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Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Hunter Tootoo, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Iqaluit Centre)

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(Iqaluit East)

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Minister of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister
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Minister responsible for Immigration*

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Minister of Environment; Minister of
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(Rankin Inlet North)

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(Iqaluit West)

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(Kugluktuk)

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Economic Development and
Transportation; Minister of
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Mr. Tagak Curley, Honourable Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Hezakiah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we proceed with today's sitting, I would like to ask Ms. Ugyuk to lead us off in a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. (interpretation ends) Welcome back, everybody, to our spring sitting. Sorry we couldn't have warmer weather out there for all of you from out of town.

I'll read the money message coming from a letter from the Commissioner. It says:

Money Message

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of the following bills during the Third Session of the Third Legislative Assembly:

- Bill 61, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*; and
- Bill 62, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*.

Signed sincerely, Edna Elias
Commissioner of Nunavut

We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 271 – 3(3):
Kalaallit Nunaat's New
Government**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I say "good afternoon" to all Nunavummiut and Iqalummiut. Mr. Speaker, our neighbours in Kalaallit Nunaat have elected a new government.

On behalf of all Nunavummiut and this government, I would like to congratulate all the new members of Inatsisartut, Greenland's Parliament, and wish them every success. I would also like to congratulate Aleqa Hammond, who is the first woman elected to lead Inatsisartut. This is a historic achievement for Kalaallit Nunaat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the new Kalaaliq Premier is very familiar with Nunavut and even attended Nunavut Arctic College as a student here in Iqaluit. I look forward to working with Ms. Hammond to continue

strengthening the strong bonds of culture, language, and cooperation between Nunavut and Kalaallit Nunaat.

Mr. Speaker, as Nunavummiut and Kalaallit strive together to reclaim our self-reliance, our partnership is ever so important. Direct flights between Nuuk and Iqaluit will resume this month, which will make it easier for Nunavummiut and Kalaallit to come together, discuss our common concerns, and build stronger friendships. I would like to encourage all Nunavummiut to take advantage of these opportunities in the months ahead. (interpretation) Thank you very much.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Minister's Statement 272 – 3(3):
Emergency Preparedness Week –
May 6 to 12, 2013**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, Nunavummiut. It's good to be back in the House.

Mr. Speaker, May 6 to 12 is designated as Emergency Preparedness Week. This is an opportunity to remind Nunavummiut to be prepared and know what to do in the event of an emergency. The theme for Emergency Preparedness Week is: "72 Hours...Is your family prepared?"

By taking a few simple steps, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies. It is important to:

- **Know the risks** – Whether it's a severe storm, blizzard, power outage, fire, or accident, knowing what precautions to take and what to do during an emergency is important to your family's safety and security.
- **Make a plan** – Every household needs an emergency plan. Make a list of emergency contact numbers. Practise how to safely exit from your home. Designate a meeting place to reunite with family in case of emergencies.
- **Get an emergency kit** – Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency. Keep an emergency kit that includes extra water, non-perishable food, a flashlight, radio, extra medication, and extra cash.

Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere. I encourage all Nunavummiut to "Get Prepared and Be Prepared" to ensure their family's safety and security in the event of an emergency. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

We are proud of our nurses and the medical care they provide to Nunavummiut and we want to thank them for their care, compassion, and commitment. Nursing in our rural and remote communities is often challenging work. Our nurses work long hours and make many sacrifices to better serve the health care needs of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, this year's honourees, Joanne Dignard of Grise Fiord, who is being awarded the Excellence in Nursing Practice, Candice Waddell of Cape Dorset is awarded the Excellence in Nursing Leadership, and Judith Clarke of Pond Inlet is awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, Joanne, Candice, and Judith embody the professionalism, dedication, and commitment we celebrate during National Nursing Week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. I join you in thanking all our nurses across the territory.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 452 – 3(3): Najuqsivik Society Supports Sanikiluaq Schools

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq, who are presently enjoying the return of the spring goose hunt.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the wonderful support that Sanikiluaq's Najuqsivik Daycare Society has given to our local schools.

Earlier this spring, the Najuqsivik Society donated over 200 pairs of brand-new running shoes to schools in Sanikiluaq, with 96 pairs going to Paatsaali School and 126 pairs going to Nuiyak School.

Mr. Speaker, to be eligible to receive a free pair of sneakers, students had to have a cumulative attendance rate of 50 percent or better. This is a very positive incentive for our youth to go to school.

Mr. Speaker, the Najuqsivik Society didn't stop there. Just recently, they donated two automated external defibrillators to the schools as well. In February, staff and some students received training on how to use these important life-saving devices.

Mr. Speaker, the Najuqsivik Society is a wonderful example of how a community group can make a big difference in the well-being of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I join the students and staff from Sanikiluaq's two schools in thanking the Najuqsivik Society for its efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Member's Statement 453 – 3(3):
Support for Pilot Project to
Benefit Hearing Impaired
Nunavummiut**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I send my regards to the people of Baker Lake. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the right to be understood by one's fellow human beings is a fundamental right, which is why I am pleased to rise today in support of a recently-announced pilot project to benefit the hearing impaired in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Baker Lake is one of six Nunavut communities that have been selected to participate in a pilot project to "test videoconference equipment that will better facilitate communication for the deaf." This project has been made possible thanks to a partnership between the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation, and the Canadian Deafness Research and Training Institute.

Mr. Speaker, this innovative project will involve the use of Inuit Sign Language interpreters and is expected to help improve services to the hearing impaired in such areas as health care delivery.

I am pleased to note that the project has the support of the Nunavummi Disabilities Makinnasuaqtiit Society.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that one of the most important responsibilities that we have as Members of the Legislative Assembly is to represent those people who have been previously marginalized and left without a voice.

Initiatives such as this represent an important step forward towards a more inclusionary and welcoming society for all of our people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 454 – 3(3):
Implementing the Ilagiitsiarniq
Family Violence Prevention
Framework for Action**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Pardon me, Mr. Speaker. My amautiq was catching onto something. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good afternoon" to the residents of Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the draft Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action, which was tabled in this House on March 19, 2013. Mr. Speaker, I have had an opportunity to review this document. This long-awaited framework to prevent family violence is a plea for help from all sectors of Nunavut society to address this serious issue.

