fund project and no funds are actually being allocated. I'm assuming that's coming all from the federal government.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Could he ask me the question again, please? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Minister... my apologies. Mr. Elliott.

# >>Laughter

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, maybe this is just because it's my first time going through this process. But as I follow through on there, it says in prior years, \$8,666,000 has gone into a project in Grise Fiord for the building of a community hall/hamlet office. Third party funding was made available in the amount of \$8,666,000, if I'm reading it correctly, \$2,889,000 was provided by the GN, the government, for a total project of \$11,555,000.

I was in Grise Fiord in December and if this has been spent on the building, there is no building there. So maybe we should ask for the money back. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: No, they won't ask for the money back. We have just begun the planning and design this year. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Minister, for those answers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, it's a learning process for me. So I just wanted to make sure again, I guess everyone knew, that we were supposed to ask questions about this because I know I was a little lost, so I thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Are you done? Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When Mr. Elliott was asking about the process, he kind of looked this way.

In the other jurisdiction, in the NWT, when they would go through this process, when the minister makes his opening remarks or speaking notes, after we were recognized by the Chair, we used to kind of reply to what he said, what we think. When we would go through it page-by-page in the bill and we saw items in a certain page that we had concerns about, for instance, a community hall, a pipeline, or maybe a tank farm, then it was time to ask questions on the page when we go through it page-by-page.

That's the way it was but this is another jurisdiction. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Kusugak, do you have anything to say to that?

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): No, I don't have any comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. I don't think there are any more questions.

Some Members: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I believe the witnesses can now leave this Chamber. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses from the witness table.

What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we report progress. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Arvaluk made a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. Opposed. The motion is carried. (interpretation ends) I will now rise to report progress. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Ningeongan.

# Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

**Mr. Ningeongan**: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 2 and Bill 1, and would like to report that Bill 2 is immediately ready for third reading. And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Arvaluk.

### >>Laughter

The motion is in order. All those in favour, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

(interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation) There being none. (interpretation ends) Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

# Item 22: Orders of the Day

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for March 20:

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Ministers' Statements
- 3. Members' Statements
- 4. Returns to Oral Questions
- 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
- Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 1
- 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
- 21. Third Reading of Bills
  - Bill 2
  - Bill 3
  - Bill 4
- 22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, March 20, at 10:00 in the morning. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 17:18