Mr. Speaker, as politicians, our work is cut out for us and for those who will be stepping into these shoes in the future. We can no longer put this problem on the backburner and let it continue to simmer.

Mr. Speaker, the impact of family violence across Nunavut has caused people to do drastic things. There is trauma in our daily lives. We are losing our loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, with this framework in place, it is my hope that we will begin to see a drastic decrease in the number of incidents of family violence across Nunavut. However, the only way that will happen is with the help of our dedicated frontline workers, hamlet council members, as well as community members helping with the healing and self-care initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, I feel very strongly about this issue. The Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action is a step towards taking real action towards making a real change in the lives of those around us.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Member's Statement 455 – 3(3):
Economic Diversification in
Nunavut**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the issue of economic diversification in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, during our sittings this year, I have addressed a number of the initiatives that are taking place to help prepare our residents and communities for opportunities in the natural resources sector of our economy, which includes mining and the fisheries.

However, Mr. Speaker, it is also important for us to be mindful of the cyclical nature of these industries. As we have seen recently with potential

changes to the scope of the Mary River project, global economic factors beyond our control can have a significant impact on development in these areas.

Mr. Speaker, when we look at other regions of the country, the situation is not much different. In western Canada, the boom and bust nature of the oil and gas industry has been a significant characteristic of the regional economy. That's why the federal government established regional economic development agencies to help diversify the economy.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency was much welcomed throughout the north, as we were the last region of the country without such an agency.

Mr. Speaker, the nature of our environment and the small size of our communities pose challenges to economic diversification. However, I don't believe that they are insurmountable.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation announced that work is underway to develop an updated economic development strategy for Nunavut that will take us into the next decade. I applaud this partnership and encourage all partners to be mindful of the importance of looking at areas in which strategic action can help to broaden and diversify our economy.

Mr. Speaker, the complexity of the challenge certainly cannot be underestimated. For example, it has been suggested that one of our territory's most

untapped resources is our abundant supply of fresh water. In the years to come, this resource is likely to only increase in value as shortages elsewhere create demand for it.

We only have to look at the high prices that are currently charged in our stores for imported bottled water from Europe and elsewhere to know that this most basic of commodities can be very valuable. At the same time, our country has always been cautious about permitting the bulk export of water and we must, of course, ensure that our environment does not suffer.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that these are the kinds of issues and ideas that need to be examined as work moves forward to build a sustainable economic future for our territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Member's Statement 456 – 3(3): Polar Bear Management

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Good afternoon, people of Rankin Inlet. I'm homesick when it's springtime.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to again address the issue of polar bear management.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I spoke during our recent winter sitting about the successful efforts of the Canadian and Inuit delegation at the recent meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species that took place in Bangkok, Thailand.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the American proposal to up-list polar bears was soundly defeated thanks to the efforts of the Government of Nunavut, the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, and the Government of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, one of the countries to have supported the American proposal was Russia. I believe that it is important to clearly state that when it comes to the issue of responsible wildlife management, that country has absolutely no credibility.

Mr. Speaker, the Inuit and Canadian position in Thailand was perfectly clear: the harvesting of polar bears in our country is undertaken in a responsible and sustainable manner that balances traditional Inuit knowledge about wildlife with modern management practices.

Mr. Speaker, it was quite astounding for me to hear Russia criticize our successful system of co-management.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

It was quite astounding for me to hear Russia criticize our successful system of co-management. Mr. Speaker, this is a country whose regime recently took steps to shut down the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North.

Mr. Speaker, a recent submission to the United Nations Human Rights Council clearly exposed the violations of the rights of indigenous peoples in Russia, including their right of access to hunting and fishing resources.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the responsible and effective management of our natural resources and animals, we do not need any lessons from Russia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to again join me in paying tribute to the Canadian and Inuit representatives from the Inuvialuit region, the Kitikmeot, the Kivalliq and Baffin regions, Nunavik, and Labrador who successfully stood up in Thailand and told the world the truth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

Member's Statement 457 – 3(3): 25th Anniversary of Rankin Inlet Dog Racing

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Having a dog team in the Kivalliq region became almost nonexistent. In 1988, I believe, an organization was created in the Kivalliq and the Inuit came together.

They wanted to have dog team races. I do recall that at that time, David Oolooyuk, Robert Tatty, Hugh Ungungai, and Mr. Ivu got together and they wanted to retain having dog teams. In April 1988, they started having dog team races. This organization has been in existence for 25 years.

Last week, when I was in Rankin Inlet, I went to observe the dog teams. It was very pleasant to watch them. That was the 25th anniversary of the annual dog team race. Some of those people who had dog teams in 1988 are no longer alive, but I do want to recognize the ones who sat with me as board members. The following people were the first ones who signed:

Nukituq
 Louis Inukshuk
 Peter Kadlak
 Tooma Saumik
 Amaruq
 John Tatty
 Nakoolak
 Luke Eetuk
 Hugh Ungungai
 Jack Kabvitok
 Moses Aliyak
 Harry Towtongie
 Paul Mallikie
 Samson Arnauyok
 Leo Mimialik
 Eli Kimmaliardjuk
 Moses Siusangnark
 Robert Inukpak
 Arden Nibgoarsi
 Steven Neigo
 Harry Ittinuar,
 David Oolooyuk
 Jake Pissuk
 Dominic Pinguqsat
 John Tinashlu
 Sam Aarualaaq

Bernard Krako
Michael Ivu
Andy Kowtak
Reverend Jimmy Muckpah
Victor Kaludjak, and
John Macleod.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The individuals that I just named were the first dog team owners in the Kivalliq region and from that time to date, they still have their dog team races. Sometimes we had to wait a long time for the dog teams to arrive. Other times, when they would just be going for a short time, while we would have tea made from ice water and while we were still eating, they would come back as their dogs were becoming very fast. I commend their owners.

This year also, they had good races. The first one to arrive was David Oolooyuk, the second was his younger brother, Harry Towtongie, the third to arrive was Harry Ittinuar, and Shawn Maley was fourth. I am proud of them. We will see them again next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

**Member's Statement 458 – 3(3):
Tribute to Jimmy Flash Kilabuk**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to again say "good afternoon" to the residents of Iqaluit West. I rise today as I wish to pay tribute to an individual. As a lot of my constituents are elders, I wish to remember their lives and I wish to acknowledge one of them. It helps to recognize those who have contributed so much in our communities.

I wish to pay tribute to this individual who also passed away, Jimmy Kilabuk. He was well known and some people nicknamed him Flash. He earned his nickname after winning several snowmobile races during the annual Toonik Tyme Festival, which is held every spring in Iqaluit. He often broke time records and he was always in first place.

The reason I wanted to pay tribute to Jimmy is that for the last 35 years, he has been giving back to Iqaluit, making him one of the longest-serving individuals in our community. In the '60s, Jimmy was a volunteer firefighter and fire chief. He was first elected to town council in the '70s. Since then, at various times, he has served as councillor, deputy mayor, and mayor of Iqaluit from 1997 to 2000.

Jimmy stayed involved in the community over the years, right up until his final days. Jimmy was elected to the council during the last city election recently. His willingness to continue

serving as city councillor showed us how committed he was to serving Iqalumiut. His commitment and efforts had made our community a worthwhile place to continue on and be an example for all of us.

The time Jimmy gave and the life he lived is one to celebrate and remember. Be grateful and remember his life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

Member's Statement 459 – 3(3): Veda Kaviok – NTI's President for a Day

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to say "hello" and send greetings to all of my constituents in Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my young constituents from Arviat. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated President Cathy Towtongie announced on May 5 that Arviat student Veda Kaviok, a grade 12 student at the John Arnalukjuaq High School, won the NTI President for a Day Contest. Veda also served as a page in this House in our March 2012 sitting.

Veda will deliver her winning speech during Nunavut's festivities and will help Towtongie in presiding over the Iqaluit celebrations. NTI launched the contest earlier this year as part of the celebrations around the 20th anniversary

of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement on July 9, 2013.

Veda, we look forward to hearing your winning speech at the Nunavut Day festivities. It is young leaders like you who brought the territory to where we are today and we look forward to your leadership now and in the future.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arviarmiut and as MLA, I would very much like to express my pride and congratulate Veda and her family for her efforts and achievements in winning this contest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Member's Statement 460 – 3(3): Recent Deaths in Igloolik

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that we are able to have a session again. I say "good afternoon" to my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my appreciation to the Inuit who deal with social issues. We have often been informed that in Nunavut, there are a lot of problems, but a lot of people in Nunavut are truly good at helping others.

Recently, I just wanted to mention that in our community of Igloolik, there were five people who passed away last month. Yesterday, one of our close relatives had to be buried. When there was a dog quest that arrives to Igloolik to other celebrations, it was not only a dog race,

but they were apparently sent there to help people who were heavily burdened. I'm truly grateful for the dog team owners.

Mr. Speaker, I can say there were 11 dog teams that went to Igloolik and I can truly say that they have all won. Yes, there were only three winners, but all the dog teams got first place.

Mr. Speaker, even though we had some problems by one of the people, a person from Hall Beach suddenly passed away. That was unfortunate and I truly feel for the family members in Hall Beach and I want you to also remember them. It's evident that they will get through this tough time.

In Nunavut, there are a lot of people who are willing to help other people. Not all of us are bad people. A lot of people are really good people and willing to help others and I want to thank them. So that is why I rise today, Mr. Speaker. Let me be proud of the people of Igloolik and Amittuq who won again during the dog team race. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Member's Statement 461 – 3(3): Pond Inlet Graduates of Community Learning Centre

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the school year curriculum is winding down, I would like to recognize in our community the school year is winding down.

Education is continuing within the school and outside of the school. Sometimes a lot of us tend to forget the adult learning centres in the smaller communities. They are very efficient and to date, a lot of people utilize them to teach adults.

At this time, I would like to recognize the two classes that were undertaken in Pond Inlet. First of all, the students who completed the Office Administration Program are:

Amy Pitseolak
Donna Kublu
Leah Kippomee
Debbie Nutarak
Jerold Koonark
Timothy Akoomalik
Martha Suqslak, and
Jennifer Kautainuk.

The other graduates of the Fur Production and Design Program are:

Suzanne Killiktee
Monica Simonie
Angnowya Kilukishak
Elisapee Inuarak
Rosie Katsak, and
Masiva Pewatoalook.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be proud of them, especially the staff and instructors at the adult learning centres in the communities. We should be grateful as Nunavummiut because they are able to continue to help others. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

**Member's Statement 462 – 3(3):
Opening of New Repulse Bay
Health Centre**

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good afternoon” to Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk. I rise today to talk about the opening of Repulse Bay’s new health centre.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday of last week, the Hon. Minister of Health travelled with me to attend the grand opening of Repulse Bay’s new health centre. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, bad weather prevented us from landing in the community, despite making a number of attempts.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to the Minister of Health for having made the effort to personally accompany me to the community for this important scheduled event.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the community of Repulse Bay has been eagerly awaiting the opening of the new health centre. The expanded and modern new facility will enable a higher standard of service to be provided to the community’s residents. It will also be a better working environment for our nurses and other staff.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to talk about Repulse Bay’s new health centre during National Nursing Week.

(interpretation ends) I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to the nurses and other health care professionals in

Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 3. Members’ Statements. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions*

**Return to Oral Question 565 – 3(3):
Article 24 of NLCA Binding on
QEC**

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Return to Oral Question 565 – 3(3) that was taken as notice during the winter 2013 sitting. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Madam Premier.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize two of my constituents. The first one is Paul Irngaut, who works for Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and also my daughter, who is my great helper, Karliin Aariak.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

*See Appendix for full text of Return to Oral Question 565 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Pangnirtung. I would like you to join me in welcoming our pages. Unfortunately, the two pages are not here at this time. I am very proud of the fact that these two pages are from my community. Unfortunately they weren't able to arrive the first time, but they were able to come to Iqaluit. I am going to call out their names. The first one is Angela Duvall. There she is. The second one is Annie Nakashook. Their chaperone, who is also from my constituency, is Lucy Young. I want to show my appreciation for that fact. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. We all thank them too. Hopefully they find it an enjoyable and an educational experience paging.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.
Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize three individuals from Sanikiluaq. Mr. Speaker, Suvvaki Novalinga and Akinisi Kavik, who are students from the Paatsaali High School, who are here to participate in the page program. Also, I would like to recognize Nellie Meeko, who is the chaperone for the students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. I'll just remind members that you only have two supplementaries this time around.

>>Laughter

Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley. Remember, just two.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 595 – 3(3): Update on Qangueluk Abduction

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) Oh, really?

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Culture and Heritage.

I feel that this matter should be dealt with and I have often posed this question. As the minister will recall, I asked questions in the Legislative Assembly on May 20, 2004 and again on March 12, 2007 concerning the issue of the "Qangueluk Abduction." He has a daughter who is over 80 years old and his daughter is Ruth Qangueluk. She and her husband came to me in 2004 saying that her father disappeared and she was requesting assistance. I have not concluded this issue. This notorious incident took place in the Baffin region in the 1940s, in the recent past.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I believe it's a crime and criminal abduction of a family. There are surviving members of the family. I believe that incident should be

investigated by the federal government. So I would like to ask the minister: what has occurred since I last asked a question about this family? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for Culture and Heritage, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister of Culture and Heritage, I thank Mr. Curley for continuing to keep this difficult issue in Nunavut alive, especially in the Baffin region. We are still dealing with a number of unanswered questions.

The people of Igloolik have been consulted about this incident, as well as the people of Iqaluit, Cape Dorset, and Kimmirut with respect to obtaining more information about the Qanguuluk Abduction and his family members. A report has been presented to our Premier. Mr. Curley and Jack Anawak also have a copy of the report. We are continually trying to get more information. We have erected an Inuksuk monument, with a plaque to go with that memorial. We have tried to consult with the people who live in proximity to where the abduction occurred.

Mr. Speaker, we're still trying to determine whether crimes were committed. Perhaps members can direct questions to the Minister of Justice about that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Your first supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister indicated that I should refer

the question to the Minister of Justice. I would like to do so, or should I get it on the docket before I do so? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. According to our rules, you can't switch ministers in the middle of questions, so we have to get it on the docket.

Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Question 596 – 3(3): Nomination of the Back River to the Canadian Heritage River System

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment, the Hon. James Arreak.

During our recent winter sitting, I raised questions concerning the status of the nomination of the Back River to the Canadian Heritage River System. At that time, the minister indicated that the Kivalliq Inuit Association had raised concerns regarding this initiative. Can the minister update the House today on the status of his department's discussions with KIA on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for raising that question. Yes, we have been dealing with the issue at the Wager Bay Back River since 2010. We have been negotiating with the residents of Baker Lake, Gjoa Haven, and the Kivalliq Inuit Association, whether they can nominate the Back

River to the Canadian Heritage River System.

The Kivalliq Inuit Association has been involved and we have sent them a letter explaining the process. We had told them that even if the Back River is selected as a Canadian Heritage River, the mining companies' or other exploration companies' activities would not cease. Right now, we are still in the consultation stage with the Inuit organization. We are going to come up with a clear understanding as all those questions are in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Your first supplementary, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Back River is part of the Thelon River. We should consult with the residents of Gjoa Haven and Kugaaruk as to how we can help them.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the current business plan of the Department of Environment indicates that one of its priorities is to develop a formal nomination process regarding the Back River "With the support of residents from Kugaaruk and Baker Lake..." Can the minister indicate how his department is consulting with the residents of these communities regarding the nomination of the Back River to the Canadian Heritage River System? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have been consulting with the residents of Baker Lake and Gjoa Haven, and other communities that consider the Back River as important to heritage. There's a report that was developed. In particular, we have involved the communities of Baker Lake and Gjoa Haven in the negotiations. Right now, neither of these communities has said no, but they have expressed support in nominating the river.

We received a letter from the Kivalliq Inuit Organization stating that they didn't want to support the recognition of Back River as a heritage site. We will continue to consult with the Kivalliq Inuit organization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Do you have a final supplementary, Mr. Aupaluktuq? No? Okay. Moving on then. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 597 – 3(3): Northern Residents Deduction

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance.

Addressing the high cost of living in the High Arctic has been one of my key priorities, which is why I have strongly supported an increase in the residency portion of the federal Northern Residents Deduction. This component of the deduction was last increased in the 2008 federal budget five years ago.

As the minister will undoubtedly recall, he moved a motion on this issue during

the previous Legislative Assembly which called on the Government of Canada to “ensure that the residency portion be adjusted [thereafter] on an annual basis to an inflation index that [is reflective of] the cost of living in Canada’s Arctic.”

Can the minister tell the House when he last discussed this issue with the federal Minister of Finance or Nunavut’s federal Parliamentarians? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, I don’t recall a specific date when I last discussed it with Minister Flaherty, but I do recall the discussion at the time when, in this House and across the three territories, in fact, there was quite a lot of support for an increase. We were very thankful and grateful that the Government of Canada at the time did increase it. I can’t say that we’ve had seen any indication from the Government of Canada if they’re willing to increase it since that last increase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On June 27, 2012, the three territorial Premiers issued a joint news release following the annual Northern Premiers’ Forum which stated in part that, and I quote, “Premiers called on the federal government to increase the deduction and index it against the cost of living in the territories.” Can the minister describe

how he is working with the Yukon and Northwest Territories ministers of finance to jointly address this issue with the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott. Mr. Speaker, I’m not specifically working with my colleagues. I believe that officials in all the departments of finance in the three territories have been reviewing the Northern Residents Deduction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in the preamble to my question, the Government of Canada has not addressed this issue since the 2008 federal budget. The Minister of Finance has said that he has raised this issue on a number of occasions with Ottawa and his federal counterparts. From his discussions with his federal counterpart, can he indicate what further evidence Ottawa needs about our high cost of living before it acts on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, perhaps Mr. Elliott misunderstood me. I haven’t specifically spoken to Minister Flaherty about the Northern Residents Deduction.

My officials have had communicated with their counterparts in the three territories. At my last meeting with Minister Flaherty in December in Meech Lake, we talked about a number of issues, but the high priority at that time was more housing for Nunavut in the federal budget. We appreciate the government helping us, but we didn't discuss Northern Residents Deduction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 598 – 3(3): Assessing Nunavut Students

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, over the past few years, the business plans for the Department of Education have repeatedly referred to developing, monitoring, and implementing a student assessment system which would focus on both language arts and math. Can the minister provide a clear update on the current status of the Nunavut Student Assessment Strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The student assessment system is one of the high priorities of our department. We have not completed the student assessment system yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From my own personal observations of my own daughter's classmates, it is quite clear to me that in one single grade, there are children who can read very well, children who can barely read, and children who cannot read at all. I don't need a formal assessment to show me these facts.

Can the minister indicate how her department uses the results of student assessments in language arts to determine what supports are necessary to get all children reading at the appropriate grade level? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is going to be ongoing assessment to see where the students are at and at what level. It is something that is important to our department. Once the early assessment and if their math and reading is poor, then it's best because they can get help earlier. The parents of the students and also the teachers have to work together to make a work plan to make sure that they are at the appropriate level and to assess whether the student excels or is poor in those subjects. It is helpful to both the students and the teacher.

In regard to the student assessments, the students in various levels are assessed. We do that to make sure that they are at the appropriate level. As I indicated earlier, this project has not been completed yet, but it is one of the priorities of our department. Even if one

or more student is getting along well or is lagging behind or is excelling in the programs, then there is a needs assessment to make sure that they get the appropriate individualized programs based on their assessment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Education's latest business plan for 2013-16 indicates that student assessment benchmarks have been under development. Will the minister commit to tabling the student assessment benchmarks for language arts so that parents, teachers, and even students can know what is expected of them at the appropriate grade level? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking those questions. Once the assessment project is completed, I will make sure that my colleague, the parents, and all Nunavummiut are informed about this project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Question 599 – 3(3): Implementing the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In our community, we are

getting about 24 hours of daylight now and it is a joyous time.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for implementing the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action. The lead minister may be the Minister of Family Services, the Minister of Justice, or perhaps even the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in my statement, I spoke of the need to begin to implement family violence prevention activities. Can the minister clarify what specific budget has been allocated to family violence prevention activities or, if none has yet been allocated, when can we expect to see such a budget brought forward as a supplementary appropriation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. I have been given the nod by the Minister of Family Services, so I will recognize the Minister of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my colleague for asking questions on that issue. I am very pleased that on April 1... Well, I just took over the portfolio on April 1, but in regard to the recently initiated Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action, we are currently working on the budget and we are also putting in the required resources so that we can activate this program.

The Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action is currently in the works and it is one of the very first priorities of the Department of

Family Services. I could also tell my colleague that this is going to be a priority of our department. We had just recently established a position of director and we look forward to talking about this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Your first supplementary. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify whether we are going to see the necessary shelters and addiction treatment programs, which go hand in hand with addressing family violence issues, established in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for these questions. I know that we have just started Family Services on April 1 and one of the priorities for Family Services is to discuss these issues. I can assure the member that once Family Services and the staff are in place, discussions on this and the framework will take place.

I would also like to note that the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action was tabled by the previous Minister of Health and Social Services in the legislature on March 19, 2013. As you were saying in your Member's Statement, I am happy to hear that you have been reading this tabled document. I also urge all other members to be reading this document and to come and have a meeting with me at any time to discuss this priority. I am

also urging any members of the public or any organization to approach us to discuss this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been looking forward to the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action for many years.

(interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to fully implementing the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Framework for Action at the earliest opportunity and before the end of our term? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be able to make an appropriate response once we have the framework and the resources in place. We have to consult with a lot of individuals and entities out there and we know that family violence is prominent out there.

It is going to be helpful to the government if we talk about this issue. We can make the changes. We can turn it around and it takes cooperation or close working relations between the individuals, between the organizations and the entities. We are in the planning stages at the moment and at this time, we urge everyone to be vocal about this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 600 – 3(3): Status of Mary River Project

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, people of Pond Inlet and my fellow Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

As the minister will recall, I asked questions during our winter sitting concerning the status of the Mary River project, which is of significant concern to the residents of Pond Inlet. In January of this year, Baffinland requested amendments to its project certificate, which was issued by the Nunavut Impact Review Board last year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he can inform the House about what submissions the Government of Nunavut has made to the Nunavut Impact Review Board concerning Baffinland's request for amendments to its project certificate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununiq for that question. Mr. Speaker, the member is absolutely right. There's a request for a change in the environmental impact statement of Project Certificate 005. Once that went

out to NIRB, the changes requested were significant enough for the request from NIRB to redraw the data indications that were already inputted into the first EIS that was submitted.

Once that happened last March, I went to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. He agreed that a review was necessary to look at the requested changes in what they call an early revenue phase and that was shipping ore out of Milne Inlet rather than Steensby through the Milne Inlet road haulage. The change requested also was going from 18 million tonnes per year to 3.5 million tonnes.

The requested change in the project certification was significant enough that Baffinland now has to prepare a comprehensive addendum to their final impact statement describing all aspects of the baseline data, wildlife monitoring, impact predictions, and proposed mitigation for the project, and that's ongoing as we speak now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your first supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I'm afraid I'm going to have to try and rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) I would like to hear from the minister responsible about the massive amendments in regard to the Mary River project and transportation. Any individual can voice their concern. I would like anyone who is concerned about this project to be able to approach NIRB and voice their concerns. In regard to the change or

request for amendments, can you indicate what types of changes they're expecting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for the question. Mr. Speaker, as the Minister responsible for Mining, I do not get involved in the technical aspects of the discussions that are ongoing. Our department is a participant with the Nunavut Impact Review Board and all the stakeholders and communities. That's why the addendum was requested, because of all the submissions by all parties that are involved in the process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your final supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will not ask the questions that I had prepared. Mr. Speaker, in regard to Baffinland and their requests for amendments to its project certificate, has your department discussed this amendment with NIRB and have you submitted your report? (interpretation ends) Do you have a position with NIRB on the amendment? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, the department and the government support responsible resource

development that makes the territory attractive for investment. We support any responsible development. Mr. Speaker, through our multiple departments that participate in the regulatory processes, which make up three or four different departments, at times, even more, at times, even more departments are included in the regulatory processes.

All the information is posted on the website by NIRB. All the comments, letters, concerns, and issues are all up on the website, including individual community members who put in issues and concerns to NIRB.

As the government, we continue to support responsible development and we do participate with all of our stakeholders, including the proponents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 601 – 3(3): Update on Request for Housing in Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the minister responsible for the housing corporation.

During the meeting in March 2013, I asked a question regarding a letter that I received from the Repulse Bay Housing Association. They stated that they were waiting for additional housing because of overcrowding and because overcrowding has an effect on the students' grades, and so on.

In March 2013, I told the minister that we're asking for additional housing for Repulse Bay. I would like to ask the minister if he has had a meeting with his federal counterparts and if they have received any additional funds for housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as in the March 21 federal budget, we were allocated \$100 million for public units, which we're very pleased. I know fully Nunavummiut still require approximately 3,500 units to catch up. This will at least alleviate some of the needs for Nunavummiut and yes, we really do appreciate that.

For the discussions on the needs of Repulse Bay, there are needs right throughout Nunavut. Again, I've got to indicate that the needs are over 3,500 units that are needed in Nunavut communities. Every community has these needs and we're basing our allocations through the specific needs that we have within our data system, whether it's the waiting list or the housing survey that was done three years ago.

Once we have detailed information from CMHC about how the \$100 million is going to be administered, I'll surely let the members know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your first supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister for the new additional dollars. I would now like to ask the minister about the correspondence I got from the Repulse Bay Housing Association. It's coming from them and I would like him to respond from the bottom of his heart.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. I feel that it's very tough at times to get all the things that we want for our communities in Nunavut. Of course, housing has always been a priority and it continues to be a priority. We will make every effort to maximize the \$100 million to maximize the number of units we deliver for Nunavummiut. That's one of the things we have to work together on and that's what I intend to do.

I did acknowledge the letter from his constituency, among others. We will continue to work towards maximizing the amount of funds that we have to get the most bang for our dollar, so to speak. At the end of the day, we want to get as many units as possible with the amount of funds allocated to this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your final supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. minister for the response. I believe that when it comes to housing allocations, we always work with a needs survey. The request from Repulse Bay indicated that there is a need for housing. Will the minister seriously consider dealing with the demand for housing in Repulse Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I can say yes, but as you know, the demand is so great within Nunavut and we will just do our best. Again, I've got to say that we will do our best to maximize the funds we are allocated to get the maximum number of units possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 602 – 3(3): Update on Qangueluk Abduction

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to follow up with my question to a different minister this time, to the Minister of Justice, about the family of Ruth Siakuluk, who were abducted just before the First World War occurred in the middle of Baffin Island on the east coast. This was a criminal abduction of a family with one child. Ruth Siakuluk is about 86 years old.

She is still alive and looking for answers of what happened to her parents. They were abducted via small plane with

skids. Now the information is available. Paul Irngaut, who was a host of CBC, did a good job on TV showing a documentary.

In 2004, Mr. Speaker, I asked questions to the Minister of Justice then why he should investigate. It's really just a cultural issue. This was not a cultural issue. This is a criminal act. A family was abducted.

Now my question is to the Minister of Justice. Will the Minister of Justice ask the RCMP to fully investigate what happened, why it happened, and who did it? Can the minister undertake to ask the questions to the RCMP? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Curley very much for that question. First of all, I would just like to say that I just became aware of this abduction and the situation on this file this morning through my colleague, Minister Arreak. It's very interesting and I think there is concern here.

The information that is laid out to me is that Mr. Curley, you had brought this in the previous Assembly up as an issue, and there is quite a bit of information that has been researched and compiled. I think that me, as the minister who has just been informed of this situation, needs to review that and my department needs to review that. I think we need to take a very good look at that and see if there are any criminal abduction issues here, which you state that you feel that there is. That needs to be looked at. I

could say that yes, we could have the RCMP look at this too.

From what you have said and the information that I have, it looks like you have brought it to the attention before with the previous government. I'm not sure whether or not it went to Justice, but I know that CLEY at that time and Culture and Heritage has done a lot of interviews, has done a lot of work on this file, and has erected a commemorative plaque, but the issue of abduction and of course, it's my understanding that if there was some type of abduction, there's no limitation of action. Under the Criminal Code, there are no time periods for crimes like that to lapse.

I commit to you, Mr. Curley, I will take this information very seriously and look into the matter further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Your first supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I want to thank the minister as well as the Minister of Culture and previous other ministers who have responded to this. I have treated it always as a criminal act. I believe the family was kidnapped. I thank the minister for indicating to the House that there are no time limits or time lapses on criminal cases.

The RCMP has completely failed to acknowledge this event, which is known by the elite of the town of the 1940s. The priest, the Hudson's Bay, and the RCMP have known about this case. The family of Ruth Siakuluk, still living today, she could have been part of the abduction,

but she had gotten married and was living in Cape Dorset. She's still wondering today what happened.

Mr. Speaker, there was only one plane that flying around Baffin Island and it was piloted by a former pilot of the First World War, a German citizen. What was he doing flying around that area? Is it possible that that pilot may have abducted that family? Can the minister undertake to provide answers to this question? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will tell Mr. Curley that we will look into this fully. I think that what needs to happen also is that there needs to be a recent re-investigation into this thing and a sharing of information so people understand each other because it sounds like there has been a lot of work done. There have been reports written by the previous Department of CLEY. I'm not aware of how much Justice was involved at that time and who reviewed all the reports, but there are reports and a lot of information out there that, I think, needs to be reviewed again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Your final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for promising to undertake a review of this situation. I believe that when any family, race or not, is abducted or maybe has been kidnapped, it is not a cultural issue. It is a criminal act.

For your information, Mr. Speaker, to the minister, when the World War was declared against Germany, this pilot was declared in Canada as a *persona non grata* by the RCMP. Why was he declared that designation? That's one question the minister has to answer because he could have been involved in the abduction of that family because he was flying between Arctic Bay, Igloolik, Chesterfield Inlet, and Churchill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I'm new to the file and the information is becoming new to me, I find it very interesting. I will say that this whole file will be reviewed by Justice in cooperation with my colleague, the Minister of Culture and Heritage, and we will review the file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 603 – 3(3): Government Re-organizational Impacts on Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, the dismantling of the Department of Human Resources has brought added responsibilities to the minister's department. It has seen the Department of Human Resources disappear. Can the minister confirm that

no jobs have been lost through this process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The commitment that was made when we started talking about the reorganization of departments was that there would be no jobs lost. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As with any change, I'm sure the department has experienced some growing pains as a result of the added responsibilities. Can the minister describe what plans are in place to assess and review its operations in 2013-14? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would have to go back to the kind of plans that are in place to review. I think it will be very important for any new initiatives that we do as a government. We should always take the time to go back and ascertain what is working well, what needs to change, if at all, and these kinds of things. I think that it will be very important to do the same thing with this new initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At what point will further restructuring be considered? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Within the remainder of this government, I believe that there are no other plans to restructure any departments at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 604 – 3(3): Government Re-organizational Impacts on Family Services

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, the creation of the new family services department has brought together divisions which have been cut from other departments. Can the minister confirm that no jobs have been lost through that process with her department? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been no jobs lost due to restructuring. We're also

undertaking possible transfers from other departments to continue the work that is required under family services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the review of the new Department of Family Services' 2013-14 operations and maintenance budget, the minister indicated that the department would experience some growing pains as a result of the division. Can the minister describe what plans are in place to assess and review its operations in 2013-14? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have just undertaken this department on April 1, I will get back to the member on that specific question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At what point will further restructuring be considered? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Mr. Speaker, there is no further restructuring of the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Oral Questions. Moving on in our orders of

the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions*

Return to Written Question 024 – 3(3): Development Partnership Agreement Between the Government of Nunavut and Meadowbank Mining Corporation/Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited

Clerk: Mr. Speaker, I'm tabling the Return to Written Question 24 – 3(3). Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 11: Responses to Petitions*

Response to Petition 004 – 3(3): Public Housing Rent Scale

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Response to Petition 4 – 3(3). Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

*See Appendix for full text of Return to Written Question 024 – 3(3) and Response to Petition 4 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Tabled Document 349 – 3(3): Correspondence Concerning Canada Coal's Fosheim Peninsula Coal Project

Tabled Document 350 – 3(3): Photos: Nutrition North Canada Subsidized Meat

Tabled Document 351 – 3(3): Editorial Cartoon from the Globe and Mail Concerning Arctic Patrol Vessels

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three items to table today.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I asked questions during our recent winter sitting concerning the issue of coal mining in the High Arctic. I am pleased to table today a collection of recent correspondence on this issue between representatives of Grise Fiord and Canada Coal Incorporated.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I'm tabling photos regarding the Nutrition North Canada Program. Mr. Speaker, it seems that the federal government discredits the UN Rapporteur's insight on food security issues in the north because he never came to the north, yet for the people from the north who live here and try to purchase food here, we are told we are wrong and do not understand the issue. Mr. Speaker, today, I'll let the photos speak for themselves. I'm tabling a photo taken in Arctic Bay at one of the northern retailers. It's a picture of 1.1 kg pork shoulder roast, Nutrition North Canada subsidized and priced at \$27.19.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, it is often said that a picture is worth a thousand words, which is why I am pleased to table today an item from yesterday's *Globe and*

Mail concerning the Government of Canada's Arctic Patrol Vessels Project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker: Please bring the documents to the front.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 047 – 3(3): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 9, 2013, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the spring 2013 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

At the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 61 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 9, 2013, that Bill 61, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Bill 62 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 9, 2013, that Bill 62, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Bill 63 – An Act Consequential to the Government Reorganization of 2013 – Notice

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 9, 2013, that Bill 63, *An Act Consequential to the Government Reorganization of 2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Elliott: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Motion 047 – 3(3): Extended Sitting Hours and Days

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the spring 2013 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request unanimous consent to go back to Item 15 in the *Orders of the Day*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 15 in the *Orders of the Day*, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Are there any nays?

There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Revert to Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**Bill 65 – An Act to amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act – Notice**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 9, I will move that Bill 65, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. We will move on. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 61, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The minister is seeking consent to waive the two-day waiting rule so that Bill 61 can be read today for the first time. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Please proceed, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 61 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
2, 2013-2014 – First Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 61, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 61 has been read for the first time.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 62, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The minister is requesting consent to waive the two-day waiting rule so that Bill 62 can be read today for the first time. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Please proceed, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 62 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-
2014 – First Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 62, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 62 has been read for the first time.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

**Bill 61 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
2, 2013-2014 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that 61, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 61 is referred to the Committee of the Whole as it has had second reading.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 62 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-
2014 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 62, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 62 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Motion 048 – 3(3): Early
Adjournment**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 46, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin South and Whale Cove, that the House adjourn for the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried. We will proceed directly to Item 22 in our *Orders of the Day. Orders of the Day.* Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that there's a meeting of the Regular Caucus at nine o'clock tomorrow morning in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the Day for May 8:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of
the Whole of Bills and Other
Matters
 - Bill 61
 - Bill 62
20. Report of the Committee of the
Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. We've had a very busy day today. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, May 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15:30*

Appendix – May 7, 2013

Return to Oral Question 565 – 3(3): Article 24 of NLCA Binding on QEC

Asked by: Mr. Tagak Curley, MLA (Rankin Inlet North)

Asked of: Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Date: March 13, 2013

Question:

The question I want to ask is directed to the department responsible for the implementation of the land claims.

I want to refer back to the statement made earlier in the day as I was proud to hear the particular announcement that 20 years have passed since the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act* was enacted by Canada.

Also, yesterday, when I was commenting and asking questions related to this issue during Committee of the Whole, I asked the Minister of Justice about this legislation, in other words, a legal question.

Further, the government responded to this question about Article 24, when I asked the minister, “Does his department, the Department of Justice, provide legal advice?” I asked whether legal advice had been provided as to whether Article 24 was binding and applicable to the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

The deputy minister responded in this manner. He said that the advice provided by the department was that Article 24 had to be adhered to. Binding on all departments...

Now I want to raise this question to the Premier, who is also the minister responsible for implementing the land claims. Do you agree with or believe the response I received about legal advice being binding on this government regarding Article 24? Thank you.

Response:

The Government of Nunavut is committed to the implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, including Article 24; Government Contracts. In response to Article 24, the Nunavummi Nangminiqqtunik Ikajuuti (NNI Policy) was developed in partnership with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and approved by the Executive Council in March 2000. The policy was subsequently amended in April 2006.

While Article 24 contains an exclusion for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation, there has been uncertainty and disagreement over the years surrounding the application of Article 24 and the NNI Policy to the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

In partnership with NTI, the NNI Policy is currently receiving a periodic review as required by the policy. This comprehensive review is addressing QEC's status under both Article 24 and the NNI Policy. The final report from the joint GN/NTI NNI Review Committee is due before the end of the current mandate. The report will contain expert legal analysis that will enable the Executive Council to settle these uncertainties and provide direction to QEC as per the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act*.

In providing direction to QEC, the Executive Council will also consider the objects stated under the Act for QEC to, among others, "generate, transform, transmit, distribute, deliver, sell and supply energy on a safe, economic, efficient and reliable basis." Thank you.

Return to Written Question 024 – 3(3): Development Partnership Agreements

Asked by: Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, MLA (Baker Lake)

Asked of: Hon. Peter Taptuna, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

Date: February 26, 2013

Question:

- 1) With respect to the Development Partnership Agreement (DPA) between the Government of Nunavut and the Meadowbank Mining Corporation/Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited that was signed on February 17, 2007, what is the current status of the corporation's compliance with the terms of the DPA in relation to:
 - a. Socioeconomic Planning, Monitoring, Reporting and Mitigation;
 - b. Education, Training and Employment;
 - c. Business Development; and
 - d. Other Matters as provided for in Article 7 of the Agreement?

- 2) Within the meaning of Article 9 of the DPA, what were the contents of the 2010, 2011 and 2012 annual reports that are required to be produced under the Agreement?

Response:

1. The most recent annual report on the implementation of the development partnership agreement was received by the Government of Nunavut in March 2012 and covers the 2011 calendar year. After reviewing this report, the GN determined the firm had complied with the DPA in 2011 with respect to the terms of the agreement corresponding to the matters listed by the member, namely:
 - Socio-economic planning, monitoring, reporting and mitigation (Article 3);
 - Education, training, and employment (Article 5);
 - Business development (Article 6); and
 - Other matters (Article 7).

2. Article 9 of the agreement consists of two paragraphs. The first, paragraph 9.1.1, speaks to the development of terms of reference for evaluating and reporting on the performance of the terms of the agreement (the second refers to the timing of annual reports rather than their content). In order to implement paragraph 9.1.1, the parties signed a terms of reference document on June 21, 2011, which formalized the

agreement of the parties regarding the content expected to be included in annual reports.

The reports submitted by Agnico-Eagle Mines are used by the GN to determine whether the company is compliant with the DPA. Reports submitted pursuant to Article 9 of the DPA must set out in detail the efforts made by AEM to implement the terms and conditions of the DPA. The content included in the annual reports is therefore determined by the terms and conditions of the agreement, and corresponds to Articles 3 to 7 of the DPA as cited in the first part of the member's question, as well as Article 4 (Infrastructure).

Response to Petition 004 – 3(3): Public Housing Rent Scale

Petition tabled by: Johnny Ningeongan, MLA (Nanulik)

Date: March 13, 2013

Response:

See attached.



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Nunavut Housing Corporation
Nunavutmi Iglulirijirjuarkut
Société d'habitation du Nunavut

Johnny Ningeongan, MLA
General Delivery
Chesterfield Inlet, NU
X0C 0B0

April 15, 2013

Dear Mr. Ningeongan:

I am writing in response to the petition you brought forward on behalf of your constituents of Chesterfield Inlet regarding the Public Housing Rent Scale.

Allow me to reassure you that I empathize with the expressed concerns of your constituents and recognize the effects that the high cost of living in the territory has on Nunavummiut.

Basing the Public Housing Rent Scale on gross income rather than net income provides a consistent, equitable and accessible way to assess income for public housing tenants without increasing administrative burdens. Gross income can be taken directly from line 150 of the Federal Income Tax return. The first \$22,880 of Total Income is deducted before the rent assessment percentages are calculated. For most Public Housing tenants this \$22,880 deduction is far more than their taxable income.

Upcoming changes to the Public Housing Rent Scale, expected this Fall, are intended to address rent affordability for public housing tenants. The changes will place the focus of rent assessments on the primary leaseholders only, and restructure the Rent Scale to be similar to the Federal income tax bracket structure. This will make the calculation of rents fairer for tenants and will result in a decrease in the overall value of rental assessments.

These changes were approved based on community consultations, including the Poverty Reduction Roundtables, done in collaboration with the GN and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Should you require further information regarding the changes to the Public Housing Rent Scale, please do not hesitate to contact Patsy Kuksuk, Vice President of Operations, Nunavut Housing Corporation – Phone: 867-857-3001, Email: pkuksuk@gov.nu.ca.

Best regards,

Hon. Peter Taptuna,
Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Cc: Alain Barriault, President and CEO, Nunavut Housing Corporation